



**The Right Reverend Stuart Robinson
Diocesan Bishop**

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Pastoral letter – to be read out in Services on Sunday

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Appointment to the See: Diocese of Bendigo

I am writing to share the news that our colleague and friend, **The Right Reverend Dr. Matthew Brain, has been elected as the 10th Bishop of Bendigo.**

As you know, +Matt has been in this Diocese since 2010 when he came from North West Australia to lead Synergy Youth and Children and to teach at St Mark's National Theological Centre. Since then, +Matt has served with aplomb in a variety of roles, most recently as an Assistant Bishop responsible for Ministry Training and Development. We do wish +Matt, Rachael and their children, every blessing as they transition to this significant new responsibility at the beginning of 2018.

I realise this is the second piece of surprising Episcopal news you have received in the past week and no doubt there will be mixed emotions as you process the prospect of both our departures in the New Year. I want to assure you that God sovereignly works all things for the ultimate good of His people, and I am therefore convinced he will attend to all the future needs of this great Diocese. In particular, God has provided and will continue to provide the people we need in this considerable time of transition in diocesan life. Your prayer for our Vicar-General, Bishop Trevor, are much valued.

Please also pray for +Matt and his family as they now prepare to move and take up this new ministry.

Warmly,

The Right Reverend Stuart Robinson // Bishop of Canberra & Goulburn
8 December 2017

PS: Ad clerum will come to you late today.