



ANGLICAN MEDIA TASMANIA

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Saturday 19 March 2016

TASMANIAN CHURCH WELCOMES NEW BISHOP

The Tasmanian Church and community has celebrated the installation and ordination of its 12th Bishop, Dr Richard Condie.

The installation service took place earlier today at St David's Cathedral, Hobart, with around 700 people filling the Cathedral to capacity, including many representatives from the 45 Tasmanian parishes, and other local Anglican Schools and agencies

The Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia, Archbishop Dr Philip Freier, conducted the installation. There was strong support from the Church around Australia with Bishops and others from many Dioceses attending, as well as representatives of national mission organisations. There was also an enthusiastic contingent from Bishop Condie's former Church in Melbourne, St Jude's Carlton.

Local, State and Federal Tasmanian political leaders, and Aboriginal elders, were there representing the Tasmanian community. There were also heads of a significant number of other Tasmanian church denominations.

Rev'd Dr Peter Adam preached the sermon, based on 2 Timothy 3. His message encouraged the new Bishop to remember that "a Bishop without a Bible is no Bishop at all." (The text of his sermon is available at www.anglicantas.org.au)

Bishop Condie spoke of his desire for a hopeful future for the Anglican Church in Tasmania, and for the whole Tasmanian community. He said, "We can be confident as a church, because God is in the business of new life and firm hope for the future. The resurrection of Jesus, that we commemorate this coming week, is the source of our hope."

Bishop Condie said, "The church is sometimes depicted as a 'has-been' organisation, irrelevant to contemporary Australia. But on the contrary, I see the church having a positive influence in our communities, especially bringing hope to the hopeless, and care for those in need. These things are expressions of God's love for our world."

Bishop Condie was previously the Vicar of St Jude's Carlton, one of Melbourne's largest Anglican churches since 2002. St Jude's reaches out to the University of Melbourne, the Carlton public housing estate, and the local community through 5 congregations spread across Melbourne's inner north. During his time as Vicar, St Jude's partnered with two declining parishes for revitalization, and planted three new Anglican congregations.

Since 2006 he was Archdeacon of Melbourne, with responsibility for 17 parishes in the inner city area, and was Chapter Archdeacon for St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne. Prior to St Jude's Richard had been ordained in the Diocese of Grafton in 1992, where he served as Curate in Murwillumbah in Northern NSW. He then spent seven years as Lecturer in New Testament at Ridley College in Melbourne.

He is a Director of the Anglican Relief and Development Fund (Australia). He holds a Bachelor of Social Science from the University of New England, and a Bachelor of Theology, a Diploma of Ministry and a Doctor of Ministry from the Australian College of Theology.

He grew up in Brisbane, where he worked for two years as a Research Officer in the Queensland Police Department. Bishop Condie is married to Helen (a GP) with two young adult children.

Bishop Condie was elected at a special Election Synod (gathering of around 170 clergy and lay representatives from each Anglican Parish in Tasmania) held in Launceston last November. Bishop Condie replaces the previous Bishop of Tasmania, the Right Reverend John Harrower, who retired in September 2015.

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