



Anglican Diocese of Tasmania  
*a healthy church... transforming life*

8 April 2008

06/08

From the Bishop's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

EASTER 2008

**Christ is Risen.....He is Risen indeed!**

It was my privilege to join with the congregations at our Cathedral Church on Good Friday and again on Easter Day. People from many nations including the Mainland© take the opportunity to worship. We draw near to worship and marvel at the stupendous mystery and love of God in Christ reconciling the world to himself and the glorious hope of the resurrection. Baptism, dying to self and rising to new life in Christ, is Love's call to each and every one of us – from Cross to Resurrection with the Lord of Life.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES take some of my time: print media, TV and radio- this latter being the final media interview with Mal Garvin at 11pm Easter Sunday. The Easter March allows us to demonstrate to the city of Hobart that Christ followers are alive and well and rejoicing in our celebration. All ages, banners, music, donkeys, media crews and curious onlookers. I can imagine tourists looking at photographs back home in their far away land, "What a happy place Tasmania is; remember this Easter Parade!"

For many Christians these are long hours, solemn hours, life's reality check.

For some Christians it is a holiday away and a time of refreshment with worship where they may be staying. In this context with less 'visible' Good Friday observance I was asked by the media if the day should continue to be a public holiday. I replied that Good Friday is a holy-day, a special time set aside for the holy, for worship and reflection.

As long as the Christian community takes this time for worship I strongly believe it should remain a holiday.

If, however, the Christian community ceases from taking the opportunity for worship then politicians may decide that Good Friday should become Reconciliation Day or yet another 'ordinary day' and Christians will be obliged to worship early or late or take a day off work. We live in interesting and challenging times.

# **Invest (This Saturday 12 April)**

The title **invest** is our attempt to capture something of the work of God building the church and each Christian joining Him in the transformation of our lives, our church and the communities in which we live. In a sense it's a reminder that we need to **invest** in the things of God. We hope that every participant will leave encouraged in their faith and with some good ideas to help them in their lives and ministry. Last year's participants certainly gave strongly positive feedback.

## **PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR LAY PEOPLE**

**Starting: 10.00am and finishing at 4.00pm**

**At the Hutchins School**

**10.00 Morning Tea and Registration for electives**

**10.30 Worship and Key note address from Bishop John**

**11.30 Elective Session One**

**12.30 BBQ Lunch Provided**

**1.15 Elective Session Two**

**2.45 Elective Session Three**

**3.45 Closing Moments and Prayer**

**4.00 Conclusion**

## **Electives on Offer:**

**Invest in Leading a Service:** Tips for Lay Readers and Worship Team members

**Invest in your friendship:** Tips for being open and honest about your faith

**Invest in Parish Outreach Activities:** Ideas that work when reaching out

**Invest in the frail aged:** Help I have been asked to visit a nursing home

**Invest in very young children and their parents:** Ideas for starting a play group

**Invest in your grand children:** Ideas for nurturing your grand children spiritually

**Invest in Families:** Ideas for starting and growing a family style service

**Invest in Caring Relationships:** Listening when nothing else is better

**Invest in Your home group:** Ideas to refresh (or start) home groups

**Invest in yourself:** Know and use your gifts and talents

**Invest in all of God's Work:** Your place in God's work in other places (Mission Support)

**Invest in your passion for movies:** Enjoying movies that stretch and challenge

**Invest in the older/wiser generations:** learn and grow through connecting with older people

**Invest in youth:** Simple ideas to help run a successful youth event.

Further Information from Erin or Paul [ministrycouncil@anglicantas.org.au](mailto:ministrycouncil@anglicantas.org.au) ph 62202020  
Paul 0417317462

The **Northern Invest** Day will be Saturday 10 May at Launceston Church Grammar School

The **North-West Invest** Day will be Saturday 9 August, Camp Clayton (Saturday of the Ministry Conference)

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TRAINING DAY

Be in Launceston on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April ☺ ! The day's program features visiting Sydney-based children's ministry team - Quizworx, Scripture Union Tas State Director, Ruth Pinkerton, as well as SU TAS Children's and Families Ministries Coordinator, Jenny Cowley, Pene Daniel from the Door of Hope Christian Church, and Leaps and Bounds dance ministry for children with special needs. Keynote addresses and electives, morning tea & lunch. The day is for churches and individuals who have or plan to have church and/or school-based ministry to children. RSVP with payment (\$30) to Riverlinks Office by April 11. Download registration form: [www.riverlinks.net.au](http://www.riverlinks.net.au) or call the Riverlinks Office on 6327 4742. This event is being organized by Revd David Rogers-Smith in his capacity as Diocesan Ministry Development Officer.

### LATROBE PARISH

I had the opportunity to meet with the Wardens over a lovely meal prepared by Dawn Burk and catch up on life at Latrobe. It was also good to meet Revd Richard Peters and his wife Maureen. Richard led Sunday worship and I preached. Once again I express my thanks to the clergy who do so much for us in locum tenens ministry. Thank you. The Parish 'Lunch at Latrobe' was a great time of conversation and fellowship. Please pray for Latrobe during this interregnum time.

### RIVERLINKS PARISH - ORDINATIONS and COMMISSIONING

What an exciting time for the parish of Riverlinks as it regenerates its team for ministry. Please mark in your diary the ORDINATIONS and COMMISSIONING to the Ministry Support Team at 7pm, Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May, St David's Riverside (399 West Tamar Highway) [riverlinks@bigpond.com](mailto:riverlinks@bigpond.com)

KAYE GREGORY and TRISH ANDERSON will be ordained as DEACONS and LIBBY TODD will be commissioned to the Ministry Support Team. Please pray for Kaye and her husband Ross, Trish and husband Len and Libby and husband Kelvin as they prepare for this exciting time in their lives in ministry together within the Parish.

### BISHOP'S RETREAT 2008 - "FOOLS FOR CHRIST"

Bishop Garry Weatherill, Diocese of Willochra in S.A., led us in the Bishop's Retreat 2008. We met in prayer, reflection and conversation over two days focusing on the simple truths of the Christian life. This was a most encouraging time and I am very grateful to my 'amigo' Bishop Garry for his deep and vulnerable faith sharing and encouragement. I trust that more clergy and laity will commit for significant periods of prayerful drawing aside from the pressures and pleasures of life and ministry to spend reflective time with God. It is essential if we are to be truly 'a healthychurch...*transforminglife*'.

Yours sincerely in Christ's service

Shalom



John Harrower