

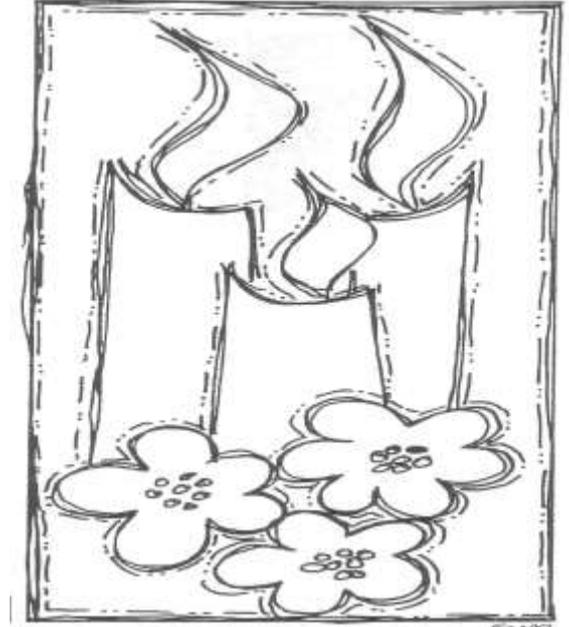
HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH JAMISON

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

Weekly Bulletin

11 December 2016

Third Sunday of Advent



We welcome you to our worship and fellowship today, and 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.



SERVICES TODAY

8:00 am HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: Revd Canon Margaret Campbell
Preacher: Revd Canon Margaret Campbell

10:00 am HOLY COMMUNION, Children's Church and Youth Group

Celebrant: Revd Canon Margaret Campbell
Preacher: Revd Canon Margaret Campbell



Please join us for morning tea after the Services

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Monday 12.12.16	10.00 am 10.00 am 1.30 pm	Worship Centre Kangara Waters Care Cntr Calvary Retirement Village	Covenant Care Communion Service Communion Service
Tuesday 13.12.16	12.30 pm	Worship Centre	Meditation
Wednesday 14.12.16	12 noon 2.00 pm 6.00 pm	Worship Centre Worship Centre Rainbow Centre	Holy Communion and BYO Lunch Ever Active Exercise Class (final) Meditation (final for year)
Thursday 15.12.16	9.30 am 1.00 pm	Rainbow Centre HCN Office	Scrabble (final for year) Wellness Clinic (final for year)
Friday 16.12.16	10.00 am	Worship Centre	Playgroup (final for year)
Saturday 17.12.16	8.30 am	Worship Centre and grounds	Working Bee (final for year)

The Holistic Care Nursing office is open from 10am to 2pm Monday and Thursday except public holidays. Closed from 17 Dec through January.

WEEK BEGINNING 18 December 2016

Monday 19.12.16	10.00 am	Worship Centre	Covenant Care (final for year)
Tuesday 20.12.16	12.30 pm	Worship Centre	Meditation (final for year)
Wednesday 21.12.16	12 noon 6.30 pm	Worship Centre Rainbow Centre	H Comm and BYO Lunch (final) Parish Council meeting
Thursday 22.12.16	10.30 am	Kangara Waters Care Cntr	Carols by HC singers

SAVE THE DATES

- #TODAY—Prayer Vine meeting @ 2pm
- #Sun 18 Dec—Farewell lunch for Revd Katherine
- #Thurs 22 Dec—Carols @ Kangara Waters
- #Sat 24 Dec—**Children's Christmas service @ 4.30pm**
- #Sat 24 Dec—Christmas Eucharist with carols @ 9pm
- #Sun 25 Dec—Contemporary Christmas celebration with Eucharist and carols @ 9am.
Activities for children.



IN THE PARISH

FROM OUR RECTOR ...

Dear friends,

I have now been at Holy Covenant for 40 days - a significant number in the bible! Thank you all for your warm welcome, and thank you for continuing to wear your name tags.

Every church has its favourite little bits, and I must say I am enjoying the raisin toast on Sunday mornings. ☺ One of my other favourites is the Wednesday noon Eucharist. It is held in the chapel and there are only a few who come, but that gives us a chance to know each other. Instead of a sermon we discuss the readings and we all contribute to the prayers - a truly shared worship experience.

If you have some time on Wednesday, please come and join us!

In the new year I will 'hang out' at Belconnen Mall once a month at Friday lunchtime, and also at the Southern Cross Club, Jamison at Friday afternoon tea time. I hope you will be able to join me for conversation and friendship. I will give more details of times and dates soon.

The youth service was great last Sunday evening - many thanks to all who helped, and for letting me be an honorary youth for the evening.

With God's blessings,
Margaret

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE ADVENT 3

In Isaiah 35.5-6, the prophet declares that when God comes among us

the deaf shall hear, the blind shall see
and the tongue of the speechless shall sing for joy.

We light this candle as a sign of our hope
that God's love in Christ brings healing to us
and to the whole world.

(light candle)

As we witness to the power of healing love
in ourselves and in others –

**Risen Christ,
light of the world,
shine in our lives and shine amongst us now.**

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

...and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary (The Apostles' Creed).

Last Sunday evening our youth leaders, Elle and Jerry, along with other members of the youth group organised and led a wonderful youth service. Hospitality and fellowship were shared with youth from other churches. Daniel, a university student from Queanbeyan Uniting Church, who is active in the local Faith Based Refugee Working Group challenged us to live out our faith in welcoming the stranger. Daniel also spoke about how much the refugees and asylum seekers whom he had spoken with valued being prayed for.

After Daniel spoke there was an opportunity to light a candle and pray, to walk the labyrinth, to listen to a refugee from Syria perform a rap on You Tube in the chapel, to make some Christmas craft and to write prayers and words of welcome in chalk on the ground. The service finished with a sacramental action of dipping a piece of apple in honey. Elle explained this was a Jewish tradition from the new year festival of Rosh Hashanah. The apple symbolised the year just been and the honey the year ahead.

New beginnings are longed for by so many. In our faith community Advent symbolises the expectation of God's new way being born amongst us. Each week in our bulletin we read about new beginnings forged from brave decisions and resilience by the clients and volunteers at St John's Care. For asylum seekers in detention and in our community, we long with them for the chance to begin a new life in safety and with hope.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, knew what it meant to welcome something new and unexpected. Rowan Williams in his book *Tokens of Trust*, which I've been reading this Advent, discusses aspects of the Nicene Creed and the Apostles Creed. Chapter 3 is called *A Man for All Seasons* and he concludes the chapter with a reflection on Mary.

"When the creed says that these two ways of looking at Jesus' birth, through the Spirit and through Mary, both need to be affirmed, it says that we can't think of the life of Jesus as just the result of what human history throws up, another episode in the world. God's action underpinning and animating the world must be particularly near the surface here. Yet it is also human history that opens the way." (p.75)

Mary is asked to take responsibility in a distinct way for God in the world. Her saying "yes", her consent and openness to God's inbreathing is unique but not in isolation. Williams sees Mary as our older sister who helps us to grow and discover things. Just as Mary made Jesus possible in that place, and at that time, her example inspires us to be God-bearers in our place, and at our time. We hear alongside her that, "Nothing is impossible for God" (Luke 1:37). Yes!

Revd Katherine Rainger



GPO Box 219
Canberra City ACT 2601
Ph: 02 6248 7771
director@stjohnscare.org.au
ABN: 40 172 941 355

A Great News Story!

Back in April this year, I had a woman called Sue (not her real name) come to see me. She was very anxious and highly distraught about having her children taken into care in Western Australia.

Sue's is a very complex story of a marriage breakdown, cultural conflict, misunderstandings and a long and quite bitter battle with the authorities in Western Australia in relation to her children. Ultimately, there was a Court order for her children to be taken in to care and to remain there until they were 18 years old. Both were under 10 at the time.

I listened to her story, read the Court orders and other documents and based on this information, took the view that, in my opinion, an injustice had been done to her and her children. We met on quite a few occasions, including a meeting with Legal Aid, a teleconference with the authorities in WA and a supervised telephone call with each of her children.

The acrimonious relationship that had developed between Sue and the WA department and the fact that we were dealing across geographical jurisdictions, made the matter even more complex. We continued to provide support, emergency relief assistance and letters of support over some months. For long periods, it appeared that although Sue had sought the assistance of a very wide range of organisations and individuals, there was no movement towards any change.

Then just last month the WA department made contact saying that they wanted to come to the ACT to assess Sue's current ability to care for her children. We met in Wild Honey with Sue, some of her family, another local agency and the WA officers.

As a direct result of the support that Sue was being provided by St John's Care and others, the decision was made to recommend the return of her children to her care.

Last Friday Sue came into the office with a big smile on her face and advised that her children were booked on the plane to come to Canberra on Friday. I got the biggest hug ever! I even got an invitation to attend the "welcome home" party.

This was one of the most complex and long standing cases that I have been involved with in my time in Canberra and I am just so glad that Sue has an opportunity for a new beginning with her children. I look forward to meeting them and providing whatever ongoing support they may need.

Wish list: long life milk, cereal, peanut butter. We could also do with some more presents for our present room.

Stuart Davis Meehan, Director

All Donations to St John's Care are Tax Deductible



The Resources Team are having their **Christmas working bee** **Saturday 17 December.**

8.30 am - 12 noon.

A particular focus will be cleaning windows and getting the church and grounds ready for Christmas.

If you have been meaning to come all year, this is the one to attend. Delicious morning tea will be served.

ALL welcome!



ST. JOHN'S CARE CHRISTMAS GIFT BOX LAST CHANCE TODAY

is on the left hand side of the church near the choir, awaiting your contributions. Please no fluffy toys and don't forget the Mums and Dads. We need to deliver the box to SJC by **TOMORROW.**



Did you witness a car accident last Sunday?

Grey Honda Jazz was side swiped in Dexter Street by a car presumably driving to/from Cross Street last Sunday between 10.30am and 8pm.

If you can help with information Libby has the owners' contact details.

A GIFT FOR KATHERINE

Farewell to Katherine Luncheon & Presentation Sunday 18 December

Please bring a plate to share.

The parish will be giving Katherine a farewell gift. If you would like to contribute to this please place your offering in an envelope marked "Katherine's Gift" and place in the offertory plate or leave at the office or make an online transfer.

Christmas Gift tags available for sale

Located on book shelf and in Rainbow Centre.

10c each or 6 for 50cents.

NURSING HOME CAROLS ARE BACK

Have you missed helping at the Aranda Carols? or never done it?

I need some singers and musicians for Kangara Waters on **Thursday Dec 22** to help lead the singing. It starts at 10:30 am but come much earlier to park .

[Ask me where we sing and park the week before, but I'd love to know that you would come well before that]



Anne Dudzinski

Children's Christmas Service



The Children's Christmas service at 4:30pm on Christmas Eve is a wonderful celebration enjoyed by young and old. A great chance to invite neighbours, friends and family members.

All children will be invited to participate during the service and there are also some speaking parts for those who know that they'll be there. If you would like to help lead the service please see Katherine (children@holycovenant.org.au). We will be preparing during Children's Church **TODAY**. We will also practice during and after the 10am service on the 18th of December. It would be helpful if cast members could plan to arrive at 3:30pm on Christmas Eve.

Advent Blessings,
Revd Katherine

Thank You Holy Covenant

Thanks to all of you for being so supportive and prayerful before, during and after my ordination last week. I'm very grateful to serve God alongside you all. In mid-January I'm going to Gladstone's Library in North Wales to work on my PhD. Gladstone's Library is a hub for film and theology which is my focus area. I'll also be visiting other universities and speaking with people about the work that they are doing and will have the opportunity to share some of my work. In May when I return, I'm going to be visiting the Northern Territory where two of the films I'm looking at *Ten Canoes* and *Charlie's Country* were set (the third film that I'm looking at is *The Tracker*). I'm making arrangements to stay in the community of Ramingining where *Ten Canoes* was filmed and developed. It is a very exciting time and I'm hoping to make some very good in-roads with my study. I'll then return to Canberra for the final 18 months of my PhD.

Revd Katherine Rainger

On the noticeboard: A note from **Trish Barnes** giving thanks for your prayers and support during her mother's illness and subsequent death.



EARLY REMINDER TO STAFF AND MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

We would like to have your Annual Reports for 2016 by **Thursday 26 January 2017** so they can be made available to parishioners before the **AGM**.

Brilliant Youth Service -

last Sunday. Well done to Elle and Jerry for leading a service that included good music, a passionate speaker, fun activities and a great supper. We can be proud of our youth leaders and their charges.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Today: *Maxine Rose, Anna Thorpe*



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

IN THE PARISH

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS ... Parish Council 2017:

Wardens:

Nicholas Platt
Carol Kubanek
Kathryn Body (Rector's Warden)

Council:

Ken Wedgwood
Johann Sheehan
Tobias Neville
Gareth James
Wendy Elkhuisen
Vera De Vere



Congratulation and thank you for offering to commit to the Parish.
For new members, these roles take effect in February at the AGM.
Rector's appointments for 3 parish councillors will be made by the AGM.



Rainbow Fellowship and JAFFA (Jesus A Friend For All) from St James in Holt combined last Sunday to end their year with a Christmas luncheon, carols and a play of the Christmas story. Everyone had a wonderful time. Rainbow Fellowship will resume again in February 2017.

Thank You

Penny Lilley and team for hosting the Christmas Community lunch.

Frances MacKay for a thoughtful, rich and reflective Advent Quiet afternoon last Sunday. What a blessing!

Helen and Harris Boulton and all the volunteers at the St John's Care collection last Saturday and delivery earlier this week. (23 trolley loads & more than \$94 donations)



CUPPA AND CONVERSATION

At a loose end in January? We will be having morning tea again next year. Please come and join us.

When: 10am every Wednesday in January.

Where: In the Worship Centre

WANTED

BLACK PLASTIC PLANT POTS

Anne Ranse needs 6-8" diameter (150-200mm) black plastic pots. No more than 25 required asap. Please leave outside HCN office.



Season's Greetings

Dear Friends and supporters of the ACC&C,

It gives me great joy to offer you blessings and peace in this season of Advent as we look towards the coming of the light and wisdom celebrated at Christmas.

2016 has been an eventful and exciting year for the Centre. We have had two art exhibitions; our Asylum Seeker art exhibition in February was followed in November by a *Seasons of Birth* exhibition.

The inaugural winner of the Centre's Religious Short Film Prize was celebrated in August. The Centre has hosted numerous consultations and scholar's forums in ecumenics, climate change and foreign aid; as well as many wonderful addresses sponsored by Christians for an Ethical Society with whom we work closely.

The Christian Muslim National Dialogue continued in 2016 as an expression of the Centre's commitment to inter-religious dialogue and witness. The Centre continues to be an excellent place for creative liturgical events and retreats offering spiritual sustenance for a hungry world.

The rains in Canberra in 2016 have made the 6 hectares of the Centre quite a picture especially the Bible Garden. To celebrate this wonderful garden the Centre has produced a Bible Garden Booklet for which we are extremely grateful to the author, Mr John Miller. The Centre has also produced a substantial booklet that gives an introduction to the vision, history and programs of the Centre. This is a complement to another resource that introduces visitors to spiritual pilgrimage at the Centre. In this respect in 2016 the Centre has hosted visits from hundreds of school children who have explored the secrets of the place. The Board of the Centre and the newly formed Friends of the Centre have worked hard to promote the unique vision of the Centre to reconnect issues of faith and culture in challenging and transitional times. This requires a fresh wisdom for the common good and that is what the Centre is about. It is indeed a remarkable gift that at the heart of the nation's capital the Centre occupies a place that faces the churches, the academy and the public space and draws these three areas of life together in creative dialogue.

We are excited about what has been achieved and look forward to 2017. We are grateful for your continued interest, support and prayer. The e-bulletin that follows highlights some of the events and achievements for 2016 and flags some important events for 2017. Thank you all your support. Can I urge you to tell your friends and neighbours near and far about the work of the Centre so that they too might become a friend (by registering via the website: acc-c.org.au).

Grace and peace

Stephen

Right Reverend Professor Stephen Pickard

PRAYER POINTS FOR THIS WEEK

IN THE WORLD

- ♦ All who work for the good of refugees and displaced persons might share the joy of everyone they help along the way to a new life of peace and security.

IN AUSTRALIA .

- ♦ All students, teachers, school administrators and child care centre carers as their year draws to a close.

WORLD WIDE ANGLICAN CHURCH

- ♦ Diocese of Gippsland.
- ♦ The Anglican Schools Commission.

IN OUR DIOCESE

- ♦ Diocese of Gungahlin, St Simon's, Kaleen-Giralang-Lawson , St Paul's, Ginninderra and St Barnabas', Charnwood.
- ♦ Burgmann Anglican School, Gungahlin.
- ♦ The work of Christian education in all schools, and for the continuing development of accessible schools in the Diocese.



MISSION

- ♦ The work of TEAR Australia in Kenya and Nepal.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ♦ During the silly season, we pray for patience and safety as people travel long and short distances.
- ♦ Our parish family: Gareth, Jo, Elanor, Isobel and Hannah James; Betty Jennings; Isabel and Taisz Jokisch; and Russell Judd, Jayne Murray, Aidan and Emma.
- ♦ We pray for those in special need of prayer: Bev Barnes and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS:

Monday: Gunaseeli Lamech (died 1985)

Tuesday: Lucy, martyr and virgin (died 304)

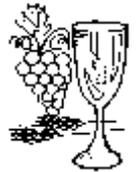
Wednesday: John of the Cross, mystic and teacher (died 1591)

PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR	Libby Warren Office: 6251 6100	E: office@holycovenant.org.au
PARISH OFFICE Open 10 am - 2 pm Tuesday to Thursday	89 Dexter Street, Cook, ACT 2614 PO Box 98, Jamison, ACT 2614 Tel: 6251 6100	E: office@holycovenant.org.au Web: http://holycovenant.org.au
WARDENS	Kathryn Body 0403 500 882 Merri Bacon 6251 1110 Nick Platt 6251 6170	
PRAYER VINE	Merri Bacon 6251 1110	E: prayervine@holycovenant.org.au
BULLETIN EDITORS	Wendy Elkhuisen, Phyl Holmes	E: weeklybulletin@holycovenant.org.au

DETAILS FOR NEXT SUNDAY - 18 December – 4th Sunday of Advent

8.00 am	HOLY COMMUNION	Celebrant: Canon Margaret Campbell Preacher: Canon Margaret Campbell
10.00 am	HOLY COMMUNION and Children's Church	Celebrant: Canon Margaret Campbell Preacher: Canon Margaret Campbell



	8.00 am	10.00 am
Sidespersons	Mandy Squair, Hilary Harris	Helen and Harris Boulton
Readers	Kath Arthur Hilary Harris Anne Ranse	Jayne Murray Frances MacKay Simon De Vere
Intercessor	Bob Arthur	Joh Sheehan
Organist	Kath Arthur	TBA
Word & Prayer	Steve Daniels	James Ellis
Deacon	Anne Ranse	Anne Ranse
Cup	Steve Daniels Anne Ranse	James Ellis, Tobias Nevile, Vera De Vere, Leo Wimmer Extra Bread: Katherine Rainger
Morning Tea	Mandy Squair, Pam Lane	Judith Ann Daniells, Merri Bacon
Children's Church		Christmas Eve rehearsals— Katherine Rainger
Counters	Clive Rodger, Peter Sherman	Harris Boulton, Simon De Vere
Flowers	Mary Lynn Mather	
Cleaning	George Gerrity, Merri Bacon	

MINISTRY TEAM

RECTOR	Revd Canon Margaret Campbell 0417 423 472	E: rector@holycovenant.org.au Day off: Monday HC Office: 9.30am-4.30pm (T,W,Th)
PASTORAL CARE CO-ORDINATOR	Revd Anne Dudzinski 0413 994 739	E: pastoralcare@holycovenant.org.au
HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST	Revd Connie Gerrity 0429 423 725	E: connie@gerrity.id.au
HOLISTIC CARE NURSE	Archdeacon Anne Ranse 0406 379 599 (new phone no.)	E: nurse@holycovenant.org.au Days: Mon & Thurs (10am - 2pm)
HONORARY DEACON	Revd Susan Joy Nevile 0431 133 852	E: susanjoyn@gmail.com
CHILDREN'S WORKER	Revd Katherine Rainger 0401 142 851	E: children@holycovenant.org.au
YOUTH LEADERS	Elle Platt 0434 960 967 Jeremy Platt 0466 661 860	E: youth@holycovenant.org.au

SENTENCE: Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.'

Isaiah 35:3-4

READINGS:

Isaiah 35: 1-10
 Psalm 146
 James 5: 7-10
 Matthew 11: 2-11



8 am HYMNS

289 (v1, 2, 3)
 274
 285 (87)
 282

PRAYER

Holy God, your prophets have long spoken of the one who would come to save us. Now the promise is fulfilled; now our kingdom has come near. Send us as messengers of your way, to go and tell the world of the wonders we have seen and the good news we have heard; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A



	8.00am	10.00 am
Sidespersons	Libby Warren and Tony Willis	Dorothy and Neville Hurst
Readers	Rosemary Kennemore Tony Willis Anne Ranse	Dorothy Hurst Doreen Matters Anne Ranse
Intercessor	Merrie Hepworth	Joan Williams
Organist	Mandy Squair	Pam Lane
Word & Prayer	Rhonda Thorpe	Joh Sheehan
Deacon	Anne Ranse	Anne Ranse
Cup	Rhonda Thorpe Rosemary Kennemore	Anne Ranse, Doreen Matters, Rob Maron, Phyl Holmes Extra Bread: Anne Dudzinski
Morning Tea	Mary Lynn Mather & Jocelyn Kirkland	Danni Ellis & Carol Kubanek
Children's Church		Mary, Jenny L, Katherine Morning tea: Deranie Jackson
Counters	Jenny Baines, Tony Willis	Quentin Grafton, Rob Maron