



The Dean writes:

'Post-truth' is a term that has been increasingly used of the US election and Brexit. The actual term seems to have been first used by the late Serbian-American playwright Steve Tesich in a 1992 essay commenting on Watergate. It is defined by the Oxford Dictionary as "relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief".

But is the concept new?

People of influence and power the world over have always manipulated the truth, to suit their ends. Plato introduced the world to the 'noble lie'; Hitler used the concept of the 'big lie': if you tell a big enough lie and tell it frequently enough, it will be believed! Other similar strategies have been used to influence people, such as manufactured controversy and the use of disinformation. How many of our attitudes and opinions are shaped today by Facebook? And the advertising media seem to be convinced that products are more likely to be sold if their value and usefulness are extolled with a supercharged voice; the facts often seem to be irrelevant. A friend commented last week that a television news announcer had told of a terrible earthquake while smiling broadly and using the same high-energy, isn't-this-exciting voice.

Where do faith, love and compassion belong in a post-truth world?

Of course, there are many who claim that the Christmas story was a conspiracy of misinformation. A virgin birth? Angels? Shepherds and wise men? *Yeah Right!* They say.

And yet this is what we believe to be truth. We can't prove it. It isn't always comfortable. It is so easy to be swayed, to nod sagely at the hyper-realism of the media world.

St Paul seems to have been well aware of the idea of post-truth when, writing to Timothy he warns "for the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths." (2 Tim 4: 3 – 4)

All food for thought as we enter this most wonderful and mysterious season in the Church's year. Will you come to the manger? Will you hear the angels sing? Will you bring your gift to the Christ-child? Are you confident enough of God's truth to invite a friend to join you for worship on Christmas day?

A blessed Christmas to all.



Frank

From our Archbishop-elect:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The days since I was elected to be the next Archbishop of Adelaide have been something of a blur as Lynn and I have begun to come to terms with the news and the impact this has for our lives. We have received many wonderful messages of welcome and support from people in Adelaide and are greatly encouraged both by that support and the reports we have of the really generous and gracious spirit of the election synod last weekend. For Lynn and I, the election was a clear calling of God to Adelaide and so we will come full of expectation of what the Lord has in store.

A further encouragement has been that Lynn's employer has agreed that she can work remotely, continuing as chief financial officer of the firm with a view towards establishing a presence in Adelaide.

I am grateful to the Archbishop's election committee for their care of myself in the process, and also am grateful to both Bishop Tim and Keith Stephens who are already helping us make the transition. I have received the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer and so join you daily in prayer for the work and ministry of the Diocese.

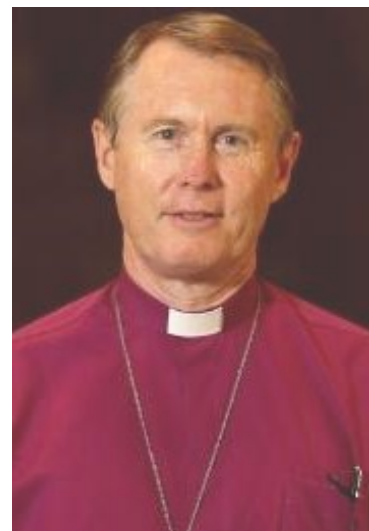
A number of factors (including the timing of Easter) next year mean we will move to Adelaide in Easter week and I will be installed at 7pm on April 28th in St Peter's Cathedral.

Many people have told Lynn and I that they are praying for us now and in the months to come. We are very thankful for this ministry and certainly ask that it continue - we will need all the prayers we can get!

We wish you a reflective Advent and a joyous Christmas as we celebrate God's great 'yes' to the world in Jesus. We look forward to arriving in April and getting to know the people of the Diocese. We are grateful to God for this incredible opportunity to serve. The God who calls is faithful and we seek to trust him as he works out his missional purpose through all of us in the Diocese of Adelaide in the years ahead.

*With grace and peace
+Geoff*

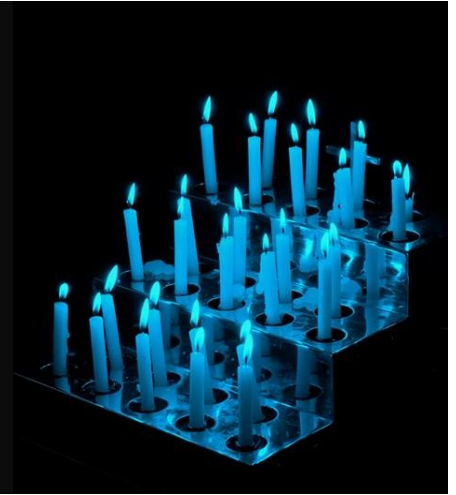
8 December 2016



Blue Christmas: When Christmas hurts

A service of peace for those who would seek it
A service of quiet for those who are torn
A time when our tears greet the birth of the Saviour
And songs tell of comfort and hope to be born.

Choral Evensong with candle lighting
6pm Sunday 18 December



Cathedral Organ

A few weeks ago the next phase in the fund-raising for the restoration of the Cathedral Organ was launched. To date some \$500,000 has been raised for this project with the target still set at \$2 million.

What a wonderful effort by so many people. Thank you one and all.

But there is still a long way to go and we need the support of everyone who enjoys the glorious music in our sacred space. Will you give – and give again? (A beautiful certificate acknowledging 'ownership' of pipe/s has been developed. Make sure there's one with your name on it!)

In a phone call to Duncan, the project manager for organ builders Harrison and Harrison, we learned that he and his team expect to fly out of the UK on 4 July 2017. From that date the clock starts ticking and the Cathedral is then bound to regular monthly payments over an 18 month period. On our side Carol Sim and David Heah are co-project managers with, between them, a wealth of experience, both in management and organ. Members of the Organ Fund-raising Task Force continue to speak quietly to potential donors, and would love to be invited to speak to you (and perhaps a group of like-minded friends) as to how best to make your donation. Contact through the Cathedral Office.

It is an exciting, and somewhat nerve-wracking, period in the history of St Peter's Cathedral.

New release

Winter: Another great collection of seasonal resources from Ruth Burgess, **Winter** covers the months of November, December and January.

The material is written by Iona Community members, associates, friends and others –including our own Jenny Wilson.

It includes prayers, stories, responses, songs, poems, reflections, liturgies and meditations for the major Christian festivals of All Saints', Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, as well as for Remembrance, Blue Christmas, Christingle, New Year, Christian Unity and other occasions.

The Cathedral Shop is taking orders—make sure you add your name to the list to secure a copy.

Cost approx. \$25 (depending on exchange rates and postage)



Newly priested

Congratulations to The Reverend Dianne Shaefer, priested yesterday (10 December).

Diane was ordained deacon in 2013.

She is a chaplain at the Women's



Photo C Beal



Cathedral choristers wearing newly-earned ribbon awards and proud smiles.

Photo: DreamTeamImaging

JOY TO THE WORLD !

Christmas Eve: shoppers
Rush. Anxious, stressed, confused;
Which gifts to choose?
Lights are dimming as
Crowds still search, ask and fret,
'What did we forget?'

Wrapping paper? gifts
Tied with bows? angels? A tree?
Bubbles! Anything free?
Stores closing; cash tills
Ping shut, transaction ending.
Hush! Peace descending.

Carollers singing
'Silent Night, Holy Night,
'All is calm, all is bright...'
Hearts and voices lift
In harmony. "He is adored,
God's Gift: Jesus, Lord!"

Fay Torr ©2016

Cathedral Art Prize and Exhibition



The exhibition has come and gone with a record 51 paintings being sold and raising over \$16,000 (another record). \$5000 has been sent to the Anglican Board of Mission for the provision of fresh water and sanitation in Vanuatu. Congratulations to Chair, Sarah Stevens (left), and the hard-

working committee for 2016. Prize winners can be viewed at <http://www.stpeters-cathedral.org.au/artprize/>

South Africa - the Rainbow Nation **A land of beauty and rich contrasts.**

Join Frank and Christine Nelson on a pilgrimage to South Africa in September 2017.

Pilgrims will enjoy all the must-see tourist things (big game, stunning scenery, historical sites) as well as extras few tour groups offer: meeting church people who are making a difference in post-Apartheid South Africa, visiting a working Benedictine monastery, the Drakensberg Boys' Choir and much more).

Detailed information is now available, including itinerary and cost. Contact fenelson@gmail.com



AUSTRALIAN REFUGEE ASSOCIATION PORTRAIT EXHIBITION 2016

To Tell Another's Story

St Peter's Cathedral
Mid December—Late January

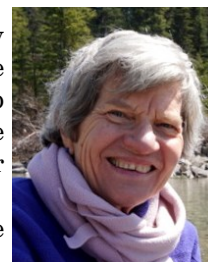
A young couple flee from their home, taking their newborn baby with them, to seek refuge in a strange land. The story we read after Christmas—of Mary and Joseph's flight into Egypt—is a salient reminder of the plight of refugees today.

In 2013, artist Kirsten Treloar approached the AUSTRALIAN REFUGEE ASSOCIATION (ARA) with a proposal to create an exhibition akin to the experience of meeting a person face to face, human being to human being. Since then, each year ARA invites artists to develop a new body of work that portrays the images and stories of people from refugee backgrounds, highlighting the challenges, desolation and the triumphs of their incredible journeys.

Cathedral Playgroup

Visit the Cathedral on any Tuesday morning and you will find the Close gate closed (but not locked). Step through the gate and you will likely be assailed by a toddler or two, mum or grandmother hovering nearby.

This is Tuesday Playgroup. And the woman behind it all is Louise Lipman. Louise's vision, energy and commitment have seen countless families enjoy this Cathedral ministry over the past 12 years. Sadly, times and situations have changed and there is no longer a need for a playgroup. Tuesday Playgroup will close this year. Well done Louise—and all those who have helped over the years. Thank you.



Reflecting the glory of God and the rich diversity of our congregation, our multicultural serving team now includes new members from Korea, Iran and Nigeria.

Photo: DreamTeamImaging

'Own' a pipe



• Be part of Adelaide history •

*Fill your Cathedral with
glorious sound!*

'Own' a pipe

- in your own name
- or in memory of a loved one
- or give a pipe this Christmas
(a unique gift for someone special)

Contact the Cathedral Office

Planned Giving

The way to support your Cathedral

Use a **Planned Giving** leaflet to make your commitment towards enabling the mission and ministry of the Cathedral.

Thinking of leaving a bequest to St Peter's?

Ask at the Office to arrange to speak to someone.

Christmas Services



18 December: Advent 4

✠ 8 & 10.30am Preacher: J Wilson

✠ **6.00pm Evensong for BLUE Christmas**

Preacher: F Nelson



24 December: Christmas Eve

✠ **4.00pm** Children's Crib Service with Carols
Children are invited to come dressed as a character in the Christmas Story

✠ **7.00pm** Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
Music: St Peter's Cathedral Choir

✠ **9.00pm** Sudanese Christmas Service

✠ **11.00pm** The First Eucharist of Christmas
(Midnight Mass)

Preacher: Bishop Tim Harris

Music: St Peter's Cathedral Choir

* Doors Open at 10.15pm (not ticketed)



25 December: Christmas Day

✠ **8.00am** Holy Communion (BCP) with Carols
Preacher: The Dean

✠ **10.00am** Festive Choral Eucharist

Preacher: The Dean

Music: St Peter's Cathedral Choir

No Evening Service



Services for January

Sundays:

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)

10.30am Sung Eucharist (no choir)

6.00pm Night Prayer (no choir)

Wednesdays

7.30am Eucharist in the Lady Chapel

10.00am Eucharist (BCP)

Fridays

7.30am Eucharist in the Lady Chapel

Saturday 7 January

7.30pm Taizé Service with prayer for healing

Contact Information

Dean:

The Canon Precentor:

Faith in the Public Square:

Cathedral Administrator:

Communications and Events Coordinator:

Director of Music:

Principal Organist:

The Very Rev'd Frank Nelson

The Rev'd Jenny Wilson

The Rev'd Dr Lynn Arnold AO

Kate Palmrose

Andrew Victorsen

Leonie Hempton

Dr Josh van Konkelenberg

Cathedral office:

27 King William Road

North Adelaide 5006

Phone: 8267 4551

Email: office@stpeters-cathedral.org.au

Web: www.stpeters-cathedral.org.au