



# THE BASES FROM WHICH WE BUILD

**W**e have been exploring the closing chapters of the Book of Romans. The Christian virtues of love, humility, loyalty, sacrifice and purity are foundational to life. Whether it is in the COVID-19 or in other seasons, they act as bases which we never ever depart from. When we sometimes lose our way through the fog of life's confusion or the heat of her trials, returning to these can help us to steady our spiritual anchor. Indeed, this is a season where I have to return to these bases again and again.

Let me pause to say that I have been privileged to serve in the Cathedral for these past 5 years or so. I came reluctantly because



it needed a letting go of some previous visions in my former parish and deep friendships forged. Soon after assuming my responsibilities in SAC, the calling of being a "spiritual father" takes over as naturally as one assumes the role of an earthly father. We plunged into a new community and the usual instincts and sense of behind led by a work of God; larger than any of ourselves; took over.

While what can be seen are the usual icons such as the Bells, Café or Pavilion, some of the most important aspects of life and ministry in SAC are unseen. They took a lot out of me but strangely, also life-giving and replenishing

as pastoral work normally is. Sometimes people assume that the Vicar has “no time” but I do have 24 hours of it every day. I have found the time for my hobbies (such as cooking and writing about it). I don't compartmentalise my life as I always see everything as integral to my calling and being.



The Cathedral is of course a prominent and visible place and it can experience a measure of intrigue. But at the heart, she is just another church and a church was what I endeavoured to serve and build with His grace. A church prays, loves, witnesses, fellowships, grows and so on. That was it and I trust will always be. One previous bishop said that sometimes God gives us toys to play with but they do not last nor will they be remembered. There were certain “toys” along the way but they should not detract from the essential work of helping

men and women to follow God and discover their destiny and calling.

If you have grown in Christ these past years and can attribute to some measure to the SAC community, that will indeed be a point for rejoicing. If you have made friends, remember that these things will last for eternity.

Love, humility, purity and loyalty. May these Christ-like virtues continue to be the foundation from which we build our lives.

