

SAINT THEODORE'S TIDINGS



Advent-Christmas issue October 2022 – February 2023

*The Anglican Church of St Theodore
Cnr Swaine Avenue and Prescott Terrace
Toorak Gardens, S.A*

Website: www.theodores.org



St Theodore's Anglican Church recognises that we meet on the traditional lands of the Kaurana people. We express our gratitude for the sharing of this land; our sorrow for the personal, spiritual and cultural costs of that sharing; and our hope that we may walk together in harmony in a spirit of reconciliation.



What is Hospitality?

by Rev'd Dr Matthew Anstey

A hospitable, welcoming church is a church that is alive and full of life. But what exactly is hospitality and what is its theological grounding?

Hospitality is making space for the other, giving the other freedom to be who they are, to listen to their story, their dreams, their pains.

Hospitality has its origin in the trinitarian life of God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Within their shared life there is love and listening, care and compassion. Each member of the Trinity “makes space” for the other. This hospitable communion in the eternal life of God is expressed in creation, wherein God makes space for life to flourish. In Genesis 1, days 1-3 of creation create spaces of sky and land and sea and day and night, and in days 4-6 these spaces are filled with birds and animals and fish and sun and moon. This is God’s hospitality towards creation, in allowing all forms of life to flourish in their proper place.

In so creating the world, God does not “dominate” the world (in the words of Jürgen Moltmann, a German theologian), but gifts the world radical freedom. Hence God chooses to be vulnerable to creation, to be vulnerable to human freedom in particular. In this hospitality of God, God’s future and our future is bound together by the world we make together. This is not a world predetermined or predestined, this is not a world where daily events are (in some invisible way) orchestrated and “permitted” by God. That is fatalistic, not Christian.

In Israel, God invited a particular nation to share in God’s project of life for all. In the Church, through the Spirit, God’s invitation itself is extended to all. This invitation is liturgically most concentrated in the Eucharist, in which there is space for all no matter what status, and where symbols of Christ’s body and blood are distributed justly and abundantly as a sign and symbol of God's grace in the world.

God’s love of, and hence vulnerability to, creation is expressed in an unprecedented manner in Jesus – in his Incarnation, in his hospitable ministry to the religious and social outcast, in crucifixion, in which God participates unconditionally in the experience of human life, even including death, and in resurrection, whereby the Holy Spirit is subsequently granted afresh to energise God’s people to further God’s mission. God’s hospitality occurs as God “makes space” for the experience of death and resurrection to enter into the history and heart of the trinitarian life of God. Death was swallowed up into God’s love and rendered impotent by the resurrection, thereby allowing the original freedom and project of creation to be renewed afresh.

Creation needs renewing because sin is, at its heart, the denial of hospitality, the preferring of hostility over generous welcome. And if God goes to such great lengths to make space for humanity in the life of God, then have we any reason not also to make space for one another in our life together?

Thus when as a church we commit ourselves to be a Eucharistic, hospitable community, it is not an ideological principle that drives us, but rather we are motivated by the very life of God, the eternal life-giving, self-emptying, embracing life of God. This is our God, who welcomes and embraces all people – people who are experiencing poverty, people of colour, First Nations people, neurodivergent people, those with disabilities (be they visible or invisible), those living with mental health challenges, those who identify as LGBTIQ+, and so on and so forth.

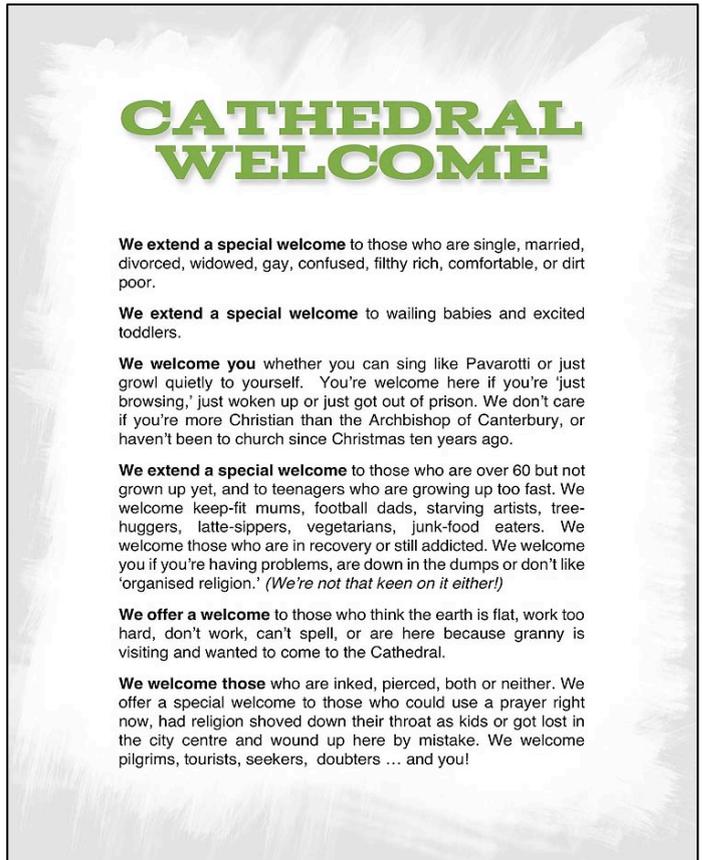
May we be a church like this, where no one is treated as a second-class citizen, where we acknowledge with sorrow and reparation those whom we have failed to include, where we say No to language and practices that bring diminishment and harm, and where we say Yes to the immeasurable, abundant, effervescent life and love of God in Christ.

INCLUSIVENESS . . . A Welcoming Church

In August, an Australasian gathering of GAFCON (the Global Anglican Future Conference) was held in Canberra and an outcome was the announcement of the creation of the Diocese of the Southern Cross – comprised of people leaving the Anglican Church of Australia primarily over issues related to marriage and human sexuality.

At our church services at St Theodore’s on the Sunday after the announcement, there was some apprehension about these events, and Rev’d Gezthi preached a sermon dealing with aspects of inclusiveness . . . and along that journey she brought to our attention a “Cathedral Welcome” notice from St George’s Anglican Cathedral in Cape Town, South Africa. The document caused some amusement when it was quoted in the sermon.

But more than just “some amusement”, it is worth looking at again. Who is our neighbour, and what is an inclusive welcoming church?



CATHEDRAL WELCOME

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, gay, confused, filthy rich, comfortable, or dirt poor.

We extend a special welcome to wailing babies and excited toddlers.

We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you're 'just browsing,' just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury, or haven't been to church since Christmas ten years ago.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-fit mums, football dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like 'organised religion.' (*We're not that keen on it either!*)

We offer a welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here because granny is visiting and wanted to come to the Cathedral.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throat as kids or got lost in the city centre and wound up here by mistake. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters . . . and you!

WE REMEMBERED HER. On the Sunday after the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at our morning tea . . . the table on the left reminded us of the late Queen’s morning tea with Paddington Bear and the marmalade sandwiches – half eaten – and a half-drunk cup of tea . . . HRH had to leave quickly and so the empty chair, and she didn’t need her handbag either apparently! The food table on the right is complete with cucumber sandwiches, a marmalade slice and cake – and the “Commonwealth tins”! *Thanks to the Social Committee for the nice touch!*





Rev'd Dr Gethzi Devasagayam

Following Fr Grant's departure and the search for a new incumbent priest, Fr David Thornton-Wakeford undertook the responsibility of part-time Locum Tenens over a six month period from late November last year to late May. Subsequently, for the three months until the arrival of our new priest Rev'd Dr Matthew Anstey in early September, we were extremely fortunate to have Rev'd Dr Gethzi Devasagayam with us as our part-time Locum Tenens. Gethzi endeared herself to our 8 am and 9.30 congregations . . . she survived many cold winter mornings, but charmed us with her smile, her warmth and her very moving and thoughtful sermons. We were even treated to some wonderful Indian food at morning tea on her last day with us. We were absolutely delighted to have Gethzi with us as part of the St Theodore's community, often accompanied by her daughter Hanukkah, and her husband Samson – who took a service for us during that period, but also joined us socially at morning tea on a couple of occasions. Gethzi . . . thank you so much for your contribution to the parish . . . we hope to see you again in the not-too-distant future.

Gethzi shares her story with us .

I was born and brought up as the third and last daughter to my parents in Erode in South India, and my early education was in a Church School established by missionaries. From childhood, I was active in my local church, CSI Brough Memorial Church – named after A.W. Brough of London Mission Society (LMS) – and Sunday school, Vacation Bible School (VBS), and youth fellowships nurtured me in my Christian faith. ('CSI' is an acronym for the Church of South India, where Anglican, Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian traditions joined together to form the CSI.) I graduated with a science degree (BSc; Major in physics) at Bharathiar University, but then decided to do theological education responding to the call; and the four years of training at Tamil Nadu Theological Seminary (TTS), Madurai, moulded my ministerial life. As the first woman to be ordained in the CSI Diocese of Coimbatore, in 1998, I was greatly involved in children's, youth and women's ministries. Along with parish work, I contributed to various ministries of the church including pastoral care to children in a Girls' Boarding Home, a mentally-challenged children's home and to young women in a Teachers Training Institute, as well as visiting Juvenile homes.

I was married to Samson Asirvatham in 1999 and was ordained as a Presbyter in 2000. I had great interest in preaching and teaching ministries, and served in various parishes in the CSI Diocese of Madras . . . including five years of village ministry. The healing ministry of Jesus has greatly inspired me and resulted in training at the Christian Medical College (CMC) and Hospital, Vellore, and engaging in hospital ministry as well, training different groups in the Diocese for hospital ministry.

We came to Australia in July 2005 to do higher studies. Hanukkah, our daughter, was born in 2006. I completed a Masters and a PhD in the field of the Old Testament through Flinders University, and taught in St Barnabas and Uniting Colleges. I started my ministerial career as a hospital chaplain in the Lyell McEwin Hospital, continued in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and I am now at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. I supported Samson in the parish ministry at St Catherine's, Elizabeth Downs and St George's, Alberton and the Emmanuel Tamil congregation in Lockleys. I regularly preach in churches, and I am always grateful for the support from friends and church members as we are away from home. I very much enjoy life and ministry in Adelaide.

In Adelaide, my husband Samson is a Chaplain with AnglicareSA and has taken a service and visited St Theodore's during my time as Locum Tenens here; my daughter Hanukkah has often attended services I have taken, and she is studying Year 10 at Pulteney Grammar. My two older sisters are still back back in India.

I thoroughly enjoyed my ministry associated with the Sunday services at St Theodore's. I express my sincere gratitude to you all for the love, support and friendship offered during my time with you.

St. Theodore's – Contacts

Parish Priest: Rev'd Dr Matthew Anstey
(Office - 8333-1567)

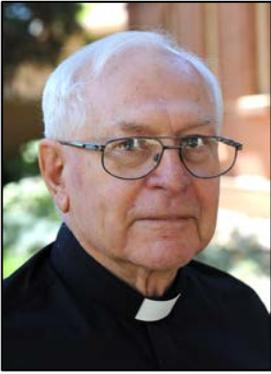
Associate Priest: Rev'd Peter Anson

Priest's Warden: Ian Campbell

Peoples' Warden: John Needs

Parish Council (2022) – Rev'd Dr Matthew Anstey, Peter Burke, Mavis Evans, Martin Godfrey, Angela Jones (*Secretary*), Richard Keene, Stewart Perkins (*Treasurer*), Malcolm Schluter

"The Tidings" Editor: Dr Richard Keene (ph. 0416-275-161)



THE SACRISTAN

Thank you Fr Peter Anson . . .

and welcome Mavis Evans



Have you ever come into St Theodore's for a service and – with everyone else – got settled in the pews in the relatively busy and sometimes slightly noisy nave (body) of the church . . . and then taken the time to look to the chancel (sanctuary) in front of you where there is a distinct quietness . . . a reverence, a readiness, an anticipation . . . for the liturgy of the Eucharist we are about to share? There is a reason for that calm preparedness . . . it is largely due to the Sacristan.

A Sacristan is appointed by the Priest-in-Charge, and serves a coordinator for worship services ensuring that the vestments are cared for, that linens are clean and pressed correctly, that altar vessels are kept safe and clean, that consumables like altar wine and bread, oils and candles, incense and coals and so on are in adequate supply . . . in other words ensuring everything necessary for worship is available. It will also extend to things such as the Intercessions list, and service booklets. So the list is long. While those tasks are matters that are progressively taken care of . . . for each individual service – be it Communion, a baptism, a funeral, special services such as Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday, any service – the Sacristan will set up beforehand according to the Lectionary what is necessary for that service and ensure that everything is cleaned up afterwards, mindful that some of the materials have been blessed a required special sensitivity in their disposal. In other words the job of the Sacristan is significant and fundamentally important in all aspects of worship by our community of faith.

Fr Peter Anson has been our Sacristan for nine years, and last year Fr Grant Bullen invited Mavis Evans to join with Fr Peter to share in the task – with the ultimate aim of her taking over the role when Fr Peter was unable to do so. Recently Fr Peter has decided that his health problems dictate that the time for changeover is now, so Mavis has become the Sacristan.

We as a parish owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Fr Peter for a wonderful job lovingly done, reflecting that Sacristans are always in contact with the Lord, always in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, while making the church welcoming for the people. And Mavis comments that Fr Peter has been a wonderful teacher for her over the last 10 months, not only in terms of the meticulous details of the task, but understanding the reverence in which it is properly carried out. As a parish we warmly thank Fr Peter for the blessing of his gifts to us . . . and we congratulate Mavis and wish her well in assuming this important role.



All it took was one more person saying "But we've always done it this way, Rector"



"Oh no, look who's in . . ."

Centenary of the Rectory

Just so it does not pass unnoticed, in 2022 we are celebrating the centenary of our parish rectory. After much planning and money-raising, the stone was laid on 26th August 1922 and construction was started. The parish "Church Notes" newsletter in September records that for the stone laying, "the sky was grey . . . and the wind was keen, but the voices of the choir triumphed over it". The construction was completed in the next few months, and the blessing took place on Saturday 2nd December 1922. The Bishop (A. Nutter Thomas) went from room to room with suitable prayers, and gave an address . . . as did the Rector (Canon Frank H. King). An archival photograph of the procession on the occasion on the right. The rectory underwent some extensions in 1993. It is a beautiful house . . . as the photos below give some idea.



The back trellis and garden



Family room



The study



Living room



The dining room



Two of the four bedrooms

We look forward to welcoming the Anstey family to the rectory in late November, and the parish wishes them well in their new home.

COMMISSIONING OF REV'D DR MATTHEW ANSTEY as Priest-in-Charge of St Theodore's Parish, 30th August, 2022



The church and congregation



The Priest's Warden (Ian Campbell)
welcoming the congregation



The Wardens (Ian Campbell and John Needs)
introduce the Incumbent-elect to Bishop Denise



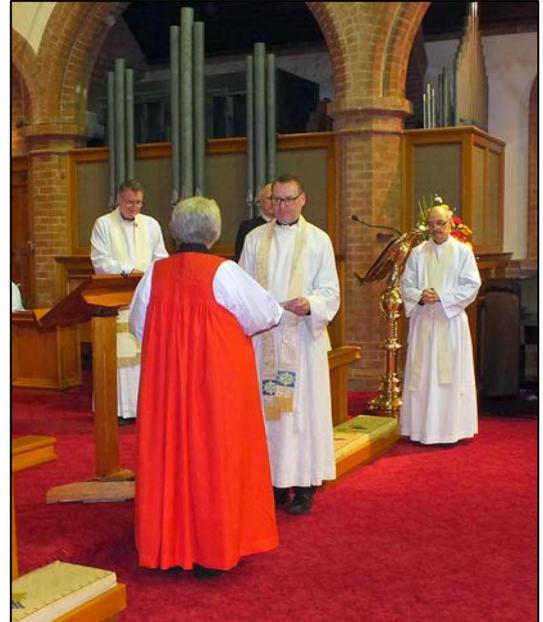
The 'Symbols of Ministry' presented by members
of the Parish to the new Incumbent



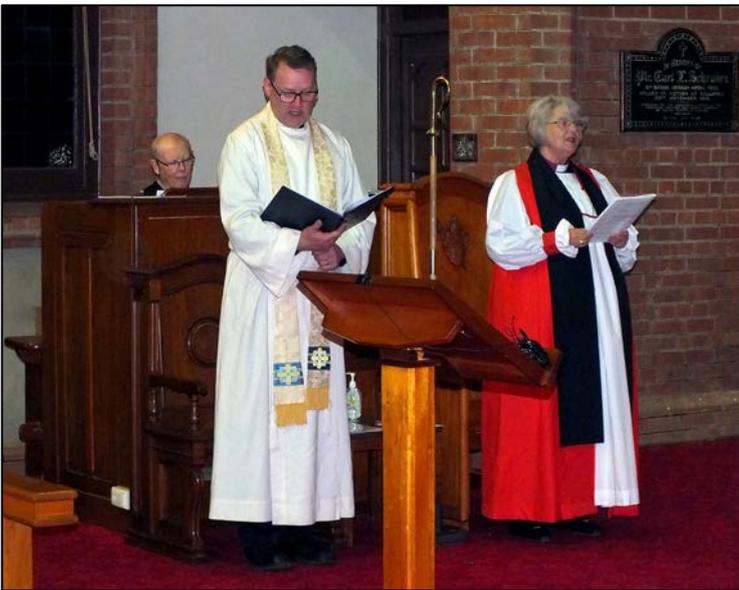
The readers . . . Malcolm Schluter, Meagan Schwarz and Rosanna Powell



Bishop Denise addresses the congregation



Bishop Denise presents the Incumbent – Matthew Anstey – with the License



Matthew Anstey in the Priest's Stall, beside Bishop Denise



Our talented "flower lady" (Robyn Copeland) presents a posy to Liz Anstey



The congregation gathers for refreshments in the Main Hall

Thanks are extended to Nick Williams for providing photos of the occasion

WATER PENETRATION ISSUES AT ST THEODORE'S CHURCH

APPEAL FOR FUNDS

Recently an Appeal letter was forwarded to parishioners and friends of St Theodore's Church to cover the costs of fixing the water penetration into the sanctuary.

For several years Parish Council has reported increasing issues of water penetration deteriorating the fabric of our beautiful Church with salt damp appearing in several places on the sanctuary walls, and the wall and baptistry at the western end of the Church.

Over the years Parish Council has been trying to keep on top of various repairs required to maintain the Church and Hall buildings.

For the Church, these included:

- ❖ replacing the roofing iron and gutters on the north and south church sides (lower roofs); and
- ❖ repointing the external baptistry wall.

Given the potential of winter rains causing further damage to walls and the carpet in the sanctuary, a plumbing contractor was appointed to undertake an inspection of the sanctuary roof to determine the cause of the water penetration. Their inspection identified:

- ❖ that the four pipes located within the parapet walls leaked water into the Church;
- ❖ down-pipes needed unblocking;
- ❖ rusting sanctuary gutters (see an example of this in the photo below on left) needed to be resurfaced with a waterproof membrane to preserve them for several more years; and
- ❖ areas around the rain heads that required repointing, flashing needing repair and several roof sheet screws needed tightening.

The cost of the inspection work was **\$2,185**

Parish Council decided that given the urgency to undertake this work prior to winter to prevent any further water penetration causing salt damp and water damage to the sanctuary carpet, the Parish would draw on its diminishing capital reserves to pay the quoted amount of **\$14,990 + GST** to: -

- ❖ Apply a 'special' lining to the 'internal' downpipes through the parapet walls;
- ❖ Apply a waterproof membrane to sanctuary box gutters plus 4 metres on each side west of the gable parapet wall (see photo below on right showing a resurfaced gutter); and
- ❖ Replace lead flashing and re-mortar where required plus refix loose roofing screws.



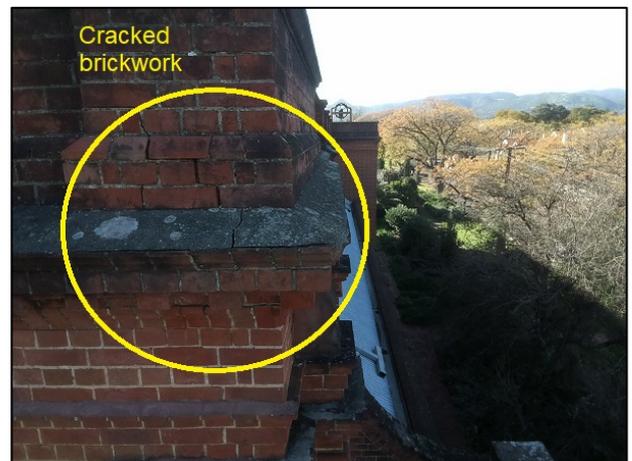
This work was completed in May 2022 and importantly, after experiencing heavy winter rains, there was no evidence of water leaking on to the inside of the sanctuary walls the floors.

St Theodore's Church has three gable walls that have deteriorated over time and are now letting water penetrate into the brickwork of the church. The most noticeable is the damp area on the right of the sanctuary arch as shown in the photo on the left below. The damp patch starts in the top right corner and expands as it goes down the wall and has caused white salt damp patches on the brickwork

supporting the sanctuary arch. On the outside, the gable wall directly above this shows cracks on the surface of the wall (as shown in the photo below on the right).



There are similar problems on the west wall of the church. The photo on the left below shows a large area where the plaster has fallen off due to damp brickwork. The photo on the right shows significant cracking of the corner pillar above this area.



A quote has been received from a roofing contractor for **\$14,000** to undertake this work, so together with the initial cost of the inspection and resurfacing gutters and parapet downpipes this takes the total cost of the 'Sanctuary maintenance project' and western wall capping to **\$31,175 + GST**.

A decision was also made by Parish Council to start an Appeal for donations from our parishioners, friends of St Theodore's and other sources in an attempt to recoup funds for the initial work and for the cost of capping the three parapet gable walls to pay back into the Church's capital reserves.

The 'Appeal' is already underway with three generous donations received totalling \$16,000 from parishioners and another of \$1,500 from a 'friend' of St Theodore's. **This means the amount still required is \$13,675 + GST.**

For contributions towards the recovery of the cost to do this work, funds can be forwarded to the following St Theodore's Bank account:

Bank: BankSA – Toorak Gardens
Account: 557053840

BSB: 105 149
Reference: (Your name) – 'Sanctuary'

or, when attending Church, in an envelope marked to the Treasurer or Wardens and placed in the collection plate.

If further information is required contact the Church Wardens.

Ian Campbell (Priest's Warden - 0418 859 703) and **John Needs** (Peoples' Warden - 0419 868 364)

Sorrow looks back; worry looks around; faith looks up

THE MISSION ACTION PLAN . . .

update August/September 2022

Since the beginning of this year, Parish Council has included in its business a monthly review of our Mission Action Plan in its five areas: *Hospitality, Pastoral Care, Liturgy and Learning, Communications, and Partnership*. This has enabled the ongoing monitoring of progress in the life of St Theodore's which link with the five MAP areas: an updated report follows:

Hospitality - Our Social Committee has continued to provide safe opportunities for hospitality to bring people together in spite of the difficulties associated with COVID 19. Our morning teas have provided a pleasant format for social gathering. The provision of soup and bread in the winter months has given an extra dimension. Special events such as the 'Christmas in July' – including special food and a produce stall – have contributed to mission giving funds as well as bringing some fun.

Pastoral Care - A small pastoral care group continues to maintain contact with those who are unable to come to church. Telephone contact is made when personal visits are not possible. In addition, we recognise and value the informal pastoral care which takes place, as people listen to and take care of each other in a variety of ways. This includes things like a lift to church and the personal delivery of The Tidings so people can keep in contact and more.

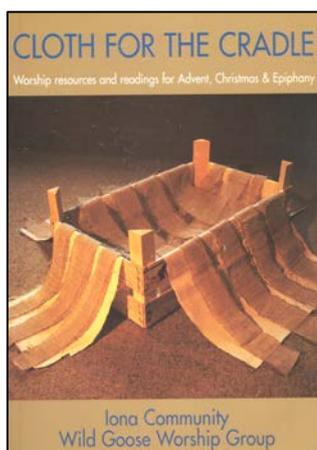
Liturgy and Learning - We continue our journey to acknowledge First Nations Peoples and are doing so both liturgically at the commencement of each time of worship, as well as through signage. Our Sunday Lent Series included two sessions on 'Our Story' led by David Thornton-Wakeford and two sessions on the 'Uluru Statement from the Heart' led by Vivien Bleby and Jeff Oake.

Communications - Significant progress has been achieved with the update of our parish website, and the distribution of our regular parish newsletter 'The St Theodore's Tidings'. The establishment of a social media presence, in close association with the Website, is in process. We are in the process of changing the signage for the Community Spiritual Garden on the church grounds to encourage its use by the wider community.

Partnerships - There are several current activities in this area: we hosted a joint Stations of the Cross during Lent with our neighbouring parish of All Souls (St Peters); we continue to support Anglican Board of Missions (ABM), Bush Church Aid (BCA), and Schools Ministry Group (SMG) – which we support through Burnside Interchurch Council – and we have conducted several events to raise funds for Mission Giving; we continue to provide material support to The Magdalene Centre - AnglicareSA Emergency Assistance program through the collection of food and other items; we provided and served the meal for the Collective of St Mary Magdalene (COSSM) Drop-in Centre at St Mary Magdalene's on Saturday 18th June, with more than fourteen members of the parish involved one way or another; and we are also supporting an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Nursing Scholarship in association with Flinders University

The November meeting of Parish Council will include a review of the Mission Action Plan and outcomes in advance of the Annual Vestry Meeting in February 2023.

Peter Burke & Richard Keene



Light looked down
and saw darkness.
"I WILL GO THERE," SAID LIGHT.

Peace looked down
and saw war.
"I WILL GO THERE," SAID PEACE.

Love looked down
and saw hatred.
"I WILL GO THERE," SAID LOVE.

So He, the Lord of Light,
the Prince of Peace,
the King of Love,
came down
and crept in beside us.

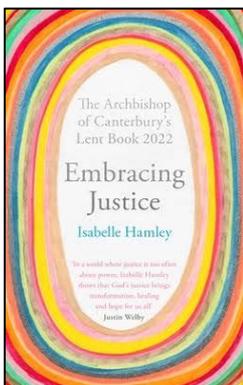
*In the face of the Gospel,
let us ask God for a good Christmas:*

- . . . that no powerful nation
should tax the poor
or uproot them;*
- . . . that no unmarried mother
should be put away in disgrace;*
- . . . that no door will be shut
on those who need to find it open;*
- . . . that shepherds and sheep and all of nature
need not be afraid;*
- . . . that barbed wire and angry soldiers
may not be found in Bethlehem;*
- . . . that wise men and wise women
might appear in the Ukraine,
in Myanmar,
in Iran . . .*
- . . . that children may be protected
from those who would abuse them;*
- . . . that this Christmas,
worship may become a manger
and the church is a stable,
and the rumour become a reality
that Christ has come among us.*

*And this we pray in Jesus name.
AMEN.*

LENTEN STUDIES 2023

Matthew is contemplating a series of Lenten Studies in 2023, using the book “*Embracing Justice*” by Rev’d Dr Isabelle Hamley. The gatherings may be held in the Main Hall after morning tea following the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist service during Lent (11.00 am – 12.30 pm) – as have been our Lenten Studies previously – but please refer to the Pew Sheets or the Website closer to the event for details should there be a change in time/venue.



In a world where justice is too often about power, Isabelle Hamley shows that God's justice brings transformation, healing and hope for all.' JUSTIN WELBY (Archbishop of Canterbury)

What is justice? It's a question we encounter everywhere in life and that over the last years has increasingly demanded an answer.

In *Embracing Justice*, Isabelle Hamley invites us on an exhilarating journey through Scripture to discover how we, as churches, communities and individual Christians, can seek and practice justice even when enmeshed in such a fractured world.

Full of practical encouragement, the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book for 2022 brilliantly weaves together biblical texts, diverse voices, contemporary stories, and personal and group meditations to reveal liberating and imaginative ways in which we may grow in discipleship - and more fully reflect the justice, mercy and compassion of Christ in our lives.

With six chapters to take you from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday, this Lent devotional for 2022 is essential reading for anyone interested in the issues of justice - from climate and economic justice to gender and racial equality - that are increasingly at the forefront of global consciousness, and the role that Christians and the Church must play in them.

Suitable for use both as a single study for individuals and for small groups to prepare for Easter, *Embracing Justice* will encourage, inform and motivate anyone looking for Christian books about justice. It will help you understand justice from a biblical perspective, and inspire you to seek it in every aspect of your life.

Although the world is broken, unequal and violent, the call to reflect God's own justice and mercy continues to sound like a steady drumbeat, impossible to ignore. Company with Isabelle Hamley this Lent, and discover that we can all join God's mission of transformation and embrace his justice.

Parish Council and Vestry matters . . .

Our Annual Vestry meeting for 2023 will be held on February 12th at 10.45 am in the church, immediately following the Sung Eucharist. Matthew will present much of his Annual Report in the sermon for the day.

In Anglican polity, the Annual Vestry functions like an AGM. It hears reports, receives the financial statement for the previous year and passes the budget for the year ahead. There is the opportunity to ask questions from the reports; also items/motions for discussion and debate can be listed – *Motions need to be submitted in writing with Matthew by January 29th, 2023.*

It is also the meeting where parish officers are elected. Each year the following positions fall vacant:

- ❖ People's Warden
- ❖ Parish Councillor (6)
- ❖ Auditor
- ❖ Nomination Committee [3]
- ❖ Synod Representatives [2]

Nomination forms will be available in the month prior, and *nominations close on February 5th, 2023.*

We endeavour to run efficient meetings, so generally the Vestry runs for no more than 45 minutes. Because of its importance in the administration and care of the parish, Vestry is a meeting all parishioners are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please ask Matthew, one of the Wardens or a member of Parish Council.



The annual Vestry Meeting was held straight after the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist

SELECT DATES



- ❖ **All Saints celebration, Sunday 6th November** . . . Holy Communion 8.00 am; Sung Eucharist 9.30 am
- ❖ **Advent Sunday, 27th November** . . . Holy Communion 8.00 am; Sung Eucharist 9.30 am
- ❖ **Carol Service, Thursday 22nd December** . . . at 8.30 pm we will hold our *Carol Service* in the Church followed by a supper in the main hall afterwards. This is a traditional service with fine choral singing by a specially gathered choir.

❖ **Christmas Services** . . .

- **Saturday, 24th December** . . . *Christmas Eve* – Sung Eucharist 8.30 pm
- **Sunday, 25th December** . . . *Christmas Day* – Holy Communion 8.00 am; Sung Eucharist (with presentation and activities for children) 9.30 am

❖ **Epiphany Sunday, 8th January, 2023** . . . Holy Communion 8.00 am; Sung Eucharist 9.30 am

- ❖ **Ash Wednesday, 22nd February 2023**
10 am Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes
7.30 pm Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

In addition to the Services, please note the following. Please refer to the Pew Sheet closer to the event for further details.

- **Thursday, November 10th.** St Theodore's Bowl, Eat, Enjoy, Fundraiser (BEEF) Night. Enjoy a fun evening at the Beaumont Bowling Club – 5.00 pm for drinks and/or bowls, with dinner at 6.00 pm. Cost will be \$35, which includes bowling, main meal, a free drink and silent auction.
- **Friday, November 18th.** St Theodore's is co-hosting a morning tea for teachers at Glenunga High School to mark International Teachers' Day
- **Saturday, December 3rd.** The Social Committee are planning to have a Trading Table on the lawns of the Church, that will be open to the public, to raise money for ABM. We will ask for donations of baked goods, books and good quality household items.

'The Tidings' is the newsletter of the parish of St Theodore's Anglican Church, Toorak Gardens. It is published three times each year – the first issue in early February (following the Annual Vestry meeting) and includes Lent and Easter; the second in June, and includes the Patronal Festival of St Theodore; and the third in December, and includes Advent and Christmas.

The Editor is **Dr Richard Keene** (ph: 0416-275-161; email: richard.keene@inet.net.au)
Comments/compliments/criticisms/contributions are always welcome!