

Bishop's Prayer & Praise

Dear Friends,

Thanks for your ongoing prayers for the Diocese of Tasmania. Much of last week was taken up preparing our final statement to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. I was reminded again both of the horror and sadness of the scourge of sexual abuse and its deep and far reaching effects, but also the good steps we have taken as a Diocese to ensure our churches are safe places for Children. Our Safe Church Communities work, our Professional Standards screening, and our Pastoral Support and Assistance Scheme for survivors are key elements in protecting children and making appropriate redress to survivors.

Sunday has been spent on the wonderful (and sunny) east coast. Celebrating 145 years of ministry in Swansea, and then on to meet with leaders and experience the hospitality of the Break'O Day Parish in St Helen's.

Give thanks to God for:

- faithful responses to sexual abuse in the Diocese.
- Jennifer Cavanough, and the Safe Church Communities training
- Annette Sims our Director of Professional Standards
- and the Parishes of Swansea and Break'O'Day

Please pray:

- for the healing of those who have suffered abuse in our church and other places
- for leaders in our Diocese to continue to work diligently for safe ministry to children and vulnerable people
- for Trevor Smith as he leads the ministry in Swansea and Buckland, and for the team leading in Break'O'Day, that the parishes might be effective in making disciples of Jesus.

Richard

The Right Revd Dr Richard Condie - Bishop of Tasmania

Some Simple Things to Pray For During Advent

1. Pray for attentiveness to what truly matters, without being distracted by trivial things.
2. Pray for opportunities to learn something new regularly.
3. Pray for discernment of how God would like you to set your priorities and the ability to focus on them consistently to fulfil His purposes in your life.
4. Pray for the grace to be able to rest, become aware of God's presence, and enjoy it.
5. Pray for strong relationships with other people in the bond of loving community.
6. Pray for peace in all situations, no matter what the circumstances.
7. Pray for an enlivened imagination that helps you contribute to the world in creative ways.
8. Pray for freedom from all that burdens you - past mistakes, fears, destructive habits, hurts other people have inflicted, and more.
9. Pray for joy and a sense of humour.
10. Pray for confidence in God's love for you and trust in His power to work things out for the best in your life.
11. Pray for a clear mind and the ability to clearly communicate what you value to others.
12. Pray for purity so you can grow as a person and encounter God more fully.
13. Pray for openness to the Holy Spirit's guidance.
14. Pray for a genuine awareness of God's grace in your life and the humility to extend grace to others.

Pray for a passion to pursue justice. ~ Edited from Whitney Hopler's "[Pray for Simplicity this Advent](#)"

Riverside & Trevallyn Congregations Christmas Lunch

Last Monday 25 of us met for Christmas lunch at the Trevallyn Bowls Club. A great meal and good fellowship was enjoyed by all.

We were entertained by the girls (Jo, Kathy, Bev & Norma) accompanied by Stephen, with Australian Christmas Carols.

We hope that those unable to attend through ill health are now on the mend and feeling better.

Many thanks to Mary and her team.

Mary would like to thank everyone who helped set up and clear away, and to the "Rooster and his hens" and all who helped make it a very enjoyable day.



4th December

News for the Pews

RIVERLINKS ANGLICAN CHURCH

**Growing a community of faith
committed to Christ and making him known**

Information & Church family news
for the congregations of
St David's & St Oswald's

Second Sunday of Advent

Four thoughts for Advent

Hope: Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.

Desmond Tutu

Love: Spread love everywhere you go.

Let no one ever come to you
without leaving happier.

Mother Theresa

Joy: Joy is the simplest
form of gratitude.

Karl Barth

Peace: While you are
proclaiming peace with
your lips, be careful to
have it even more fully
in your heart.

Francis of Assisi



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Praise for:

- ✚ Issy has been able to return home over the weekends. Pray she will have wisdom to rest when needed from her many visitors
- ✚ Stella's elbow is healing well and no surgery is needed
- ✚ The wonderful support from Chaplaincy committees & schools for our Chaplains
- ✚ Lindy has the opportunity to bring the RPS choir to St David's next week
- ✚ Every member ministry and the willingness of so many to give of their time & talents
- ✚ Good food & fellowship at Monday's lunch
- ✚ The season of Advent and its meaning for us and the world

Pray for:

- ✚ Those needing healing for their memory
- ✚ Dennis & Ros Lawrence as they prepare to sell their home and move
- ✚ The three boys being mentored at Riverside, and all those students being mentored in other schools i.e. Trevallyn, Waverley, Port Dalrymple & South George Town
- ✚ Ellie Firth returning to Tasmania
- ✚ Welfare agencies as needs for volunteers and resources escalates at this time of year. Praise for those willing to help
- ✚ Christmas services would be times of thanksgiving and worship that are acceptable to God
- ✚ Students needing healing and safety for all the excursions for RPS
- ✚ **Continue to pray for:**
 - ✚ Margot ✚ Robin ✚ Rona ✚ Bill & Bev
 - ✚ Dick & Jo ✚ Joan Wilkins ✚ Betty ✚ Alison
 - ✚ Roger & Julianne ✚ Connie ✚ Marie
 - ✚ Ian, Helen & Sarah ✚ Trish, Louise & Issy
 - ✚ Tim & Emma, Sophie & Jake ✚ Bill & Robert

What's going on?

Waverley Prayer Walk -Monday 5th December 9:30am, setting off from the lake, corner of Naroo & Magnet Streets, Waverley, to pray for Waverley, and for God to guide us in how to reach out to that community

Christmas in the West Tamar - Friday 9th December, 6:30 to 8:30pm in RSL Park Beaconsfield. A free family event with carols, bbq, & children's activities. BYO chair(s) or rug

Community Car Boot Sale - Saturday 10th December from 8am to 1:30pm at Trevallyn Life Church. Secure your space to sell your items, \$20 single or \$35 double space, by calling Kathy on 0407 817 349

Christmas Carol Celebration - Sunday 11th December with Riverside Primary at 4:00pm (no morning service). A free sausage sizzle will follow the service

Waverley Community Carols in the garden - Thursday 15th December, 6-8pm at Waverley Primary School featuring "the tattooed tenor" Matthew Garwood. Free family rides and activities. Low cost BBQ and market starting at 5:30pm. Bring rugs or chairs to sit on

Traditional Carols - Sunday 18th December 7pm at St Mary Magdalene's George Town

Usual Unusual Christmas service - Tuesday 20th December 7pm at Hillwood Hall

Carols in Trevallyn Reserve - Saturday 24th December (Christmas Eve), 7:30pm

Launceston City Community Christmas - Sunday 25th December, 11am to 2pm at the Albert Hall. Delicious buffet meals, children's activities & more. For bookings, to support by volunteering, or to make a donation www.launcestoncommunitychristmas.com.au or call 6335 3000

Services for the coming weeks:

Today

- 10:00 am Holy Communion at St David's
- 10:30 am Worship @ St O's

Wednesday 7th December

- 10:00 am Healing Service & Holy Communion at St David's

Sunday 11th December

- 10:30 am Café Conversations @ St O's
- 4:00 pm Christmas Carol Celebration at St David's

Home Groups

- St Oswald's (at Collings' home) Monday 2:30pm
- Igglesden's Tuesday 1:45pm
- Pedley's In recess until February



Happy Birthday
Margot Sutton
8th December

City Mission Christmas Appeal

Stephen Brown, CEO of City Mission, is our guest speaker today.

Thank you to everyone who has brought items for the City Mission Christmas Appeal already. There is still time to donate, just leave items in the basket anytime.

