

# A Thanksgiving

## for 30 years of Priesthood

Celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ordination  
of the Rev'd Kaye Pitman, The Ven Val Graydon  
and remembering with gratitude the ministry of  
Joan Pascoe, Leah Mary Shaw, Pat King, and Eileen Thompson.



**11am December 20, 2022**

**St George's Anglican Church Maleny**

Hosted by the Parishes of Freshwater and Maleny

# The First Cohort of Women in Brisbane

## **Joan Pascoe (1939–2019)**

Joan Pascoe, one of the first women ordained priest in Brisbane in 1992, was a teacher and missionary in Brisbane and Papua New Guinea.

## **Leah Mary Shaw (1923–2010)**

Leah Shaw was one of the first women priests in the Diocese. She was a teacher, finally at Toowong High School where she was Deputy Principal. After she retired in 1983 she joined St George's church in Mt Tamborine where she became a Lay Assistant. She was ordained priest in 1992, shortly before her 70th birthday.

## **Kaye Pitman (1936 –)**

At the age of 56, Kaye Pitman was one of the six women ordained priest in 1992, the first time it was possible in Brisbane. She was a teacher, student, MOW member and the director of the deacon and priestly formation programs in Brisbane.

## **Val Graydon (1947 –)**

Val Graydon is one of the first group of six women who were ordained priest in the diocese in 1992. She reflects on the significance of MOW in the ordination journey. Val is currently national president of MOWatch, a daughter organisation of MOW which works for the ordination of women in all dioceses.

## **Pat King (1933–2012)**

Among the first women ordained priest in the diocese, Pat King was a gentle, compassionate woman who did not shy away from breaking boundaries. Pat was able to break through traditions that constrained women's roles.

## **Eileen Thomson (1923-2010)**

Eileen Thomson believed in a sacramental church combining scholarship, history and tradition. As one of the first six priests in the diocese she believed clergy were there to give absolution, celebrate the Eucharist and deliver the message.

Bishop of the Northern Region The Right Rev'd Jeremy Greaves  
Celebrant: The Rev'd Deb Bird  
Assisted by: The Ven Val Graydon  
The Rev'd Kaye Pitman  
Liturgical Assistants: Lydia Fairhall and Dell Somerville  
Intercessions: The Rev'd Claye Middleton  
Musicians: Val Burton and The Rev'd Claye Middleton  
Hospitality: The St George's Guild  
Photo Credit: Michael Stephenson

## Order of Service

### GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*Please stand to greet the procession.*

Hymn: Here I Am, Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
My hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord.  
Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you  
calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord,  
if you lead me.  
I will hold  
your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them.  
They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send?

*Refrain*

I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
Till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send?

*Refrain*

Daniel Schutte 1981

Acclamation:

*The priest:*

My being proclaims the wonders of light

**as it shines and weaves with the ebbing darkness**

My spirit bows to the beauty of the One

who gives life to all that has existence

**Sing out our praise to the Heart who draws us forth**

My soul rises up in gratitude,

in a stance of humble remembering

**For all I am, and all I am called to be,**

**is held in the hands of a Creator**

**who daily loves me into life.**

*Magnificat to the God of Dawn, adapted, Joyce Rupp*

Blessed be God: Creator, Liberator, and Sustaining Spirit

**Blessed be God forever.**

Greeting and Welcome

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

We acknowledge the Jinibara people – the custodians of this land on which we gather, land which has never been ceded. We come honouring the Ruah who put her breath of life in the earth, among First Nations peoples, and in the voices of Indigenous women whose spirituality in the body of a woman and in the body of the earth makes a song of connection with Country and Creator. We give thanks for their continuing inspiration and call to us.

The Sentence

*The liturgical assistant:*

Humankind was created as God's reflection: in the divine image God created them, God created humankind, male and female God created them."

*Genesis 1:27*

## Gathering Prayer

Together we pray:

**God of the feast,  
your Wisdom calls us,  
your Word teaches us  
and you feed us with your life.  
Give us grace to welcome one another  
as you have welcomed us in Christ Jesus,  
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## The Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to the God who knows us through and through.

**Holy God,  
we have disobeyed your commandments,  
we have resisted your call,  
we have failed to live by your generous love.  
We are sorry for all our sins,  
and ask you to forgive us,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## *The priest:*

God who has called us is faithful and will not remember our sins.  
Your sins are forgiven, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Live by the Spirit's transforming power,  
and forgive as you have been forgiven. **Amen.**

## The Collect

*Let us pray*

Lord of the dawn  
whose risen life began deep in the freshening earth;  
you called Mary to see what men could not,  
to be first witness, whose love was stronger than fear:  
Speak our name and open our hands  
to let your Spirit flow into all the lightening world;  
through Jesus Christ, the Tree of Life. **Amen.**

## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

*Please be seated.*

*The Rev'd Kaye Pitman:*

A reading from Romans chapter 16, beginning at verse 1.

I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church at Cenchreae, so that you may welcome her in the Lord as is fitting for the saints, and help her in whatever she may require from you, for she has been a benefactor of many and of myself as well. Greet Prisca and Aquila, who work with me in Christ Jesus, and who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles. Greet also the church in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who was the first convert in Asia for Christ. Greet Mary, who has worked very hard among you. Greet Andronicus and Junia, my relatives who were in prison with me; they are prominent among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was.

*The Rev'd Claye Middleton:*

A Thanksgiving Litany for the Ministry of Women

God of Holy Imaginings,  
made known by women to all the children of the earth,  
We remember those who went before us and who stand beside us,  
the tradition of women's ministry among your people:

Esther, who pleaded against power for the liberation of the people.

**Judith, who routed plans to save a community.**

Deborah, who led the people of God.

**Elizabeth of Judea, who recognized the value of another woman.**

Mary Magdalene, first evangelist of the Christ.

**Scholastica, who taught Benedict to honour the spirit above system.**

Hildegard, who suffered interdict for the doing of right.

**Joan of Arc, who put no law above the law of God.**

Clare of Assisi, who confronted the pope as woman made equal.

**Julian of Norwich, who proclaimed the motherhood of God.**

Teresa of Avila, who brought women's gifts to the reform of the church.

**Dorothy Day, who led the church to a new sense of justice.**

Mary Sumner, who recognised the prophetic vocation of Motherhood.

**Mary, Mother of Jesus,  
who turned the Spirit of God into the body and blood of the Christ.**

We celebrate the pioneering female priests of this diocese,  
the first six women ordained in 1992:

The ministry of the Rev'd Kaye Pitman:  
missionary, teacher, formation director,  
and for her long devotion to the Parish of Maleny.

The ministry of the Venerable Val Graydon:  
priest, archdeacon, spiritual director, her long dedication to MOW and  
MOWatch and her ongoing service to the Parish of Freshwater.

We remember The Rev'd Joan Pascoe:  
A teacher and missionary in Brisbane and Papua New Guinea.

*A candle is lit as we hold silence.*

We remember The Rev'd Leah Mary Shaw:  
A teacher and priest ordained shortly before her 70th birthday.

*A candle is lit as we hold silence.*

We remember The Rev'd Pat King:  
A gentle, compassionate woman who never shied from breaking boundaries.

*A candle is lit as we hold silence.*

We remember the Rev'd Eileen Thompson:  
Who believed in a sacramental church of scholarship, history and tradition.

*A candle is lit as we hold silence.*

May we honour the light that has come to us through their lives  
with the full embrace of women gifts in the church. **Amen.**

*Please remain seated as the choir sings.*

Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd, I have all I need,  
She makes me lie down in green meadows,  
Beside the still waters, She will lead.

She restores my soul, She rights my wrongs,  
She leads me in a path of good things,  
And fills my heart with songs.

Even though I walk through a dark and dreary land,  
There is nothing that can shake me,  
She said, She won't forsake me,  
I'm in her hand.

She sets a table before me,  
in the presence of my foes,  
She anoints my head with oil,  
And my cup overflows.

Surely, goodness and kindness will follow me,  
All the days of my life,  
And I will live in her house forever, and ever.

Glory be to our Mother, and Daughter,  
And to the Holy of Holies  
As it was in the beginning, Is now and ever shall be  
World, without end. Amen.



*Please stand to welcome the Gospel.*

The Gospel

*The Ven Val Graydon:*

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, chapter 20,  
beginning at verse 1

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.'

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

For the gospel of our Lord

**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel response: The Rev'd Deb Bird

Reflections on Ministry: The Rev'd Kaye Pitman and The Ven Val Graydon

## RENEWAL OF VOWS

*The Right Reverend Jeremy Greaves offers a few words.*

Val and Kaye, I invite you now to stand and dedicate yourselves afresh in God's service, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

At your ordination as a deacon, you were authorized as an ambassador of Christ to make known in word and deed his gospel of reconciliation. Will you continue faithfully in this ministry making Christ known to all?

*Kaye and Val respond:* **By the help of God, I will.**

Living God we pray for Kaye and Val and all deacons, that you may pour upon them the riches of your grace.

As you have called them to service may you make them worthy of that calling. Lord, in your mercy,

*All respond:* **hear our prayer.**

At your ordination to the priesthood you took authority to watch over and care for God's people, to absolve and bless them in God's name, to proclaim the gospel of salvation and to minister the sacraments of the New Covenant. Will you continue as faithful stewards of the mysteries of God, preaching the Gospel of Christ, and ministering his holy sacraments?

*Kaye and Val respond:* **By the help of God, I will.**

Gracious God, we pray for Kaye and Val and all in priesthood, that you will bless them with the fullness of your love, so that they may be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments and lead your people in the way of salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

*All respond:* **hear our prayer.**

*Kaye and Val are anointed by the bishop.*

## THE GREETING OF PEACE

*The celebrant:*

We are the body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*You are invited to exchange a sign of peace.*

Offertory Hymn: The Summons

*You are invited to make a donation that will support the formation journey of Lydia Fairhall, theological student in the parish of Maleny.*

**Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?**

**Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?**

**Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?**

**Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?**

**Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me. \_**

*John L. Bell & Graham Maule*

Bountiful God,  
we prepare your feast with gifts chosen from among your many blessings:  
They will be for us the body of Christ, the lifeblood of the world.

**Blessed be God forever.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**It is right to give our thanks and praise**

God of wind and flame,  
we praise your wild beauty flying free in the shining air.

Your Spirit nurtured life in outrageous diversity;  
she raised up judges to protect the weak,  
make kings dance in ecstasy,  
and prophets burn with holy anger.

Through the Spirit, the Word became flesh  
and the world was called to hear his voice;  
She drove him to the desert, his first sure step  
to victory over death and division.

When he left his followers,  
She was poured out on all flesh and crossed the line  
between male and female, slave and free, Jew and gentile.  
She is with us now, bringing Christ near, filling us with hope.

Therefore with all God's people who have tasted the Spirit of life,  
with the thirsty and the yearning, and those who long to dream again  
we worship your glory as heaven touches earth:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

And now we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine;  
we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit  
we who eat and drink them might share Christ's body and blood.

On the night before he died,  
Jesus took bread and shared it with his friends,  
his companions on the way.

He took the bread, blessed and broke it saying,  
"Take and eat. This is my body give for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took a cup of wine  
and again giving thanks, he gave it to them, and said,  
'This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

You have gathered us together to feed on Christ  
and to remember all he has done for us.

Fill us with your Spirit that we may follow Jesus in all we do and say,  
working for justice and bringing your peace to this world that you have made.

Receive our praises, through Jesus Christ our Lord:

**Blessing and honour and glory and  
power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As this broken bread was once many grains  
that have been gathered together to make one bread:

**So may your church be gathered,  
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
May we who share these things be found in Christ.

**And Christ in us.**

*This is God's table – everyone is invited!*

*Please sanitize your hands before communion.*

*Gluten free wafers are available - please ask!*

*The common cup is available for those who choose communion in both kinds  
– please make the decision that is best for you.*

**Please note: Intinction (dipping of the host in the wine) is not permitted due to the risk of contamination, especially for those who are gluten intolerant.**



The Lord's Prayer

*The priest:*

We pray together:

**Our Mother, who is in heaven and within us,  
we call upon your names.  
Your wisdom come.  
Your will be done,  
in all the spaces in which you dwell.  
Give us each day sustenance and perseverance.  
Remind us of our limits  
as we give grace to the limits of others.  
Separate us from the temptation of empire,  
and deliver us into community.  
For you are the dwelling place within us,  
the empowerment around us,  
and the celebration among us,  
now and forever. Amen.**

*Rev. Yolanda Norton, Grace Cathedral*

## THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Hymn: Hope of our Calling

**Hope of our calling: hope through courage won;  
By those who dared to share all Christ had done.  
Saints of today, Christ's banner now unfurled,  
We bring his gospel to a waiting world.**

**Hope of our calling: hope with strength empowered,  
Inspired by all that we have seen and heard;  
This call is ours, for we are chosen too,  
To live for God in all we say and do.**

**Hope of our calling: hope with grace outpoured,  
From death's despair the gift of life restored;  
Our call to serve, to wash each others' feet,  
To bring Christ's healing touch to all we meet.**

**Hope of our calling: hope by faith made bold;  
To sow God's righteousness throughout the world;  
Bring peace from conflict, fruitfulness from weeds,  
The kingdom's harvest from a mustard seed.**

**Hope of our calling: Spirit-filled, unbound,  
Old joys remembered and new purpose found,  
Our call refreshed by sacrament and word,  
We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

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*The bishop:*

God who has called you is faithful - go into the world with joy!  
Forgive generously, love extravagantly, and live abundantly.

The blessing of God, the eternal goodwill of God,  
The wildness and warmth and shalom of God  
be among us and between us, now and always. Amen.

*St Hilda Community*

*The liturgical assistant:*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ, Amen.**

Wise women also came.  
The fire burned in their wombs long  
before they saw  
the flaming star in the sky.

They walked in shadows,  
trusting the path would open under  
the light of the moon.

Wise women also came,  
seeking no directions,  
no permission from any king.

They came by their own authority,  
their own desire, their own longing.

They came in quiet, spreading no  
rumours, sparking no fears to lead to  
innocents' slaughter,  
to their sister Rachel's inconsolable  
lamentations.

Wise women also came,  
and they brought useful gifts:  
water for labour's washing,  
fire for warm illumination,  
a blanket for swaddling.

Wise women also came,  
at least three of them,  
holding Mary in the labor,  
crying out with her in the birth pangs,  
breathing ancient blessings into her  
ear.

Wise women also came,  
and they went,  
as wise women always do,  
home a different way.

-Jan Richardson



**The Ordination of Priests St John's Cathedral Brisbane, December 20, 1992**

Back row: Denis Galloway, Murray Harvey, Geoffrey Beel, David Goddard, David Cox, John Corner, Kaye Pitman. Front row: Dean Arthur Grimshaw, Max Young, Eileen Thompson, Archbishop Peter Hollingworth, Leah Shaw, Patricia King, Joan Pascoe, Valerie Graydon