

ORDER of AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION - ACT BRANCH



“FAITH IN A GREEN WORLD”

***- 'LIVING WITH THE GRANDCHILDREN IN MIND'
- 'FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP OF OUR RESOURCES'***

MODERATED BY

**THE RT REVD Dr GEORGE BROWNING
Former Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn
Convenor Anglican Communion Environmental Network
Member, Advisory Council, Climate Institute**

**ANNUAL “MULTI-FAITH OBSERVANCE”
2.30 pm SUNDAY 21 AUGUST 2011**

**ANZAC MEMORIAL CHAPEL OF ST PAUL, ROYAL
MILITARY COLLEGE, DUNTROON**

- Acknowledgment of Country - Trish Keller OAM

- NATIONAL ANTHEM: 'Advance Australia Fair'

**Australians all let us rejoice
For we are young and free
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by sea:
Our land abounds in nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare,
In history's page let every stage
Advance Australia fair,
In joyful strains then let us sing
Advance Australia fair.**

- Opening prayer - The Rt Rev Dr George Browning

- Welcome - Mr Len Goodman AO, Chairman ACT Branch

**- Official Prayer and Dedication of the Order of Australia
Association (Members please stand and say together)**

**Eternal source of creative wisdom, we seek your blessing upon
The Order of Australia Association and its members. Inspire us
who have been honoured by our nation for our contributions to
society to work for a better world and to help others achieve
their aspirations. Give us strength and wisdom to apply our
skills and the will to continue to serve our nation to advance
Australia. We the recipients of The Order of Australia are
grateful for the recognition accorded for our services to our
community. We acknowledge that our talents and opportunities
have been given to us by God and we pledge ourselves to
genuinely care about the needs of others.**

**Above all, we dedicate ourselves to keeping Australia a land in
which peoples' dignity is respected and their rights are
safeguarded. We place these commitments in the hands of God
ever reliant on his power in our lives but aware that the final
responsibility is our own.**

- HYMN: 'Lord of Earth and All Creation'

**Lord of earth and all creation,
let your love possess this land:
wealth, and freedom, far horizons,
mountain, forest, shining sand:
may we share, in faith and friendship,
gifts unmeasured from your hand.**

**People of the ancient Dreamtime,
they who found this country first,
ask with those, the later comers,
will our dream be blessed or cursed?
Grant us Lord, new birth. New living,
hope for which our children thirst.**

**Lord, life giving healing Spirit,
on our hurts your mercy shower;
lead us by your inward dwelling,
guiding, guarding, every hour.
Bless and keep our land Australia:
In your will her peace and power.**

{“Together in Song” No. 672 “Westminster Abbey”
The late Michael Thwaites AO and Honor Thwaites}

READINGS:

- BUDDHIST TRADITION - Mr Sam Wong AM

“Wherever the Buddha's teachings have been received, either in cities or countryside's, people would gain inconceivable benefits. The land and the people would be enveloped in peace. The sun and moon will shine clear and bright. Wind and rain would appear accordingly, and there will be no disasters. Nations would be prosperous and there would be no use for soldiers or weapons. People would abide by morality and accord with laws. They would be courteous and humble, and everyone would be content without injustices.

There would be no thefts or violence. The strong would not dominate the weak and everyone would be settled at their proper place in society."

The Sutra of Amitabha's Purity, Equality, and Understanding

- HINDU TRADITION - Mr Kanti Jinna

Mahabharata, Chapter two: The Bhagavad Gita is the Song Celestial. Its compiler is Maharishi Vyasa and is a discourse between Lord Krishna and Arjuna and conversations with Sanjaya and King Dhrtrarashtra. It contains the essence of the four Vedas. It has seven hundred verses and eighteen chapters and is an organic part of the Mahabharata.

Verses 56 to 68 of Chapter two are the response of Arjuna's question to Lord Krishna in the battlefield " Krishna, what are the characteristics of a God realised soul, stable of mind and established in Samadhi (in perfect tranquility of mind). How does the man of stable mind speak? How does he sit? How does he walk? The Lord says in Verse 55. Arjuna, when one thoroughly casts off all cravings of the mind and is satisfied in the self through the joy of the self. He is then called stable of mind.

The sage, whose mind remains unperturbed amid sorrows, whose thirst for pleasures has altogether disappeared, and who is free from passion, fear and anger, is called stable of mind Therefore, having controlled all the senses and concentrating his mind, he should sit for meditation, devoting himself heart and soul to Me. For, he whose senses are under his control, is known to have a stable mind

- JEWISH TRADITION - Mr Bill Arnold

(Genesis 1:29-31)

And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.

And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.

(Leviticus 26: 3-6; 9-13)

"If you walk in my statutes and observe my commandments and do them,

then I will give you your rains in their season, and the land shall yield its increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. And your threshing shall last to the time of vintage, and the vintage shall last to the time for sowing; and you shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land securely. And I will give peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid; and I will remove evil beasts from the land, and the sword shall not go through your land.

And I will have regard for you and make you fruitful and multiply you, and will confirm my covenant with you. And you shall eat old store long kept, and you shall clear out the old to make way for the new. And I will make my abode among you, and my soul shall not abhor you. And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and you shall be my people.

I am the LORD your God, who brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, that you should not be their slaves; and I have broken the bars of your yoke and made you walk erect.

- MUSLIM TRADITION - Mr Ahmed Youssef

Green is the favourite colour of the Muslims. It is the colour of Paradise emanating bliss and tranquility. The aspiration of the final shades of human beings are supposed to be the inheritors of Earth according to the Quran (2-30).

"And to thy sustainer said unto the Angels - Behold I am about to establish upon earth one who shall inherit it..."

So to have “faith in a green world”, we need the two main elements, Faith, which embodies the instructions to deal justly with all transactions and the understanding of what Green means for the survival of humanity itself.

When the Quran was perceived 1400 years ago there was enough reason to give warning to Humanity of what they have already done In (30-41) we read

“I smile they have become obligations? Of God corruptions has appeared on land and in the sea as an outcome of what men’s hands have wrought and so he will then taste (the evil of) some of their doings so that they might return to the right paths”

- CHRISTIAN TRADITION - General David Hurley AC DSC

Joel: 2.21-24 and 26-29

Land, don't be afraid. Be glad and rejoice, for Yahweh has done great things.

Don't be afraid, you animals of the field; for the pastures of the wilderness spring up, for the tree bears its fruit. The fig tree and the vine yield their strength. "Be glad then, you children of Zion, and rejoice in Yahweh, your God; for he gives you the former rain in just measure, and he causes the rain to come down for you, The former rain and the latter rain, As before. The threshing floors will be full of wheat, and the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.

Romans: 8.18-25

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

- ADDRESS: The Rt Rev Dr George Browning

“CREATION REFLECTS THE GLORY OF GOD”

- HYMN: “All creatures of our God and King”

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam!

Refrain: O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising moon, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice! Refrain

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest man both warmth and light. Refrain

Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them His glory also show. Refrain

- REMARKS - NOTICES: Branch Chairman, Mr Len Goodman AO

- DISMISSAL: The Rt Rev Dr George Browning

- ADJOURN for refreshments

REMINDERS:

- **Thursday 22 September: Pre-Investiture “New Recipients Reception”, Kate Carnell AO, 6-7.30pm, Commonwealth Club**
- **Wednesday 19 October: “Morning Tea”, Dr Sam Prince, 10.00am, Southern Cross Yacht Club.**
- **Monday 31 October: “OAA-ANU Lecture”, Prof John Warhurst AO, 6-7.30pm, University House. “What’s the Matter with Parliament?” Have Your Say at our Q & A!**
- **Thursday 24 November: “AGM and Christmas Fellowship”, 6-7.30pm, Royal Canberra Golf Club.**

APPRECIATIONS:

The Order of Australia Association-ACT Branch expresses thanks to:

- **The Chief of Defence Force General David Hurley AC DSC**
- **The Commandant RMC, Brigadier MJ Moon AM CSC for authorising the availability of the Anzac Memorial Chapel of St Paul**
- **Senior Chaplain Darren Jaensch and Chaplain Richard Whereat for assistance**
- **The Rt Rev Dr George Browning for Moderating and addressing the Observance**
- **Representatives of Faith Communities: Mr Bill Arnold, Mr Kanti Jinna Mr Sam Wong AM, Mr Ahmed Youssef**
- **Mr Horrie Holt OAM for musical accompaniment**
- **Ms Natalie Sanders and Mrs Kirrilly Coombes, Burgmann College for printing the service sheets**
- **Branch Committee members for arranging refreshments**
- **Order of Australia Military and General Division members for attending**
- **Members of The Order of The British Empire Association and of the Australian Bravery Association for joining with us**

“To foster love of pride in Australian citizenship and to uphold the high principles and prestige of the Order of Australia”