BATHURST DIOCESE
Sharing Jesus for Life

Welcome | June 2026

Clergy at Ben Mackay's commissioning Orange East

Baptism at St Mary's Marra Creek, Day of Pentecost

Stuart Border commissioned at Gilgandra 23 May

100th anniversary of ministry in Orange East

In brief

We give great thanks to God for: The commissioning of the Rev'd Ben Mackay at Orange East, a baptism at Marra Creek; the commissioning of the Rev'd Stuart Border at Gilgandra and the 100th anniversary of ministry in the parish of Orange East. There was also recently a 100th anniversary celebration at Trunkey Creek (not pictured).

Upcoming anniversary services:
* St Philip's March, 2pm, 28 June
* St Peter's Morongla, 10am, 12 Sept

We recently welcomed Ingrid Pulley to the Diocesan office as a casual administrative assistant who will assist Louise and Warwick in busy periods and cover for Louise when on leave.

Adjustments to email: It would be a help to us if from now on all email correspondence for Louise and the diocesan office could be sent to office@bathurstanglican.org.au and all email correspondence for Warwick sent to registrar@bathurstanglican.org.au

The bishop's election board recently reported: We are grateful to God for the calibre of candidates and are now engaged in some initial discussions. We appreciate your prayers for wisdom and discernment for the Board, and for the candidates and their spouses.

Upcoming bishop visits
20 June Condobolin 4pm
21 June Forbes 10am
12 July Parkes 8.30am and 10.15am
19 July Coonabarabran 9.30am

SAVE THESE DATES 2026:

27–30 Jul Clergy retreat – Galong – with Canon Greg Harris (BCA)
07-09 Aug Diocesan camp with the Rev'd Paul Dale (Bridgechurch)
10 Aug LLM training 7.15-830pm
29 Aug Believe connect day, formerly known as Ultreya. Details to come, but save the date.
18 Sept Stipendiary clergy gathering prior to synod – 2pm – with the Rev'd Kevin Simington
18-19 Sept Synod
19 Sept Closing service of Bishop Mark's episcopy - 1.30pm
24 Oct Women's conference
09 Nov LLM training 7.15-830pm

From our bishop

It's been a joy and privilege to preach through Romans these past weeks; something I've not done before. It quickly became clear to me that Romans is not simply a detailed theological document. It is a deeply pastoral letter, written to ordinary Christians learning what it means to live in the King's kingdom.

Again and again, Paul takes us back to the gospel: our universal sinfulness, God's astonishing grace, justification by faith, peace with God, life in the Spirit, and the certain hope of future glory. Yet Romans never leaves these truths in the realm of theory. The gospel transforms how we think, how we worship, how we suffer, how we relate to governing authorities, how we love one another, and how we live together as God's people.

I soon realised how determined Paul is to remove every ground for boasting in ourselves. We cannot boast in law-keeping, our religious background, or any effort to make ourselves right with God. Instead, we are reminded again and again that it is only through Jesus' sacrifice that we are declared right with God. If we are to boast at all, we boast in the Lord.

Romans also reminds us that God's saving purposes are far bigger than we often imagine. Through Christ, God is creating one people from many peoples, united not by background, culture, tradition, or personal preference, but by faith in his Son. We are to serve one another in humility and love our enemies generously.

My prayer is that this series has helped us to more clearly see the greatness of Jesus and what he has done for us, that we might with one mind and one voice, glorify him.

Mark

Bishop Mark Calder

Bishop's video sermon series

TERM 3
8 SURPRISES FROM MATTHEW'S GOSPEL
12 July — Matt 13:1–23 — Parables Hide the Truth
19 July — Matt 13:24–43 — The End of Weeds
26 July — Matt 13:44–58 — Nothing More Valuable
02 Aug — Matt 14:13–21 — It's Not About the Food
09 Aug — Matt 14:22–36 — Walking on Water — No Magic Trick
16 Aug — Matt 15:10–28 — Jesus and Feeding Dogs
23 Aug — Matt 16:13–20 — World's Most Significant Problem
30 Aug — Matt 16:21–28 — Living for Jesus = Dying to Self

FATHERS' DAY
06 Sept — Luke 15:11–32 — Prodigal Son

A STING IN THE TALE
13 Sept — Matt 18:21–25 — Forgiveness

The following arrangements are subject to change on the advice of the Administrator or new Bishop
20 Sept — Matt 20:1–16 — Grace
27 Sept — Matt 21:23–32 — Obedience
04 Oct — Matt 21:33–46 — Relationship
11 Oct — Matt 22:1–14 — Clothes
18 Oct — Matt 22:15–33 — Traps
25 Oct — Matt 22:34–46 — Response

ALL SAINTS' DAY
01 Nov All Saints' Day 1 John 3:1–3

INVITATION SERIES: JUST GIVE ME 15 MINUTES TO EXPLAIN
08 Nov Why I'm Not Religious Matthew 23
15 Nov Why Sad Things Happen to Good People Romans 8:17ff
22 Nov Why You Are More Loved Than You Dared Hope 1 John 4:7–12

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For more information contact the Diocesan Office during office hours, 9am-5pm (not Wednesday).

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Please Pray

Parishes without clergy:

1. Nyngan
2. Warren
3. Bourke-Brewarrina
4. Coonamble
5. Trundle
6. Condobolin
7. Cumnock
8. Wellington (locum present)
9. West Wyalong (locum present)
10. Coolah-Dunedoo (LLMs present)
11. Blayney (locum present)

Please pray for all those who conduct services and exercise ministry in the absence of an incumbent. Pray that the Lord of the harvest will send out workers!

Please pray for great wisdom and the Lord's guidance for the Bishop's Election Board.
Clergy: Andrew Thornhill (Chair), Tim St Quintin, Phil Howes, Andy Martin, James Boardman, Bob Cameron.
Lay people: Jane Francis, Mark Galbraith, Ray Haigh, Lisa Milton, Sandy White, Eliot Harper.

Please pray for our Diocesan Camp 7-9 August with the Rev'd Paul Dale from Bridgechurch in Sydney speaking. Pray that many will come to Ridgecrest as we gather as one, hear God's word, revel in his love, enjoy his creation and spend unhurried time in fellowship together. (Registration will be available soon!)

Pray for all the preparations being made for General Synod 09-14 August in Melbourne. This will be the first such gathering since 2020. Pray for the new Primate, Bishop Mark Short, and new General Secretary, Juliet Wenden as they navigate and plan for so much which will be new to them. Pray for those who will represent our Diocese – Bishop Mark, the Rev'd Phil Howes and Jane Francis, that they will have God's strength for a very demanding week and wisdom as they take part in decision making for the life and witness of the Anglican Church of Australia.

Cathedral Services

Saturday Vigil
5pm (6pm during daylight saving)

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

Supporting our clergy

Click **HERE** for information on how to support our work. (Or visit our website and navigate to 'support'.)

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