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Bendigo Installs Bishop Matt



On a mercifully mild and golden summer day, Saturday 17th February, former Assistant Bishop of this Diocese, Matt Brain, was installed as the 10th Bishop of Bendigo, in a service held in the recently refurbished St Paul's Cathedral.

The Vicar General of Bendigo, The Very Reverend John Roundhill, welcomed those gathered, acknowledging that Bendigo's joy comes as a loss to Canberra and Goulburn, before beginning:

'We offer God our thanksgiving, we turn to God in repentance, we seek Christ's grace and blessing and the guidance of the Holy Spirit for all that lies ahead.'

With the arrival of Bishop Matt Brain we begin a new era in the life of the Church in this Diocese. Pray that it will be a time of flourishing and grace as we continue to grow together in Christ into the fullness of human life and invite others to go with us on the journey.'

Bishop Stuart Robinson and Trevor Ament, Registrar, as representatives of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn, presented Bishop Matt to the Diocese of Bendigo, with the words 'We thank God for Matthew's ministry among us, and pray that he will be welcomed and loved here'.

In his inaugural sermon on the lectionary texts Matthew 2:13-18 and 1 John 1:5-2:2, Bishop Matt preached that it was from the terrible story in Matthew 2 and the paired Epistle that we find God's call for our future: to be people both of humility and hope.

He concluded by exhorting those gathered:

'Friends, just as the call to take seriously, to participate in God's light is a high call, the joyful reality of the way being made for us to do so is an expansive call ...

... We live in an exciting time to be God's people, to be God's church. The demands upon us that bring us low are also a grace for us so that we may be a people of humility, desperate to experience provision through Jesus ... and in doing so holding out

hope to a world in despairing need.'

Bishop Matt came to the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn in 2010 from the Diocese of North West Australia. In 2013 he became Director of Parish Support, Chaplaincy and Mission and was consecrated as Assistant Bishop in 2015, taking up the further responsibility for Ministry Training and Development. He and his family will be greatly missed by Canberra and Goulburn.



Dear Colleagues in Christ, I've just returned from Bendigo diocese where – along with Mr Trevor Ament, I had the privilege of 'presenting' +Matt to his new diocese. It was a packed and jubilant cathedral!

Below is a photograph of the beautiful Huon pine music stand that is the gift for +Matt from us all. It has pride of place in his new office along with the cards signed by various groups in the Diocese.

Warmly and gratefully,
+Stuart.



Bishop Trevor writes...

The Hour Has Come

We are all familiar with the very human experience of facing a deadline or change. When I was a student faced with writing essays I used to read voraciously, but when the due date drew near I knew I had to put pen to paper to complete the assignment. There was that familiar last minute adrenalin rush to meet the deadline because the hour had come. I must say that experience prepared me well for the last 40 years of preaching with the only difference being there is no possibility for an extension! Whether we sit final exams, move house, get married or need surgery we all know what it is like to face times of crisis or change.

These experiences give us a very small window of understanding into the experience of Jesus who once said the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified (John 12:23). The years of waiting were over. The time had come. Of course the hour he faced was much more significant than any we might face. It was the hour of his passion. It was the hour of the cross. His ignomini-

ous death for our sins was the first stage on his way to receiving glory and, paradoxically, at the same time the supreme revelation of his glory. In fact this was the most significant hour in world history, so as we make our journey through Lent let us make sure we take time to meditate on what this hour meant for Jesus, to deepen our devotion and nourish our faith. There are at least three things mentioned in the verses surrounding this key text.

In the first place, the hour meant incredible fruit. Jesus spoke about a grain of wheat falling into the earth and dying. He used a small parable from horticulture to illustrate what his death would achieve. We are familiar with the process in our gardens. Many years ago in one of our homes one of our children planted some sunflower seeds in our front garden. These dry dead seeds extracted from pet food were buried in the earth but sprang to life in magnificent yellow blooms and produced in the process even more seeds! Shortly after that we moved so I sincerely hope the next resident liked sun-



was no coward and the prospect of enduring the spiritual agony of bearing the sins of the world filled him with dread, but thankfully fear was replaced by faith.

In the third place, the hour meant renewed faith in God. Having faced his hour Jesus was determined to prayerfully submit himself to his Father's saving plan. Jesus prayed that the Father's name be glorified as he committed himself obediently to death on the cross.

So my friends as we approach our celebration of Easter it would be helpful to reflect on the meaning of this hour for Jesus. We recall with renewed and deep gratitude that, although appalled by what he had to face, our Saviour Jesus willingly confronted his ordeal with determined faith in order to please God, knowing that as a seed dies to bear fruit he must die to bring us with him to glory. Moreover we can give humble and deep thanks that in the words of Hebrews 5:7 'he was heard because of his reverent submission'.

Bishop Trevor Edwards

flowers! Like a kernel of wheat is buried so Jesus died. Like the seed whose death is the germination of a great crop, Jesus' death generated a plentiful harvest. As the seed is vindicated, Jesus the Son of Man is glorified. Only through his death is fruit borne. Death is the pathway to glory for him and many others. Jesus died so many will flourish and live.

In the second place, the hour meant deep fear. As he contemplated his death he was deeply troubled, which is a strong word signifying revulsion, horror and anxiety. In his humanity he shrank from this hour. He faced his future ordeal in acute emotional pain with apprehension and terror. No one honestly relishes the prospect of death. Jesus

Clergy Moves

The Venerable John Barnes has been licenced as Regional Archdeacon Goulburn & Southern Tablelands, and Team Leader (Part Time Hon) of exploratory & co-operating ministry partnerships to be known as the 'Southern Tablelands Minister' (effective 21 February 2018).

The Reverend Wendy Bloomfield has been licensed as Priest-In-Charge (Part Time) Gundagai and Part time Priest, Forrest Centre Wagga Wagga effective 21 February 2018.

The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton has been licensed as Rector Jamison as well as Archdeacon Chaplaincy effective 21 February 2018.

The Reverend Canon Prof Scott Cowdell has been licensed as Associate Priest at O'Connor Parish (effective 21 February 2018) in addition to his responsibilities as Research Prof at Charles Sturt University (Centre for Public and Contextual Theology) and Canon Theologian.

The Reverend Ken King has been licensed as Hon Deacon Assistant with All Saints Collector and F5. (24.02.2018)

The Reverend Gavin Krebs has been licensed as Deacon Assistant North Goulburn with St Saviour's Cathedral Goulburn. (24.02.2018)

The Reverend Steve Nation has been licensed as Deacon Assistant Wannassa. (24.02.2018)

The Reverend Kay Pendlebury has been licensed as Deacon Assistant Manuka. (24.02.2018)

The Venerable Carol Wagner has been licensed as Rector Cobargo Parish (effective 1 January 2018) in addition to her positions as Rector Bodalla Parish and Archdeacon for The Coast.

AnglicanNews is a magazine for the Anglican community in Canberra and Goulburn.

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The Mob on Wheels



2018 – a brand New Year for you, for me, for Mature Mob! Way back in May 2011 a group of folk from Cooma and the surrounding communities boarded a 20-seater bus and headed to Adaminaby and Cabramurra for the inaugural Mature Mob trip. This community outreach initiative of the Cooma Monaro Anglican Church was to grow in strength and numbers. December saw the final trip for 2017 with a 57 seater coach full (plus a car with four more!) heading north for adventures in Canberra and Michelago. The composition of the group varies as it is 'first-in/first-served'. Overall, there are now over 250 contacts that have been made through Mature Mob.

The 'motto' of Mature Mob has grown to be 'Fun, Fellowship and Education'.

THE FUN!

The Coach is abuzz with happy faces, chatter and light-hearted banter as folk share their stories and experiences of past trips and of their activities during the preceding months. The Lolly Buckets have become special coach treats, as have thought-provoking competitions (with of course prizes!) relating to the day's activity. The morning teas and lunches (provided by CWA groups, Hospital Auxiliaries, Community Groups and Churches at minimal cost) are enjoyable highlights. Of special mention are the Christmas Lunches and hosts have excelled

But there is genuine communication and interest between folk, and through this a genuine caring has developed further between folk who previously did not know each other.



They enjoy relaxing on the coach; relaxing on the grass listening to a Special Recital at the Canberra Carillon; relaxing while sitting listening to an educational Talk such as that at the Micro-Brewery on the Monaro or hearing the history of Burnima Homestead near Bombala; relaxing over morning tea and lunch at the various venues on the day trips to the Monaro, Canberra, the High Country and the NSW Far South Coast area.

THE EDUCATION!

Threaded throughout all trips is the theme of education. Almost all programs feature Talks and Tours of the venue – 'Behind the scenes' of Canberra Airport; Tidbinbilla Space Centre; Whale Museum at Eden; ANU Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics at Mt Stromlo, Canberra; Bega Pioneer Museum; SES and RFS Control Centres, Cooma; Fedra Olive Grove, Collector; Snow-Making Facility, Thredbo – to name but a very few! Folk are seniors, retired people who have the time to do the trips but who are still very keen and eager to learn and to share their knowledge in a thoughtful way.

Woven into all trips is a short, apt Christian devotion usually presented by the Parish Rector, Lance Lawton. Church members from the Parish are encouraged to attend, sit and mingle with members from the community. The introduction of name tags for the day has been very helpful for direct communication. Saying Hello to someone using their name is a first step key to conversation.

But the most important factor is that of caring. Many comments have been heard that Mature Mob trips are 'different', in a positive way, to other community-organised excursions. Why, folk can't identify other than 'it has something extra'!

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

*by Heather Jauncey
MM Coordinator, Cooma
Monaro Anglican Church*



Over the years Heather Jauncey has coordinated the group and, with her small band of helpers, has arranged the necessary administration, the venues, morning teas, lunches and coach travel. The success of this Christian outreach activity is given to God's Glory. Heather is honoured and privileged to serve God and the Mobbers.

in presenting delicious spreads and themed decorations!

THE FELLOWSHIP!

Mobbers come from many walks of life and backgrounds. Harking back to construction of the Snowy Mountains Scheme in the 1950s, the Cooma area is rich in multicultural and multi-denominational aspects, and for some – no religious connection.



Bishop Stuart and Jane Robinson assist in cutting the cake at Archdeacon Des and Tania McGuire's 50th wedding anniversary in Braidwood last December, where they also prayed for the McGuires.

