

The festivities surrounding the Ordination of Deacons last week was enjoyed by many in the parish. The service itself was a joyful affair. Bishop Philip Huggins Presided, as Vicar General. Bishop Kay Goldsworthy, known to many here, had led the pre-Ordination retreat, and preached the sermon during the service. Her image of Jesus as “bridge”, and how the role of Deacon seeks to bring the knowledge of God’s tender love and care to the world was appreciated by many in attendance.



It was also lovely for us, as parishioners, to share the excitement of the day with Kathryn and her family, and we were generously hosted by Kathryn and Nicholas and their daughters afterwards, where we gathered with friends and family to share the momentous occasion. Kathryn then hit the ground running at Mount Waverley the following day, with three services in the morning, followed by Youth Group in the evening. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

The *Achieving More Together* Committee met during the week, ahead of the planned Joint Parish Council Planning session with Christ Church, South Yarra, on Sunday 19th February. It is planned to review the Covenant, with a focus on aspects of it that have given us life. The opportunity will then be given for suggestions of some further ideas of ways the relationship of our two parishes can be deepened.

This date (Sunday 19th February) also marks the launch of the ABM Lenten Appeal. This will happen during Choral Evensong at CCSY, to which of course we are warmly invited, as this is a regular joint parish service. The Rt. Reverend Garry Weatherill, Bishop of Ballarat, will Preach at the service and launch the appeal, and ABM will provide a lovely supper afterwards. I encourage as many of you as possible to attend, as we continue to support ABM in our mission giving in 2017.

I have great pleasure in Commissioning the Wardens and Parish Council for 2017 today in both the 8am and 10am services. Please continue to pray for them, and our shared ministry to God’s people in this place and in the community around us.

May Cyril and Methodius, and all the Saints walk with you this week...
Sam

