

Ordination of Deacons

□ The Archangel Gabriel, Mary, and patience

Rosie Wynter and Dr Michael Sutton were ordained as deacons in All Saints' Cathedral on Saturday March 25.

Rosie Wynter is well known in the Cathedral congregation and also in Holy Trinity, Dubbo, where she has served in lay ministry in recent years.

Michael Sutton, who has formerly lectured in English Literature at a Japanese university, has also served as a catechist and lay minister – in his case, in the Sydney parish of St Paul's, Burwood, where he has become friends with the former Precentor of All Saint's cathedral, Michael Deasey.

Partly because of that connection, Bishop Ian Palmer invited Michael Deasey to conduct the pre-ordination retreat for the two candidates, and to preach at the ordination service.

Michael Deasey drew on the Gospel reading of the day, Luke's account of the visit of the Archangel Gabriel to Mary to announce the forthcoming birth of Jesus.

"Today is not the time to be dispensing advice," he said, "but if by observing these two characters (an angel and a young woman) we can learn something, then that's what I would pray for Rosie and Michael - and indeed for all of us present today."

He pointed out that Gabriel "never seems in a hurry, and for an angel, accomplishes surprisingly little" with only three definite mentions by name in the whole Bible.

However, he suggested that Gabriel "might become a role model, especially to those in ordained ministry, of one



HOLY SPIRIT: Invoking God to 'send down the Holy Spirit' upon his servant Rosie Wynter, Bishop Ian lays hands on her to ordain her as a Deacon in God's Church, while Michael Sutton awaits his own ordination.

INSET: Guest preacher Michael Deasey.

who is never in a hurry, who ... never loses sight of the number one priority: that of worshipping the eternal God".

Michael Deasey said that during the retreat over the preceding few days, he and the two ordinands had begun each session with a prayer by Michael Leunig: 'God, help us to live slowly, to move simply, to look softly, to allow emptiness, to let the heart create for us. Amen'

Turning his attention to Mary, he described her as a Godly woman as demonstrated by her response to Gabriel: 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord. Do with me according to your will.' He also listed other qualities: reverence, submission to God's will, humility, social awareness.

"So we honour Mary, because her song spans the whole human condition," Michael Deasey concluded. "She is both submissive and proactive. She embodies the polarities of being virgin and mother. She shows how

we can be people both of the heart and of the head, ... contemplative but passionate, spiritually attuned but socially active. And we honour her because she had time for an angel."

Highlighting the role of a deacon as a servant, the ordination service featured a foot-washing segment in which Bishop Ian washed the feet of both ordinands before they each washed the feet of one or two members of their own family.

Rosie Wynter has been licensed to provide pastoral care in the parish of St Barnabas, South Bathurst, and to the city of Bathurst. Michael Sutton has been licensed as a Deacon Assistant in the Cudgong Valley.

*Now turn to page 2 to
Meet the new Deacons*

A message that goes beyond words

There is a story about the famous ballerina Dame Margot Fontaine de Arias who when asked to explain a dance she had just performed said, "If I could put it into words I would not have danced it."

We still need a story line for great ballets like *The Sleeping Beauty* or *Swan Lake*, but the power to move us comes in the performance far more than in the narrative.

So it is with the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

The proclamation of the Gospel since the earliest times bears witness to what God has done, but the transforming power of the love and reconciliation of God, in Jesus, goes beyond what can be spoken or written.

The testimony of women and men to that transforming grace is more than the moving experience of watching the performance of a ballet, for through

what God has done in Jesus sin is forgiven, lives are transformed, people are healed, relationships are restored, hope is renewed, death loses its sting and evil is defeated.

This Holy Week and Easter, God invites us to be changed through what Jesus has done.

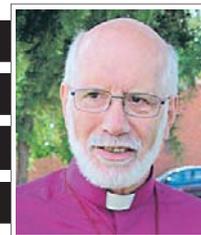
I heard recently about a rapidly growing church in New England where, without a resident minister, services focus on worship, Bible reading and above all testimonies to what God is doing each day in the lives of those who worship. It is evident in their changed lives.

BY

BISHOP

IAN

PALMER



This Holy Week and Easter, God invites us to be changed through what Jesus has done.

I pray that we will see with the eyes of the Spirit, listen with the ears of faith, taste with the expectation of being fed, and reach out with hands longing to be held.

Christ has died! Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!

+ Ian.

Meet the new Deacons

Rosie Wynter

Rosie Wynter is the daughter of a former priest of this diocese, Cyril Crowe, and she believes she has always had a call to ministry.

Born in London, brought up in Bathurst, Rosie moved to Sydney and the Blue Mountains for a number of years, before returning to the Bathurst area 18 years ago.

She studied psychology at Sydney University before going into a business in Leura, doing interiors

and cookware. After further study in natural therapies she ran a natural therapies clinic in Leura for 10 years.

During a visit to Christ Church St Laurence in Sydney she realised she could no longer ignore God's call.

She found the discernment process quite challenging on many levels, taking her "very deep" to make sure this is what she was called to do.

Rosie has four adult children and nine grandchildren, who have

been very encouraging as she has travelled the journey towards ordination.

She also runs a bed and breakfast at her home in Rydal, where she has helped restore the old Union Church and helped organise functions there over the last 15 years.

She has been licensed as the pastoral minister for the South Bathurst Anglican Parish, and also a deacon at All Saints' Cathedral.

Michael Sutton

Michael Sutton has a PhD in Economics and a Bachelor of Economics (Social Sciences) with First Class Honours from the University of Sydney.

He worked as an academic in Japanese universities for a decade, lecturing in economics and International Relations before taking up a research fellowship at the East-West Center in Washington, D.C.

After receiving a call to the Christian ministry, Michael undertook theological studies and graduated with a Master of Divinity conferred by the Australian College

of Theology through Morling College and a Diploma of Bible and Ministry, conferred by Moore Theological College in March 2017.

He received formative training as a student minister at St Paul's Anglican Church Burwood under the mentorship of Rev. Dr. James Collins and Rev. Michael Deasey. Thirty five members of St Paul's Burwood travelled from Sydney to Bathurst for his ordination at All Saints Cathedral.

Michael is working under the supervision and guidance of the Rev. Canon Jono Williams as Deacon in the parish of Mudgee, with Gulgong, Rylstone and Kandos.

Anglican

e-News

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Disclaimer:

The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Anglican Diocese of Bathurst.

Boost for regional evangelism

□ James Daymond commissioned as Evangelist for Central West

The National Director of the Bush Church Aid Society (BCA), Rev'd Dr Mark Short, preached the sermon at the commissioning of James Daymond in his Evangelistic Ministry in Narromine on Saturday March 18.

The ministry will be supported by BCA. James and his wife Brittany have moved to the Central West from Sydney, in response to what they believe to be a clear call from God.

In his sermon, Mark Short posed the question: "What is an evangelist?"

He said he wanted to step back from the common stereotypes that people might have, to show that "an evangelist is as simple and as wonderful as someone sharing stories about Jesus".

"It could be in the hairdresser's chair, it could be in the pub, or it could be beside a dusty road," he said.

He took his listeners to Acts 8, in which he said Philip was the first person to be described as an evangelist: "Philip, in God's plan, ... is going to be the human instrument as God's mission keeps on going, as God's mission reaches out even further to embrace more and more people."

Describing Philip's encounter with the Ethiopian eunuch who was reading Scripture as he travelled, and needed "someone willing to journey with (him) and explain what all this means", Mark Short then told how Philip had explained the meaning of the passage the eunuch had been reading, and had then gone on to evangelise him.

"Evangelism means being attentive to what God is doing," he explained. "God was at work long before Philip got to that desert road ... God is always at work in our world, sometimes in ways and lives where we least expect it – are we willing to be attentive to that? Do we take time to allow God to surprise us? And do we notice when He does?"

Prior to moving to the Central West, James Daymond was the Evangelism Minister at St Clement's Anglican Church, Mosman in Sydney, and Brittany was the Contemporary Music Director and Children's Ministry Assistant.

"About five years ago, I visited a friend of mine in Central West New South Wales," James explained. "During this time God enabled me to see the great potential for sharing the gospel in this region. I thought



WELCOME: Bishop Ian welcomes Brittany and James Damond to the Diocese during James' commissioning in St Mary's Church, Narromine.

that I could contribute to this ministry. I began to seriously think about it, pray and speak to people about the idea."

James and Brittany took some road trips to explore the region and to meet ministers.

"We were keen to hear what people were already doing in evangelism and what they thought the best way forward would be. We wanted to see whether God would open a door for us to do evangelism in the Central West."

For the next two years James will be engaged in personal evangelism by praying and seeking to reach out to as many farmers and townsfolk as possible.

"I will go up driveways, knock on doors, visit sales, shows, sporting events

and other community occasions. I will find ways to connect with people, hear where they are at, share the gospel, seek to lead them to Christ, and introduce them to the local church," he said. "During this time I hope that others will be trained up to do evangelism as we seek to reach out together."

James and Brittany have asked for prayer for "open doors and open hearts - open doors into people's lives and open hearts so that God's work of bringing new life can take place".

"It is our great desire that the people of the Central West would join in singing our great redeemer's praises," James added.



Book Fairs

Don't miss out!



Christ Church Hall, Blayney

Two weekends:

21-22 April

28-29 April

Thousands of books all priced, categorised & sorted alphabetically

Cowra Anglican Parish Hall

Thursday 4th May

Friday 5th May

Saturday 6th May

Doors open at 8.30 am each day

Men's Camp: *it's a 'bloke' thing*

Twenty men gathered at the Scouts campsite at Lake Canobolas, just west of Orange, on Friday evening April 7 for almost 24 hours of talks, workshops and Bible studies exploring what it means to be a 'bloke' in the church today.

The program offered training in leading bible studies, reading and leading prayers in church and assisting in pastoral visiting – as well as helping men strengthen their relationship with the living Lord.

In a picturesque setting on the slopes of Mount Canobolas, just across the road from the lake, the campsite offered a relaxing environment to take a quiet break and enjoy the fellowship.

Bruce Lindbeck (Parkes) handled the catering, providing three very appetising meals within a budget that kept the total cost of the camp down to \$40 per person.

The program began after dinner on Friday evening with Andrew Trafford presenting the first talk, on the topic of *Being a bloke who loves*.

Andrew began by explaining that the English language is limited to just one word for love, while Greek distinguishes four different kinds of love:

- ♦ Eros - emotional or erotic love;
- ♦ Storgē - natural affection or natural obligation;
- ♦ Phileō – brotherly love; and
- ♦ Agapē – unconditional love that esteems or values the loved one.

“Agapē is the noblest word for love in the Greek language. This love keeps on loving even when the loved one is unresponsive, unkind, unlovable, and unworthy,” he explained. “This is how God loves.”

He went on to show that this was the way in which God loves his son, Jesus – and because through Jesus we are all adopted as sons of God (Gal. 4:5), we can be confident that he loves us all in the same way.

“A bloke who loves is a bloke who is loved perfectly,” Andrew concluded

On Saturday morning, Lew Hitchick spoke on *Being a bloke who listens*.

After outlining some of the roadblocks to good listening and highlighting the importance of checking that what we heard was actually what was being said, he spoke briefly on the differences between what



ENCOURAGEMENT: *The 'blokes' weekend' was aimed at encouraging men to step into leadership roles in worship, church and family life, offering workshops and talks on various service roles.*

men and women each regard as listening.

He then went on to talk about various ways in which we can listen to God, quoting in particular from Mark Virkler's teaching on *Hearing the voice of God*.

He told the group that he had found this method of journaling very helpful at times, and quoted one particular instance where he had found great reassurance through it.

However, he advised using three 'CS' checks before relying on any supposed communication from God:

- ♦ Is it Consistent with Scripture? – check it against the consistent message of God's word.
- ♦ Is it Constructive and Supportive? – God's message is always positive; he may convict us of falling short, but will never condemn.
- ♦ Seek the Counsel of the Saints – run it past a trusted spiritual advisor or Christian friend.

The final talk of the program was by Bishop Ian, on the topic of *Being a bloke who leads*.

Bishop Ian told of Nelson Mandela's description of his initiation ceremony as a young man. He had been stripped of all supports, and left vulnerable and powerless – an experience he described as a 'journey downwards'.

Bishop Ian said that Jesus had experienced such a 'journey downwards' in his temptations in the wilderness, where he discarded various poor models of leadership

that could have won him great popular support.

Citing the encounter between Jesus and the rich young man (Mark 10), he said that Jesus took the young man on a similar downward journey, inviting him to give up wealth, power and the things he covets.

“As a true leader Jesus does not put down other people, but offers a different way,” he said. “He gives the young man a choice – and the ending is left open.”

He said that leadership was not always front “out front”, but also involved recognising the abilities of others and enabling them to use those abilities.

Workshops

Interspersed with these talks, the program included several workshops to encourage men in particular forms of service.

- ♦ Praying in Church (led by Keith Woodlands)
- ♦ Leading a Bible Study (Derrick Milling)
- ♦ Personal Evangelism (Phil Howes)
- ♦ Reading the bible with someone (Noel Clarke)

In addition, Jay Quince led a Bible Study on the book of Titus, which offers clear guidance on how men should conduct themselves both in leadership and in service.

The camp concluded with a service of Holy Communion, with Bishop Ian presiding.

Canowindra commissioning

☐ Joy Harris to lead joint Anglican/Uniting Church ministry

Joy Harris and her husband Max had moved to Canowindra a couple of weeks before Joy's commissioning as minister to the joint Anglican and Uniting Church congregations in Canowindra and surrounding areas, and said that had been amazed at the warmth of their welcome.

At her commissioning service in All Saints' Anglican Church and the Canowindra Uniting Church on Saturday March 11, Joy said that people in Canowindra had already been very friendly and generous.

Joy and Max Harris have moved to the Central West from the South Coast community of Bermagui, in the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn, where she had served as Rector of Cobargo parish for four years.

The commissioning service was a joint Anglican and Uniting Church affair, with Bishop Ian Palmer and The Reverend Kevin Barrington, (Chair of the Macquarie Darling Presbytery) both taking part.

After beginning the service in the Anglican Church, the congregation then processed down the streets for about half a kilometre to the Uniting Church where the commissioning was completed.

Following brief speeches of welcome



PROCESSION: (above) Robert Byrnes carries the processional cross as incoming priest Joy Harris leads her flock from the Anglican Church to the Uniting Church during the two-part commissioning service.

INSET: (right) Joy Harris shows the congregation her new licence.

and a response from Joy, the congregation then walked another hundred metres to the CWA hall for a very generous lunch.



Campanology comes to Cobar

From the parish

The Reverend Graham McLeod is a regular visitor to the Lillian Brady Retirement Village at Cobar, where he celebrates Holy Communion for the residents twice a month. He endeavours to bring the "outside world" into their lives. This together with his touch of fun and madness ensures that his visits are always welcomed.

Fr Graham is a bell collector (a campanologist). On one occasion he transported some 74 metal handbells (of varying sizes) from Nyngan (where he is based) to the retirement village at Cobar. You can imagine the noise that came from the activities room before, during and after as Fr Graham led worship.

Fr Graham's parishioners at Nyngan, Bourke and Cobar are all familiar with this collection of handbells and of course his flag collection (he is also a vexillologist).

Your two new worlds for this edition of e-News are *Vexilology* (pertaining to flags), and *Campanology* (pertaining to bells).



BELL-RINGERS: Graham McLeod gives the retirement village residents a hands-on inspection of his collection of hand bells.

Renewing ordination vows

Priests and deacons across the diocese had the opportunity to renew the vows they made at their ordination, in services held in All Saints' Cathedral Tuesday April 11) and Holy Trinity Church, Dubbo (Wednesday April 12).

Lay ministers were also invited to re-commit to their particular ministries.

The renewal of vows is done annually during Holy Week, as part of the Blessing of the Oils – a service in which fresh supplies of anointing oil are blessed and distributed to the clergy.

Retired clergy as well as those still in active ministry are invited to take part.

In his sermon, Bishop Ian expressed his thanks to all in ministry - lay and ordained – for their faithfulness in both good and difficult times.

Referring to the Gospel reading for the day (Luke 4:14-30), Bishop Ian reflected on the nature of the crowds in the Gospel stories – the rapid change of mood from adulation of Jesus to angry rejection.

He pointed out that crowds today can be swayed by politics, the media or even social media.

“What is missing in our society is a ‘middle voice’, a point of view that is not heard in brief news reports,” he said. “The great Jewish tradition of the prophetic voice is missing.”

He suggested that this should be the role of the church, but the church has lost its authority in modern society.

Quoting ABC political journalist Chris Uhlman, he said “the damage to the church through child abuse is a loss, not



OILS: Kelso priest Tim Fogo hands Bishop Ian a jar of anointing oil during the Blessing of the Oils service in All Saints' Cathedral.

just to the church, but to the whole of society”.

However, he maintained that Jesus does hold the ‘middle ground’ – he cuts across attitudes of ‘them and us’.

“Jesus is not just the voice of academic wisdom, but the voice of compassion,” he said. “Jesus’ words in his sermon at Nazareth are an outpouring of compassion, not a political statement.”

Bishop Ian said that the church no longer has the central place in society that it had 40 years ago, but it still has a responsibility to proclaim God’s love and compassion.

Career path for the 1st AIF returning to Australia in 1918-19

By Maurice Campbell*

The organisation that was set in place for the repatriation of the troops of the 1st A.I.F. was massive. Sea transport to their beloved country was being organised, while sport and concerts would help take their minds off the bloodshed they had experienced.

General Monash approved General Sir Brudenell White who had presided over the evacuation of Gallipoli, which he had brilliantly planned. Could White find the right man to investigate education in all fields of employment, careers, trades, clerical, building, engineering?

England and Germany held no attraction for them anymore. Overall the weather in these two countries was dismal and depressing. The Australians were looking forward to the land of the Southern Cross, Australia, their land of opportunity.

White found his man: George Merrick Long, Anglican Bishop of Bathurst and Director of Education at the Australian Corps Headquarters.

Bishop Long with his staff investigated all avenues of employment from the basic clerical to professional and University education. Some returning servicemen were not ready for any employment because the Army was the only job they had ever experienced.

Dubbo connection

After Bishop Long returned to Australia, he resumed his normal duties in the Diocese of Bathurst.

Bishop Long felt that a tower and peal of bells was necessary for Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Dubbo. In August 1922 he threw out a challenge to Mrs Leavers, wife of the Rector of that time, to raise 1,000 pounds (\$2,000) by the end of the year as a memorial to the men from Dubbo Parish who served in the Great War.

The challenge was accepted. With the assistance of the parishioners, Mrs Leavers was able to raise the necessary funds.

**Maurice Campbell worships at Holy Trinity, Dubbo, and has a keen interest in Australian war history.*



BISHOP LONG worked hard to help returned servicemen find employment after the First World War.