

dNews

a newsletter for the Diocese of Ballarat

11 September 2024

From the Vicar General

Season of Creation



SEASON OF CREATION

"To hope and act with Creation"

I hope people have utilised some of the diocesan material and resources available for the Season of Creation.

I have also found the Anglican Board of Missions website resources easy to navigate and adapt for our local context.

Can I encourage everyone to reflect on how you, your parish and community interact with 'creation' over this period of time.

You might choose to visit a local Botanical Garden or forest area for a 'Quiet time' of reflection or prayer.

I hope many people from across the diocese will gather at St Mark's Abbey Camperdown for the tree planting day on Saturday 5th October. If you are unable to be with us on the day, you might like to make a donation to off-set the cost of the seedlings. Parishes might even consider making a similar donation towards the cost of a seedling or four!

"Creation cries out in suffering. We acknowledge the urgent call to action, and we acknowledge that we can only respond to it on the basis of faith. The Season of Creation is a source of strength and communion, encouraging us truly 'to hope and act with creation.'"

*Season of Creation – Rev. Dr Anne Burghardt,
Lutheran World Federation General Secretary.*

The dNews is now coming out weekly until further notice. Contributions must be made to:

dnews@ballaratanglican.org.au

by 5pm Tuesday each week.

The Diocese reserves the right to edit content to meet space requirements.

Dates for your Diary

Bishop-in-Council

8th October 2024

26th November 2024

Property & Finance Committee

17 Sep, 15 Oct, 19 Nov & 10 Dec.

Lay Ministry Day - 24 August

Camperdown. Practical hands on training: Communion by extension, preaching & sharing stories, and more.

Tree Planting at the Abbey

5 October 2024

Synod

18/19 October 2024

Clergy Retreat

Mon 4-Fri 8 November 2024

MDC Quiet Day

30 November 2024

Camperdown Abbey

Conductor Rev'd Catie Inches-Ogden

Little Book of Saints Too

The second edition of the Ministry Development Committees initiative titled Little Book of Saints Too. The lives and faith of the people included in this new addition reflect the rich diversity of our diocesan community.

Maybe, on a Sunday morning, after the 'all important' Notices, one of the 'saints' entries could be read out over the next few weeks?

Provincial Council

The twice yearly gathering of Provincial Council took place yesterday in Melbourne. These gatherings provide the five dioceses of the Province of Victoria to discuss and reflect on common issues confronting our various regional areas. This was the last meeting that Archbishop Freier presided over before his retirement on the 9th February 2025. A motion

of thanksgiving and gratitude for Archbishop Phillip and Joy's ministry was moved as a prayer.

It was interesting to note that each of the diocese of the Province face similar challenges in regard to financial and administration matters. The impact of governance, safe-guarding, compliance and regulatory obligations is shared by each diocese. There are also signs of 'hope' that we share and celebrate.

Maybe in your own context you could look for signs of hope, not only for creation but for your faith journey.

Fr Scott

From the MDC

Little Book of Saints Too

Our second book of stories about people who inspired or encouraged people from our diocese was launched on Saturday. Copies are available on the diocesan website, or hard copies can be ordered from the diocesan office. Thanks to all those who contributed.

<https://ballaratanglican.org.au/littlebookofsaints/>

Celebrating the Season of Creation

(Sept – Oct 2024)

"To plant is to hope, to restore is to heal, to protect is to love"

2024 is the second year that the Ministry Development Committee of the Ballarat Diocese has used the Communion Forest as our theme. This year the Communion Forest through the Diocese of Southern Africa has put together a wonderful set of resources that can be used by members of our Diocese. The sermon notes have been brilliantly composed by seven different female Bishops from the Anglican Communion and they lead us deeply into considering God's creation and our role in caring for it.

All Christians are called to be aware of God's Creation – this guide calls to both awareness of the need to act to care for Creation whilst reminding us that we are people of hope!

This guide includes resources for all of us: the sermon notes are great resources if you are preaching during the Season of Creation or to use as materials for reflection during this time. There are prayers and liturgical materials for

Clergy and Lay Leaders who are preparing services during this Season.

There are lots of ways to measure the Season of Creation – this guide suggests six weeks, but parishes may like to observe four Sundays from September 1st to October 1st. Parishes might also like to consider the idea of a Harvest Festival at a time suitable to their local area, or a "Blessing of the Pets" on St Francis Day as a traditional end to the Season of Creation.

Resources:

There is a complete PDF of the Anglican Season of Creation Manual 2024 here: <https://easternsynod.org/wp-content/uploads/Anglican-Season-of-Creation-Manual-2024.pdf>

There is a website that contains the same information in webpage format here: <https://preachingforgodsworld.org/>

There is information about celebrating Harvest Festivals on our own Diocesan website here: <https://ballaratanglican.org.au/harvest/>

For more information on the Season of Creation you can go here: <https://seasonofcreation.org/> and for Communion Forest here: <https://www.communionforest.org/>

Planting Day at the Abbey

As part of our diocesan Communion Forest initiative, we are holding a planting day at the Camperdown Abbey on Saturday 5th October from 11am - 3pm.

Come along and share fellowship as we revegetate part of the Abbey grounds.

If you are not up to physical work, come and encourage and keep up refreshments for the workers.

Please bring: your lunch, gardening tools and gloves, comfortable clothes, sunscreen and hat.

Plants will be provided but your parish might like to make a donation towards the cost of the plants.

For more information email: rdshackell@gmail.com

Mothers' Union

Serving God in every season

'So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it' 2 Corinthians 5:9

It is wonderful to think that our aim as Christian people in this life and the next is to please the Lord Jesus by doing his will. He is the person above all others that we would wish to please. We are not trying to gain his love, but because we know that he loves us. It is our response to his love. In this life, most people retire from work. But in the Christian life, we never retire. Our retirement from work may give us more opportunities to serve him in the love we have for others. Just as we have been so deeply loved, so we walk by love, the love which inspires the good works which we do as servants of Christ.

Question for thought:

What truly pleases the Lord Jesus?

Townsend News

Sunday September 29th

You are all warmly invited to attend St. John's Soldiers Hill, 9.30am service for our **World Day of Prayer Service** and following the service join us in the parish hall for morning tea. The service will be led by our Chaplain and Parish priest, Fr. Chris Keast and GFS members with the guest preacher, Bishop Mark Burton.

Christmas Lunch: Monday 25th November at Bunch of Grapes.

Monday October 28th at St. John's Soldiers Hill

There will be a coffee morning tea with a stall from 1000 to 12 noon. \$5 entry.

Proceeds will go to the World Travel Fund for the World President of GFS who will be visiting Ballarat I February 2025.

Garden Festival

St Peter's Anglican Church

1307 Sturt Street, Ballarat.

in aid of the

Bishop's Anglicare Appeal

September 21st, 9.30am - 1.30pm

Herbs, Shrubs, Plants, Jams, Chutneys and...

Ballarat City Memorial Brass Band.

Tea and Coffee available.

TOP 10 - Hymn Fest 2024

Thank you so much for sending through your Top Ten favourite hymns. Altogether, we had nearly 40 submissions and we have NOW a list of our Diocesan Top Ten. If you would like to know whether your choice/s made it to the final list, why not attend our Hymn Fest on 6th Oct at 3pm? It will be anchored by Bron Sozanski who is a committed music teacher and well known in the music arena. The Hymns will be accompanied by Scott Harrison (organist) and Dave Tolputt (Trombone). Plus, our Solomon Islands Brothers will render one of the hymns a capella. The whole event will only last for an hour followed by a lavish afternoon tea provided our parish. Please bring a carload of people and spread the news around.

Conversations @ the Cathedral

Sun. 15 September @ 5pm

Neil Leckie



Neil commenced his Army career as a National Serviceman and after his two years became an Army Reservist for 32 years (23 in Ballarat) He has a special interest in Ballarat's military history and has managed the military museum at Ranger Barracks in Alfredton for over 20 years. In 2008 Neil wrote *Country Victoria's Own*, recounting 150 years of the Army in Ballarat. Neil has also been a Volunteer Tour Guide at Gallipoli and on the Western Front.

For his Army service Neil was awarded the Reserve Force Decoration (known as the RFD). He retired from the Army with the rank of Major. We warmly welcome Major Neil Leckie RFD (Retired).

For more information

The Very Rev'd Michael Davies

dean@ballaratanglican.org.au | 03 5331 1183

The Anglican Parish of Ararat

HYMIN FEST

***Come and Sing
Top 10 all time favourite
hymns accompanied by
internationally acclaimed
organist Scott Harrison.***

**When : 6th October 3pm
Where : Holy Trinity, Ararat**

**Followed by country style lavish
afternoon tea**

**HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH
49, HIGH STREET, ARARAT
+t. 03 5352 1109 + e. ararat@ballaratanglican.org.au
Follow us on Facebook - araratanglican**