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13 May 2015

Parish e-letter

Bishop Greg Anderson – Pastoral Visit

Rector Brian Jeffries will welcome Bishop Greg Anderson to Alice Springs for his second Pastoral Visit, on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th May 2015. The Bishop will arrive by plane from Darwin and he will be met by the Rector.

If anyone wants to speak privately to the Bishop, please contact Rector Brian on 8952 1056 to coordinate it.

Saturday 23rd at 10.00 AM - Brian invites all parish members to meet the Bishop at morning tea at Church of the Ascension. We have invited the Bishop to share his vision for the Diocese.

2.30 PM – Bishop meets with the CEO of *Central Australia Affordable Housing Company* at St Mary's Chapel.

Sunday 24th at 8.00 AM and 10.00 AM – Bishop celebrates and preaches at both Services.

In recognition of long and faithful service to the parish, we will farewell Gill Wright, in the presence of the Bishop, at both Services.

Margaret Marsh, Eileen Boocock, or Mike Smith will accept donations towards a gift if you wish to contribute.

1.00 PM – Bishop flies out to Sydney

Diocesan Annual Returns The Annual Parish Returns for 2014 have been sent to the Diocesan Office in Darwin for compilation of information and statistics about the Anglican Diocese of the N.T. in 2014.

Diocesan Annual Returns [continued]

A few facts are: one adult but no infants were baptised and there was one marriage and seven funerals.

People attending Services throughout the year topped 4,970 at Church of the Ascension and 281 at St Mary's in the short time Services were being held there.

A separate attendance count for Christmas Day was thirty-one and on Easter Day ninety-six attended.

The parish sent \$15,640 as our contribution towards the maintenance of the Diocese in 2014.

Ascension Day – Tonight

Today, Thursday, 14th May 2015 is Ascension Day in the church calendar.

Rector Brian and Fr Hiley will Celebrate Holy Communion at 7.00 PM.

Following the Service, we will join in fellowship to mark the occasion.

Please bring a plate for dessert/supper.

Know Your Parish

From 1901, visiting clergy from the Diocese of Carpentaria in Queensland and later Willochra in South Australia, held Anglican Services in the town of Stuart and the old Telegraph Station until the establishment of the Anglican Parish of Alice Springs in 1933. On 1 November 1933, Fr Percy Smith was appointed as first Priest-in-Charge of the Mission District of Alice Springs. He held his first service on Sunday 26 November 1933.

Jose's Mural Talk – well attended

Twenty-six people visited the Chapel at St Mary's last Sunday, to hear Jose Petrick describe in detail the mural painted on the altar wall by Robert Czako in 1958.

Jose rounded-out the talk by recounting some personal details about the artist. In outlining the historical quest she undertook to piece together the artist's biography, she uncovered the location of several of the artist's paintings and stained glass art pieces.

An interesting detail about the audience was the wide age range of people who attended - from young adults to older seniors. Jose said, "Yes it was good to see young people. Perhaps it was because it was Mother's Day. It gave mothers and daughters something to do. I didn't realise I had chosen Mother's Day until after I had fixed the date."

Anne-Marie Priestly visit for funeral

Many of us remember Rev'd Anne-Marie Priestly who visited last week to attend the funeral of her aunt, Ms Jane Carter. Jane lived to 102 years and was a parish member in Alice Springs for twenty-four years.

THOUGHTS AND IDEAS

We will use this heading when someone gives us a thought or idea they want to share.

Here is one from Enid Harland:

How about opening up St Mary's on one morning or afternoon a week for people who want to gather for a time of silent prayer?



MESSY CHURCH: Heather Jeffries and Patti Martin getting messy with the children recently



ICTV film crew filming at St Mary's

Cello Music in Church of the Ascension

Australian Cellist, Richard Narrowway, will perform a free concert in the Church of the Ascension on Sunday evening, 27th May at 7.00 PM.

At noon on the same day, he will perform in a free public event in the Todd Mall.

His visit to Alice Springs is part of his *Bringing Music to Life* tour with the aim of making a positive, lasting impact on the community through concerts, educational workshops and community engagement events.

Bringing Music to Life is strictly a non-profit venture and Narrowway has been relying on donations and grants to put the tour together.

Darwin University, Anglican, Baptist and Lutheran Churches have provided venues for his performances around Australia. More information, including concert dates in Darwin, Alice Springs, Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney, can be found at www.bringmusictolife.com.

Narthex Maintenance Appeal

The Rector and Wardens thank all who gave generously for the narthex ceiling repairs.

The Diocesan Registrar, Leeanne Zamagais, advised that white ant damage is not covered by the Diocesan insurance arrangement but under the terms of the policy, the Diocese has paid all but the GST.

It has been suggested to Parish Council that the money raised be used for water leakage damage to the other side of the narthex ceiling. The lights also need to be fixed. **If you contributed to this fund and have other suggestions for use of the money, please speak to Greg Buxton or Warwick Marsh who will let Parish Council know your view at the next Council meeting on 20 May 2015.**