



The Vicar's Corner



With the celebration of All Saints and All Souls, the Church year turns towards Advent and Christmas. Advent is more than a time of preparing for Christmas. It is season to practice watching and waiting for the signs of God's presence which are often not what we were expecting. Only those who are good at being patient—like people in a queue— can hope to notice when the Spirit stirs within them, or in the world around us.

And Advent teaches us that God will not always come as we expect. Many did not recognise God's human face in Jesus because they were convinced God could only act in certain ways. They were not open to surprise. We are the beneficiaries of God's patience with us as God waits upon our being ready to accept new realities, let go old habits or take up new ones, and change and grow spiritually in response to God who comes as one of us to show us how to be truly human by living in daily relationship with God.

Colleen O'Reilly

NEWSbytes

ORDINATION TO PRIESTHOOD & FIRST PRESIDING

The Revd Jacqui Smith will be ordained a priest on Saturday 28th November at 10.30am in St Paul's Cathedral and on Sunday 29th at 10am will preside at the Eucharist. at St George's. The Revd Prof Dorothy Lee, Dean of Trinity College Theological School will preach.

INTERCESSORS' WORKSHOP

Sunday 8 November 11.30am-12.30pm. For all who lead the prayers of the people and those who are interested.

THE REVD JOHN STEWART

has been invited by Bishop Kay of Gippsland to become the **Acting Dean of Sale Cathedral** for the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Fr John was previously Dean of Bendigo. John will spend part of each week in Sale and offer the Bishop and Cathedral a time of discernment as they look for a new Dean in 2016. We will miss John but we bless him to go for a time, we will pray for him and the Cathedral's ministry and look forward to his return.

Mark your calendars!

- ◆ **Book Group**
Monday November 2nd, 8pm
- ◆ **Public Holiday**
Tuesday 3rd November
Cup Day - Office Closed
- ◆ **Poetry Group**
Monday November 9th, 1pm
- ◆ **Shawl/Knitting Group**
Tuesday November 10th, 10.30am
- ◆ **Mothers Union**
Tuesday November 10th, Noon
- ◆ **Parish Council**
Tuesday November 10th, 7.30pm - North Room
- ◆ **Cabrini Hospital**
Eucharist Tuesday
November 17th at 11am
All welcome.
- ◆ **Annual Meeting**
Sunday November 22nd
11.30am
- ◆ **Spiritual Café**
Tuesday November 24th
Rabbi Fred Morgan
- ◆ **First Presiding of new priest**
Advent I November 29th
10am with The Revd Prof.
Dorothy Lee preaching.

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FACEBOOK Please visit and Like facebook/St George's Anglican Church Malvern





Profile: Elsbeth Jones



1. What organisation/social concern are you involved in?

I'm involved (loosely) with indigenous communities, and as the need arises, give money so that particular issues may be helped to see the 'light' of day as they begin to become a reality. The last one was to help a community in South Australia to bring about necessary changes to create a place to 'live and move and have being'.

I have also been involved with the "World's Greatest Shave" which is an annual event to raise money for blood cancer research and support. As you can see from the accompanying photo, I shaved and coloured my hair to support this cause!

2. Why/how did you get involved?

It was my initiative to begin the knitting group at St George's. The idea was to knit prayer shawls and give them to people within and beyond the boundaries of the church when they just needed to wrap themselves in the love of - someone, be it the person who supplied the shawl or the Christ. The late Elizabeth Weeks was very helpful in this, creating a small prayer that I made into a little note that went with the giver and the shawl.

3. How does your faith speak influence your social concern and vice versa?

As former Parish Nurse, Pastoral Nurse, I've ranged widely through the parish and beyond to meet people wherever they were, both geographically and emotionally.

At times I would use the church as a meeting place for some encounters. Once, in consultation with Reverend Barry Smith, I brought a grieving family together in the north transept. In this sacred space they paid their respects to their deceased daughter, sister and aunt. We held a small, informal service, just them, me and God. They lit a candle, wept and said whatever they needed to say in the safety of that space.

Once I met with a grieving woman in the south transept. I made her a cup of tea and sat with her while she wept and shouted out her grief and anger and received love and acceptance. All the time I was holding fast to Jesus, knowing that He would be with us and give me words I may need.



Baptisms

◆ Eloise Skye Brisco *child* of John & Beth Brisco 25 October 2015