NEW CANONS INSTALLED

Maureen Mossman (from Cairns) and Anne Watkins (from Townsville) were elected as Lay Canons of St James Cathedral at the recent meeting of the Diocesan Synod. Mary Gallagher was also appointed as a Lay Canon by Bishop Keith.

On Sunday 29th September during Evensong at St James Cathedral all three of these very active lay people were installed as Lay Canons.

During the service, Sam Blanch, who had been a Lay Canon by a previous Synod, was appointed as a Lay Canon Emeritus. All four are very much involved in the ministry of the Cathedral and the ongoing work of the Diocese and are to be congratulated on their election or appointment.

Canons of St James’ Cathedral are elected or appointed for a period of five years. They are members of the Cathedral Chapter, and attend meetings of the Chapter when they occur and also be part of Diocesan Services at the Cathedral where possible.

As well as the duties of the office of Lay Canon, they are also permitted to preach, lecture or perform other ministries in the Cathedral at the invitation of the Bishop or Dean.

Pictured right is the Blessing of the three Lay Canons at the service on the Feast of St Michael and All Angels: (l-r) Bishop Keith with Mary Gallagher, Anne Watkins, and Maureen Mossman, in their distinctive robes as Canons.

REV KAREN ALLEN
New priest in Atherton

I have been a worshipping Anglican most of my life, however I realise now that although I was active in all the facets of the church, my faith was shallow. My call to ordained ministry came quite late in my life; I was living a very comfortable life and with my children having left home, I was considering some overseas travel. One night I couldn’t sleep, and I felt a distinct call to ministry. Of course, my life was turned upside down, moving out of my beautiful apartment on the Gold Coast to very old flat on the grounds of St Francis Anglican College in Brisbane. During the next three years however, my faith deepened, and I really felt that I was following God’s call. It was after I was ordained Deacon in December 2016 (Priest in December 2017) and moved to Bundaberg that I knew I was meant to be in ministry.

Working alongside the Rector, The Venerable Keith Dean-Jones, the three years were the best three years of my life, despite the challenging and busy parish. I could have happily stayed in Bundaberg, however God had other ideas and I was presented with the opportunity to serve the people of the Parish of Atherton.

I have two adult children, Lindsay (30) and Kate (26) and Lindsay gave me the best gift of a granddaughter, Maddie, six years ago. Lindsay and Maddie live in Townsville and Kate intends to move up this way soon.

My background is in nursing, I was first registered in 1986 on the Gold Coast. I worked at Griffith University in the School of Nursing for some time and was working at Bond University when my call to ministry came a few years ago. During that time, I studied a Bachelor of Business at Griffith University and in 2016 completed my Bachelor of Theology. I am currently studying a Master of Leadership through Arrow Leadership and the Australian College of Ministries.

I have visited the Atherton Tablelands and other parts of the North as a tourist on a few occasions and more recently Townsville as a doting Granma. I love the north and am looking forward to investigating the area in more detail now that I am living here. I find the people in the North to be very friendly and have certainly found the parishioners in this parish to be that way too. I am really looking forward to serving the people of Atherton and becoming part of this community. I do this of course with the Grace of God, the light of Christ and filled with the Holy Spirit.
Dear Friends

The nine months since I arrived here have gone very quickly. I have managed to visit almost every ministry unit except those in the Gulf Country: which I hope to remedy in the first few months of 2020. I am struck by the diversity of the Diocese. Physically it is extraordinarily diverse: from the striking colours of the outback to the mangroves of the coast and the dark green humidity of the wet tropics: God’s creative presence is everywhere. The people are also incredibly diverse. The beautiful singing and dancing of the Torres Strait Islanders; the steadfast perseverance of the aboriginal communities; the resilience of the people out bush; and the love of community in all places. Again, in the people of the Church we see the Body of Christ. I have very much enjoyed my journeys around the Diocese, though I am hoping next year to change my pattern of visits. My preference will be to avoid the Bishop as a FIFO worker: the pattern of flying in and then flying out again. Sometimes this will be necessary but I am hoping in 2020 to drive to the various districts and spend some time in each place so that I get to know people and parishes far better.

There have of course been challenges in 2019. Sexual abuse legal actions (which usually result in early settlement) are stressful but sadly necessary. Insurance has become the huge burden of the last two months. And perhaps inevitably friction between people can be a distraction. The Church is all too human and shares in our brokenness: a brokenness that can only be redeemed by the loving sacrifice of Christ to which we join ourselves in baptism. We must remember that we are all finite beings who do not have an absolute purchase on truth or righteousness. A little humility goes a long way, including for bishops!

Next year promises to be quite busy. Apart from the usual round of Diocesan events there is Lambeth: I will be away from 5th July to 5th August including some holiday leave. I will also take a couple of weeks off in late February. I encourage you all – clergy and laity – to take your holiday breaks! We need our sabbath rest, including the rest of recreation leave.

At this season of Advent we prepare for the coming of Christmas, and more importantly for the coming of our Lord Jesus at the end of history. For those who are travelling – please do so safely. For those who are lonely – please go to church and share fellowship with others. May the joy of Christmas be yours this year and for ever, and may we welcome the incarnate God, our Lord Jesus, into our lives and into our hearts.

Keith

Anglicare Board Training

Directors of all Incorporated Bodies take on a vital and important role. And this is the case for the Board of Directors of Anglicare North Queensland, who volunteer their services.

Last month, the Board, along with Ian Roberts, CEO of Anglicare North Queensland, spent a whole day updating their knowledge of their legal requirements. The day was led by Innisfail lawyer, Chris Kahler (pictured right), who is also the Chair of Committees of the Diocesan Synod.

Anglicare North Queensland has nine directors, (eight of whom are pictured left, along with Ian Roberts). The members of the Board cover a wide range of age, background and professional experience and meet regularly to support the work of Anglicare throughout the Diocese.

Anglicare’s work in the Diocese is centred in Cairns with offices at St John’s, and work also in Townsville, Mackay and Mt Isa. Activities include food banks, homeless support, youth services and community outreach.

For more information about Anglicare, including the range of activities that it undertakes, take a look at their website: https://www.anglicarenq.org.au/

Sexual Abuse contact line: 1800 242 544 or 07 3835 2216

CHRISTMAS BOWL 2019

It was 1949. Millions of refugees were starving in war ravaged Europe. Rev. Frank Byatt believed we have a responsibility to share what we have with others who need it. He saw it as a fundamental part of living out Jesus’ call to love our neighbours as ourselves (Mark 12:31). And as Frank looked at his heavily laden Christmas dinner table, the contrast between our abundance in Australia and the needs of others around the world could not have been more stark. This is still true in 2019.

Find out more at www.actforpeace.org.au/
Focus on: Diocesan Archives

The Diocesan Archives has an on-going program of caring for the Diocesan administration records as well as all Parish records. The Diocesan Archives are located in the same building as the Registry, though in its own climate controlled section.

Anne Watkins is the Diocesan Archivist and receives many documents from Ministry Units and collates them and places them within the Archive. The Archives are an essential part of the history of the Diocese, and there is a list of things that needs to be sent in and also other things that are not required.

**Records which may NOT be disposed of:**

The following Records may not be disposed of, except with the approval of the Bishop or other authorised person.

a. records which are required to be raised, made or kept under the provisions of any of the Canons; Examples: Registers in parishes; rolls or other records of parishioners; minute books; out-of-date rolls.

b. records which by law must be retained; Example: documents issued pursuant to fire safety regulations.

c. canons, regulations, instructions from the Bishop, the Synod, the Diocesan Council and any others in authority; Example: instructions on the administration of the sacraments.

d. terriers and inventories of properties, contents of properties, and goods owned by or in the possession of the Church; Examples: inventories made for insurance purposes; superseded inventories.

e. records relating to properties, contents of properties, and goods owned by or in the possession of the Church; Examples: title deeds; correspondence; maps; local histories; photographs; drawings; instruction manuals for equipment; faculties; deeds of dedication.

f. records relating to bequests, legacies and memorial gifts; Examples: copy of will; correspondence with an executor or donor; material relating to the person making a bequest; material relating to a person in whose memory a gift was received.

g. correspondence with, and certificates, licences and permits issued by, any branch of government or semi-government, and financial institutions; Examples: art union permits; certificates of exemption from federal tax; permits to hold street stalls and processions.

h. records made or acquired by an officer of the Church pursuant upon the exercise of the officer’s duties, responsibilities or functions; Examples: notes of meetings and conversations; drafting notes; reports; correspondence received and sent; official diaries.

i. records which are necessary for administration, or which would be of assistance in administration, including a copy of past annual returns, charts of files and charts of accounts; Examples: general correspondence; current rosters & checklists; copies of liturgical assistants’ licences.

j. any financial records less than eight years old, and all cash books, ledgers and journals of any age; Examples: receipts, invoices and bank statements less than eight years old.

k. circular letters, newsletters and brochures originating in the office concerned; Example: file copy of newsletters.

l. forms and orders of service for particular events, seasons and occasions, and papers produced for use or distribution at church services; Examples: dedication services; carol services; services for blessing of a home; pew bulletins.

m. speeches, sermons and addresses given in relation to any activities of the Church where an original or a copy is given into the custody of the Church; Example: speech at a dinner.

o. records which are not listed in the previous section.

**Methods of disposal.**

Permission to dispose of records means permission to destroy them, or arrange for their destruction provided that where any of the information in the records is of a private, personal or sensitive nature the person destroying them or arranging for their destruction must ensure that they are made unreadable before leaving that person’s custody. Example: copies of confidential or private correspondence.

Where the disposal of records is permitted by the Bishop the approval must be obtained before any records are sold, transferred outside of the custody of this Church or abandoned. Examples: sale to a private collector; gift to another church; depositing with or lending to a local archives or the library of an educational institution; leaving behind when a building is sold.

If you have any questions about what should or should not be sent to the Diocesan Archives, give Anne a ring on 4771 4175 option 3.

Anne Watkins, Diocesan Archivist
AMUA MOMENT

Branch Treasurers have the role of making sure that all financial matters are handled with faithfulness and honesty. We use our individual personalities and gifts, always seeking God’s guidance as we uphold our MU Purpose Aim and Objects.

As 2019 draws to a close just a reminder to all Branches of AMUA QN that all Membership Fees and monies held for specific funds are to be sent to the Diocesan Treasurer by 28th February, 2020 together with a completed Annual Return Form and a copy of the audited Branch Financial Report. Membership Fees are $37.00 per member. If you have any queries please email me.

Christmas Blessings:
During this festive season of giving, let us take time to slow down and enjoy the simple things. May this wonderful time of the year touch your heart in a special way. Wishing you and your families much happiness not just today, but throughout the New Year.

Althea Le Roy
Diocesan Treasurer
Email: altheaandnoel@hotmail.com

From the editor’s desk:
As part of a “significant” birthday 6 years ago, I treated myself to a cruise, which among other places came to Port Douglas. A day excursion off the ship passed through Mossman and stopped at St David’s. When I was inside I said “What a magnificent church, wouldn’t it be nice to be here!” And in two weeks less than a year I was! We need to be very careful what we pray for. Or at least not be surprised when it does happen.

Amongst other things that we have been asked to pray for urgently in the past few weeks have been the continuation of RI classes in our schools and also the issues with the Religious Freedom legislation which is being considered by our parliament.

On Sunday morning Oct 6th about 60 people gathered on the front lawn of Kerrisdale Gardens, Mackay. Kerrisdale Chaplain, Revd Canon Ann Dittmar, and Revd Keith McCollim led the service for the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi and blessed “all creatures great and small” (from earth worms to a horse!). Local vet, David Lemmon, spoke of his love for animals and God’s creation. All the dogs received a treat for their good behaviour! Bloomindales Café then opened their doors for morning tea.

ALL SOULS ST GABRIELS

Over 110 of our current students are direct descendants of past students of All Souls St Gabriels School.
Some of our students are 3rd and 4th generation, which is something we celebrate with an annual photo. We thank the families who have continued to send their children to be educated at All Souls St Gabriels and look forward to the future generations who follow in their footsteps.

ST PETER’S, WEST END

On Saturday 16 November, St Peter’s West End celebrated 70 years of Mothers’ Union in our Parish.
Around 30 guests enjoyed an afternoon tea (including champagne) to celebrate. Guests were asked to dress in the fashion of 1949 (the year the branch opened) and we had a parade of the fashions.
Prizes were awarded to the best dressed: Rev’d Frances Maltby (in blue) won First Prize and Rhonda Windsor (in pink) secured Second Prize.

ANGLICARE FOCUS FOR DECEMBER

GOVERNANCE

It’s a dry topic, but Anglicare North Queensland’s staff and its vast social outreach to the needy in the Diocese needs to be well governed. The Board had a governance workshop in October led by Chris Kahler from Innisfail, to make sure we are on track.

PATRONAL FESTIVALS IN December and January

In your prayers, please remember the following Ministry Units who celebrate their patronal festivals in the next two months.

December
21st St Thomas Hughenden
26th St Stephen TSIM
27th St John Cairns
Karumba
South Townsville
Tully
Yorke Island

January
25th St Paul Charters Towers
Glenden
Moa Island
Whitsunday

30th St Charles West Mackay

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eMail to nqdiomag@gmail.com
or post to
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