Prayer:
Generous God, whose hand is open to fill all things living with plenteousness: make us ever thankful for your goodness, and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MARMINGATHA
Stories to Inspire

FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2021

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP GENIEVE BLACKWELL

It is good to be back from my 3-week staycation – again for me worth doing. I am sharing my gardening exploits (which Covid has encouraged) from this year and last year. As a result of doing absolutely nothing this year I could enjoy the emergence of the amazing structure of the flowering succulent while sitting out on the deck drinking coffee with John. (I have also been blessed by the gift from Holy Trinity East Melbourne (December 2019) which has flowered three times over these past two years.) I can't tell you how many pot plants have not survived in my care!

COVID-19 does keep presenting us with new demands and difficulties. For our community with the events of last week in the city (plus an earthquake!). For our churches at this time as we look to implement the roadmap in our ministry contexts. Please do speak with me, as the Diocesan update has encouraged, in relation to vaccination issues and what that means for you as we seek to provide ministry for all. I appreciate people sharing honestly the impact of ongoing lockdown both personally and ministry wise. Next month I will be able to share some stories of what has been the focus in this time as well as different processes and conversations as vicars are *Reimagining the Future* with their Parish Councils.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose (Romans 8:28) continues to be a key verse for me in my life and ministry – even more so in these times. My prayer is God is speaking to each of us, drawing us towards what lies at the heart of our calling and reminding us *nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:28).*

Important Training Events

CYBER AWARENESS TRAINING

MARMINGATHA EPISCOPATE

Tuesday 5 October 5-6pm

Sadly, email scams and cyber-attacks are on the rise and organisations like ours are not immune. Over the last few weeks tests across our Parishes have identified some potential weak spots.

I encourage you to register for the one-hour training session to find out more and learn about how to protect your parish and your parishioners' information from such attacks. Register **here**.

SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES TECHNOLOGY BRIEFING

Thursday 7 October 7pm

Synod will be a different experience this year. It is important that the technology encourages participation rather than becoming a barrier to it. Let me encourage you to attend, and to encourage your Synod representatives to attend, the briefing session. Check the Synod Newsletter 4 for how to login.

SAVE THE DATE

Marmingatha Episcopate
ReTreat & Conference

23 – 25 May 2022
Foothills Conference Centre Mooroolbark

Optional reTreat
Monday afternoon until Tuesday Morning

Episcopate Conference
Tuesday afternoon until Wednesday afternoon

Christmas Gathering

5-7pm Tuesday 23 November 2021
Format to be confirmed pending restrictions

Plan A
In person at St Michael's North Carlton

Plan B
Online Zoom, BYO Christmas cheer

Please send your stories to inspire for November...
+Genieve

Click here for this weeks' video message from the Archbishop