



FROM BISHOP TREVOR



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KNOW YOUR BISHOP



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Palm Sunday Rally for Refugees



Bishop Stephen Pickard, Reverend Lynda McMinn, Pat Power, Belinda Groves and others leading the march.

On Palm Sunday, 25th March, thousands of Australians rallied in major cities and towns across the nation to seek justice for refugees and asylum seekers.

The Canberra rally attracted over 3,500 people and was the largest in the country as a proportion of the population. The major focus was the

physical and emotional suffering of the asylum seekers detained indefinitely and without trial on Manus Island and Nauru. Many of them have been there for five years with little prospect of ever being released and seeing family again. Despite the agreement by the United States to take some of them, the resettlement

process is proceeding at a snail's pace and the majority of the detainees will never be accepted for resettlement.

Speakers at the Canberra rally came from the trade union movement, Australian National University students and the major religions who were represented by the The Reverend Lynda McMinn of All Saints Anglican Church in Ainslie.

There were large contingents at the rally from the Catholic, Anglican, Uniting and Baptist church, the Quakers and other religious institutions.

The rally concluded with a march through the streets of Canberra's Civic Centre, led by Anglican Bishop Stephen Pickard, Catholic Bishop Pat Power, Baptist minister Belinda Groves, Reverend Lynda McMinn and other community leaders.

Following a suggestion from the Anglican Public Issues Commis-

sion, a number of people wore sackcloth as a sign of repentance and mourning for Australia's treatment of our brothers and sisters whose only "crime" is to ask for our protection as they flee from horrors we cannot imagine.

Speakers reminded us that the United Nations, Amnesty International, Save the Children, doctors and nurses who have worked in the detention centres, even some of the guards, have condemned the conditions under which detainees are held. There have been several deaths and many attempted suicides amongst the inmates who are denied proper medical care and who are being driven to despair.

Several church leaders have emphasised that the Easter message is one of hope. Yet Australia denies all hope to the people in our detention centres.

by Charles Body
Kaleen-Girralang-Lawson Parish

Refugee Communities in the Diocese

A number of parishes within the Diocese are living out the teachings of the bible by ministering to and alongside refugee communities. The Church of the Good Shepherd in Curtin has a thriving Karen membership of around 70 adults and children.

There are currently around 350 Karen people living throughout Canberra. Karen are an ethnic group from Burma but most have arrived in Canberra through Australia's Humanitarian Refugee Resettlement Programme via refugee camps in Thailand.

Many of those in Canberra have previously spent considerable time in Mae La, the largest refugee camp for Burmese people in Thailand, which houses about 40,000 refugees, 90% of whom are ethnic Karen.

The Karen fled to these camps to escape armed conflict, and ethnic persecution by the Burmese government. In Karen State many villages were burned to the ground, including houses, churches, schools, belongings and food crops.

Many of the Karen at the Good Shepherd attend the 9.30am Sunday service, but there is also a 12.30pm service in the Karen language led by the Reverend Luther, an ordained Anglican Priest who arrived in Canberra from Mae La in 2014.

In past years the longer term members of Good Shepherd were able to provide material, spiritual and administrative support to newly arrived Karen refugees. In more recent years the Karen community at the church has taken on much of the support for new arrivals.

The Reverend Guy Matthews, Rec-



tor, says 'Our Karen brothers and sisters are keen to serve in whatever way they can on our Sunday rosters and see themselves not as an independent congregation but very much a part of the Good Shepherd'.

The Karen are represented on Parish Council and, with a passion for singing, they keenly serve in music ministry including at the Curtin community Carol service.

Karen in Canberra maintain good connections with Karen people in other part of NSW and Victoria by regularly visiting each others' churches. The Good Shepherd has hosted numerous visiting Karen groups from Sydney, Melbourne and Geelong.

by Reverend Guy Matthews
Rector, Good Shepherd Anglican

Bishop Trevor writes...

Integrity Needed

I have been following with dismay the findings of the Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry. It is bad enough that deceit, exploitation and fraudulent practices took place, even worse that outright lying to clients and even to ASIC occurred and appalling that such behaviour seemed to be explicitly endorsed by boards and executive officers as a normal part of their business practices.

It appears that lack of integrity and honesty is rife in our society; that the greed is good epigram spoken by Gordon Gekko in Wall Street over thirty years ago has taken root in our world. Greed may by good (in the short term) for those who prosper from rapacious actions, but it is very bad indeed for their victims as the Royal Commission is revealing.

The word 'integrity' means 'wholeness' or 'of one piece' in the original Latin. People of integrity show consistency between actions and words, between promises and delivery, between personal morality and public ac-

tions. Integrity is in short supply, and not only in the financial services sector.

We have seen in another Royal Commission how church people, even leaders in Anglican Churches, have lacked integrity; putting institutional or personal advantage before living consistently with their Christian profession. Jesus himself has no time for such people. In some harsh words he denounced those who misled children, saying that such people are better in the bottom of the ocean with a millstone round their necks. Further, the risen Jesus describes the church in Laodicea, which was so proud of its acquisitions, as bare and naked and warns them that, unless there is immediate change, he will spit them out of his mouth like rotten food.

Real Christians act with integrity. All their words and actions match their baptismal identification with Christ. They follow Jesus in suffering loss or mistreatment rather than harming others. They genuinely trust Him, rather than exploiting loopholes or lying in order to build up treasure



on earth. Most people reading this column think of themselves as real Christians, so we soberly need to do what my own financial advisor calls a 'health check'. Do we live our lives according to the character that Jesus desires? Do people know we can be trusted? Do they know that we will keep our word, even to our own detriment? Do they know that we don't put people down behind their backs while acting sweetly in their presence? Such a

health check makes us squirm a bit, doesn't it?

If this is required of every ordinary Christian, how much more is integrity needed by those in leadership in the church. When the Apostle Paul describes in 1 Timothy 3 the personal, relational and spiritual qualities necessary for a Christian leader, it is all about character, not skills or experiences or qualifications. In discerning a new diocesan Bishop, the absolute first criterion should be a Christian character that is above reproach. Only then should synod representatives start to evaluate other skills or experiences.

Are you praying earnestly for a shepherd after God's own heart, a person of Christian integrity, and will you do all you can to bring this about?

Update from the EENC

From the Chair:

Thanks to everyone who came to our workshops, and took part online. The response has been amazing. The positive atmosphere and constructive engagement with the questions have emphasised just how special this Diocese is and the esteem the office of bishop is held in. A few attributes desired in a bishop emerging from our consultations are:

- * Humility
- * Empathy
- * Biblical Knowledge
- * Support for the ordination and ministry of women
- * Understanding of rural and city ministry
- * Managerial Skills

These attributes are reinforced by the exhortation of the Ordinal that a bishop:

- * Maintain the Church's witness to the resurrection of Christ from the dead
- * Ensure God's word is fairly proclaimed

* Duly administer Christ's Sacraments

* Lead and guide priests and deacons under their care.

If you haven't got to a workshop, it's not too late. Workshops are still available in Canberra, Goulburn, Young and Wagga Wagga. We'd love you to come along and have your say. We need you to encourage your fellow parishioners and Synod members to come and contribute.

When you've chosen a workshop to attend, please answer the questions available on the website on sticky notes in preparation. If you don't answer them, you're still welcome to come.

If you can't make it to a workshop or you have more to contribute please fill in our online survey.

<http://anglicancg.org.au/our-diocese/governance/synod/episcopal-election-nominations-committee/>

*The Venerable David Ruthven
Chair, EENC*

Clergy Moves

The Reverend Brian Champness has been appointed Rector of the Parish of Ginninderra. Details of Brian's induction will be advised in due course.

Archdeacon Erica Mathieson has taken her last service and been farewelled from the parish of Holy Cross Hackett. She will retire at the end of some accumulated leave and then the parish will be declared vacant.

The Reverend John Jenner resigns from the parish of St Paul's Temora with effect from 14th May 2018.

The Reverend Peter Dyke has resigned as Community Chaplain to Queanbeyan and is moving to the Anglican Diocese of Bendigo.

Contributions to Anglican News are very welcome

We love to hear stories of things happening in your parish that highlight our dream of a Diocese in which the love of Jesus transforms people and communities. If you have a story to submit please send it to: alison.payne@anglicands.org.au.

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EENC Consultation Workshops

Canberra North

St John's Canberra, Thursday 3 May, 7pm-10pm

Goulburn

Christ Church West Goulburn, Friday 4 May, 7pm-10pm

Young

St John's Young, Saturday 5 May, 1.30pm-4.30pm

Wagga Wagga

St Paul's Turvey Park, Sunday 6 May, 2.00pm-5.00pm

Mission from the Centre - the vision of Bishop Barlow

He was the first Australian bishop to be ordained in Australia, the first without a university degree and the first to own a car. It's not necessarily the stuff of legend, but it does suggest that Bishop Christopher Barlow was part of a pioneering age in an Australian church seeking to establish itself in the Great South Land.

Born in Dublin and educated in Wales, in 1881 Barlow left a promising business career in London to follow his rector and mentor George Stanton to Australia following Stanton's appointment as Bishop of North Queensland. It was Stanton who ordained Barlow in Townsville, and it was Stanton he eventually replaced as Bishop of North Queensland.

Stanton's influence on Barlow was immense, shaping his later episcopacy in Goulburn Diocese. Though an evangelical, Stanton was more attached to the wider church than to any party within it. He saw the Church of England as having a genius for preserving Christian orthodoxy in diverse settings. As Stanton put it, this church was

'Catholic in her retention of primitive faith and practice, Protestant in her rejection of mediaeval accretions; firm, yet flex-

ible ... Its Liturgy and Formularies bearing the strata of thought and devotion deposited through the centuries of changeable experience. [This church is thus] constitutionally capable of forming affinity with the mixed elements of colonial religious life.'

In other words, Anglicanism had the capacity to nourish Christian faith in the mission field of Australia while maintaining its organic connection with the wider Christian story.

This was the vision of church life Barlow embodied. When he arrived in Goulburn in 1902 he saw himself as bolstering the sensible, orthodox centre – not the partisan fringe. He denounced the 'spirit of party, with all the suspicion and lovelessness and infinite pettiness which it brings'.

This was not only true to his instincts. It was also critical for mission.

He was the bishop of a bush diocese largely cut off from the wealth of the city and facing a diverse, thinly-spread and spiritually disengaged population. Churches in big cities might survive pulpit polemics, but in the more dispersed and practically-minded populations of rural Australia, party spirit and hair-splitting theological arguments were an indulgence his church

could not afford.

Barlow's hatred of sectarian church warfare was the result of two equally strong commitments: a strong evangelical impulse to preach the gospel of Christ, and an equally strong catholicity which understood the church as being united by central Christian orthodoxy, not party positions.

Barlow was a gifted preacher and evangelist with a great passion for engaging the 'typical Australian' with the good news of Jesus Christ – skills he had honed among the mining communities of Charters Towers. But he was sometimes frustrated by the inability of his clergy to show the same spirit.

He lamented of some, that 'the less they have to do the worse they do it ... The ministry of word and sacraments is not a ministry, but a mechanism...'. He railed against the 'unctuous nobodies', 'pious noodles' and 'soft milksops', whom he saw as manifestly ill-suited for mission in the Australian context. (This explains his attempt to set up a theological college in Goulburn – an act of foresight, but one whose time had not yet fully come.)

His challenges were many: constant financial strain, huge distances (hence the car!), poor



health and even the loss of his personal possessions in a fire. His naturally gregarious nature and robust constitution began to show signs of strain.

The crushing burdens of episcopal ministry were lifted from his shoulders in 1915 when he retired and shortly afterwards went to be with his Heavenly Father.

In an age when we face many of the same challenges, Bishop Barlow's legacy is honoured wherever the good news of Christ is proclaimed by a church standing united on the firm foundation of apostolic faith.

*By Reverend Dave McLennan
Rector, St Mary in the Valley,
South Tuggeranong*

NB. This is the second article in a series on Know Your Bishop, which is not being published in any particular order.

As time goes by in Tathra



An update from The Reverend Captain Stuart Haynes

The Tathra fires are no longer in the News and the initial emergency response teams have now left. This leaves us with few resources and many needs still to meet.

Our challenge is how do we identify the needs and then meet those needs where appropriate. This is where it is important for the church to be open and available to the community, which sends the message that we are here with you and for you.

Easter Sunday sunrise has traditionally been celebrated at the Bega look-out. This year, as a response to the Tathra fires and to care for the Tathra community, I suggested that the sunrise service be at Tathra, to open up opportunities for the Gospel, for ministry, for people to thank God and to celebrate the reality of the resurrection and the new life that Jesus offers.

The Easter service was held at the Tathra Surf Club. It was a combined service and the message was, 'Why We Need An Alive Jesus'. We had a combined worship team led by Captain Katherine Haynes and there was a Kids Club organised by Dick Burnell.

As I went around welcoming people I was pleasantly surprised how many locals there were that wanted to come along to 'thank God' even in the midst of such tragedy and loss. There was also support from the wider Bega community through to Bem-boka.

If you would like to contribute to the Tathra appeal for long-term support, please visit:

<https://www.anglicare.com.au/services/get-involved/appeals/tathra-appeal>



Andrea Brings Joy to Malkara Students



Reverend Andrea de Vaal Horciu (R), chaplain at Malkara Specialist School, with Lyndal Rogers (L), Field Development Manager for School Chaplaincy ACT

When The Reverend Andrea de Vaal Horciu walks around Malkara Specialist School she stops to have an encouraging word with each student, a smile and a word with the carers. The school executive and board can't imagine being without a chaplain's support. Andrea connects with all members of the school community – the psychologist, principal, teachers, carers and parents. She liaises with specialist

health and support organisations to improve student outcomes. But her warmest smiles and most loving care are reserved for the children. Maybe a student is anxious about going to class, or missing someone dear to them. Andrea spends time helping them to settle and providing comfort.

Andrea's chaplaincy at Malkara School is teamed up with Embracing Ministries, a Christian organisation she has pioneered to help young people with disabilities and their families. There is a synergy between supporting the students and families during school time at Malkara with providing holiday programs, music with preschoolers and specialist support for students needing extra health and practical care.



School Chaplaincy Welcome in ACT Schools

School Chaplaincy ACT has chaplains in 20 government schools and one independent school. The chaplaincy services

are spread across the entire range of age groups and school types. Our vision is to see each child and young person connected and supported in community, serving others and experiencing fullness of life.

We are funded by the National School Chaplaincy Program (NSCP) and generous donors. In 2017 Canberra locals donated \$120,000 to augment the \$420,000 provided by the NSCP grant in 2017. Local churches and community groups provide volunteers for breakfast programs, reading support, chaplaincy support teams, prayer, mentoring and SUPA clubs.

The chaplains' role is to provide spiritual, social and emotional support. That work takes different forms, depending on what the school requires – market days at a college, chappies going along on camps, mental health initiatives, the important work of listening and encouraging. Chaplains liaise with specialist organisations such as Young Carers and Anglicare.

Please contact School Chaplaincy ACT if you would like to hear from a chaplain, volunteer to help at your local school or

make a financial donation.

A new initiative in 2018 is providing trained mentors for high school students. We are presently looking for volunteers who could spend one hour per week with one high school student for a year.

Job Vacancies

Chaplaincy jobs are generally 2 days per week. In order to apply, you need a Certificate IV in Youth Work or Pastoral Care (or equivalent or higher qualification) and be an active member of a local church. Experience with children or youth in schools is preferred.

Email: info@scaact.org.au

Mobile: 0407 118 387

Web: scaact.org.au



What's On

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY - PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZÉ

SUNDAY 13 MAY 2018
WESTON CREEK UNITING CHURCH

Canberra Friends of Taizé will hold a special prayer evening on Sunday 13th May, 5:30pm to 6:30pm at Weston Creek Uniting Church, Parkinson Street Weston, to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This is an ecumenical group of Christians - Uniting Church, Catholic, Anglican and other Christian churches. The service follows the same quiet form of prayers, songs, Scripture readings and silent meditation as used in the monastery in Taizé, France. The prayer will be followed by Supper. Everyone is welcome, of any denomination or none.

Any enquiries to
CBRTaizeFriends@internode.on.net or
Annemarie 0421 492 554.

SENATOR DAVID FAWCETT AND SENATOR DEBORAH O'NEILL


INVITE YOU

TO JOIN WITH US FOR THE

29TH AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

TUESDAY 29TH MAY 2018, 6:30AM FOR A 7:00AM START
MEMBERS' DINING ROOM, OLD PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA

GUEST SPEAKER: DR. OS GUINNESS

 nationalprayerbreakfast.org
TICKETS \$55 OR \$400 FOR A TABLE OF 8