Supporting Chaplains through Hospital Sunday

Archbishop Freier has designated Sunday 18 August as a celebration of Hospital Chaplains, of which there are 13 in the Diocese, at 12 different hospitals.

“We sit with, listen to and talk with patients, their families and the staff,” said the Revd Stephen Delbridge, who co-ordinates healthy chaplaincy for the Diocese.

After 10 years as Anglican Chaplain at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, Stephen has taken up a position as Chaplain at the Royal Children’s Hospital.

“With adults,” Mr Delbridge, “the conversation is about suffering. Very often the person is getting well, but the illness, the experience will change them. Most often our conversation is about grief and very often our ministry is with the dying. Almost every day I would sit with a dying person, with their family and with the staff offering counsel, blessing and comfort.

“But with children, though they are in the midst of suffering, the conversation is much more about life. The medical condition might be temporary or it might be permanent, and the parents are struggling with the fragility, the hope and the reality of this life they treasure. As Chaplain to everyone encountered in the hospital, to people of faith and no faith, the ministry is to be with the family, to hold the grief and shock, and to look toward life and hope. We know that God’s love in Jesus meets each one in their need, for Jesus’ love is for everyone.”

“I invite you to anticipate Hospital Sunday. If 18 August is not convenient then pick another Sunday nearby and support us.”

The Revd Stephen Delbridge

Yes! I want to assist with this vital ministry...

I wish to make a: One-off gift Monthly gift of $ towards Hospital Chaplaincy (donations over $2 tax-deductible)

By cheque (payable to the Melbourne Anglican Foundation)

OR please debit my VISA MASTERCARD

Expiry Date: Signature

Credit Card Number: Name

Address Suburb Postcode

Please fill in, cut out and post this response slip to: The Melbourne Anglican Foundation 209 Flinders Lane, Melbourne VIC 3000

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