



Save the dates for 2026!

21 DAY	Mar MONTH	<b>DIOCESAN CONFERENCE</b> with the Rev'd Nigel Fortescue
7-9 DAY	Aug MONTH	<b>DIOCESAN CAMP</b> with the Rev'd Paul Dale
24 DAY	Oct MONTH	<b>WOMEN'S CONFERENCE</b> with Naomi Reed



Are these in your calendar?



Service on Remembrance Sunday at West Bogan

## Archdeaonries

### East

Archdeacon Tim St Quintin

1. Bathurst
2. Kelso
3. Cudgegong Valley
4. Blayney
5. Oberon
6. Coolah-Dunedoo
7. Orange
8. Orange East

See over for contact details for the Archdeacons.

### South-West

Archdeacon: vacant

1. Cowra
2. Canowindra
3. Grenfell
4. West Wyalong
5. Forbes
6. Parkes
7. Cumnock
8. Condobolin
9. Cudal-Molong
10. Trundle

All archdeacon matters for the SW ought to be directed to the bishop.

### North-West

Archdeacon James Daymond

1. Wellington
2. Dubbo
3. Narromine
4. Gilgandra
5. Warren
6. Coonabarabran
7. Coonamble
8. Nyngan
9. Cobar
10. Bourke-Brewarrina

## Archdeaconries across the Diocese



Bishop Mark's old car for sale – 2019 Tiguan - \$12K

## In brief

**The diocesan office will close** Tues 23 Dec and reopen Mon 05 Jan.

**Gilgandra:** We praise God for the appointment of the Rev'd Stuart Border as Deacon-in-Charge and joyfully anticipate his commissioning at 2pm Sat 28 Feb.

**Cudal-Molong:** We praise God for Robbie and Jemima Nichols who will join us from Kurrajong parish in February. Following his ordination in Sydney on 21 Feb, Robbie will be appointed Deacon-in-Charge.

**Holy Trinity Orange** – We praise God that an appointment and announcement of a children's and youth minister is imminent.

**Cathedral parish:** We praise God that we may have a married couple to job-share the BCA-supported role of assistant minister!

**Coolah-Dunedoo:** We praise God that James and Miriam White will be coming to serve alongside the Murrays in this parish as lay minister and admin assistant.

**Canowindra:** We hope very soon to announce the commencement of the diocesan revitalisation project for this parish in 2026. More reason to praise God!

**Bishop's car for sale** – 220,000kms. Email Mark (see over).

### REMAINING DATES 2025:

- 02 Dec** Stipendiary clergy lunch
- 04 Dec** Retired clergy lunch
- 06 Dec** Ordination – 10am, Forbes

### DATES TO NOTE 2026:

- 09 Feb** LLM training 7.15-830pm
- 16-19 Mar** Retired clergy retreat – St Clement's Galong – Bp Stead
- 21 Mar** Diocesan conference – Dubbo – the Rev'd Nigel Fortescue
- 24 Mar** Renewal of ministry vows
- 11 May** LLM training 7.15-830pm
- 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
- 18 Sept** Stipendiary clergy gathering prior to synod – 2pm – with the Rev'd Kevin Simington
- 18-19 Sept** Synod
- 24 Oct** Women's conference
- 09 Nov** LLM training 7.15-830pm

## From our bishop

Dear friends,

As we prepare to observe Advent again, I wanted to share a few thoughts. It is a time in our church calendar which has been misunderstood AND come under increasing secular influence. Advent reminds us that Christians are people who wait. We live with the reality that the world is not as it should be BUT we cling to the promise of Jesus' return when everything will be put right. Advent doesn't ask us to be cheerful or sentimental. It asks us to watch, to pray, and to recognise our deep need for the One who will come again.

We look around and see conflict, sorrow, failures, and tragedies. Advent puts to us that we can face these things without despair. It invites us to hold them before God, trusting that he has not forgotten his promises. Jesus will come with justice and mercy. He will heal, restore, judge and renew. That is our hope – not a vague wish, but a sure and certain expectation.

And so, Advent urges us not to be anxious or frantic. But steady. Prayerful. Grateful for every anticipation of all that Jesus' return will mean.

Only at the end of Advent do we turn to Christmas. And when we do, we are reminded that our Advent hope is not hope *against* hope but is gloriously grounded in the historical reality that Jesus has already come among us as a real human being. The child of Bethlehem is the Lord of glory who will return. His **first** coming assures us of his **second**.

May this Advent renew your hope and steady your heart as you wait for him.

Mark **Bishop Mark Calder**

## Bishop's video sermon series

**ADVENT in and from the Psalms** – with Archdeacon Andrew Thornhill

**NOV 30 HOPE:** Psalm 130

**DEC 07 PEACE:** Psalm 46

**DEC 14 JOY:** Psalm 98

**DEC 21 LOVE:** Psalm 86

**CHRISTMAS** – with Bishop Mark Calder

**DEC 25 Shocking news; wonderful news** Matthew 1:18-25

**DEC 28 News worth sharing** Luke 2:8-21

**SUMMER SERIES – YEAR OF PROVOCATION** (in a good sense!) – with Bishop Mark Calder

**JAN 04** Draw near Hebrews 10:19-22

**JAN 11** Hold firm Hebrews 10:23

**JAN 18** Stir up Hebrews 10:24

**JAN 25** Turn up Hebrews 10:25

**THE JOY OF GIVING** – with Bishop Mark Calder

**FEB 01** Giving ourselves Romans 12:1-2

**FEB 08** Giving generously 2 Cor 8:1-9

**FEB 15** Giving cheerfully 2 Cor 9:1-8

### LENTEN STUDY/SERMON SERIES

**The road to Calvary** – with the Rev'd Mike Raiter

**FEB 22** LENT 1 Matt 26:1-16 The Language of Love

**MAR 01** LENT 2 Matt 26:17-35 It is Written

**MAR 08** LENT 3 Matt 26:36-46 In the Garden

**MAR 15** LENT 4 Matt 26:47-56 The Kiss of Death

**MAR 22** LENT 5 Matt 26:57-75 The Tale of Two Trials

**MAR 29** PASSION Matt 27:32-56 The Death of the Son of God

## Please Pray

**Pray for Christmas preparations in all the parishes** – that this time will be greatly blessed of God to declare the glory of Jesus!

**Ask the Lord to raise up someone to take on event coordination** across the diocese in 2026.

**Pray for the planning for our conference on March 21** – that our theme on making disciples will be immensely practical and helpful.

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**Bishop's old car for sale** – 2019 VW Tiguan Allspace 220,000km – Price: \$12K

**Pray for those who will take up appointments in the new year.** Pray that they will start well, with the sure knowledge the Lord is with them. Pray they will bring joy and blessing in their new spheres of ministry.

**Pray for our parishes without clergy** – that the Lord will strengthen those who currently help out AND raise up ministers to love and serve our people.

**Pray for wisdom for members of the Anglican Property Trust** – especially as they discern more property which might responsibly be listed for sale. Ask the Lord to supply the needed finances to support those harmed by the church.

**Pray for the bishop's visits** and then for rest and refreshment as he has all of January off.

**07 Dec** – Canowindra  
**13-14 Dec** – Coonabarabran  
**24 Dec** – Cathedral

**Pray for Roger and Sally Phelps as they prepare to be ordained priests on Sat 06 Dec at 10am in St John's Forbes.** Pray especially for their retreat on Fri 05 Dec that it will be a special time of prayer and reflection and for Bishop Calder and Archdeacon Thornhill as they lead.

**Pray for all our clergy at this busy time** - for strength to make it through to the end of the year and then grace to rest well in January.

## Contact Info

### Bishop

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### Bishop's Chancellor

Adrian Ahern

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

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## Cathedral Services

### Saturday Vigil

6pm (5pm when no daylight saving)

### Sunday

8.30am Traditional  
10am Contemporary  
*Also 8.30am Mon, 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