



ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, MELBOURNE

NOTES & NEWS

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Together transforming our City and Diocese

Lent 2025



From the Dean

As we transition from the season of Epiphany into Lent, we mark both endings and beginnings in our Cathedral life. The light of Christ, so brilliantly manifested during Epiphany, now guides us into a time of reflection and renewal. This seasonal shift mirrors our own Cathedral's journey as we farewelled Archbishop Philip Freier and welcomed new voices to our ministry team.

This month, we celebrated Archbishop Philip's profound legacy of eighteen years' service. His leadership, deeply rooted in Indigenous ministry and marked by prophetic engagement with social justice, has helped shape our Cathedral into a welcoming, international community at the heart

of Melbourne. As he and Joy begin their new chapter in North Queensland, we give thanks for their faithful witness among us.

Bishop Genieve Blackwell, Chapter Canon and the longest-serving of our Assistant Bishops, now serves as Administrator of the Diocese until the appointment of our next Archbishop. We thank her for taking on these additional responsibilities, and are grateful that Bishop Alison Taylor AM has been commissioned to take on the pastoral oversight of the Marningatha Episcopate. Both Bishop Genieve and Bishop Alison will be joining us as preachers this Lent and Easter-tide.

It is particularly fitting that as one chapter closes, we welcome two new Canons to our Cathedral family. Canon Peter MacPherson brings rich experience in growing both large and small congregations, along with a passion for biblical teaching that will enhance our preaching and teaching ministry. And Canon Dr Tim Watson is joining our team as our new Precentor, contributing gifts of leadership and ministry shaped in France, England and Australia.



Canon Tim, the Dean, and the Archbishop following Canon Tim's Installation

Our Lenten journey this year offers rich opportunities for spiritual growth and theological reflection. I warmly invite you to join our Christian Hope Discussion Group, which draws on the national church's Hope 25 resources to explore how we live and share our faith today. Those seeking to prepare for baptism and confirmation are invited to begin their own journey of faith formation through our regular enquirer program. Wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, I hope our program will give you opportunities for growth as disciples.

As we prepare to enter the period of Lent, we are reminded that times of transition are also opportunities for growth and renewal. Just as Jesus emerged from his forty days in the wilderness strengthened for ministry, I pray that this Lenten season will be for us one where we too are transformed—individually and as a community—through prayer, reflection, and faithful service.

Dean Andreas



Governor Visits St Paul's

On Friday 24 January, the Dean welcomed Her Excellency Prof. the Hon. Margaret Gardener AC, Governor of Victoria, for a tour of the Cathedral with the Archbishop followed by a presentation by the Cathedral Archivist, Dorothea Rowse.

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that this edition of Notes & News may contain images and names of deceased persons in photographs and print.

From the Precentor

I want to begin by thanking all the members of the Cathedral community for the warmth and generosity of your welcome, and especially my new colleagues for their diligence and good humour during a very busy first week featuring (among other things) eight ordinations, a consecration, and the laying up of the pastoral staff of an Archbishop. It's a joy to be joining such a wonderful team. Like many of us here at St Paul's, I'm a recent immigrant to this beautiful country, having emigrated to Australia from England with my family in 2018. As a newcomer to Melbourne, I'm enjoying the vibrant multicultural feel and the dynamic blend of old and new, and I'm looking forward to discovering this city over the coming months, though I have so far resisted the urging by my friends here to commit my allegiance to an AFL team!

As a cradle Anglican in the 1970s, I was fortunate to grow up in a suburban parish which modelled the kind of "unity in diversity" which is so characteristic of St Paul's. I was a boy treble in the parish choir, singing Choral Mattins, Holy Communion and Evensong most Sundays, and performing *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* as a parish musical, with the curate playing the part of Elvis. Our faith was nurtured through Bible studies and summer camps, and the parish also worked with CMS to support a number of missionaries. Then in 1983 my father was appointed housemaster of the Choir House at Canterbury Cathedral, and I was lucky to spend five years living in the precincts of that remarkable place, which broadened and deepened my experience of God's Church in many different ways, and also gave me the opportunity to develop my skills as a musician.

My first career was as an academic historian. I studied History and French, completed a doctorate on the cultural and religious life of the French city of Lyon in the 16th century, and worked for some years as a university lecturer. In 2002 a growing sense of calling prompted me to move to France full-time, where I joined the staff of an international ecumenical missional organisation called *Chemin Neuf* ("New Way"), living in community with people from more than 30 countries: it was here that I met and married my wife Kate who is Australian and a Roman Catholic.

My call to ordination was discerned with the Church of England's Diocese in Europe, leading to three years studying theology at the Catholic University in Lyon alongside regular ministry formation weekends at the ecumenical Eastern Region Ministry Course based in Cambridge. This unusual pathway has given me a lifelong passion for the unity and reconciliation of God's church both within and across denominations; I've also been blessed to experience how new forms of missional and religious community life can complement and enrich inherited forms of church – and, of course, vice versa.

Following ordination in 2011, I served for four years as Curate at Liverpool Cathedral in the north-west of England when I ran the Cathedral's School of Theology programme, and then for three years in Brighton on the south-east coast where I worked half-time in a Diocesan Ministry Development role and half-time leading an ecumenical mission team based in a redundant city-centre church. In 2018 our family felt prompted to explore a move to Australia, and I was invited to take up a post as a parish priest in north Canberra (arriving shortly before bush fires and pandemic). After six happy years living in the nation's capital, we felt open to the Spirit's prompting for a new call, and a process of prayerful discernment led me to my new role here in Melbourne.

I am looking forward very much to working collaboratively with Dean Andreas, all the clergy and lay ministers at St Paul's especially in the areas of preaching, teaching, and worship. I'm also particularly aware that every Cathedral relies on the work of many wonderful volunteers, without whom it would be impossible for us to carry out the mission to which God has called us. I am looking forward to playing my part in ensuring that you all feel supported and encouraged in your various areas of ministry. Please do reach out and introduce yourselves, and I look forward to getting to know you all over the coming weeks and months.

The Revd Canon Dr Tim Watson
Precentor



Farewell

Archbishop Philip

St Paul's Cathedral celebrated the retirement of its thirteenth Archbishop, Philip Freier, marking the conclusion of an eighteen-year episcopate that significantly shaped the Diocese of Melbourne. Archbishop Freier's leadership, shaped by his early ministry among First Nations communities, brought greater diversity to Cathedral governance and strengthened our prophetic voice on social justice. As both Archbishop of Melbourne and former Primate of Australia, his tenure was marked by thoughtful public engagement, ecumenical bridge-building, and a commitment to congregational growth. The retirement service honoured not only his distinguished leadership but also the contributions of his wife Joy, as the national church, provincial family and Cathedral community gathered to give thanks for their faithful service and to pray God's blessing upon their next chapter as honorary Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of North Queensland.



Welcome, Canon Peter!

It's a great joy to be joining the Cathedral ministry team. I was ordained in St Paul's in 1993 by Archbishop Keith Rayner and most of my ministry has been in the Diocese of Melbourne apart from five years in England. My wife, Virginia, is English and my three adult children, Hannah, David and Naomi were all born in England. I was born in Scotland but have grown up in Australia. The only time I have a conflict of loyalty is when Australia plays Scotland in rugby.

I was the Senior Minister of St Alfred's (Blackburn North) for 24 years until 2024 and concurrently the Senior Minister of St Luke's (Vermont) for 7 years. I therefore have experience in leading a large, complex, multi-staff church and also of leading a small, struggling church which went through a period of renewal. I have served at various times as Area Dean of Whitehorse, Archdeacon of Box Hill, Archdeacon of Kew, on Archbishop-in-Council and General Synod.

Dean Andreas has asked me to help with the preaching and teaching ministries of the Cathedral which I am thrilled to do. I have already preached at the Cathedral a number of times and I can see how important this ministry is. My heritage and style is to teach what's in the Bible in an expository way and to help people apply biblical truths to their lives. I have seen in my past ministry how the faithful preaching and teaching of God's Word helps people grow spiritually and helps grow congregations. The Cathedral's mission context at the heart of Melbourne also excites me as we try

1. The Archbishop lays up his pastoral staff on the Nave Altar.
2. Mrs Joy Freier reads the second lesson.
3. The Archbishop takes up the Pilgrim's Staff, gifted to him by the Anglican Schools of the Province of Victoria.
4. The Rt Revd Anthony Poggo, Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, representing the international Anglican communion, gives thanks for the ministry of the Archbishop and Mrs Joy Freier.
5. Bishop Garry Weatherill, Bishop of Ballarat and Acting Metropolitan of the Province of Victoria, prays for the Archbishop.
6. The Archbishop and Dean Andreas

to communicate the eternal truths of Scripture to the many visitors.

Prior to ordination I was a secondary school English teacher in the western suburbs, having done an Arts degree at Melbourne University and teacher training at Mercy College (now ACU). I loved teaching teenagers and have loved subsequent ministry with youth and young adults. Young people are growing up in such a different world to my generation, not least because of technology, and I was encouraged to see that the 6.00pm Gather service was an attempt to reach this demographic.

Here are some other random pieces of information which you can ask me about further if you're interested. I grew up Roman Catholic. I don't drink coffee. I enjoyed the 1990, 2010 and 2023 Grand Finals. As part of a sabbatical trip last year I visited 24 Scottish islands and went on 21 ferries. I'm a grandfather. My role at the Cathedral is for 2 days per week.

I am looking forward to meeting you so please do come and say hello.

The Revd Canon Peter MacPherson



Decade-old LED Project Delivers Million-Dollar Savings for Cathedral

St Paul's Cathedral's pioneering switch to LED lighting in 2015 has generated extraordinary returns, with inflation-adjusted savings now exceeding \$1.6 million over the decade. The project, which cost \$160,000 to implement, has exceeded all expectations in both financial returns and environmental impact.



The Dean and Archbishop pose with the new LED bulbs to announce their installation in 2015.

'The LED installation was a leap of faith at the time', reflects Dean Andreas Loewe. 'We knew it would reduce our energy consumption, but the long-term benefits have far surpassed our projections'. The system reduced the Cathedral's lighting power load from 58kW to just 16kW, while maintaining museum-grade illumination quality. This 73% reduction in energy use has prevented approximately 1,288 tonnes of carbon emissions—equivalent to planting 2,292 trees.

When adjusted for inflation, the annual savings of \$131,000 in 2015 would equate to approximately

\$164,000 in today's terms. The cumulative financial benefit has been particularly significant as energy prices have risen over the decade.

The project's success has implications beyond the Cathedral precinct. 'Our switch to sustainable technology shows how heritage buildings can embrace sustainable practises without compromising our historical integrity', says Dean Loewe. 'And that's particularly relevant as we now look toward persuading Heritage Victoria to support our ambition to generate solar power and store it safely in a neighbourhood battery on our precinct'.

The LED system continues to perform reliably after a decade of service, requiring minimal maintenance and providing consistent, high-quality lighting for the Cathedral's 519,000 annual visitors.

Marking 110th Anniversary of Genocide

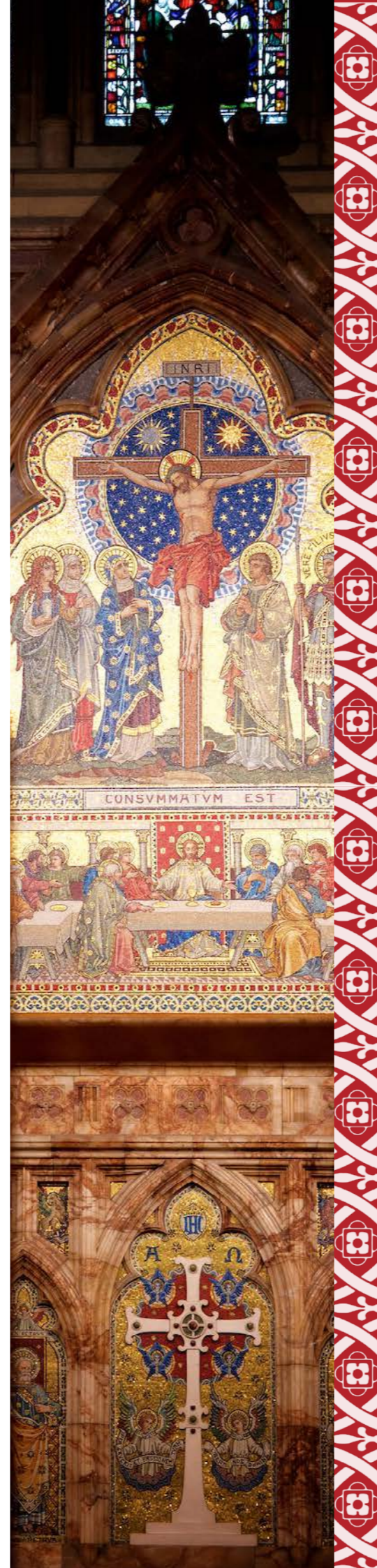
On Sunday, 6 April 2025, at 4pm we will be hosting a solemn Ecumenical Service of Evening Prayer, commemorating the 110th anniversary of the Armenian, Assyrian and Greek Genocides. The service will bring together Melbourne's diverse communities to honour the memory of 1.5 million victims and stand in solidarity with the Armenian people.

The commemoration will feature prayers, readings and musical offerings from the three spiritual traditions. A highlight of the service will be the inaugural presentation of the Edith Glanville Humanitarian Award, established to honour the historic friendship between the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne and the Armenian, Assyrian and Greek communities. The award particularly recognises the legacy of Archbishop Harrington Lees, who provided vital support to genocide survivors.

The service is jointly organised by St Paul's Cathedral, the Armenian National Committee of Australia, St Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church, and representatives of the Assyrian and Greek communities of Melbourne.



Ecumenical Service of Evening Prayer
4pm Sunday 6 April
St Paul's Cathedral



HOLY WEEK TO EASTER

PALM SUNDAY • 13 APRIL

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Choral Eucharist & Procession of Palms
1.00pm Mandarin Eucharist 華語崇拜
4.00pm Choral Evensong ANZAC Commemoration

HOLY TUESDAY • 15 APRIL

10.30am Diocesan Chrism Eucharist
& Renewal of Ministry Vows
5.10pm Choral Evensong

HOLY WEDNESDAY • 16 APRIL

12.15pm Holy Eucharist
1.00pm Holy Week Lunchtime Concert

MAUNDY THURSDAY • 17 APRIL

12.15pm Holy Eucharist
6.00pm Choral Eucharist, Foot Washing & Vigil

GOOD FRIDAY • 18 APRIL

9.00am Good Friday Liturgy
3.00pm Crucifixion - John Stainer
(Liturgical Performance)

EASTER DAY • 20 APRIL

6.00am Easter Vigil & Eucharist
10.00am Easter Day Choral Eucharist
1.00pm Mandarin Eucharist 華語崇拜
4.00pm Festive Choral Evensong

www.cathedral.org.au/easter



Join Us for Worship

Sunday	8am 10am 1pm 4pm 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Choral Eucharist Mandarin Service 華語崇拜 Choral Evensong Gather at St Paul's*
Mondays	12.15pm 5.10pm	Lunchtime Communion Service of Evening Prayer in Simple English
Weekdays	12.15pm 5.10pm	Lunchtime Communion Choral Evensong* (Tues-Fri)
Saturdays	12.15pm	Lunchtime Communion <i>*during term time</i>

Join our services online

cathedral.org.au

facebook.com/StPaulsCathedralMelbourne

youtube.com/c/StPaulsCathedralMelbourne

For more information on joining us online or in-person, please visit our website

www.cathedral.org.au/worship

Cathedral Prayer

Almighty God,
who caused the light of the gospel
to shine throughout the world
through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul:
grant that we may follow him
in bearing witness to your truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
Amen.

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Cathedral Directory

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The Canon Pastor	The Revd Canon Philippa Lohmeyer-Collins 9653 4320
Canon (Preaching & Teaching)	The Revd Canon Peter MacPherson
Associate Clergy	The Revd Canon Dr Stephen Ames The Revd Canon Chris Carolane The Revd Canon Dr Bob Derrenbacker The Revd Canon Dr Garry Deverell The Revd Canon Prof. Dorothy Lee AM FAHA The Revd Canon Glenn Loughrey The Ven. Ray McInnes The Revd Canon Robert Vun The Revd Canon Jane Window

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Victoria Bakerov	Jacob Goodger	Lachlan Sayer
Sarah Coe	Benjamin Gunthorpe	Ahmed Sultan
Jasper Corker	Daniel Morshedi	

Music Department:

Director of Music	Canon Philip Nicholls
Leading Musician	Emma Warburton
Cathedral Organist	Siegfried Franke
Assistant Organist	Roslyn Carolane
June Nixon Organist	Mark Slavec

Warden of Servers	Contact Joel McFadyen
Society of Bell Ringers	
Tower Captain	Brian Pettet
Welcome Team	Contact Joel McFadyen
Flower Guild	Contact Joel McFadyen
Cathedral Guides	Mary Harris
Archives	Dorothea Rowse