



## Anglican Diocese of Tasmania *a healthy church... transforming life*

10 February 2009

04.09

From the Bishop's Desk

### **Bushfire tragedy in Victoria**

The Anglican Community in Tasmania offers its profound sympathy, prayers and support to all those affected by the unfolding tragedy in Victoria. Our hearts and prayers are opened in compassion at this devastation of life, property and possessions. I am humbled again at the courage and generous service of so many personnel seeking to support the stricken communities.

The Cathedral Church of St David in Hobart is open for prayer and reflection from 9am with public prayer offered on each hour. The Chapel of Hope is available to all for silent reflection and the placing of a prayer candle. Cathedral personnel are also available for pastoral support.

Please see - <http://www.anglicantas.org.au/>

### **Tasmanian Anglicans Bushfire Appeal**

*Anglican Health & Welfare*, chaired by Bishop Chris Jones, is inviting donations to provide financial assistance to folk affected by the disaster.

Donations to this appeal in excess of \$2 are tax deductible.

Funds received by this appeal will be forwarded promptly to the four Victorian Dioceses affected by the disaster - Gippsland, Bendigo, Wangaratta and Melbourne - for distribution to distressed people through their local Anglican channels.

The Registry will issue tax deductible receipts for funds received. I ask that you make this as widely known as possible in your parish or agency. A donation form is available from the Registry for possible use with a congregation.

Cheques, accompanied by the details of the donor's name and mailing address for receipting purposes, should be made out to **Anglican Health & Welfare** and sent to:

**AH&W Bushfire Appeal**  
**GPO Box 748**  
**Hobart 7001**

Donations may also be directly credited to the following account, but please send full details of the amount and the donor's name/address by email to [registry@anglicantas.org.au](mailto:registry@anglicantas.org.au) so that the donation can be quickly identified and sent on:

**The Trustees of the Diocese of Tasmania**  
**BSB 067 000**  
**Account No 28068370**

In the identification line, please include **AH&W**.

### **A prayer for the tragedy of bushfires**

God of mercy and pity,  
remember all those suffering from the effects of bushfires.  
Especially we ask for those who have lost loved ones, homes, possessions.  
Help us to minister to their needs,  
and to be sensitive to all who have suffered loss.  
Heal the distressed, the broken-hearted and the wounded:  
comfort and sustain them in their need.  
Give them wise and faithful friends,  
and courage for the road ahead.  
Help the firefighters to bring the fires under control  
and protect them at all times.  
Sustain them, the support workers and all volunteers,  
in their myriad tasks, sacrifices and generosity.  
Watch over all those involved  
and give them the assurance of your presence.  
These things we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Yours sincerely in Christ's service  
Shalom

+ *John*

John Harrower  
Bishop of Tasmania