

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 7 JUNE 2020 TRINITY SUNDAY

CORONA STAY-IN: 12 SUNDAYS

In recognition that our congregations contain many people who are vulnerable to the coronavirus, at the Diocese's request, we have ceased physically meeting for public worship. We will continue to worship online via ZOOM video conferencing. To join us, use the link below.

[https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?
pwd=YUplja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRll0
Zz09](https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUplja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRll0Zz09)

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

For **Kid's church** the meeting room is at 9.30am:

[https://us04web.zoom.us/
j/417454216?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/417454216?pwd=NlFwSk1MWUNBS0Y2NHVxemd5MlW0wZz09)

[pwd=NlFwSk1MWUNBS0Y2NHVxemd5
MlW0wZz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/417454216?pwd=NlFwSk1MWUNBS0Y2NHVxemd5MlW0wZz09)

Meeting ID: 417 454 216

Password: Kidschurch

SUNDAY 7 JUNE

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

Celebrant:

Reverend Connie Gerrity

Preacher:

The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton

5pm Twilight Conversation

SUNDAY 14 JUNE

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

Celebrant and Preacher:

The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton

5pm Twilight Conversation

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

OUR COMMISSION IN THE 3-FOLD NAME

When you pray, to whom would you be praying – God the Creator/ Father, Jesus the Son or would you first listen to the Holy Spirit who tells you what to say? At different times in our spiritual journey, you may have a different focus. Yet God is one.

Our New Testament readings for this Trinity Sunday are quite short. They both contain the 3-fold name of God, in Matthew for baptizing and, adding verse 14 in Corinthians as a blessing. Both have final departing words as Jesus leaves his disciples and Paul departs the Corinthians. While the people in these groups would have grieved their loss terribly, as we have been grieving the losses of our routine lives, yet these become turning points to greater growth and maturity.

Yes, I too have been struggling with some of the technology changes but it is wonderful to see and hear of many using the change to on-line services to

join us more frequently now. Let us take whatever opportunities are coming. As the disciples had to let go of Jesus so that the Holy Spirit could be sent, what would we be asked to let go of, to let the Spirit fall on younger people and different groups?

At the virtual clergy conference a week ago, we heard of the amazing impact of on-line Alpha Courses in the UK. The virus is not the only thing spreading there! It's a modern way of enacting the Great Commission 'Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'. We can't yet greet one another with a holy kiss as Paul suggests but we can always remember Jesus word –

'Remember I am with you always, to the end of the Age.'

Anne Dudzinski

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MOVING FORWARD

Parish Council has developed a COVIDSafe response plan. The plan aims to help our ministry and activities resume in ways that are safe, while minimising the risks of any outbreak and helping people know how manage any outbreak should one eventuate.

The plan has used the resources provided by the Diocese with social distancing restrictions applied to each ministry and activity undertaken by or at Holy Covenant. Ministry leaders and group coordinators have been consulted about these arrangements. These measures need to be reviewed and adjusted each month.

The need to adhere to the social distancing requirement of 4 square metres per person will be particularly challenging. This will limit Holy Covenant's seating capacity in the Worship and Rainbow Centres as follows:

- Worship space – 35 people, not including sanctuary party, musicians or AV team
- Chapel – 4 people
- Kitchen – 4 people
- Office – 3 people
- Red Room (Rainbow) – 7 people
- Purple Room (Rainbow) – 4 people
- Mushroom (Rainbow) – 5 people

Restarting groups

The ACT government eased restrictions at midnight on 30 May allowing for indoor gatherings of up to 20 people. This will impact our church in several ways.

Small groups of less than 20 people are able to restart in-person meetings provided that they discuss their plans with the rector, observe hand hygiene, room occupancy limits and keep an attendance roll. Groups that meet in homes can resume also provided that the organiser keeps a list of attenders for contact tracing purposes. The sanctuary team will resume. Other groups may wish to continue meeting over Zoom, after all winter is coming! Kids and young adult ministries plan to keep meeting this way.



Photo: Mark Cooper-Stanbury

Step 3 will allow for larger groups to meet. The ACT Government is expected to make an announcement concerning this stage on 19 June. Should the ACT make this step, Holy Covenant will resume in-person worship at church in July.

Worship

With reduced occupancy, our worship will look and feel different. Parish Council has agreed to the installation of video equipment to allow Zoom streaming when in-person worship recommences. The equipment will be installed in a way that is discrete and so not interfere with attenders moving about the worship space.

The cost of purchasing and installing the cameras and video feed equipment will be approximately \$3,400. Parish Council believed that this project was essential even if unbudgeted. Parishioners are welcome to make a donation to cover this unexpected cost.

With only 35 seats available in the worship centre on Sunday, the wardens are discussing options that will allow those who wish to attend to do so. We plan to contact people shortly to see who wishes to continue participating over Zoom and who may wish to resume in-person worship. In all likelihood, those attending in person may be asked to attend twice per month.

When services resume, they will all need to make use of the overhead screen. We realise that this will be a significant shift for those at 8am who prefer printed prayer and hymn books. Holy Communion will be in bread only as the common cup cannot be used. Given the indefinite nature of this restriction, the parish may wish to consider using individual cups during this period. Sadly, the greeting of the peace and holding hands at the end of the 10am service will be discontinued. We also are looking at ways to allow for morning tea with minimal handling of items and utensils.

A copy of the COVIDSafe response plan will be made available on our website shortly.

In-person worship will start in July with Step 3





KINDNESS COMES IN MANY FORMS

This week we had a wonderful donation of soup from a young couple who wanted to regularly give back to the community. They intend to donate soup every week during the winter months.

Whilst showing the couple around St John's Care, they were very interested in the type of clients that we support and asked if they were all homeless.

I said that the homeless made up a percentage of our visitors to the Centre, but others are financially disadvantaged and receiving benefits from the Government but are struggling to pay for everyday items needed to survive.

I told the couple about people escaping domestic violence who may have lived with money before but as soon as they left the family home, they had nothing.

I shared a story with them about Sammy (not her real name) who is now a single mother of four children all under the age of 8 years. Sammy lived with the father of her children and had done for the past ten years. They had a good life financially and her partner worked as an engineer. She said that initially things were ok, but gradually his drinking increased, and the alcohol fuelled violence started towards her.

Sammy had no family in Queensland where she lived. They are all in New Zealand, so she felt very isolated and alone. She was fearful for the safety of her children so one day, a few months ago, she left the family home together with all her belongings and came to Canberra.

She stayed with a friend, but knew it could not be for long, and she was advised to visit St John's Care. Sammy was taken care of by our wonderful volunteers. SJC made arrangements via One Link, ACT Housing, and Roundabout for her to go into transitional housing with a view to securing public housing in the near future. Roundabout helped her with baby items, clothes, and toys for the children.

The young couple who donated soup were quite shocked by Sammy's story. They said they wanted to help more people like her. They took a donation form on leaving with a view to donating regularly to St John's Care.

Kind regards,

Steph Stephens

Community Worker SJC

Items required: pasta sauce, toothpaste, large tinned fish, and full cream long life milk.

YOU ALSO JOIN IN HELPING US BY YOUR PRAYERS

2 Corinthians 1:11

The Fuchsias in the garden were blowing gently in the breeze as if in a dance. Some are miniature bushes with dainty flowers and some are larger with larger flowers and they are 'dressed' like miniature ballerinas in colourful tutus. But what I find is the flowers always have their heads down as if in an attitude of prayer and they remind me often to pray. Prayer can be undervalued but O how prayer changes things. I recall a story of a small boy who was struggling with his homework and began crying loudly. His father came and asked him to stop crying because that wouldn't help. 'Yes it did' he said. 'It brought you.'

May the Lord of Peace himself give you peace at all times, in all ways.

Anne, servant of the Lord.

<https://comewalkwithme-reflections.blogspot.com>



Let us pray



JOB KEEPER APPLICATION

THANK YOU to Paul and Doreen for working on our application for the Job Keeper Allowance (also Carol and Joh)

FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES



Come along to our movie night for an evening of laughs and friendship. Bring a friend and a smile!

19 June. 6.30pm

LEARNING TO LOVE

Reimagining Church

I wonder what church looks like for you? For most people, church looks like a clubhouse with a minister that wears a white dress, old-timey music and lots of standing, singing and being quiet. When viewed this way, church appears like package that we consume based on our preferences, much like the galleries we visit, the restaurants we eat at or the movies we watch.

What we may not see or appreciate is that church is something we create together. Church happens when we love God, love one another and love our neighbours together. This is what Jesus did when he took time out to pray, hang with his students and travel from village to village showing people what God's kingdom looks like.

We create church by growing all kinds of things to help people to nurture love in these dimensions too. Worship, prayer and meditation help people to develop our love and deepen our understanding of God. Fellowship dinners, small groups and hospitality after the service help us to grow in love for one another. The nursing programs, community gardens and helping St John's Care help us to grow in love for our neighbours who don't go to any church.

Of course, everyone can develop their own practices too. I'm using Michael Curry's podcast series on *the Way of Love* to learn how to love God more deeply. I'm exploring community organising as a way of learning how to love my neighbours. I'm also learning to grow Grow Groups as a way of learning to love one another.

Learning Community

In order to help us to reimagine church as something we create together I attended our third Learning Community event with Joh Sheehan and Allison Cooper-Stanbury earlier this month.

We were encouraged to think about what spaces we create to enable love to grow. We were encouraged to think about our parish and how these dimensions feature in every ministry or activity we share together.

Most churches have all three dimensions working in

their life but not every activity cultivates all three dimensions together. Many activities focus on one or two dimensions. The challenge to growing church is to notice which spaces we use and where new spaces are needed. By paying attention to these three dimensions we are better able to create opportunities for people to connect.

Stretching

At the moment, I'm thinking about our services at 8am, 10am and 5pm and how each dimension is present. Our worship expresses our love for God while hospitality cultivates our love for one another.

But how do we show our love for our neighbour who may not think of coming to church? How do people become aware of God if all they see are crazy religious wingnuts on the news?

The point is not to get critical and despondent. The challenge is to get better by intentionally cultivating those things otherwise overlooked and ignored.

So how do I love Holy Covenant's neighbours? I'm also thinking of ways in which we might use ZOOM, Facebook and YouTube as ways to help our neighbours get a peek inside God's Kingdom and how we encourage it to grow in our neighbourhood.

I wonder how each dimension appears in your life? Is one dimension overlooked or overshadowed? What hopes and desires of the heart do you have? What dimensions do you see in the activities you share at Holy Covenant? How might we develop those dimensions in every activity that we share together?

Church is something we create together. As we share our life we have the opportunity to rest, grow and transform the world.

<https://wayoflove.episcopalchurch.org/>





**The Right Reverend Dr Mark Short
Diocesan Bishop**

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Dear sisters and brothers,

Pastoral Letter - Pentecost

We write on this Day of Pentecost to give thanks for the work of God's Spirit in our midst as we have responded to the challenges of COVID-19. Along with the impact on health and economic well-being you have experienced disruption to everyday life including your ability to gather together for worship. Yet across our Diocese you have responded with Spirit—inspired generosity and creativity as you have cared for neighbours and found new ways to connect with each other.

On Pentecost we are reminded that God has always been the great disruptor of the status quo. As the Apostle Peter draws on the words of the prophet Joel in Acts 2:17-21 we see three dimensions of the Spirit's disruptive work.

- . First, there is *disruption to established hierarchies*. From now on anyone, male and female, young and old, slave and free, can prophesy as they speak God's message.
- . Second, there is *disruption to the order of creation*. From now on the very elements of earth and sky are being called to witness to the acts of God.
- . Third, there is *disruption to individual destinies*. From now on everyone who calls on the name of the Lord Jesus shall be saved from the judgment that is coming on this present age.

Even as we long for a return to something like business as usual, we encourage you to look for signs of God's work in the midst of our challenges. God has seeded new ministries, established new connections with our communities and opened up new ways of being church. There is much we can learn from and carry with us in the days ahead.

We would also ask you to pray for the work of God's Spirit among us as we negotiate the gradual lifting of restrictions on gathered worship. The fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23 (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self control) will enable us to make this journey in way that honours the Lord Jesus. We look forward to making that journey with you.

May the risen and ascended Lord Jesus continue to pour God's Spirit upon God's people!

Bishop Mark, Bishop Carol and Bishop Stephen
28 May 2020

HCNM AND COVENANT CARE

It is likely that Covenant Care and the other HCNM programs won't be able to resume for some time given the age and vulnerability of our clients. We will be holding our first Zoom Covenant Care get together on Monday, 15 June for clients, carers and volunteers. In addition, HCNM has purchased a freezer located in the Rainbow Centre and several volunteers will be cooking meals regularly to deliver to our clients and their carers. Carers have really appreciated receiving the donated meals we have been delivering to date. Given that feedback, we think this is an important ministry we can continue on our own now until we can resume face to face contact again.. Carers are on duty 24/7 during isolation with limited or no respite and time off from cooking is a blessing. This will not replace the Parish Casserole Bank which provides emergency relief meals to parishioners and others. Those meals will continue to be located in the parish freezer and the freezer in the HCNM Office refrigerator.

WEEKLY BULLETIN

There have been some people who haven't received the Weekly Bulletin and Tracking Sheets in time for the Sunday Zoom service. This is due to email not being totally reliable. The Weekly Bulletin is normally emailed, with the Tracking Sheets for 8am and 10am services on Friday. If you haven't received it by Saturday, please send an email to the office and we will try to get it to you before Sunday so you can use the tracking sheet for the Zoom service.

Thanks Phil



CEO SLEEPOUT FOR THE HOMELESS

Neville Tomkins is participating, for the 9th year, in the Vinnie's Sleepout on 18 June to support programs for homeless people in Canberra.

To find out more and sponsor him, go to: <https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/ceos/act-ceos/neville-tomkins-scouts-australia/>

As Neville is unable to do his usual door-to-door collections due to COVID-19 restrictions, your online contribution would be deeply appreciated.

JAM JARS

Please note that Margaret Meggs no longer requires jam jars.

The Meggs have moved so please do not leave jars at the old address (or the new address).

David Meggs



Spark conversation in your faith community

A new study group will commence in June. *Animate Faith* is a 7-session program aimed at helping us to dig into questions we have about faith and spirituality.

Topics include seeing faith as a quest, reclaiming spirituality, the revolution of Jesus, life in abundance, thinking about cross, the Bible is worth reading, and the church as an imperfect family.

Sessions involve video, discussion and thinking aloud. The series is suitable for anyone exploring faith for the first time and everyone interested in discovering things afresh.

Interested? Email Wayne on rector@holycovenant.org.au for more info and to join in over ZOOM. Meeting times are flexible but Tuesday or Wednesday evenings may work best with possible start beginning 1 June.

FROM THE ACTING TREASURER

Dear friends

During May our total income was \$26,900 of which \$19,300 was direct giving of offerings. This income includes a JobKeeper subsidy of \$6000 as a credit on the salaries bill and a government "cash boost" of \$1245.

The JobKeeper subsidy and "cash boost" are received via the Diocese.

Our operating expenses were \$15,150 and there was a capital expense of \$7000 for maintenance of the southern and western fascia of the Worship Centre.

The Holistic Care Nursing Ministry also benefits from these government grants but this parish program's operations are covered by a grant from the Shakespeare Trust and HCNM's income and expenditure are not included in the above figures.

We are grateful for the large number of parishioners who are providing their givings by regular direct credit.

If you would like to make your offerings by a direct credit, the parish bank account is with the Commonwealth Bank at the Jamison Centre. The BSB is 062-907 and account number is 00802588.

Please contact me if you have any questions about this process.

Blessings.

Paul Shelley

Warden and Acting Treasurer

PARISH CYCLE OF PRAYER

The weekly bulletin has lots of prayer points as we ask God for help in our world, nation, the Anglican Church and for members of our congregation by name.

We thought it might be appreciated to have a prayer cycle for all the ministry and groups that work through Holy Covenant and for those who lead them. Consequently, we'll be featuring some areas of activity each Sunday over a five week cycle. Why not follow up with a note letting someone know you've just prayed for them?

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

⇒ For those who protest police violence may they receive justice, for those who are silent may they find their voice, for decision makers may they make policies that will lead to life, health and justice for all.

IN AUSTRALIA.

⇒ .For those who struggle day to day whether due to homelessness, unemployment, under employment or over work– especially those whose lives have been disrupted by the effects of dealing with the coronavirus.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Brisbane
- ⇒ Braidwood; Bungendore; Mulwaree Ministry District; Cartwright Mission District; St Edmunds Gunning; St Mark's Gundaroo; Collector; Crookwell; Binda; Taralga
- ⇒ Small country churches and their ministry; co-operating parishes; Diocesan Centre for Lay Ministry & Mission.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ Congregations – 8am Sunday
- ⇒ Children's ministry (Wendy Robertson)
- ⇒ Parish Council/Wardens.
- ⇒ Holistic Care Nursing Ministries (Rhonda Thorpe and Anne Ranse) pray that our clients and volunteers will continue to keep well and positive during this time when we cannot meet in person.
- ⇒ Rainbow Playgroup (Christine Mitchell)
- ⇒ Musica da Camera
- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Anne Dudzinski; Georgina and Andrew Dudzinski; Sue Dunbar; Alan and Bea Duncan; Wendy and Jono Elkhuzen; and Pat Ewing.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Dorothy Parsonage, Elizabeth Grant, Andrew Hill, Joh Sheehan, Phil Bloomfield, Judith Ann, Lexie Winders, Roger Hallows, Jenny Hall and anyone known to us personally.

COLLECT FOR TRINITY SUNDAY

Almighty and everlasting God,
you have given to us your servants grace
by the confession of a true faith
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal
Trinity,
and in the power of the divine majesty
to worship the Unity:
keep us steadfast in this faith,
and evermore defend us from all
adversities,
for you live and reign, one God, for ever
and ever. **Amen**

READINGS

Exodus 34.1-8 Song of 3YM
2 Corinthians 13.11-13 Matthew 28.16-20

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Children's Worker

Wendy Robertson
children@holycovenant.org.au

Youth Leadership Team

Sarah, Celeste, Remus, and Tobias.
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Wardens

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Joh Sheehan 6251 7151

Prayer Vine

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Belonging and Caring

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Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

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Reverend Connie Gerrity

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Resources Team

0419 255 002

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Monday: Lucy Wood