



HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH JAMISON

To grow in Christ together, to equip for service, to care for all



Weekly Bulletin
25 May 2014

Sixth Sunday
of Easter

If you love me, you will
keep my commandments



We offer a special welcome to visitors and pray that you will feel at home in our community.

You are warmly invited to share Communion with us, either by drinking from or dipping the wafer in the chalice, or to come forward for a blessing.

Reflection after Communion – please feel free to light a prayer candle in the Chapel at the back of the Church following Communion.



Please join us for morning tea after the services.



TODAY IN THE PARISH

8.00 am HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant:
Preacher

Revd Sarah Bachelard
Revd Susanna Pain

10.00 am HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant :
Preacher:

Revd Sarah Bachelard
Revd Susanna Pain

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Monday 26.05.14	10.00 am	Worship Centre	Covenant Care
Tuesday 27.05.14	12.30 pm 7.30 pm	Worship Centre Rainbow Centre	Meditation and BYO Lunch EcoFootprint group
Wednesday 28.05.14	12 noon 2.00 pm 7.30 pm	Worship Centre Worship Centre Rainbow Centre	Holy Communion and BYO Lunch Ever Active Exercise Class A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life
Thursday 29.05.14	9.30 am	Rainbow Centre	Scrabble
Friday 30.05.14	10.00 am 10.30 am 7.00 pm	Worship Centre Rainbow Centre Pide Hut, Jamison	Playgroup Reminiscence course Men's dinner
Saturday 31.05.14	9.00 am-1.00 pm 4.45 pm 6.00 pm	Jamison Centre Rainbow Centre Worship Centre	Food collection and cake stall Choir Practice Benedictus Contemplative Church

WEEK BEGINNING 2 JUNE

Monday 02.06.14	10.00 am	Worship Centre	Covenant Care
Tuesday 03.06.14	12.30 pm	Worship Centre	Meditation and BYO Lunch
Wednesday 04.06.14	12 noon 2.00 pm 7.30 pm	Worship Centre Worship Centre Rainbow Centre	Holy Communion and BYO Lunch Ever Active Exercise Class A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life
Thursday 05.06.14	9.30 am	Rainbow Centre	Scrabble
Friday 06.06.14	10.00 am 10.30 am	Worship Centre Rainbow Centre	Playgroup Reminiscence course
Saturday 07.06.14	4.45pm 6.00 pm	Rainbow Centre Worship Centre	Choir Practice Benedictus Contemplative Church

John 14: 15-21

Presents or Presence?

Last week I rather cheekily suggested that we sometimes treat God as an unlimited gift card to be drawn upon as needed. Today's reading suggests that the gift on offer is primarily relationship.

Jesus continues to prepare his disciples for his imminent departure, telling them he will not leave them 'orphaned' – we might say, 'abandoned' or 'bereft'. The operative word for me is *leave*. He is not saying that they won't experience the sense of abandonment, betrayal and confusion of his leaving – especially given the circumstances around his death – but that they won't stay there. He will return. So it is with us. We are not spared life's tragedies. Indeed Richard Rohr talks about the 'necessary' suffering and loss, absence and presence that are part of our redemptive story. But we don't need to stay there.

I find the tenses of the verbs in the opening verses interesting. Jesus initially says that he '*will* ask the Father to send the Holy Spirit' (v. 15), but then goes on to say that they already know him, 'because he abides in you and will be in you' (v. 17). Sometimes we don't recognise God's presence with us, and in us. Sometimes we need another to mirror that for us, to make it real for us, by recognising something in us – or maybe we recognise something in them. We do this for each other.

Sometimes we find it hard to believe that God loves us. Jesus says that we show we love him by keeping his commandments and that God loves that in us. Sometimes this is taken to mean that we earn God's love by our obedience. What if Jesus means that this *is just how things are*? If we are keeping his commandments, it means that we love him and he and the Father love us. God's love is not the consequence of our obedience. We don't earn it (many of the parables make that clear, particularly 'The Prodigal Son'). In fact, self-righteousness gets in the way of knowing we are loved for who we are. What if we are attracted to God, goodness, beauty and truth, because we are already loved by him, and his spirit is already within us?

Edwina Gateley gets to the heart of the matter in her poem, 'Let Your God Love You' (full text available on web). She says you only need to be still, alone, empty and 'Let your God look upon you/ That is all'. We can't make God (or anyone else for that matter) love us any more than we can make ourselves love God, but we can allow ourselves to be loved by God, respond and share what we receive. We might then find ourselves participating in that mystery of mutual indwelling and communion that he describes in these chapters (Jn. 14-17).

Frances Mackay



It really was a horror budget on the poor and now there is talk about imposing GST on fresh fruit and vegetables. The request to increase the GST on these items will come from the States so that they can

continue to provide the education and health services we demand. My concern, if the states are asking for the increases in the GST will the Commonwealth Government increase Social Security Pensions and Allowances to cover the increases to the family budget?

This week I saw a young family who are new to Canberra. The husband moved the family so he could accept a contract with a government department. Life was good, they rented a unit on a two year lease, met new people and started to enjoy the city we love so much. Then the axe fell, the program was no longer required, so our young family are in trouble. They have a lease but no income. They have used all their savings paying the rent and food. It was great to be able to help them with food and thankfully a little more, but I am really worried that this is going to be a story that I am going to hear more and more.

Then today we had a woman seeking help to feed her family of three teenage children. Her partner is in gaol so she is struggling financially, emotionally and physically. She told the Volunteer that her case worker had suggested she go to St John's Care for help, he actually more than suggested, he actually brought her to St John's Care and waited in the car whilst she came in for help. Our Volunteer offered lots of support and we were able to provide her with a couple of boxes of groceries.

At this stage the Support Worker, in his Salvation Army uniform came into SJC to help her carry the food out to the car. The Volunteer asked why she was brought to St John's Care. The answer was simple: she was out of food now, her kids were hungry and she needed immediate support. The first appointment she could get with the Salvation Army Relief Centre was in three days.

I know being a "Drop in Centre" is not the most efficient way to run a Relief Centre, but at least we can help people when they need it. I find it amazing what we can do: we get no ACT Government funding, we get \$20 000 from the Commonwealth Government (not secured for next year), we have some lovely friends like the Snow Foundation and the Victoria Shakespeare Trust and we have you.

Last year we saw more than three thousand clients. When we look at the families we fed, then we provided food for more than seven thousand people. The Anglicare Winter Pantry Appeal started on Thursday. If anyone could help with the collection at Gungahlin on the 5th and 6th of June could they please call Sarah on 6278 8413 or email her at volunteers@anglicare.com.au.

My Wish list: adult toothbrushes, pasta, pasta sauce and Longlife milk
Many thanks
Sue



PRAYER POINTS FOR THIS WEEK

IN THE WORLD

- ◆ We pray for the safety of the people of Thailand and Ukraine.
- ◆ We pray for the safe return of the missing school girls in Nigeria.
- ◆ We pray for the people displaced by the severe floods in Serbia and Bosnia.

IN AUSTRALIA

- ◆ We pray for those affected by the Federal Budget, for programs and organisations who have had their funding cut or reduced.

WORLD WIDE ANGLICAN CHURCH

- ◆ We pray for the Episcopal church in Columbia and the Churches in Ireland and Central America.
- ◆ We pray for the bishops, clergy and people of the Dioceses of Rockhampton, Riverina, Sydney and Tasmania.

IN OUR DIOCESE

- ◆ We pray for the clergy and people in the parishes of Tumut, Adelong, and South West Slopes Ministry District, and the parishes of Cooma, Southern Monaro, Berridale and Snowy Mountains.
- ◆ We pray for Jenni Roberts, Chaplain of the Cooma Correctional Centre and for the Snowy Mountains Christian School.

IN MISSION

- ◆ We pray for the work of Defence Anglicans and the Mothers Union.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ◆ We pray for Caitlin Lance and her work in Kolkata, India.
- ◆ We pray for the men of our parish and give thanks for the Men's Dinner on Friday night.
- ◆ We give thanks for our wonderfully rich program of activities in the parish and all who contribute to making these a success.
- ◆ We pray for the following members of our parish family: Deranie Jackson and Phoebe; Lynne James; Betty Jennings; Margie Johnson; Isabel Jokisch and Taisz.
- ◆ We pray for those in special need of prayer: Anne Ranse, Phil Perman, Elizabeth Sillano, Bruce Barnes and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS:

Monday: Augustine of Canterbury

Thursday: Ken Mugford

HOLY COVENANT PRAYER VINE

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

Phone Merri Bacon on 6251 1110 or
email merri.bacon@bigpond.com

IN THE PARISH

CAITLIN LANCE

Thank you Holy Covenant for your fantastic support of Caitlin last Sunday. Caitlin shared her work with us and inspired us all. \$1338.00 was raised through the retiring offering. Thank you also to those who supported Caitlin's fundraiser on Thursday night. Caitlin is a volunteer psychologist in Kolkata, India. She is aiming to raise \$25 000 p/a in financial support through her networks in Australia. This will cover her accommodation, flights, visas, living expenses and ongoing training. Caitlin is volunteering as a psychologist with people who are vulnerable and have experienced trauma. As we heard last Sunday she also has a role in advocacy in India and in Australia. If you would like to support Caitlin on an ongoing basis her bank account details are:

Account name: Caitlin Lance; Account number: 31017600; BSB: 923100

Please remember Caitlin in your prayers. She is stepping out in faith and our support means a lot to her.

From the HOLISTIC CARE NURSE

I continue to shake my head in amazement at the way God works in people's lives. I had a young man come to me, tears rolling down his cheeks which he endeavoured to wipe away with the hem of his jacket. It was heartbreaking to see his distress and when he managed to talk, he told me he was on a bridging visa and while he had a job as a cleaner, he couldn't make ends meet in caring for his wife and baby on such a low salary and he desperately needed a job with a better salary. He said his wife and baby have visa status but because he was still on a bridging visa he can only work the 40 hours a week and that on a low salary was not manageable. Further conversation with him revealed he had qualifications in aged care and that salary, he said, would be so much better. He had applied for a job in aged care but because of the bridging visa, while successful in the interview, he was not employed. 'Please,' was his plea, 'can you find me a job?' I said I would do my best and after he had left and in the next breath I found myself saying loud and clear to God, 'How am I going to do that?' I realised I could only do it with God's help so in prayer I went to the Aged Care facility in Page and pleaded his case, advocating his situation as best I could. I walked out of the facility 20 minutes later and the young man had his job. When I next saw him he could not get the big smile off his face and said he would like to bring his wife and baby to meet me. 'God bless you, God bless you' was all he could say as we exchanged good byes, for the moment. I say God bless Holy Covenant for the vision some years ago of the Nursing Ministry. In a broad holistic way we can and are changing many lives.

Anne Ranse, Holistic Care Nursing

IN THE PARISH

WINTER COLLECTION FOR ST JOHN'S CARE – SATURDAY 31 MAY



Our next collection of groceries for St John's Care will be held at Jamison Plaza on Saturday 31 May from 9 am to 1 pm, together with a cake stall to raise funds for Holy Covenant. This twice yearly event makes a very welcome contribution of food and groceries to St John's Care at a time when their need is greatest. It is also raises valuable funds and community awareness for us.

Volunteers are needed to provide shoppers with a list of products as they enter Coles and Aldi and to stock and operate our stall. If you can help with either or both of these activities, **please put your name on the sign-up sheet on the notice board.**



WINTER SOLSTICE DINNER FRIDAY 20 JUNE 7.00 PM ARRIVAL FOR A 7.30 PM START

Cost \$30 for a great dinner of Entrée, Main Course and Desserts. Activities will include a Silent Auction; and babysitting can be arranged in the Rainbow Centre if required.

Come and join a table of friends, or organise your own table of eight.

Contact Kathryn Body to secure a reservation on 0403 500 882 or kathryn.body@thinkplace.com.au

DEEP DIVE SEMINAR – RECOVERING THE PAULINE PARADOX SUNDAY 15 JUNE, 11.45AM

Please join us for our next Deep Dive seminar, led by Canadian biblical scholar, Rev. Dr Kieren Bryce Williams, on the life and theology of St Paul. Paul, it is often assumed by biblical scholars, was a highly educated theologian and public speaker who trumped his 'pagan' opponents, and voluntarily gave up his aristocratic life to be a slave of Christ. But what if Paul was mostly illiterate and unskilled in speaking, and had a socially and physically degraded life as he and his ancient contemporaries claimed? What have we lost theologically by making him into an image of success? What might we gain if we embrace his vulnerability?

Rev. Dr. Kieren Williams is a community minister in the United Church of Canada, having ministered in an economically challenged neighbourhood in west Toronto. She has a PhD in New Testament and has taught intro NT courses, courses on Paul, and NT Greek at Emmanuel College of University of Toronto. She is passionate about co-creating social transformation through community development approaches to ministry and biblical scholarship.

BELONGING AND CARING - VOLUNTEERING

Saturday week ago over 30 people attended a workshop on volunteering, held in the Worship Centre.

Sue Jordan of St John's Care gave the opening address, describing the vital place of volunteering in the work of the organization. The formal budget of St Johns Care is about \$140 000, but the monetary value of the work of the many committed volunteers is an additional \$240 000.

Volunteers participate in all the programs of St John's Care: the breakfast club at Ainslie School, marriage education courses, the Christmas present room, "patch a puzzle" and monthly community lunches.

The frontline program, Emergency Relief, has over 25 volunteers, with a number from Holy Covenant. It touches well over 3000 people in need each year.

Beth Heyde is a volunteer at St John's Care, but she has embraced an amazing range of volunteering activities over the years; at every level in the Anglican Church from Parish Council to General Synod Public Affairs Committee, school boards at Radford and the South Coast, Friends of Durras, guide at the Botanic Gardens and the list goes on.

Why do we do it? If we listen to Sue and Beth and others who spoke, we hear of the fulfilling relationships between volunteer and client, the passion that so often informs volunteering, the important place that encouragement and appreciation play, a feeling of a vocation of deep gladness and mutual life. All summed up in practical compassion, showing the love of God to others.

Most of us at Holy Covenant are volunteers in what we do here. This afternoon helped us to think about how we can "volunteer" more intensively and with ever increasing enjoyment. **There is a blue Belonging and Caring form on the table near the Font if you would like to look at the opportunities that are available.**

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON TUESDAY 20 MAY 2014

- Covenant Care @ Holy Covenant Volunteers won the "Community Care and Health Category" at the 2014 ACT Volunteer of the Year Awards.
- Total offertories has increased each month in 2014. March was a five Sunday month in 2013 and 2014, so April this year was an encouraging level.
- The HC photocopier / printer is soon to be updated.
- Another desktop computer, including current software, is soon to be purchased for the office.
- Work continues on getting approval to build a carport outside the garage facing Dexter Street. Thank you Harris for your persistence and endurance.
- Following Stewardship Sunday in June we will have a 12 months trial of themed giving with a different theme each month.
- Anyone who is interested in mentoring a member of the HC youth cohort please contact Katherine Grainger.
- Anyone who is interested in contributing to the August 'Trash 'n' Treasure' sale please contact Peter Sherman.

Covenant Care at Holy Covenant (CC@HC)

The 2014 ACT Volunteer of the Year Awards were held at the National Museum on Tuesday 13 May. It was a grand affair with drinks and nibbles to start and the Duntroon Band's Dixie Land Jazz Group limiting conversation to the breaks between sets, but the music was excellent. Then the 280 or so

volunteers were invited to proceed to the main hall of the museum for the award presentations. The major awards were presented by Major General the Honourable Michael Jeffery and the Guest Speaker was the Honourable Dr. Brendan Nelson.



CONGRATULATIONS

Several volunteers from CC@HC went along to the proceedings and were delighted to accept the Group Award for the Community Care and Health category which was awarded to "Covenant Care @ Holy Covenant Volunteers". We have 24 volunteers at the moment and two staff who work exceptionally hard to give our clients that "Day with a Difference". The Parish can be well proud of CC@HC.

WELL DONE AND WELL DESERVED – WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU



INTERPLAY IN ALICE SPRINGS 2014

From dinner Saturday 13 July until after breakfast Thursday 18 July. Staying at Campfire in the Heart. Led by Susanna.

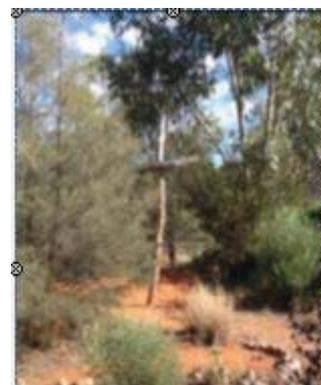
BODY AND SOUL RETREAT IN ALICE SPRINGS 6 - 11 JULY 2014

Awakening the senses to the Divine. Led by Susanna and Nikolai.

MORE DETAILS ON THE NOTICE BOARD AND SIGN-UP SHEETS ON THE BACK WALL. Registrations for the two events above close 22 June.

BELOVED OF GOD RETREAT 19-21 SEPTEMBER 2014

Led by Sue Dunbar at St Clement's Retreat and Conference Centre, Galong. Knowing we are deeply loved by God equips us for the journey into the desert. The underlying invitation of all that is offered during the Retreat, is that you may encounter God.



AND . . .

INFO FOR WEEKLY BULLETIN.

All emails with information for inclusion in the Weekly Bulletin must now go to:
weeklybulletin@holycovenant.org.au

Susanna has asked if we could please "wear red" for Pentecost (8 June).

DVD Player needed

If you have a reliable DVD player that you are no longer using and would like to donate it to youth and children's ministry please see Katherine Rainger ph: 0401 142 851 youth@holycovenant.org.au

ON THE NOTICE BOARD

- ◆ **Pilgrims of Hope - an Ecumenical Journey** book launch 3 June, ACC&C 5.30 - 7.00 pm.
- ◆ **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**, 13-15 June at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 02 4283 3435.
- ◆ **Suicide Prevention Workshop**, 5 June, The Diplomat Hotel, Griffith 10.00 am-2.30 pm 1800 100 024.
- ◆ **Disaster Recovery Training**, 14 June, 9.30 am-3.30 pm Junee 02 6278 8414.
- ◆ **The Crucible** today at 2.00 pm, Uniting Church, Rutledge Street, Queanbeyan

World Environment Day

Come on a visit to the ACT Government Recycling Centre at Hume



On World Environment Day (**Thursday 5 June 2014**) the Ecofootprint Group is organising a visit to the ACT Government Recycling Centre at Hume.

We will be arranging for a bus to leave Holy Covenant at 1.15 pm, arriving at Hume around 2.00 pm for an hour's information session and tour of the site (including going up to the very top of the hill of recyclable materials). We will return to Holy Covenant by 3.45 pm.

This is quite an impressive and spectacular outing, we understand, and provides lots of interesting information about what happens after we put out our yellow bins! Recycling is really important for reducing our ecological footprint and this is an opportunity to understand better what can be done, and is being done, here in the ACT.

The limit on numbers is about 25. If you are interested, please sign up for this event on the sheet at the back of the Worship Centre (in the usual place).

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Tuesday: **Zachary Browning**
 Wednesday: **Elijah Witchall**
 Saturday: **Sarah Trigge, Lou Daniels**



If you'd like your name in the Birthday Book, please tell the office.

MINISTRY TEAM

RECTOR	Revd Susanna Pain 6251 6100 or 0418 637 469	Email: rector@holycovenant.org.au Days off: Monday & Friday
SENIOR ASSOCIATE PRIEST	Revd Dr Sarah Bachelard 0401 009 156	Email: sarah.bachelard@gmail.com Days: Sunday, Wednesday
HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIESTS	Revd Nikolai Blaskow 0428 167 724	Email: nikolai@nikolaiblaskow.com
	Revd Sarah Gibson Revd Anne Dudzinski	Email: tshsb.gibson@gmail.com Email: annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au
HOLISTIC CARE NURSE	Ven Anne Ranse 0439 139 209	Email: nurse@holycovenant.org.au Days: TBA
HONORARY DEACON	Revd Susan Joy Nevile 0431 133 852	Email: susanjoyn@gmail.com
YOUTH AND CHILDREN WORKER	Katherine Rainger 0401 142 851	Email: youth@holycovenant.org.au
ADMINISTRATOR	Kathy Lake Office: 6251 6100	Email: office@holycovenant.org.au

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DETAILS FOR NEXT SUNDAY – 1 JUNE 2014

8.00 am	HOLY COMMUNION Celebrant: Revd Susanna Pain Preacher: Revd Nikolai Blaskow
10.00 am	HOLY COMMUNION Celebrant: Revd Susanna Pain Preacher: Revd Nikolai Blaskow

SENTENCE: 'Those who love me will keep my word,' Jesus promises, 'and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.'
 John 14: 23

READINGS:

Acts 17: 22-31
 Psalm 66: 7-19
 1 Peter 3: 8-22
 John 14: 15-21



**8 am HYMNS
 (Dudman)**

631 (153)
 599 (219 (i))
 182
 217 (i)

PRAYER

Generous God,
 so draw our hearts to you,
 so guide our minds,
 so fill our imaginations,
 that we may be wholly yours,
 utterly dedicated to you.
 Use us as you will,
 always to your glory and the welfare
 of your people. **Amen.**



	8.00 am	10.00 am
Sidespersons	Carol and Peter Sherman	Anne Dudzinski and Reg Holmes
Readers	Des Pain Tobias Nevile Anne Ranse	Tracey Matthews Reg Holmes Susan Joy Nevile
Intercessor	Bob Arthur	Merri Bacon
Organist	Kath Arthur	Pam Lane
Word and Prayer	Chris Lewis	Dylan Mordike
Deacon	Anne Ranse	Susan Joy
Cup	Chris Lewis, Anne Ranse	Dylan, Sally, Phyl, Susan Joy Extra bread: Susanna
Morning Tea	Margaret and David Meggs	Elizabeth Sillano, Theresa Jokisch
Children's Church		Karen Bisley, Russell Judd, Richard Browning, Mel Browning M. Tea: Murray-Judd