



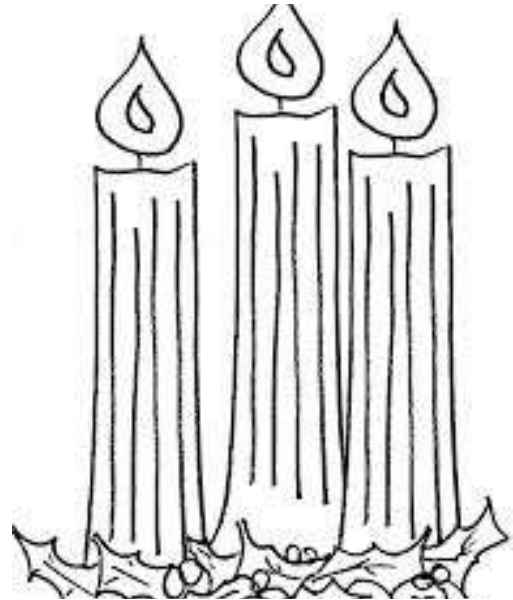
HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH JAMISON

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

WEEKLY BULLETIN

17 December 2017

**Third Sunday
in Advent**



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: Revd Anne Dudzinski
Preacher: Archdeacon Revd Anne Ranse

10.00 am HOLY COMMUNION
Celebrant: Revd Anne Dudzinski
Preacher: Archdeacon Revd Anne Ranse

4 pm BLUE CHRISTMAS

SOMETHING IMPORTANT IN THE PARISH

IN THE PARISH on Sunday 24th December - Christmas Eve

- 8.00 am HOLY COMMUNION**
Celebrant and Preacher: The Revd Katherine Rainger
- 10.00 am HOLY COMMUNION**
Celebrant and Preacher: The Revd Katherine Rainger
- 4.00 pm CHILDREN'S SERVICE**
- 11.00pm HOLY COMMUNION**
Celebrant and Preacher: The Ven Dr Wayne Brighton

IN THE PARISH on Christmas Day

- 8.00 am CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS with Communion and Carols**
Celebrant and Preacher: The Ven Dr Wayne Brighton
- 10.00 am CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS with Communion and Carols**
Celebrant: and Preacher: The Ven Dr Wayne Brighton

Prayer for choosing an incumbent

Bountiful God,
give to this parish a faithful pastor
who will faithfully speak your word
and minister your sacraments;
an encourager who will equip your people for ministry
and enable us to fulfil our calling.
Give to those who will choose, wisdom, discernment and patience,
and to us give warm and generous hearts,
for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

(A Prayer Book for Australia page 212, No. 36)

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

As we light the candle of joy,
we remember the stories
of God's loyalty to all creation.
We give thanks for messengers –
the apostles, prophets, artists, sages, faithful ones –
present in every age,
who bring us the good news of God's restoring love;
and we shout with joy,
trusting that God
is with us and before us,
and that joy will be born anew in us.



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Advent 3 John 1: 6-8, 19-28. A voice crying in the wilderness.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light ... (Jn 1: 5-7a)

In today's reading we hear how John's activities have come to the attention of the religious authorities in Jerusalem who then send messengers to check out who he is. He responds first by telling them who he is not. I am not the Messiah, nor am I Elijah, he tells them. When pressed, he says, rather enigmatically, 'I am a voice crying out in the wilderness. "Make straight the way of the Lord"'.

A voice crying out in the wilderness is an evocative image, suggesting a lonely, or at least solitary figure, proclaiming a message that no one wants to hear, because it is an 'inconvenient truth', as Sarah Bachelard reminded us at Benedictus last week. Yet despite his strange appearance and a less than conciliatory message of repentance, people flocked to hear the Baptist's confronting message and to be baptised by him.

John knew his place in the story. In response to the messengers' questions, 'Who are you? What do you have to say about yourself?' he answers (and I paraphrase), 'I am not the one you are looking for. I'm not the main act. My job is just to pave the way – to point him out when he comes.' He *knew* what Richard Rohr often enjoins his readers to remember: 'This isn't about you.' I concluded last week's reflection by asking if we dared, like John the Baptist, to believe we had a place in God's redemptive story. John learned the song that was his to sing, the work that was his to do, in the wilderness – the archetypal place of formation and calling in the scriptures.

What is our role? Today's reading challenges us with the same question John was asked: Who do we say we are? What do we have to say about ourselves? As individuals and as a community? For John, the answer is simple: 'I am a voice crying in the wilderness'. How might we answer? Perhaps we too find ourselves in the wilderness. With declining church attendance and in an increasingly secularised society, as people of faith we might find ourselves marginalised in our social, even family groups.

How then might we tend and share the light that has been given us at this time and in this place?

Frances MacKay

TODAY

BLUE CHRISTMAS Service Today 4 - 5 pm

The joy of Christmas can be hard to celebrate when much loved people are missing in our lives. This reflective prayer service creates space for us to find some peace and comfort in a busy season. It provides a time for us to remember those we have lost through bereavement, illness or estrangement and find strength for a new day.

25 YEARS A PRIEST!

The **Revd Anne Dudzinski** was one of eleven women ordained as priests 25 years ago on 20 December. Standing alongside her in St Saviour's Cathedral were Elaine Gifford, Ruth Dudley, Daphne May, Margaret Streatfield, Gillian Varcoe, Vicky Cullen, Gail Tabor, Pamela Phillips, Ann Dittmar-McCollim and Julie Kelley (dec). Chris Littlejohns, Kevin Stone and Haydn Swinbourn were also ordained on that wonderful day. It was a great and major milestone in the long struggle to have church leadership open to all of God's people. We are so thankful to God for these leaders whose gifts have enriched our communities, parishes and diocese immeasurably!

50TH Birthday Celebrations 2018

Please express your preferences about the ideas for our 50th birthday celebrations next year. The posters will remain up until noon on **TODAY**.

Comments can also be emailed to Jennifer Collier,
jennifer.collier@optusnet.com.au

Need help in the garden?

Nic Mather has worked on organic farms and has permaculture knowledge as well as skills acquired in nine years of doing assorted gardening jobs. Contact Nic on 6253 4191

Wilddreamwonder@gmail.com

LOST PROPERTY

The following items will be removed from the Lost Property basket and into the Anglicare Bin next week—if any are yours, please claim.

1 grey hoodie; 2 black fleecie tops;
1 apron, 2 umbrellas and 6 water bottles.

COFFEE MACHINE

Does anyone know who owns the Lavazza coffee machine in the kitchen?

ALSO, there is a plastic slice container that needs to be claimed.

IN THE PARISH

HOLISITC CARE NURSING MINISTRIES - Help Urgently Needed!

We are looking for someone who can assist one of our clients with their shopping during the week of 17 December and then once a week from the week commencing 7 January for four weeks. The wonderful volunteer who has been doing this is going away and so we urgently need someone to help.



The client can get the flexi-bus from her home to Jamison Shops but she has mobility issues and can't manage to walk around the shops without wheelchair assistance.

This involves the volunteer collecting a wheelchair from Holy Covenant and walking it across to Jamison shops to meet the flexi-bus. She may need to be pushed around to any or all of the following; the bank, the newsagents, the chemist, Aldi and Coles. The client then gets the flexi-bus home.

If there is time and the volunteer is willing, a coffee stop and a chat is always much appreciated.

If you can help with all or any of these weeks or need more information please contact Cathy Winters on 0418450520.

THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS

WARDENS

Paul Shelley
Joh Sheehan

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Ken Wedgwood
Tobias Neville
Mark Webb
Elle Platt
Jen Collier
Sandra Ross
Vera de Vere (rector's appointment)

MORNING TEA ROSTER

Enjoy your coffee/tea after Church?
How about helping to make that happen. The sign-up sheet for December is on the Roster board and there are quite a few vacancies.

Reports for February's AGM

from Ministry Team Leaders
need to be in the parish office
the 30th January.

TEAR Australia Useful Gift Shop www.usefulgifts.org

Choose a gift. Send a card, Fight poverty!

Today is the last day to buy from the **Useful Gift Shop** which will be open after the 8am and 10am services.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Yesterday: Will Allison
Monday: Bev Barnes, Rod Menzies, Phoebe Jackson
Saturday: Ian Sykes





The Right Reverend Stuart Robinson
Diocesan Bishop

LEVEL 4
221 LONDON CIRCUIT
CANBERRA CITY, ACT

Please address all correspondence to:

GPO BOX 1981
CANBERRA, ACT 2601

T +61 2 6232 3612
F +61 2 6245 7199
E stuart.robinson@anglicancg.org.au

www.anglicancg.org.au

Pastoral letter – to be read out in Services on Sunday

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Appointment to the See: Diocese of Bendigo

I am writing to share the news that our colleague and friend, **The Right Reverend Dr. Matthew Brain**, has been elected as the **10th Bishop of Bendigo**.

As you know, +Matt has been in this Diocese since 2010 when he came from North West Australia to lead Synergy Youth and Children and to teach at St Mark's National Theological Centre. Since then, +Matt has served with aplomb in a variety of roles, most recently as an Assistant Bishop responsible for Ministry Training and Development. We do wish +Matt, Rachael and their children, every blessing as they transition to this significant new responsibility at the beginning of 2018.

I realise this is the second piece of surprising Episcopal news you have received in the past week and no doubt there will be mixed emotions as you process the prospect of both our departures in the New Year. I want to assure you that God sovereignly works all things for the ultimate good of His people, and I am therefore convinced he will attend to all the future needs of this great Diocese. In particular, God has provided and will continue to provide the people we need in this considerable time of transition in diocesan life. Your prayer for our Vicar-General, Bishop Trevor, are much valued.

Please also pray for +Matt and his family as they now prepare to move and take up this new ministry.

Warmly,

The Right Reverend Stuart Robinson // Bishop of Canberra & Goulburn
8 December 2017

MINISTRY TEAM

LOCUM	The Ven. Dr Wayne Brighton 0407 408 333	E locum@holycovenant.org.au
HONORARY PRIEST	Revd Anne Dudzinski 0413 994 739; 6278 6087	E: annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au
HONORARY PRIEST	Revd Connie Gerrity 0429 423 725	E: connie@gerrity.id.au
HOLISTIC CARE NURSE	Archdeacon Anne Ranse 0406 379 599	E: nurse@holycovenant.org.au Day off: Tuesday
HONORARY DEACON	Revd Susan Joy Nevile 0431 133 852	E: susanjoyn@gmail.com
CHILDREN'S WORKER	Elle Platt 0434 960 967	E: children@holycovenant.org.au
YOUTH LEADERS	Elle Platt 0434 960 967 Jerry Platt 0466 661 860	E: youth@holycovenant.org.au

PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH OFFICE Open 10 am - 2 pm Tuesday to Thursday	Libby Warren (Administrator) 89 Dexter Street, Cook, ACT 2614 Tel: 6251 6100	E: office@holycovenant.org.au Web Page: http://holycovenant.org.au PO Box 98, Jamison, ACT 2614
WARDENS	Kathryn Body 0403 500 882 Nic Platt 6251 6170	Carol Kubanek 0405 319 556
PRAYER VINE		E: prayervine@holycovenant.org.au
WB EDITOR	Phyl Holmes 6251 2007	E: weeklybulletin@holycovenant.org.au

PRAYER POINTS FOR THIS WEEK

IN THE WORLD

- ◆ .Pray for political prisoners enduring North Korean concentration camps

IN AUSTRALIA

- ◆ .As temperatures rise, we pray for moderate rain.

IN THE CHURCH

- ◆ Diocese of North Queensland
- ◆ Queanbeyan and District Anglican Church
- ◆ Community of Celebration and Mary's Place
- ◆ Alexander Maconochie Correctional Centre
- ◆ The Anglican School Googong
- ◆ Pray for: Work amongst needy, unemployed and homeless people of all ages.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ◆ We pray for our Clergy Appointment Board - Bob Arthur, Kathryn Body and Jayne Murray as they work to find our next Rector.
- ◆ Our parish family including Beth Heyde, Andrew Hill, Reg and Phyl Holmes, Jey Hoole, Evelyn David-Hoole and Hannah, Mary, Sarah and Elizabeth, and Nilantha Hulugalle.
- ◆ Those in special need of prayer including Bev Barnes, Susan Joy Nevile, Ross Mitchell, Dianne and Phil Spurway, Peter Sherman, Dorothy Parsonage, Mandy Squair and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

- **Saturday:** Robert Noel Cooper (d.1996)

SENTENCE

Bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, the day of vengeance of our God. Isaiah 61.1-2

READINGS:

Isaiah 61; 1-4, 8-11

Psalm 126

1 Thessalonians 5: 12-28

John 1: 6-8, 19-28



8 am HYMNS

(Matthias)

265

284

416

282

PRAYER

Eternal God,
 you sent John the Baptist
 to prepare the way for the coming of your Son:
 grant us wisdom to see your purpose
 and openness to hear your will,
 that we too may prepare the way for Christ
 who is coming in power and glory
 to establish his rule of peace and justice;
 through Jesus Christ our Judge and our
 Redeemer,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
 Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**



	8.00 am	10.00 am
Sidespersons	Hilary Harris, Tony Willis	Prue and Ken Wedgwood
Readers	Jennifer Collier Tony Willis Anne Ranse	Frances Mackay Andrew Hill Anne Ranse
Intercessor	Paul Shelley	Connie Gerrity
Organist	Kath Arthur	Ruth Dunnicliff-Hagan
Word and Prayer	Luc Rose	Tobias Nevile
Deacon	Anne Ranse	Anne Ranse
Cup	Luc Rose, Anne Ranse	Anne Ranse, George Gerrity Tobias Nevile, Doreen Matters Extra bread: Connie Gerrity
Morning Tea		Elizabeth St George, Dorothy Hurst
Counters	Colin Lyons, Jen Collier	Neville Hurst, Nilantha Hulugalle
Saturday Dec 23	Cleaning: Trigge Family	Flowers: Kath Arthur