

**Saint Nicholas'
Anglican Church, Mordialloc**

Annual Parish Meeting

**Sunday
23rd November 2025**

CURRENT (2025) OFFICE HOLDERS

Vicar

Fr. Ron Johnson

Parish Council (up to November 2025)

Debbie Eames (Vicars Warden)

Brian Crisp (Warden)

Dale Swenson (Warden)

Kären Hayden (Honorary Treasurer)

Mim Davidson (Parish Council Member)

Rob Malone (Parish Council Member)

Audrey Philips (Parish Council Member)

Incumbency Committee:

Penny Swenson

Rob Malone

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NOTICE OF STATUTORY PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

Parish of Saint Nicholas Anglican Church, Mordialloc

Date of Annual Meeting Sunday 24th November 2024 at 10.30am

Nominations of Candidates for the offices of:

- Churchwardens (2 positions to fill) - Members of Parish Council (2 to fill),
 - Incumbency Committee (2 to fill)

Fr. Ron's nominations to be announced at the meeting.

AGENDA

The business of the annual meeting is to include after prayers —

- (a) The minutes of the previous annual meeting and of any subsequent statutory parish meeting;
- (b) The reception of the parish electoral roll;
- (c) The annual report by the vicar that includes the entries in the registers of the Parish for the financial year, including numbers of baptisms, persons received into communicant membership, confirmations, marriages, funerals, Sunday services, acts of communion and such other statistics from the registers as Archbishop in Council determines;
- (d) An annual report on the proceedings of the parish council and together with a report by the parish council on the pastoral care, evangelism, social and ecumenical programmes of the parish and on future plans for the parish; (e) A report by the churchwardens on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the worship centre and the vicarage and other buildings of the parish;
- (f) The audited or independently examined accounts and financial statements of the parish and any accompanying papers required by the Act;
- (g) The budget approved by the parish council for the year in which the meeting is held;
- (h) Reports by other parish groups;
- (i) The election of churchwardens and members of the parish council;
- (j) The election of an auditor or independent examiner;
- (k) The election of lay representatives to the parish incumbency committee;
- (l) Any other matters of parochial or general church interest.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

St Nicholas Anglican Church Mordialloc

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 24th November 2024

AGM opened at 10.25am	Began in prayer from Father Ron.
Present:	See attendance list attached at end of Minutes
Apologies:	Wendy O’Brien, Rob Malone

- 1

Previous Minutes AGM 26th November, 2023
Previously read, accepted as submitted.

Moved: Michael Silberbauer Seconded: Lois Dennington

Outcome: Carried
- 2

Electoral roll:
Previously read, accepted as submitted.

Received by Fr Ron
- 3

Vicar’s report:
Previously read, accepted as submitted

Comments: Nil

Received
- 4

Warden’s report:
Previously read, accepted as submitted.

Comments: Nil

Received
- 5

Hon. Treasurer’s Report:
Previously circulated

Comments: Treasurers as attached, others: Nil

Moved: Arthur Robertson Seconded: Mim Davidson

Carried
- 6

2024–2025 Budget:
As presented by Arthur Robertson who asked if there were any questions regarding the budget.
There were Nil

Comments: Fr Ron advised that the Budget was not required to be accepted as it had been previously received and accepted by Parish Council.
- 7

Various Reports.
The reports as presented in the AGM booklet were tabled as previously read. Any questions or comments were called for.

Comments / questions: Nil

Fr Ron advised that these Reports were accepted as Received

8 Parish Election of Church Council Positions:

8.1 Church Wardens:

Nominations received: Dale Swenson, Brian Crisp

As the number of nominations (2) did not exceed the number of positions vacant (2), both were elected unopposed.

Vicars' appointment: Debbie Eames

Vote of thanks

A vote of thanks was proposed to Shirley for all her work as a Warden over many years.

Moved Maryln Wilson, Seconded Wynn Roper

Accepted

8.2 Parish Council:

Nominations Received: Mim Davidson, Audrey Phillips

As the number of nominations (2) did not exceed the number of positions vacant (2), both were elected unopposed.

Vicars' appointment: Will be announced shortly

The Vicar welcomed the new Parish Council commenting on the new appointments This was received with acclamation.

9 Independent Examiner:

Gary Westbrook of T.H. White and Company has agreed to continue to be the Independent Examiner.

Fr Ron commented that the role of auditor is that of Examiner

Motion: that Gary Westbrook be reappointed as Independent Examiner

Moved: Arthur Robertson Seconded: Lois Dennington

Carried/Appointed

10 Incumbency Committee:

Nominations Received: Penny Swenson, Robert Malone

As the number of nominations (2) did not exceed the number of positions (2) vacant, both were elected unopposed.

The Wardens will appoint one of their number to be a Wardens Representative.

11 General Business: Any other Business

Kerry Bounds offered congratulations on progressing the proposal as it is good for the environment.to install a solar system on the church roof.

Fr Ron advised that anyone can always talk to him, the Wardens, or Parish Council with any concerns throughout the year.

Fr Ron thanked everyone for their attendance.

12 Meeting Closed

at 10.35am with Grace.

Attendance Record

In attendance from Electoral Role

Botha, Rebecca
Budinich, Marion
Bugeja, Barbra
Crisp, Brian
Davidson, Mim
Davies, Gino
Dennington, Lois
Dover, Averill (Sr)
Eames, Debbie
Hayden, Kären
Hayden, Martin
Jones, Lorraine
Macura, Elizabeth
Malone, Jane
Ormesher, Judith
Pattenden, Janet
Phillips, Audrey
Robertson, Arthur
Roper, Wynette
Silberbauer, Shirley
Silberbauer, Michael
Swenson, Dale
Swenson, Penny
Wilson, Colin
Wilson, Marilyn

In attendance:

Kerri Bounds

ELECTORAL ROLL

Persons entitled to be on the parish electoral roll

- (1) There must be a parish electoral roll for each parish.
- (2) A person is not entitled to be upon the roll of more than one parish or Authorised Anglican Congregation, or upon the roll of a parish and an Authorised Anglican Congregation.
- (3) The parish electoral roll is to contain the names and postal addresses of parishioners. Parishioners are lay persons who are of at least eighteen years of age and who—
 - (a) are baptised;
 - (b) regularly and habitually attend public worship at a worship centre in the parish;
 - (c) have signed an application seeking to be included on the roll and declaring that—
 - (i) they are a member of the Anglican Church of Australia or of a church in communion with the Anglican Church of Australia;
 - (ii) they are not a member of any church which is not in communion with the Anglican Church of Australia; and
 - (iii) they are not on the parish electoral roll of any other parish or any Authorised Anglican Congregation in the Diocese other than a roll from which they wish their name to be removed.
- (4) Without limiting other grounds on which a person may be taken to have regularly and habitually attended public worship in a worship centre in a parish, for the purposes of this section a person who has attended public worship at a worship centre 12 times in the preceding 12 months and three times in the preceding three months is considered to have regularly and habitually attended public worship at that worship centre.

The Anglican Parish of St Nicholas Mordialloc Electoral Roll for 2025

Amarnath Gladys	Hayden Karen	Robertson Arthur
Botha Rebecca	Hayden Martin	Roper Wynette
Budinich, Marion	Higgins Hammish	Sasman Trevor
Bugeja Barbara	Hollett, Gemma	Silberbauer Shirley
Cerfontyne Julie	Howard Barclay	Silberbauer Michael
Crisp Brian	Jones Lorraine	Stevens Jacqueline
Davidson Mim	Macura Elizabeth	Swenson Dale
Davies Gino	Malone Jane	Swenson Penny
Dennington Lois	Malone Robert	Tatnell Ngaire
Dover Avrill (Sr)	Maas Ken	Thompson Robert
Eames Debbie	Nauhraj Johnson	Wert Deloraine Vander
Freeman Cheryl	O'Brian Wendy	Colin Wilson
Fleming Lisa	Pattenden Janet	Marilyn Wilson
Gilderthorpe Fiona	Phillips Audrey	

Total: 41

Removed from list:	• Ormesher Judith	• Cassey Russell
Added to list:	• Ken Maas	• Deloraine Vander Wert
	• Gemma Hollett	• Julie Cerfontyne
	• Cheryl Freeman	

PARISH STATISTICS FOR ST NICHOLAS MORDIALLOC (to be finished/ reviewed)

		20/21*	21/22*	22/23	24/25
1a	Number of public services held	36	60	64	65
1b	Number of public Sunday services held	32	48	56	53
1c	Number of services in residential care facilities	-	8	13	4
2a	Total yearly attendance at all public services	1179	34 (av wkly)	42 (av wkly)	2646 (41 av)
2b	Total yearly attendance at all Sunday services	1074	34 (av wkly)	39 (av wkly)	2017 (38 av)
2c	Average Weekly attendance non English services		-	-	-
3a	Total acts of communion in public services	1199	1726	2,083	2094
3b	Total number of Sunday acts of communion	1004	1598	1,932	1879
3c	Total other acts of communion	353	32	107	51
4a	Total attendance at Christmas Day / Eve services	83	78	69	92
4b	Total number of acts of Communion at Christmas Day / Eve services	37	57	52	57
5a	Total attendance at Easter Day / Eve services	72	72	65	113
5b	Total number of acts of Communion at Easter Day / Eve services	62	58	58	108
6	Number on Church Electoral Roll	47	38	46	
7	Number of Baptisms	1	1	7	3
8	Number of children admitted to Communion	-	-	-	0
9	Number of persons received into the Anglican Communion	-	-	-	0
10	Number of Confirmations	-	-	2	0
11a	Number of funerals conducted in the church	4	4	3	6
11b	Number of funerals conducted elsewhere	-	1	-	1
12a	Number of marriages conducted in the church	-	-	-	0
12b	Number of marriages conducted elsewhere	-	-	-	0
13a	Number of continuing home / small groups	3	3	3	2
13b	Number of persons in continuing home / small groups per week	17	17	17	17
14	Estimated number of frequent attendees (incl. weekly programs / workshops.				
14a	Pre School (0 -5)	30	10	12	12
14b	Primary School	3	5	5	
14c	Secondary School	-	1	2	
14d	Post-Secondary (under 25)	-	-	-	1

VICAR'S REPORT

Dear Parishioners,

It is four and half years since I wrote my first Vicar's Report for St. Nicholas's Annual Parish Meeting, and I am now writing what will be my final report, as I complete my time as Vicar among you in a little over four months. I write this with a sense of sadness, but also with gratitude for what God has done in our church this year, and in the years since 2021. Throughout all the changes and challenges he has been faithful to us and will continue to be faithful in the years to come.

As I look back, I reflect that so much has happen since I came to minister among you. I came to St Nicholas after we had all experienced the COVID pandemic in 2020. Little did we know that 2021 would in some ways be as hard, with even harsher lockdowns. I remember thinking in that first year in the parish that I spent as much time in lockdown as not!

I would encourage us to reflect on this season of change within the larger story of our church. As we have moved through 2025 it now feels like the COVID years are receding into the barely-remembered past, but in my assessment the impact that this season has had on our church (and many others in Australia) is profound and generational. It is the most significant event in our church story during my time as a parish priest. The experience of finishing one ministry and beginning another during the COVID Pandemic had a profound impact on me personally.

Since that time, whether we are aware or not, we have been learning what the life of a church community such as St. Nicholas is going to be like in the decades to come. In our case it is a pace of life that is slower, more relational and less programmed, running with less resources but with more needs.

We are faced with the challenge of knowing how to connect with our ever-changing society, a society that is slowly growing further and further away from the experience of church life or even a basic knowledge of the Christian faith. As I move on to my next chapter, I pray that God will continue to inspire the leaders and members of St. Nicholas with his wisdom, and with the joy of knowing that his Kingdom is present no matter what happens around us.

Our parish hosts numerous activities so many that at times it's difficult to recall them all. This year's Annual Parish meeting booklet highlights the full range of events and activities in the parish. I am grateful to everyone who has taken so much trouble to look over the year that is past and, in their reports, celebrate all the wonderful people who constitute our parish, from those who are Sunday by Sunday worshippers, to those who are friends of the parish, connected through history and relationships. I still remember in a former parish, a Warden once said to me, referring to the reports produced for the Annual Meeting: *"It was only when I looked over the parish could I see the full scope of what we do, and for a small parish we are able still to do a lot."*

Of the many activities described in the reports, which I encourage everyone to read, I want to note in particular the 'Walk, Pray, Eat' group which gives a model of a simple fellowship activity that can build relationships and encouragement between our members. Our parish offers a number of opportunities like this and I encourage anyone interested to join the available activities as outlined in the AGM booklet.

In the past twelve months as the Vicar at St. Nicholas, I have focused on my what I believe my core areas are; leading worship, preaching, teaching, pastoral care, governance (with the Wardens and Parish Council). Of course, there are many other areas and tasks that require attention and if not supervision, at least me being present to them. I have sought at all times to be available to whenever people feel they wish to talk, be visited in home or hospital or just need support.

In my preaching and the creation of the fortnightly bible studies, I have tried to challenge us to explore the more difficult parts of the Bible that we often ignore, and the 'big questions' that we carry. One of my joys being the Vicar at St Nicholas is that people seem to enjoy the challenge of breaking open God's Word, and have it speak their lives. This has always encouraged me and in turn challenges me to not be afraid to share God's Word.

We are as a community of faith especially blessed by the many parishioners who exercise a leadership role in the parish. Some of these are formal leaders as required via the Parish Governance Act, i.e. Wardens, Parish Council members etc, and others are more informal. For my part, I see them all as forming a 'team' who through their commitment contribute to the core work of any parish which is to make the Word of God fully known. The value that is added by their ministry to the life of our church and community is immeasurable.

I also want to offer special thanks to our Parish Council this year, particularly Brian Crisp, Dale Swenson and Debbie Eames our Wardens, and to Karen Hayden for her tenure as Treasurer this past year. Karen has many tasks that require her attention, both in and outside the parish, and I thank her for taking on this additional role.

This year we farewell Audrey Phillips after a year on the Council, and welcome whoever may be elected. Many thanks also to Rob Malone and Mim Davidson for their contributions to the Council. The Council, in line with other parishes in the Diocese, has had to work through ever increasing complex issues related of compliance, governance and managing the financial and physical resources of the parish. They have done so with grace and wisdom. I wish the new Council well in their work in 2026.

I will conclude my ministry among you on Easter Day 2026 (5th April). As I wrote in my letter to the congregation announcing my retirement...

"Concluding my ministry among you on Easter Day may seem a strange decision, but the great celebration of Resurrection, of new Easter life, shows us that in the Risen Jesus, there are really no endings, only new beginnings. I hope that as much as you might be fearful of the future, as a parish you will embrace this new beginning. This year we welcome a new Archbishop who is a passionate and proven builder of communities of faith. Just as there are many challenges ahead for the Diocese and the parishes within it, there will be many opportunities for growth and new direction. I fervently pray that with a new minister you can enter into all the future will bring.

You have my prayers and best wishes for the process of finding a new Vicar, and I trust that God will provide in his good time. The next Vicar's Report to St Nicholas' Annual parish meeting will be written by someone else, and I pray that it will record a season of blessing and growth for this church.

Please be assured that you will always be in my prayers, as I hope I will be in yours.

Fr Ron Johnson – Vicar

2025 REGISTERS

Baptisms:

Sunny May Skarvellis
Austin Relf
Millie Relf

Funerals:

Claire Shaw
Deborah Goldman
Ruth James
Dorothy Barrat
Janet Mann
Graeme Wolstencroft
Pamela Heywood

Confirmations:

NIL

Weddings:

NIL

LIST OF LAY ASSISTANTS AT HOLY COMMUNION 2025

Sister Avrill Dover	Mrs Penny Swenson	Mrs Shirley Silberbauer
Mrs Lois Dennington	Mr Dale Swenson	Mr Michael Silberbauer
Mrs Kären Hayden	Mr Rob Malone	

WARDEN'S REPORT

The role of the Church Wardens is:

- *The care and maintenance of the Church, Church grounds, property and all buildings of the Parish. All furniture and fitting and fixtures of the Parish.*
- *Most importantly compliance with the Parish Governance Act 2013*

The three warden this year are Brian Crisp, Dale Swenson and Debbie Eames (Vicar's Warden).

The Diocese has required Church properties to undergo compliance inspections of various types. St Nicholas has had compliance Inspections for: Electrical, Safety and Emergency, Evacuation, Fire services, Asbestos materials etc. All reports issued show St Nicholas to be compliant.

Again, we have been watchful and maintaining the fittings and fixtures of St Nicholas Church and the Vicarage (which is being leased). There are ongoing maintenance works again this year.

The leasing of the car park to the railway construction company continues and will we have just been advised they are seeking an extension to the end of May 2026. The church property has regularly been hired as well

Wardens' meetings occur monthly and Parish Council has bi-monthly meetings.

SPECIAL SERVICES:

A public ANZAC service was held on the 25th of April led by Robert Malone and the Vicar. Over 110 people attended, it was a very emotional service.

Remembrance Day was celebrated on ceremony on the 10th of November 2024 after Sunday morning worship. This worked well and will be the way of the future

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:

- Messy Church continues to be on the fourth Sunday of each month. It has become a day families can look forward to each month. Thank you to all the Messy Church Team and parishioners involved.
- Our thanks also go to the team who keep the grounds and garden areas maintained
- Thank you to all those who volunteered to work in the Opportunity Shop, also, thanks to all the others involved in fund raising events.
- Thank you to everyone donating food which is given each week to local community food distribution centres at Mentone and Chelsea and the Mordialloc Food Pantry at the Church
- All these people and events are a very important part of the Church's income and outreach into the community.

GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE:

The reporting structure in the Parish to oversee and report any concerns or incidents is still active. At each Parish Council meeting a Governance and Compliance Report is tabled.

During 2025 the Diocese have had Essential Compliance Service (ESM) undertaken 3 monthly Compliance Inspections of the Church building to build a baseline. The approach is expected to be less intense after February 2026, however the Church will be charged a fee, in addition to the Assessment Fee to cover this. ADOM has advised the amount we should include in the budget for this.

To ensure OH&S standards are maintained, quarterly over-view and inspections of all Church premises are made by the Wardens. So far, compliance requirements for St Nicholas Church have been met.

An annual inspection of the Church internally and outside for Insurance valuation is required by the Diocese and is in the process of being completed.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS:

Professional standards and Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) matters are an ongoing requirement for the Wardens and the Parish Council of St Nicholas Church to deal with.

The Diocese has an ongoing requirement for people who are involved with the Church and working with children and governance of the Parish. We thank all the parishioners who completed the training and documentation required for ADOM compliance and to Kären Hayden who coordinates these checks.

Please note: Parishioners are encouraged to report any item of concern to the Wardens.

MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS:

Many items have been attended to over the year, upgraded, serviced, and repaired to comply with existing and new standards.

Many thanks to Michael Silberbauer, who heads the team with other helpers. There are always items to be repaired and maintained at the Church.

This year Melbourne Gardens were engaged to provide garden maintenance of the Memorial and Gallipoli Gardens each month, as the effort required overwhelmed the volunteers available.

The Cleaners have been engaged to clean the Church fortnightly.

CHURCH:

These specific tasks were undertaken this year:

- The Emergency Evacuation lights were upgraded.
- Maintain Exit Lights – Batteries for malfunctioning Exit lights purchased,

Recently there has been an upgrade in laptop and video screens, so the laptop used during worship can run the current Microsoft platform and the

VICARAGE:

The Vicarage is still being leased, and the tenants have requested a 5 year lease and an upgrade to the heating, painting and some garden works. All of these are being considered at present. Some electrical and minor repairs have been made to the Vicarage this year, including a new side fence.

THE MORDIALLOC FOOD PANTRY.

The Food Pantry has been a good food supply to the needy people of Mordialloc. In association with the Dingley Salvation Army, the Pantry has become very useful in helping the local community.

Local people have been leaving food etc, and many people have taken food and other items from the pantry.

We would like to thank.

- The Dingley Salvation Army for their weekly food and other donations.
- Those people from St Nicholas Church for their food support each week.

Church Wardens: Brian Crisp, Dale Swenson & Debbie Eames

CHILD SAFE, and SAFE MINISTRY (Previously Professional Standards):

Safe Ministry Training is a Diocesan requirement. It is important that all our Parishioners are aware of our commitment to uphold Child Safety/Safe Ministry within our Church, and the Melbourne Diocese as a whole, and that the Diocese has made them mandatory. This in turn, shows our community that we take this commitment very seriously.

A Volunteer Spreadsheet is maintained to keep an up-to-date record of training status. We currently have 24 registered volunteers. Code of Conduct books, and Module (formerly Level) Training 1 is required by all Volunteers and requires revision every 3 years. Modules 2 & 3, along with Police Checks and Working with Children Checks are dependent upon what volunteer role you partake.

REPORTS:

COMMUNICATION

The Communication role involves monitoring, and responding to the Church and associated emails, maintaining the Church Website, and regular posts to Facebook pages for St Nicholas and Messy Church, and the Church's Instagram account.

The Church Website is updated on a weekly (multiple weekly) basis, with regular information, and events publicised when they occur. The St Nicholas, and Messy Church Facebook pages also promote upcoming events, and activities. . St Nicholas' Instagram account, mirroring the Facebook posts is also "posted" to when appropriate.

Real Estate advertising boards, supplied free of charge by Barry Plant, are organised, when necessary, to promote any Events/Season that we are celebrating in the Church.

All emails received by the Parish are acknowledged, and directed to the appropriate Parish person/Vicar, or handled by me, to enable a timely response.

Through the Communications role, I liaise with MBPS (Mordialloc Beach Primary School) to coordinate the exhibition of their students' artwork work with Art Teacher, Mrs. Deb Marchant. This event is now held bi-yearly, the next being held in 2026.

This year, Lorraine Jones approached me to ask if U3A Mordialloc would be able to hold their "Seniors Week" Exhibitions in the Church this year. The Photography/Craft Exhibition, and the Art Exhibition were a huge success, and very well supported, finishing with an Afternoon Tea which was very well attended by the Artists, and the public. Without Lorraine's support of the event throughout the two weeks, this event would not have been able to be held, and on the behalf of Parish Council, we thank her very much for her time and enthusiasm she invested into the event, for both U3A, and our Church.

Kären Hayden

MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT WORKING GROUP

It's been another busy year in the Parish. Regular mowing and putting the bins out has occurred. Also, the following jobs have been completed.

CHURCH

- The corrugated water tank at the rear of the Narthex, which serviced the toilet block was dismantled and removed after discussions with the Wardens. The tank was badly rusted and filled with silt & this was affecting the operation of the men's urinal. The dismantled tank was taken to the Braeside transfer station. The toilets are now running off mains water.
- The pump has been checked by the plumber & it will be used at the water tank near the vestry, so that the landscaper can install a watering system with a timer for the Memorial garden. I am waiting for a quote from the plumber to install the pump, water switch & an external tap.
- Installed 2 new hot water services at no cost (with financial subsidy from the Victorian government energy saver scheme and Time to Save)
- Serviced all the reverse cycle air conditioners
- Installed a decorative screen to obscure the hot water unit outside the Vestry window.
- Removed Vicar's Board for the signwriter to update and then re-installed the Vicar's Board.
- Relocated garden hose reel from Gallipoli Precinct to the Church wall at the ramp.
- Organised 2 quotes for a new common fence between the church and the school
- Organised 2 quotes to install tint to the Vicar's office windows. These have been forwarded to the Wardens.
- Maintenance to the gardens on both sides of the pedestrian ramp alongside the carpark

- Lawnmowing around the Church grounds is done by a small group of Parishioners.
- Paint brushes, sandpaper, paint etc has been purchased for the painting & maintenance of the external doors of the Church, works will be carried out once the weather settles.

VICARAGE

- Replaced the common fence at the Vicarage
- Organised for Electrician to fix the lighting in the Vicarage kitchen

Michael Silberbauer

CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Messy Church

Once again, the Messy Church team have worked hard all year to present a varied program for our families on the fourth Sunday afternoon each month. Working together on one activity at a time continues to work well for our group. Our numbers of families vary greatly from month to month, but we are always ready.

They love all the active and challenging events. The themes continue to ask questions about Who is God? and Who is Jesus?

Are we loving our neighbours? We spoke this month about ways we can support our neighbours with a variety of Mission agencies, Coins for Kids and Street Child.

We have enjoyed Parachute activities, loads of crafts, cooking and creating our dinners. We have an ongoing activity at the moment that Janet is organising. We are creating our own Banner, with every family creating a square. Stay tuned for the launching of our banner in the future.

Thanks to all our team; Fr Ron, Karen, Penny, Shirley, Janet, Deb, June and Lisa and Marilyn (emergency kitchen helper) We welcome Anne to our team. Thanks to the families & friends who faithfully share the journey with us.

June Bryant (On behalf of Messy Church Team)

PRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer Chain

The email prayer chain ministry has continued to be offered in the Parish each year and continues to be a valued arrangement for those with special needs and when a crisis arises.

As in previous years most of the requests for names to be put on the prayer chain are requests for people experiencing ill health and many for people in hospital.

There are now 40 parishioners whose email addresses are listed in the Prayer Chain church group.

The Parish Prayer Ministry is a confidential ministry and prayer requests are made with their permission from the people involved or their family members.

At the Sunday 9.15 am church services a specially trained member of the Parish continues to be available at the font area of the church after the service for anyone who wishes prayers for themselves or others or has concerns for the world or the Parish.

There is also an intercessions sheet available on the Welcoming Table each Sunday for prayer concerns or special needs. These are included silently during the Intercessions and placed on the altar afterwards to be then used by the Vicar during the following week.

If there are parishioners who are not on the prayer chain, but would like to be included, they can contact me.

Wyn Roper

Friday Prayer Ministry

A small group of faithful parishioners meet together, in the Church, on the fourth Friday of the month. We take time to reflect on a passage of scripture and pray, silently or out loud. We share intercessions praying for the world, our community and the Church. We also offer prayers for individual members of the parish, giving thanks for blessings and praying for support and comfort for those with particular needs. This prayer time is around 45 minutes and commences at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Kerry Bounds

Sunday Post-Worship Prayer

Everyone Sunday morning after the Service, the opportunity for prayer is available in the Gallery/Chapel, which is a quiet space. Prayer can be held within a group or individually and either Sister Avrill, Mim or Penny are available at this time.

Penny Swenson

Saturday Zoom Morning Prayer

Each first and third Saturday of each month six or seven faithful parishioners gather at 8.00 am for Morning Prayer led Father Ron, finding that the quiet prayerful time gives a faith based and reflective start to the weekend. This time together provides an opportunity to pray together in our Anglican tradition and share our concerns for the world, our community and our parish and pray for each.

Rob Malone

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS:

Wednesday Group

This small group of parishioners have met at the home of Colin and Marilyn Wilson on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

This year, as Lent was early in the year, we commenced our time together joining with the Lenten Study held at the Church.

After Easter we used the same Bible study noted as the Thursday zoom Study group. These notes follow the lectionary readings for the following Sunday and these discussion questions resulted in interesting conversations! We feel privileged to have Fr Ron facilitate this group. Due to the current situation the ongoing future of this group is uncertain.

Kerry Bounds.

Thursday 'Zoom' Group

(Meets via Zoom on the 2nd & 3rd Thursdays of each month (except in Jan))

This Ministry is operated on the second and fourth Thursday each month starting at 7.30pm and finishing at 9.00pm. There are about six to eight parishioners who join this service from their home.

It is a study of the bible extracts that are in the following Sunday Service. There are three extracts that are studied. They are Old Testament, Psalm and New Testament. This study is an excellent method of having parishioners develop a better understanding of each bible study item before the actual service. During Lent there may be special studies associated with this church season rather than the actual readings each Sunday.

Parishioners who join this Bible Study find it very interesting to discuss their individual reactions to the readings and how the readings relate to their own life. It is also convenient to be able to participate in this study from your own home rather than going out at night.

Wyn Roper

Events (formerly GALLIPOLI CENTENARY PRECINCT):

Remembrance Day 2024

The Remembrance Day ceremony in 2024 was a brief Commemorative ceremony of Remembrance at the conclusion of our Sunday morning Eucharist.

The ceremony included prayer, the recitation of The Ode and a Minute's Silence of Remembrance following the playing of The Last Post and prior to the playing of The Rouse, whilst Gino raised the Australian National flag to the mast head. Further prayer was followed by the Blessing and dismissal.

It is considered that this form of commemoration should be followed in future years on the Sunday prior to Armistice, now Remembrance Day 11 November.

Anzac Day 2025

The service took place on a fine sunny morning, again commencing at 11.00 am, and was better attended than ever with attendees including the local State and Federal members. The Mayor and our local City of Kingston Councillor were late apologies. Of the invited local schools only Mordialloc Beach Primary was able to attend, however the School Captains, Natalie and Ollie, participated in the service giving the Acknowledgement to Country, by reciting "An ANZAC Day Poem" and by laying the school's wreaths. Debbie Marchant again assisted with this.

Father Ron led the service in prayer. The Commemorative Address was given by Commander Helen Ward, Manager-Heritage and Learning Centre, HMAS Cerberus who also recited The Ode.

The attendance at the service indicates the importance of Anzac Day observances in our community and of the Gallipoli Centenary Precinct in providing both the venue and the ceremony in our area.

We were assisted by the Commanding Officer, HMAS Cerberus and by CPO Sharon Brown, Manager-Community Engagement, RAN: HMAS Cerberus

We were supported by local businesses Barry Plant Real Estate, through the erection of Community Notice Boards advertising the service and by Bliss Flowers and Giftware, Parkdale, in the provision of the Commemorative Wreaths.

Thanks to Karen Hayden for the administration, to Arty Stevens for providing the PA, to Felix Geake-Ransome for his fine bugle playing, to Trevor Sasman for the photography, to Marilyn Wilson for arranging Morning Tea, to the usual helpers for set up and take down and to the parishioners for their attendance and support.

General

The state of the precinct has continued to improve with the care of the lawn and garden by Melbourne Gardens led by Peter Swenson. Thanks to the Wardens for this care.

Rob Malone

ST NICHOLAS BIKE GROUP:

This group meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Our meeting place varies as the decision on where the ride will take us, is made "on the fly" the weather does play a part, but there is always a café at the end.

Our numbers remain steady, although Fr Ron has retired from the riding group. He still joins us for breakfast.

A reminder of our bike ride appears in the Mordialloc Moorings each month. Please join us if you can. If you have any questions about the ride, please speak to Michael Silberbauer, Karen Hayden, Arthur Robertson or Brian Crisp and we would be only too happy to help.

Thank you to Fr Ron who started this group and can be found waiting for our arrival at the designated breakfast venue. Your company and support is much appreciated.

Michael Silberbauer

WALKING GROUP (Walk Pray Eat)

This group meets on the 4th Saturday of each month at 8am. Our meeting place varies depending on which venue we are walking to. There are 3 venues which have been on our roster but we are open to ideas on new venues.

This is a gentle and reflective walk and is open to all abilities. Our walks take us along the bay and we have some beautiful views of nature by the bay, we also walk along the Mordialloc creek down to the

pier and then back to our café venue. Our third route takes us to the lake around Waterways and the birdlife along that path. Our numbers vary each month but there is a core group of faithful walkers. In the event of rain, we set aside the walk and proceed straight to breakfast at the designated venue.

A reminder of our walk appears in the Mordialloc Moorings each month which sets out the meeting place and the venue for the next walk. Please join us if you can. If you have any questions about the walk, please speak to June Bryant, Kären Hayden or Shirley and we would be only too happy to help.

Thank You to Fr Ron who can be found waiting for our arrival at the designated venue. Your company and support is much appreciated.

Shirley Silberbauer

SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES (lay)

54th Synod 9-12 October 2024

This Synod, because it took place during the period for preparation of reports for the 2023-2024 year was reported on in the reports for that year. Please refer to the 2023-2024 Annual Report of the parish.

Election Synod May 2025

Synod met on the evening of Friday 23 May and all-day Saturday 24 as an Election Synod to choose our new Archbishop with provision to carry on to Monday and Tuesday if required. After opening prayers and a morning devoted to a review of the qualifications and experience of the four candidates put forward by the Nominations Committee, the afternoon session was spent listening to those speaking in favour and against each candidate. The Synod session then moved to a series of electronic votes taking place ultimately resulting in the progressive elimination of the three Melbourne based candidates and the announcement late in the afternoon by Administrator Bishop Genieve Blackwell of the election of Bishop Ric Thorpe, Special Bishop of the Diocese of Islington in London, as the new Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne. Bishop Ric is to be installed as Archbishop on 30 November.

Rob Malone, Kären Hayden

CURSILLO (Facilitated by St Nicholas Parishioner):

This group still meets at 8.00am via zoom once a month, with seven or eight of us sharing our recent church involvement, religious readings and studies and joining together in prayer. Members from St Nicholas organise the zoom meeting and people from other local churches are also involved. Our group uses the Cursillo guidelines of Piety – Personal Relationship with God, Study and Action – Sharing our Faith.

Penny Swenson

FINANCIAL REPORT (see also separate booklet)

As you can see from the Accounts 2024/25 Budget with 2025 Actuals, we have exceeded our budget surplus by approx. \$24,000. This was possible due to the increase in our Giving and Donations which reflects on the strength of our current Church Community. A Bequest/donation has been received from the Shaw Family, in memory of Claire Shaw and is held in the Reserve account until Sacramental/Altar items can be purchased and dedicated to Claire. Level Xing Removal Rental of Carpark for 2026 has been included in this 2026 budget.

Hiring of our space continues with Yoga “Peaceful Living”, The Victorian Parkinsons Group, and our new hirer “Body Harmony Moves” - Tai Chia class. There are also “one off” hirers, including Level Xing Removal Community Information Sessions.

Should you have any queries you would like answered at the AGM please let me know. 2025/2026 budget has been presented to Wardens and then to Parish Council, it is in the finance booklet.

Kären Hayden – Honorary Treasurer