

## PRAYER IN TIME OF BUSHFIRE

Thu 10 January 2013



New Years Greetings!

The recent and ongoing fires are a poignant reminder of our frailty and vulnerability *and that* 2013 marks ten years since Canberra and surrounding districts across NSW were devastated by firestorms.

For many (and that very much includes our clergy) this is a very anxious time – especially in the light of predicted record high temperatures over the next week. Many of our clergy and people are RFS Chaplains and volunteers and they have been called out with increasing frequency over the past few days and this is likely to escalate – unless the Lord sends rain – for which we must now urgently pray.

As Bishop John Harrower has called his people to prayer in Tasmania, I likewise call this diocese to pray today and commend the following (slightly edited version from Bishop John) to you for immediate use in public and private gatherings.

For Jesus,

+Stuart

***Prayer in time of Bushfire (slightly edited) from the Anglican Church of Australia's A Prayer Book for Australia.***

*All things look to you, O Lord,  
to give them their food in due season:  
look in mercy on your people,  
and hear our prayer for those whose lives and possessions are threatened by fire.  
Give protection and wisdom to fire fighters and other emergency service personnel.  
Encourage our generosity to those who suffer loss.  
In your mercy restore your creation and heal our land.  
So guide and bless your people,  
that we may enjoy the fruits of the earth  
and give you thanks with grateful hearts,  
through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

By **Bishop Stuart Robinson**