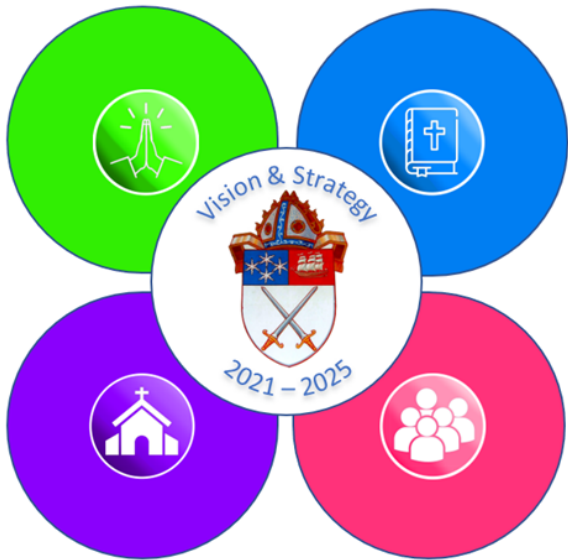


VISION AND STRATEGY



Are you Ready?



2022 is here and so is our Diocesan strategy to Deepen and Grow our Prayerfulness! Many of us will begin to do this during Lent. Some of us have already begun - and you can get a taste of what is going on around the diocese on the next few pages. Please keep us informed about what you are doing so that we can share our ideas and good news with each other.

Deeper Prayer

The Diocesan Study notes for Lent, entitled 'Deeper Prayer', are available to all via the Diocesan Website. The notes, based on St Paul's teaching about prayer to the Thessalonians, can be used by individuals or small groups. You can also request a printed copy from the leader of your parish or organisation.



DEEPER PRAYER

Anglican Diocese of Bunbury 2022

The Four Strategies

Deepening and Growing our prayerfulness as individuals, groups and churches

Learning more about Jesus Christ in order to become more like Christ

Growing in love for, and encouragement of, one another (within our churches and diocese)

Being salt and light in the places and among the people God has placed us (in our communities)

Learn to Bless!

Have you ever considered that a verbal blessing is a form of prayer? When we bless people we are praying for all the fulness of God's mercy, love and grace upon a person or situation. As David Stubbs writes in 'A More Profound Alleluia', a blessing is "a calling for the Holy Spirit to come and transform us."

The Gelorup Bible Study group near Bunbury, led by Rev Marion Prowse, have begun doing "The Blessings Course" by Roy Godwin and Dave Roberts and so far have covered 4 of the 7 sessions.

Roy Godwin ministries have been the catalyst for starting Local Houses of Prayer around the world, and in the Blessings Course they share the principles that underpin their ministry. They began with wanting to bless the community they lived in, to declare blessings on people,

the way God wants us to do as His ambassadors. (As in 1 Peter 3:8 – "No retaliation. No sharp-tongued sarcasm. Instead, bless – that's your job, to bless. You'll be a blessing and also get a blessing" Msg version). A simple beginning, one that's possible for any of us to do – declare blessings on those around us and on our community. As Roy Godwin says in his book, 'The Way of Blessing',



"We are released to the full purpose for which we were made when we carry God's presence, minister to Him in spirit and truth and speak blessings. The power and authority for healing and restoration is released when we speak the words that heaven speaks."

Roy Godwin and others who used these principles have seen miracles and many people turning to faith in Jesus Christ as a result.

Who or what is God putting in front of you that you can affirm and bless?

Want to know more?

Find out more about The Blessings Course and order resources via

roygodwin.org/the-blessings-course/

Read Roy Godwin's Books, 'The Grace Outpouring' and 'The Way of Blessing'.

A Word from Bishop Ian

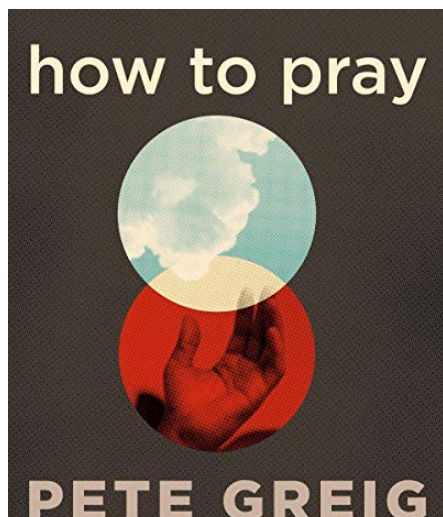


There are at least 340 mentions of prayer in the Bible. They include the example of Jesus himself who regularly carved out significant time and secluded places to pray. Jesus also taught his disciples how to pray, encouraging them to make their requests known to God, to pray without pomp and ceremony, to pray with faith, and to never give up. The New Testament writers similarly record how central

prayer was to the earliest church, with people meeting daily to pray, and being encouraged to pray 'without ceasing' and in all circumstances. St Paul often starts his letters with the fact that he has been regularly praying for the people he is writing to. Those of us using the Diocesan study notes 'Deeper Prayer' will be learning to pray like St Paul, with the intention of deepening and growing our prayer lives. Will you join us?

How to Pray - A Simple Guide for Normal People

Rev Shane Marques at Living Waters Anglican Church in Albany has been encouraging his congregation to read or listen to the audio book called **"How to Pray: A Simple Guide for Normal People" by Pete Greig.**



Pete Greig established the Global 24/7 Prayer Movement and The Prayer Course, which was advertised in the September edition of the Vision and Strategy Newsletter. This book can be used to accompany the course but can also be read as a stand alone book. Christianity Today calls it "An instant classic". Rev Shane describes the book as "Simple, practical, Biblical and very faithful". It covers 9 key themes: Stillness, Adoration, Petition, Intercession, Perseverance, Contemplation, Listening, Confession and Spiritual Warfare.

You can listen to Rev Shane's recommendation of this book via the link below:

youtu.be/pXpZzon7JFk

Prayer Diaries

Have you ever thought "I'll pray about that" and then forgotten to pray? Probably for most of us, the answer is sometimes "Yes". A prayer diary is a useful way to help us stay faithful to our prayer intentions. You can write your own prayer diary for personal prayer intentions but some parishes, including **the parish of Denmark-Walpole, Wagin-Dumbleyung and Living Waters, Albany** publish prayer diaries for everyone in their communities to use. The idea is that you take a few moments each day to pray for the prayer intention highlighted for that day. **Rev Sally Buckley, of Denmark-Walpole parish has written a prayer diary that can be used by all of us in the diocese if we wish.** A copy can be found on p4 of this newsletter. The Prayer Diary can be personalised, or used just as it is. It is a powerful statement for the whole parish to be praying each day for the same thing in their community.

Dates for Your Diary

8th February - Quiet Morning at Church in the Park Bunbury - 9.00am -12.30pm

27th February - Combined Churches Prayer Meeting at Vineyard Christian Fellowship, Bunbury @ 6pm

27th February - 'Sanctus' at Church in the Park Bunbury 5.00-6.00pm

2nd March - Lent Begins

12th March - **POSTPONED DUE TO COVID** Explore Prayer Day at Bunbury Cathedral **will now be held later in the year**

Accessing Resources

You can find

- previous editions of the Diocesan Vision and Strategy Newsletters
- Deeper Prayer Study Notes in two versions (NRSV and NIV)
- The Vision and Strategy Document

and more on the Diocesan Website. Go to

www.bunburyanglican.org

and touch the About Us and then the Vision and Strategy buttons.

- Morning and evening Prayer from Dunsborough, Albany, Mandurah and St Boniface are available most days via the Diocesan Facebook page or via a link on the Diocesan Website



For information about the events listed in the 'Dates for Your Diary' section, please see the December edition of the Vision and Strategy Newsletter

Prayer Diary for 2022. I offer you this resource to be used as you find most helpful.

Please use the prayers as a focus, there is real encouragement in knowing we are all praying the same thing on the same day.

Ourselves **Health** **Community** **Church** **Our World** **Government** **People**

<p><i>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.</i> Romans 15: 13</p>	<p><i>Our steps are made firm by the LORD, when he delights in our way; though we stumble, we shall not fall headlong, for the LORD holds us by the hand.</i> Psalm 37: 23-24</p>	<p><i>Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.</i> Joshua 1: 9</p>	<p><i>Ah Lord GOD! It is you who made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.</i> Jeremiah 32: 17</p>
<p>1st. Give thanks for the beauty of the world in which we live and pray for the protection of the environment.</p>	<p>2nd. Give thanks for our local hospitals. Bring to God all doctors, nurses and other medical staff and all patients.</p>	<p>3rd. Pray for your own parish church or organisation. For all who offer their time and talents in ministry and service.</p>	<p>4th. Pray for anyone you know who is isolated, living alone or lonely. May God's comfort surround them.</p>
<p>5th. Pray for the schools in our area: teachers, students and support staff. Pray for the ministry of the YouthCARE chaplains.</p>	<p>6th. Lift up to the Lord those you love who are unwell, vulnerable, recovering from illness, suffering from Covid 19, or are dying.</p>	<p>7th. Give thanks for those you have loved and who have died. Those who have inspired you and have been important in your faith journey.</p>	<p>8th. Pray for an end to the Covid 19 pandemic. All those researching ways to combat the virus, through vaccine or medication.</p>
<p>9th. Uphold Bishop Ian, Archdeacon Julie and all who work in Diocesan Office, the Diocesan Trustees and Bishop in Council.</p>	<p>10th. Pray for your own needs, the deepening of your own faith, and God's strength and guidance in your life.</p>	<p>11th. Uphold those first responders and emergency service personnel and volunteers. Our fire brigades, State Emergency Service, Marine Rescue, St John Ambulance.</p>	<p>12th. Pray for all the residents in aged care, particularly the aged care providers in your locality. Give thanks for staff and volunteers.</p>
<p>13th. Pray for those who work in aid organisations to relieve poverty and sickness in countries around the world.</p>	<p>14th. Pray for those who volunteer their time working at your local Op Shops.</p>	<p>15th. Pray for our Wardens, Treasurer and Parish Councillors as they oversee the church and prepare for the future.</p>	<p>16th. Pray for all who work in government, Federal, State and Local. For integrity and fairness for all.</p>
<p>17th. Picture yourself in church, at the service you usually attend. Pray for who might be sitting near you.</p>	<p>18th. Choose one country in the world – pray for its government and peoples, for their well-being and security.</p>	<p>19th. Pray for paramedics and other community health workers, for their safety and protection.</p>	<p>20th. Pray for the work of your local community centre or youth centre. Pray for all who work there</p>
<p>21st. Pray that whatever you are doing today, the presence of the Lord will encourage and bless you.</p>	<p>22nd. Give thanks for the beauty of this place you call home. Pray for its protection: socially and environmentally.</p>	<p>23rd. Pray for all in local government, implementing policies made at State or Federal level.</p>	<p>24th. Pray for all who have been bereaved. For God's presence and peace to console them. Lord have mercy.</p>
<p>25th. Give thanks for all our local businesses. Encourage them to keep going in difficult times.</p>	<p>26th. Pray for all in power, around the world, to wield it wisely so peace with justice may be a reality.</p>	<p>27th. Encourage our parish that it may be "an expression of God's love in the community".</p>	<p>28th. Give thanks for your many blessings: a place to call home, food to eat, people to engage with.</p>
<p>29th. Give thanks for our Licensed Lay Ministers, Liturgical Assistants, Musicians and the priests of the Parish.</p>	<p>30th. Pray for the work of Boniface Care, Anglicare and the Emergency Relief organisations in this Diocese.</p>	<p>31st. Pray a blessing on the work of Chaplains in schools, prisons, hospitals and workplaces.</p>	