

## In His Steps

Following Jesus in Strathalbyn, Langhorne Creek, Meadows and Milang

July 2016

# Mothers' Union Meeting



Fourteen members of the Strathalbyn MU branch attended their meeting in June at Eileen's home and then watched a DVD of "Songs of Praise" This showed the semi-finals and finals of a competition for schools choirs, both junior and senior, in the UK, which was followed by Afternoon Tea.

## House of Hospitality

### Quiet Day

On Saturday 11 June six of us gathered together for a Quiet Day which was centred around the Franciscan prayer: Lord, may we live this day quietly and easily...

There were periods of shared group contemplation on scripture using meditation and *lectio divina*.

In between we had times of 'silence' where we could spend time apart just 'being with' God and listening to what the Spirit would say in each of our hearts.

The day finished with a closing candle-light liturgy and intercessory prayer. It was a richly blessed time.

### Taize through Winter'

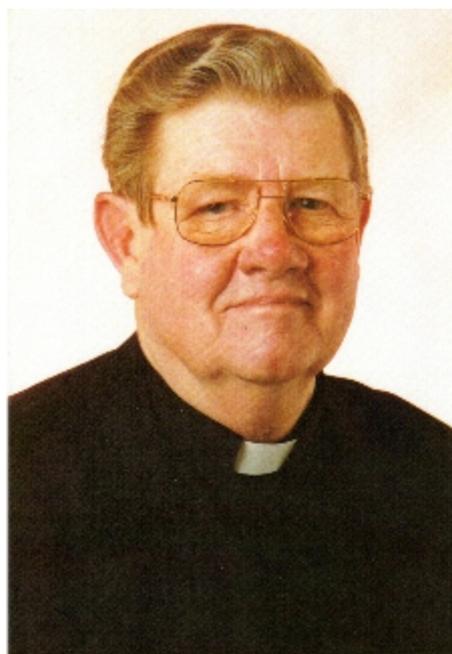
This series of monthly Taize candlelight worship liturgies began with seventeen people gathering together in the House on Sunday 19 June at 4.30 pm when we were led in the Taize singing by Di and Gary.

The Taize liturgies are being held on the third Sunday of the month the next one will be on Sunday 21 August at 4.30 pm with supper afterwards.

### Tuesday Eucharist

There is a celebration of the Eucharist at the House on every fourth Tuesday at 11.00 am. The celebrant is either Bishop John or Fr Peter Carlsson.

## Owen William Thomas



24 Feb 1934 - 12 Jul 2016

It was not so long ago that we rejoiced with Owen as he looked back over fifty years in Holy Orders and we looked forward to enjoying his company as he and Hilary moved to their new home opposite the Church in Strathalbyn.

Sadly for us he was called to other service but we were able to give thanks for his life and ministry at his funeral service which was conducted by Fr Adrian Stephens at Christ Church on Tuesday 19 July.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Hilary and their family at this time.

## Mothers' Union Parenting Programme

The Mothers' Union recently held a five session Parenting Programme at the Neighbourhood Centre at Strathalbyn.

The Diocesan MU facilitator is Liz Hampel from Mount Barker and the members of the MU branch at Strathalbyn welcomed the participants each week with coffee and biscuits and supplied and served a mid evening supper.

This particular course was a first for this Diocese and we think a first for all Australia as it has comprised of all men. These Dads have certainly given a different interpretation to the course!

It is hoped to have another course later this year during daytime hours for Mums and children.

## Christians in Iraq

An recent ecumenical meeting of Christian leaders in Northern Iraq expressed grave concerns about the plight of Christians in the region

This followed a UN statement which warned that retaking Mosul, Islamic State's de facto capital in Iraq, could cause mass civilian casualties and force hundreds of thousands of people to flee their homes.

With temperatures in Northern Iraq approaching 50° it is vital to continue to provide emergency relief to those at the heart of this humanitarian crisis.



Tiny and his manager Jan Payne recently received this expression of appreciation from the folk at Estia Health in Strathalbyn. Tiny's visits are also welcomed by the folk at Kalimna and the Aged Care Facility in High Street.

## Ecumenical Relations



On the 21st May the members of the Langhorne Creek Uniting Church Sunday School visited St John's Church with their teachers.

As well as more formal inter-church relationships such occasions which encourage local Christians of different traditions to know one another better are very important. How else can we seek to fulfil our Lord's prayer that we should all be one as He and the Father are one?

This crossing over of denominational boundaries is also one of the wonderful features of the ministry centred on the House of Hospitality in Strathalbyn.

## Martin Bleby's Visit



On Sunday 10 July we welcomed the Rev'd Martin Bleby to our 10.00 am Eucharist at Christ Church, together with his wife Vivien.

During the service he preached on the day's Gospel reading from Luke chapter 10 which tells the story of the lawyer who came to test Jesus, asking "Teacher what must I do to inherit eternal life."

Following the service, over a mug of soup, he spoke about the work of the Church Missionary Society and the importance of the Mission of the Church.

Martin is no stranger to Christ Church as he spent his first five years here when his father, The Rev'd John Bleby was Rector.

## David Dridan's Life



Don't miss the opportunity to visit the Signal Point Gallery before the end of August to view a wide selection of David Dridan's paintings which depict his great love for the Australian landscape over a period of over fifty years.

## Our Diocesan Prayer for 2016

God of new life,  
through the waters of Baptism  
each and every one of us is  
called to be a minister of the  
Church.

Renew our call  
so that with passion,  
new vision and zeal  
we may together journey  
towards growth as your Church.

May we your faithful people be:  
brave enough  
to proclaim the Good News,  
enthused enough  
to share our story,  
loving enough  
to only see the good in others,  
and kind enough  
that our actions reflect  
the light and hope  
of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## The Anglican Parish of Strathalbyn

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