

**COLLECT FOR THE SEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY**

God of compassion,
keep before us the love you have revealed in your Son,
who prayed even for his enemies.
In our words and deeds help us to be like him,
through whom we pray,
Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

HYMNS 8 AM

414 (291 ii)
625 (313)
382
393

READINGS

Genesis 45: 3-11, 15
Psalm 37: 1-11, 40-41
1 Corinthians 15: 35-50
Luke 6: 27-38

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ◆ We pray for the world, for peoples of every land, for leaders of tribes and nations, and members of governments, and for all who administer the law.
- ◆ We pray for countries divided still by ancient conflicts, for victims of racial and tribal hatreds.

IN AUSTRALIA

- ◆ We pray for the hungry and the unemployed.
- ◆ We pray for all in need of companionship, care, comfort and support.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ◆ Diocese of The Murray
- ◆ Tumut
- ◆ Adelong
- ◆ Tarcutta
- ◆ South-West Slopes Ministry District (the Parishes of Batlow and Tumbarumba)
- ◆ Mannus Correctional Centre
- ◆ Ministry to prisoners and prison officers; Kairos ministry.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ◆ We pray for this community, for those with whom we live, work, learn and play.
- ◆ We pray for those who find their past painful, the present filled with fear and the future without hope.
- ◆ We pray for all members of our parish family including Coral Powell, Marjorie Pratt, Katherine Rainger, Anne Ranse, Clive Rodger and Luc and Sylvie Rose.
- ◆ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Dorothy Parsonage, Elizabeth Grant, Quentin Grafton, Roger Hallows, Jade, Will, Oriana and baby Jasper, Betty Jennings and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS:

Monday: Clifford Jack Daniels (d. 2005)
Tuesday: Betty Joan Cooper (d. 2008)

* **BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK** *
* **Sunday:** Christine Mitchell *
* **Wednesday:** Rika Kobayashi *
* **Friday:** Ursula Conan-Davies *

A PLACE FOR EVERYONE Our parish is working through what God’s vision, mission and plan means for us. Holy Covenant is a place for everyone – a place where everyone is welcomed to God’s table – regardless of their age, health or wealth. It’s a place where everyone who has a past also has a future. It’s a place where we are all learning from God, without all the usual barriers concerning gender, orientation or outlook.

It’s a place where we are all learning about resurrection. We have an opportunity to grow as people who see, speak and bring God’s kingdom into this world a little bit each and every day. By learning from Jesus, he can become the Lord of people who can call life out of death, light out of darkness, hope out of despair.

Our vision is to be a place for everyone and an oasis that brings love, hope and faith to all who are looking, hungering and thirsting for this kind of life. That means you have a place in God’s plan too. So let us be about God’s business of healing and restoring life where ever it is needed and make resurrection a reality. **WAYNE**

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Children’s Worker
Pauline Lovitt
0419 406 011; children@holycovenant.org.au

Youth Leader
Jerry Platt
0466 661 860; youth@holycovenant.org.au

People’s Wardens
Paul Shelley 6251 1568
Joh Sheehan 6251 7151

Resources
Phil Trigge
6257 7220; pjtrigge@hotmail.net.au

Prayer Vine
Rosemary Kennemore
6251 2009; rkmor@grapevine.com.au

Belonging and Caring
Joh Sheehan
6251 7151; jeshsheehan@comcen.com.au

Holistic Care and Covenant Care
Rhonda Thorpe
6259 8753; nurse@holycovenant.org.au

**DIRECTOR AND CHAPLAIN
HOLISTIC CARE NURSING MINISTRY**
Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM
0406 379 599; anne.ranse@gmail.com

HONORARY PRIESTS
Reverend Anne Dudzinski
0413 994 739; annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au

Reverend Connie Gerrity
0429 423 725; connie@gerrity.id.au

**HOLY COVENANT
ANGLICAN CHURCH**

a place for everyone



**SUNDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2019
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

‘CONTROL THE STORY, CONTROL THE POWER’

TODAY IN THE PARISH

8 am Holy Communion
10 am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton
5.00 pm Soul Food Conversation

SUNDAY 3 MARCH 2019

8 am Holy Communion
10 am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton
3.30 pm Rainbow Fellowship
5.00 pm Soul Food Conversation

SUNDAY 10 MARCH 2019

8 am Holy Communion
10 am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton
4.30 pm Soul Food Conversation

FAMILY BARBECUE LUNCH

Today After 10 am service
A sausage sizzle, and some games for children, youth and the young at heart.

Bank Details for Direct Debit are:

Bank: Commonwealth Bank
Branch: Jamison Centre, ACT
BSB: 062 907
A/C No: 802 588
Name: Holy Covenant Anglican Church

What is the story around the medical evacuation bill? Is it about responsibility to sick people or weakening border protection? Or something else?

People who have done no wrong and are not convicted of any crime are being made dangerously ill by their enforced restriction on a foreign island. We all know that boats and Nauru is a political story. Why assert that doctors are naturally compassionate and might collude with each other to release detainees? What is to be gained by telling the story this way?

Another way of telling that same story is diagnosis. Could it be possible that medical practitioners who are trained to assess presenting symptoms come to share a diagnosis? Doctors agreeing would not be collusion but science. Sadly, compassion has become contested because of the way it challenges our stories.

Compassion is one of God’s names. And Jesus is God’s full-bodied compassionate presence.

His presence is radical love engaging the living, historical, political moment. The following words of Jesus give this ‘vision’ its strategy: “love your enemy; do not judge or condemn; give; bless when cursed; forgive and you will be forgiven”.

By aligning ourselves into Jesus the Way, compassion increasingly becomes our way in the world. This way challenges the dominant story and questions the dominant power. This way refuses silly ‘either/or’ dichotomies and neuters ‘us and them’ conflicts. This way finds a way together, across differences, objections, fear and resistance. This is called dialogue, reconciliation, peace-making, justice. In this community, it is also called resurrection.

We do not need to be anxious about the story. We need only be faithful to the story, and live this story and the power that flows from it – resurrection – flows through us. We become the living verbs of Jesus and instruments of God’s blessing in the world.

Fr Richard

FROM THE FEBRUARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Your parish councillors give thanks for:

- Two new members joining the council – Bec Marston and Rob Maron. Profiles of Bec and Rob will appear in the bulletin during March;
- The report from our financial team confirming that our Parish has finished the year in a healthy financial position, including paying off all of our interest-bearing loan and grateful for the \$71,600 in interest-free loans (with members of our parish). This good news was shared with the Parish at our AGM on Tuesday evening, together with the news that our 2018 financial reports have been approved by our auditor, Wendy Elkhuizen;

- The report from our wonderful Elaine Gifford, fete co-ordinator of excellence for 2018, with some lessons learned and some suggestions for how we can make some improvements in 2019. We agreed that the fete is terrific opportunity to meet and engage with our local community and we've set Saturday 2 November 2019 as the date for our next one. Anyone interested in being our fete coordinator for 2019 should speak to their favourite PC member;
- The terrific work over many years by both Phyl Holmes and Libby Warren as Weekly Bulletin Editor and Parish Administrator respectively.

Working together to help clients

A month ago, we received a phone call from a concerned friend of one of our clients. The friend said that he was really worried about John (not his real name) as he was in significant pain from a medical condition.

I was aware of this condition as I had been advocating on John's behalf with

Centrelink for some time, to arrange a Health Care Card. Centrelink were having problems processing his application and he was still waiting on the card.

The result of not having the Health Care Card was that he couldn't afford to have his medical condition treated. He had developed further complications and was now very physically and mentally unwell. I contacted John and he was extremely upset explaining that he had no one to ask for help apart from St Johns Care (SJC).

He was starving and had no money for petrol or food, and he wouldn't have been able to drive anyway because he was so sick. He also had no credit on his phone so was unable to contact us or anyone for assistance.

I quickly realised that John was going downhill fast and needed immediate help. I organised a food basket and drove out to his house with the Raw Potential Youth Worker Nicolle. We also took some dog food with us for his dog.

The very fact that we had visited John at home made such a difference to him and combined with the food, John was in much better spirits by the time we left. We also paid some of his phone bill and for his prescriptions, which he needed for the pain. However, we still had the problem with his medical condition and the fact that Centrelink were unable to process his Health Care Card.

Coincidentally, the next day myself and Jason, the Programs Manager, had a meeting with another community service. The situation with John was described to them and they said that they would pay for the treatment needed to help John. They explained that Centrelink attend their Centre every Monday to help people who struggle with the Centrelink structure.

The following week John had his treatment and immediately felt better. As he had also attended the other Centre to see

Centrelink, the problem with his Health Care Card was quickly resolved. The value of collaborating with other services is immeasurable and as we have seen with John's situation, can save lives. The staff at SJC also work together to achieve the best outcome for the people attending the Centre.

Part of my job here at SJC is to refer people on to other services and organisations that can help with individual needs. By referring John like this, another SJC client was assisted in the best possible way. John was so grateful to everyone at SJC for the part they played in his recovery and he regularly pops in just to say hello.

Wish list: Milo, Cup-a-Soup, packet pasta meals, honey.

Kind regards, Steph Stephens – Community Worker

Embracing Ministries are looking for tutor for an 11-year-old with dyslexia in the Kaleen/ Belconnen area. This child would benefit from support with school work and with home life. WWPC and safe ministry training is essential and teaching experience would be desired.

For more information please call

Revd Andrea 0404 256 714

SHOVEL community garden is looking for a weather proof container to store some hand tools and seeds etc. A metal, aluminium or similar container would be fantastic. If you think you have something that may work, please speak with Allison, Joh or Jen.



**Forbidden Obedience:
Smuggling Faith to the Millions
Wednesday night 27 March at Albert Hall, Yarralumla**

Come and experience stories from our local founder, Dean Keaney as he shares his journey of serving the persecuted church for over 40 years in places like Communist China. You can register for your free tickets or go to Facebook for more details.

A LENTEN JOURNEY THROUGH THE PSALMS – LED BY MEL CLARK

Thursday evenings 14, 21 and 28 March, 4 and 11 April 2019. Start time 7.30 pm in the Rainbow Centre. All welcome!

Mel is willing to lead a daytime course if enough people are interested.

There is a sign up sheet on the board, both for the Thursday evening course and also to indicate if you are interested in a daytime study.

FOR INTERCESSORS, SIDESPEOPLE AND READERS

There will be a meeting after the 10 am service on 3 March from 11.30 am until 12 noon. It will be a training session for those who have volunteered in these positions recently and for old hands who want a refresher.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE NIGHT

We will be having a pancake night on Tuesday 5 March 2019 from 6 pm until 7 pm in the Rainbow Centre. Please bring ready prepared savoury or sweet pancakes to share. Sign up sheet on the board.

Our AGM was held on Tuesday 12 February and was well attended. Thanks was given to the many teams within our parish that do a tremendous amount of work to keep us going and to embody the love of God out into our community. Along with Phyl Holmes and Libby Warren being thanked by warm and sustained acclamation, particular thanks for their many hours of volunteer labour was also acknowledged for Harris and Helen Boulton; the Finance Team and the Resources Team. Together with our paid and volunteer staff we all agreed that there are very many wonderful things happening in our Parish and we are on track for even more wonderful things in the year ahead.

If you didn't get a copy of the AGM reports and would like to read them (they are all fascinating and full of good news!), please see the set on the noticeboard. All of the report writers will be delighted to receive further feedback and encouragement.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

Parish Council is a place where we work out practical strategies and find the means that will help our parish grow together.

It might just be the place for you if you find yourself talking regularly about things like what could make things better for us as church or how might we grow stronger?

So if you're someone that has skills at helping organisations to work better or love getting projects going why not nominate?

Forms available at the back of the church.

PARISH COUNCILLOR BIO: BEC MARSTON

What brought you to this Parish? I came to HC during 2018 as part of the Conversations (ex Basement) community. Having had a magnificent taste of Wayne's infectious vision of the Kingdom, we were genuinely touched by the warmth of our welcome as we started to meet in the evening on Sundays.

What are you passionate about? I'm an English teacher by day, which means I'm passionate about books AND education. I believe that communication is empowering and I also think that books transport us to worlds beyond our imagination and help us learn more about the breadth and depth of God's creation. I'm married to a musician and the daughter of an artist so as you can imagine, the creative life – whether in words, music or art – is an essential part of my own. In addition, I am something of an urban homesteader though with limited success.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time? Laughing with my husband and two kids is probably the most important; a close second would be bobbing in the gentle waves at Jervis Bay.

What is a surprising/unusual fact about you (that you are willing to share)? I used to be a 'chick singer' in a rock band in the late 90s/early 00s. It was a fun season but I'm fairly happy to have hung up my heavy eye makeup for a slightly more predictable life!

WOMEN'S AFTERNOON TEA

Come and have a relaxing time at Tilley's on Saturday 9 March at 3 pm. All ladies welcome.

Good tea and coffee, plus a great selection of tempting cakes! Sign up sheet on the board. Perhaps you could offer to bring someone who may not be able to get there otherwise?

