



2025 Conference – Save the date – 22 March

Our HOPE25 campaign:

1. Helping us to speak of Jesus more often/naturally
2. Preaching on Luke from Advent to Easter
3. "Hope for..."
4. One event in each parish with a guest speaker on 'hope!'
5. Follow up "Christianity Explored" course
6. Prayer!

HOPE25
HOPE IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

Bathurst Diocese
SHARING JESUS FOR LIFE



HOPE25 plans. Ask your minister or lay minister.



Ordained Sat 30 Nov: Luke Merriman, Josh Taylor



Luke Merriman, now Priest-in-Charge, Narromine

In brief

Diocesan office will close 23 December and reopen 13 January.

Our day conference 2025 – earlier next year - Saturday 22 March, at MAGS Dubbo. Save the date! Why is God on mission? How are we part of God's mission? The Rev'd Pete Stedman + practical seminars.

HOPE25 – We've already started in Luke's Gospel, so we grasp hold Jesus our hope! Next, we begin a zoom course called "**Believing out loud**" which will help us speak about Jesus with joy and confidence. Starts Mon 17 Feb. Details will be distributed.

First LLM training 2025 – Monday 10 February, 7.15pm-8.30pm via zoom. Please claim the date. Details will be emailed to all LLMs.

MU Seminar Feb 28 - Standing Firm and Standing out – online – Anna Brotherson, Steve McAlpine, Al James and Beth Braga. Register: <https://www.musydney.org.au/>

Anglicare Central West launched at synod and the transition is now well underway. Should you wish to donate to the work, please note these details: Account name: Anglicare Foundation Funds, BSB: 032 078 Account number: 482413

Safe ministry face to face training: 23 and 24 May AND 31 Oct and 01 Nov (locations and details to be advised).

CLAIM THESE 2025 DATES NOW:
18 Jan Commissioning Kelso 11am
17 Feb "Believing out Loud" starts
28 Feb MU seminar
11-14 Mar Retired clergy retreat – St Clement's Galong
22 Mar Diocesan conference
08 Apr Renewal of ministry vows
18 Apr Good Friday
20 Apr Easter Day
03 May 200 years Kelso parish
08 June Pentecost, HOPE25 starts
21-24 Jul clergy retreat
8-10 Aug Diocesan camp
19 Sept Stipendiary clergy gathering prior to synod – 2pm
19-20 Sept Synod – Bathurst
25 Oct Women's conference
26 Oct ABM Thanksgiving 175 yrs

From our Bishop

Dear friends,
 Advent is a time of watching and waiting for the King who is to come. It is meant to reset our priorities and passions to things eternal. It is meant to lift our eyes to Jesus and to the new heavens and new earth to come, and then when we come to Christmas – it is not just a baby's birth we celebrate in some sort of sentimental isolation – but rather - we see Jesus' coming as a deposit – a glimpse – a promise – the beginnings - of all that we've dared to hope for in Advent.

Praying your Advent will renew your hope and help you to long for Jesus. May the things of this world grow strangely dim, in the light of Jesus' glory, his grace, and his coming.

Mark Calder

Bishop-in-Council

Following synod this year when elections (held every three years) took place, BiC membership is as follows:
Ex-officio Bishop Mark Calder, Archdeacons Andrew Thornhill and Tim St Quintin.

Elected clergy: James Daymond, Phil Howes, Bob Cameron.

Elected lay people: Jane Francis, Mark Galbraith, Ray Haigh, Lisa Milton, Glenn Murray, John Power

Appointed by the bishop: The Rev'd Sally Phelps, Elliot Harper, Sandra White.

Anglican Property Trust

Following synod this year, APT now consists of

Clergy: The Bishop, Ben Mackay, James Boardman (appointed by BiC to replace Jono Williams)

Lay: John Power, Jennie Palmer, Andrew Trafford, Stephen Holland

Bishop's video sermon series

ADVENT SERIES: YOU CAN BE CERTAIN

DEC 01	Advent 1	Why?	Luke 1:1-4
DEC 08	Advent 2	John the Baptist prepared the way	Luke 1:5-25
DEC 15	Advent 3	Jesus was miraculously conceived	Luke 1:26-38
DEC 22	Advent 4	God's promises were fulfilled	Luke 1:39-56
DEC 25	CHRISTMAS	Joy to the World!	Luke 2:1-21

SUMMER SERIES – You can be certain (Luke continues)

DEC 29	...that Jesus brought God's salvation	Luke 2:22-40
JAN 05	...that Jesus grew in wisdom and favour	Luke 2:41-52
JAN 12	... that John preached a baptism of repentance	Luke 3:1-20
JAN 19	...that Jesus was God's Son whom he loved	Luke 3:21-37

TERM 1 2025 Jesus our Hope

FEB 02	Luke 4:1-13	Tempted
FEB 09	Luke 4:14-30	Rejected
FEB 16	Luke 4:31-44	Identified
FEB 23	Luke 5:1-11	Obedied
MAR 03	Luke 5:12-26	Trusted

LENT SERIES Text 6 questions for Lent

MAR 09	LENT 1	Luke 6:1-11	Is the sabbath for us?
MAR 16	LENT 2	Luke 6:12-26	Who is blessed; who is not?
MAR 23	LENT 3	Luke 6:27-36	Love for enemies: possible?
MAR 30	LENT 4	Luke 6:37-42	When CAN we judge?
APR 06	LENT 5	Luke 6:43-49	Bad fruit or good fruit?
APR 13	PASSION/PALM SUNDAY	Luke 22:39-23:12	Would YOU deny Jesus?

Easter

APR 18	GOOD FRIDAY	Luke 23:13-47	Crucified
APR 20	EASTER DAY	Luke 24.1-12	Raised

Please Pray

Praise God for Luke

Merriman and Josh Taylor – ordained on 30 November. Pray for Luke in Narromine and Josh starting in Gulgong, that the Lord will mightily use them in those places!

Thank the Lord for the Rev'd James Damond and the wonderful help he's been to parishes in working out a plan for ministry! Pray that these plans will be put into action in 2025 and result in more intentional gospel ministry, that we all might effectively be about the work of **SHARING JESUS FOR LIFE**.

Praise God for Warwick and Louise and pray for great family time over Christmas.

Join with Bishop Mark's 3 prayers

- **Supply our needs:** workers for the harvest and the finances to support them.
- **Transform us:** renew our hearts, deepen our love for Jesus, and equip us for God's service.
- **Save the lost:** soften hearts, open eyes, and lead many to trust in Jesus. Amen.

Pray for the appointment of a new children's minister for the Cathedral parish and also for a new assistant minister following James Boardman's appointment to Kelso.

Thank the Lord for our SRE teachers and pray for refreshment over the summer break. May the new year bring new opportunities!

Parishes without clergy – for clergy for Bourke-Brewarrina, Canowindra, Condobolin, Coolah-Dunedoo, Coonabarabran, Coonamble, Cudal-Molong, Cumnock, Gilgandra, Nyngan, Trundle, Warren and West Wyalong, Wellington; plus the funds to support them.

Praise God for answered prayer in providing a student-assistant to help in youth and children's work in Dubbo.

Pray for the Rev'd Ross Craven's surgery on 15th January – for a great outcome and patience and strength as he recovers.

Pray for our bishop and many clergy families attending CMS summer school – for great spiritual nourishment!

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Cathedral Services

Saturday Vigil

6pm (5pm when not daylight saving)

Sunday

8.30am Traditional
10am Contemporary
Also 8.30am Mon, Wed, Thu (BCP);
10am Fri

Supporting our clergy

We would love your support for Bec Choi, Tim Smith, and Jonny Lush. Please indicate in the reference, who you wish to support.

Account: Synod Management Fund
BSB: 082-441
Account Number: 392 655 240