



**The Right Reverend Stuart Robinson
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Pastoral Letter # 2: April 2015 Working the dream – Jamieson Apartments

Beloved in Christ,

As you may have heard, my 'Walk with the Cross' took me into many small rural centres across the diocese and through towns like Holbrook, Tumbarumba, Tumut, Gundagai, Wagga Wagga, Cooma, Bredbo, Adaminaby, Bombala and Queanbeyan. Please avail yourself of the photos from our website! <http://www.anglicancg.org.au/pages/walk-with-the-cross-2015.html>

Over six weeks, I gave about 140 sermons and talks in nearly 20 locations, from halls to parks, riverbanks and pub doorways. Christians were encouraged and new people discovered Christ for the first time. I saw first-hand the potential of God's harvest, the good heart of our country parishes and the challenges involved with calling a new generation to follow Jesus.

It convinced me that developing our city properties and some regional ones is one way we can develop more ministry across our big-hearted diocese. The Jamieson Apartments in the heart of Canberra is an important step in growing our capacity for joining in God's mission.

The Apartments are now complete and people are moving in. The building met the '4 Green Star Standard', an outstanding achievement! It has already featured in architecture magazines and we are confident its design will be celebrated following its entry in many professional industry competitions. Lakeside panoramas are complemented by artwork by Paul Durack, a Canberra-based photographer. Taken from a kayak, Paul's pictures have received accolades from residents and visitors alike.

The Apartments have proven a very attractive investment option already. There are 89 residential suites and 3 ground-floor commercial units in the building. 55 of these units sold off the plan and sales are proceeding well, with a further seven suites having sold in recent weeks valued at \$3.4 million.

The build cost \$30.6 million with an additional start-up cost of \$10 million. The property trust has repaid \$30.7 million from the sales. Discussions with potential tenants for the commercial spaces are proceeding well and interest in buying or leasing the remaining suites is strong. Why not visit – www.thejamiesonapartments.com.au/

The diocese has benefited greatly by developing the Apartments. We have gained not only significant expertise but also confidence to look beyond this project to other sites for their development potential. I am very pleased to let you know that Ms Heather Walsh will be joining Anglican Diocesan Services as the Director of School Operations and Business Development. Heather is currently Canberra Girls Grammar School's chief operating officer, business manager to our south coast schools and an honorary lay canon of St Saviour's Cathedral. Please be sure to say hello when she arrives in July!

I dream of a diocese where the love of Jesus transforms people, structures and communities

+Stuart.