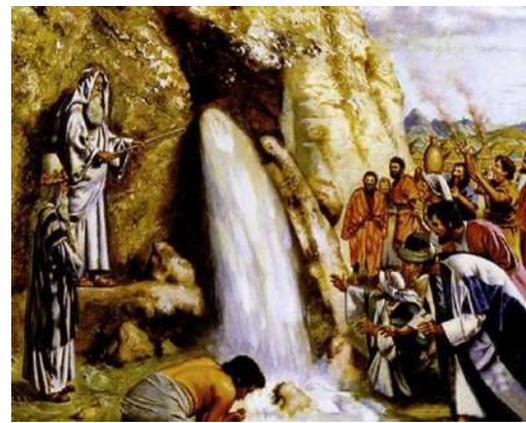


# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



## SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2020 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

*'By whose authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?'*

(Matt. 21:23)

*Let Your Life Speak*

(Parker Palmer)

In-person public worship has restarted but on a restricted basis. Please use the URLs below so that we can manage attendance and contact information. Registration available from Monday. We will also continue to worship online via ZOOM video conferencing. To join us, use the link below.

<https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: [882 096 2366](https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366)

Password: 033643

Kid's church is in recess over the holidays

### SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

Seating limited to 50 people per service.

8am Holy Communion

<https://www.trybooking.com/BLFBN>

10am Holy Communion

<https://www.trybooking.com/BLFBX>

Celebrant:

The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton

Preacher: Reverend Connie Gerrity

5pm Twilight Conversation in recess

### SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER

Seating limited to 50 people per service.

8am Holy Communion

<https://www.trybooking.com/BLTPC>

10am Holy Communion

<https://www.trybooking.com/BLTPP>

Celebrant and Preacher:

The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton

11.45am Pet Blessing

5pm Twilight Conversation in recess

#### 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

When the religious leaders question Jesus' authority, it's as if they are saying, 'Who do you think you are?'

The whole notion of authority has come into question in today's world with the declining trust in traditional institutions and narratives. In a post-truth world, the authority conferred by academic research and professional expertise is often dismissed. A questioning of expertise is certainly part of the current populist trend that gives authority to unlikely (and dangerous) people! Fortunately in Australia our political leaders have been willing to follow medical advice in the handling of the COVID crisis even if they have not always followed the science when it comes to climate change.

But there is another kind of authority that comes from within and is manifested in a person's behaviour. 'By their fruits you will know them', seems to be the point of the parable about the two sons who were asked to go into the vineyard. What we do is more important than what we say we will do. This is the authority we see in Jesus. We don't know much

about those thirty years before he engaged in public ministry, but we do know of his practice of regularly withdrawing for extended periods of prayer and reflection during his public years. We can imagine this is where he gained his sense of being sent by God, of being one with the Father. This meant that when he did engage in teaching, his listeners recognised that he spoke from first-hand experience, rather than relying on second hand opinions. In other words, 'He spoke with authority, not as the scribes' (Matt. 7:29).

We long for this sort of authority that is linked to authenticity and integrity, where words are dictated by a deeply held vision of the greater good, rather than political expediency and self-interest. Meanwhile, are we willing to follow Gandhi's advice to become the change we are waiting for, not in a spirit of self-righteousness, but knowing – as did the prostitutes and tax collectors in Jesus' parable – that we are both broken and beloved? Are we willing to walk the talk?

*Frances MacKay*

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**WEBSITE:** <https://www.holycovenant.org.au>

### PET BLESSING - 4 OCTOBER, 11.45am



Pets are wonderful. Their affection and company make a great difference in our lives. Holy Covenant will be holding a pet blessing for all creatures great and small in our Community Garden. So whether your pet walks, flies or swims, why not bring them out for something special?

#### FROM THE TREASURER

Dear friends

The accounts for August indicate that our finances are in a very healthy state. The income from regular direct givings was down a bit but running expenses were also lower.

We also had some capital expenses: a new heating system for the Rainbow Centre (as the previous one expired after 18 years service), and various items for the upgraded audiovisual system. Much of the latter were covered by generous donations from parishioners.

We are receiving the JobKeeper supplement for our five employees via the Diocese and this certainly makes a big difference to our fortnightly payroll bill.

The parish council joins me in thanking everyone for their continuing financial stewardship.

Blessings.

Paul Shelley

Warden and Treasurer

#### GROUPS IN RECESS OVER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The following groups are in recess over the School Holidays (26 September to 11 October):

- Children's church
- Tuesday Meditation group
- 5pm Twilight conversations

#### DINNER GROUP AT SOUTHERN CROSS CLUB

The "First Tuesday of the Month" dinner is meeting this month on Tuesday 6th October at 6 pm.

A time for some fun and fellowship.

Please confirm that you are coming so I can let SCC Jamison know our numbers.

Thank you

Hilary 6251 8166

#### 'Have a Good Yarn'

Have a Good Yarn group is a chat and knitting group

Normally meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month between 10.30am to 12 noon in the worship centre. The next is on 13th October

Any queries to Sandra Ross 0408438770

sandraross@ozemail.com.au

### WOMEN'S AFTERNOON TEA SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER 2020 3 PM

#### IN THE WORSHIP CENTRE

Come and join us for tea or coffee and cake and lots of chatting. The cost will be \$5 per person.



Please book using:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BLCIK>

Any questions?

Please ask Libby 0419 603 228

#### NOAH'S ARK PET MINISTRY

Pets are wonderfully created by God and their affection and company make a great difference in our lives. For many their pets are their family and they mean a great deal to them. The Noah's Ark Pet Ministry will commence following the Blessing of Pets on October 4. It will offer pastoral support to pet owners in time of joy and sadness, in celebration and memorials. This ministry will be by a prayer chain, phone or email or in person. I would like have a small leadership group of 2 or 3 people to assist in the running of this ministry. Is this something for you? For inclusion of yourself and your pet in the Noah's Ark Pet Ministry and for enquiries contact Archdeacon Anne. [anne.ranse@gmail.com](mailto:anne.ranse@gmail.com) or 0406379599



Franklin and Charlotte



## THE JOY OF HELPING CLIENTS

I have been volunteering at St John's Care for the last five years. I came to SJC as a social work student on placement with Anglicare and after my placement concluded I stayed on as a volunteer.

During those years I have developed some valuable friendships with the volunteers I work alongside, many of whom have been here for many years. I have had the pleasure of learning from them and they have been invaluable in teaching me how everything at St John's Care works.

I have also had numerous encounters with clients. It has been rewarding to be able to help clients who are in crisis and watch the relief on their face as they realise we can actually help them.

The other week I took on the task of trying to find a free shower for James (not his real name) a client who is currently homeless but had lined up a job interview the following day.

It was surprisingly difficult to find somewhere for him to have a shower. We initially booked him into the Canberra Olympic pool. However, when I called to confirm I was told their showers were closed to due to COVID-19.

My next phone call was to Onelink, they were extremely helpful and provided me with a few places I could direct the client.

When I told James, we had found a couple of places for him to have a shower he was close to tears, but was so thankful that we were able to help him.

James is a genuinely nice guy. Finding him a place to shower is just part of the service we offer to our clients. Advocating on his behalf was something that brought me great joy. But seeing him smile and being thankful made me smile in return.

On another note, St John's Care has adjusted how we accept donations of clothing and bedding. We still accept those donations although they must be brand new.

Most have been extremely understanding about this change in policy and they have continued to donate clothing and bedding on a frequent basis for which we are very appreciative.

If you have any questions about what you can donate, please feel free to call us on 6248 7771 and one of our staff or volunteers will be able to assist you.

Leona  
Volunteer SJC

**Items Required:** Large Tuna, Washing Powder, Honey, Sweet Biscuits, Vegemite

## FORTH IN YOUR NAME, O LORD, I GO. MY DAILY LABOUR TO PERSUE. TIS 571

Stepping out the gate as the sun was rising and the ground fresh from the morning rain, I was confronted by the sights and smells of a new day. The freshness from the morning rain. The smell of the dusty ground dressed in rain spots. The green, green hills. The verge of Cape Weed daisies, bright yellow and smiling, and a paddock full of wild oats with small birds singing a big song. It's all a prayer.

And I remember this poem:

*When forth I go upon my way  
A thousand joys are mine,  
A cluster of dark violets  
The wreaths of a wild vine (unknown)*

Even when facing the unknown challengers of a day all is possible when we take our morning prayers grounded in quiet times with God.

Grace and peace from the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Anne, servant of the Lord.*

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



*A verge of bright, smiling daisies.*



## READING SCRIPTURE FINDING FREEDOM

A six-session series to help us read Scripture in healthy ways

Thursday evenings through  
October and November

Contact Wayne at  
[rector@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:rector@holycovenant.org.au) for  
more info



## IT'S TIME FOR A SPRING CLEAN!

Spring has arrived and it's time to declutter. Does your linen cupboard need attention or maybe the garage is bulging at the seams? Do you have too many books or DVDs bought during lockdown?

HCNM is here to help you get those pesky decluttering jobs done. Jennifer Berrie is offering another series of 3 decluttering workshops on Thursday mornings, 5, 12 and 19 November. They will run from 9.30am-12.30pm in the church. Numbers will be limited and COVID safe practices will be adhered to. HCNM will meet all costs but we ask you to commit to all three sessions.

The sessions will help you approach the often daunting task of decluttering whether you are downsizing, letting go of unwanted items or simply wanting to make better use of space in your home.

Jennifer is our Household Support team leader and has run a number of these courses previously for us as well as teaching *Declutter your Home* community education evening classes. She is currently working with several HCNM clients to assist them to declutter. Jennifer has lots of tips, insights and techniques to help you get the job done and you will have some fun at the same time.

Please email Jennifer at [nurse@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:nurse@holycovenant.org.au) as soon as possible to register your interest and book your place.



## Working bee and spring cleaning



Vote early and come to the working bee!

A major working bee and spring clean is planned for Saturday 17 October from 9 am until 12 noon.

Lots of things to be done.

Morning tea provided.

However, you are welcome to visit the church grounds any-time you feel the urge to pull out a weed or three!

Enquiries: Paul 0419255002 [epshms@grapevine.com.au](mailto:epshms@grapevine.com.au)



# GREAT BIG GARDEN DAY

**Saturday 7 November  
from 10am – 3pm**

Bring your shovel, rake and enthusiasm for a day in the parish garden!

There will be a sausage sizzle while Phyl and Reg's amazing café will be serving coffee and cake throughout.

We look to replant the embankment and revitalize the plantings across the parish site.

Make sure you sign up now!

<https://www.trybooking.com/BLTQD>

The email copied below was forwarded to me by a friend. It is from an NGO in Sri Lanka called LEADS (<https://leads.lk/>) that deals with child welfare. Briefly they are searching for funds for their programs that have expanded during the COVIDS19 pandemic. I would be grateful if you could forward this to anyone who could be interested or publicize it in any other way.

Kind regards,  
Nilantha



**From:** Diordre Moraes <[diordre@leads.lk](mailto:diordre@leads.lk)>

**Subject:** RE: To lend a helping hand to the children you support

We are currently in the midst of the COVID-19 response & right now looking for funds to meet the needs of the children & caregivers in 29 Child Development Centers (what we commonly call orphanages). The attached concept has the full details of the work we have carried out & also the plan we intend implementing – which was a request from the National Child Protection Authority together with the Ministry since due to lockdown the caregivers are having a hard time coping with the children & naturally children bored too.

As per our regular work – We are a child focused organization and we do counselling & psychosocial therapeutic support to children who are survivors of abuse. ESCAPE (Eradicating Sexual Child Abuse Prostitution and Exploitation) is the child protection division & annually we have 400+ children in our therapy & counselling programs. We have a staff of almost 30 with three counselling centers (Colombo, Jaffna & Badulla) with two Residential Therapeutic Centers (currently only one since the Jaffna center we are moving location) where a child would stay for a minimum period of three months if need intense support. We do our best to support each child with not just counselling but provide legal support if over 16 & not willing to go back to school with vocational training & wherever possible will do best to integrate a child back to society. There are many a stories but I have attached one which I wrote last year since I was talking to a Family Follow Up Officer about his current work. It is a bit long but will help you to get to know the organization.

We are a registered charity & in SL since 1978 (registered in 1983) and has an unblemished record since we have played a very low key – for two reasons (following the biblical principle of not talking about the work we do – though now in order to raise support we add some information on social media etc and the second reason to give dignity to those whom we serve by not talking about the stories we hear) .

Our organizational auditors are PricewaterhouseCoopers & project auditors are E&Y. Our web page is [www.leads.lk](http://www.leads.lk) and the FB page is [www.facebook.com/LEADSmakingadifference](https://www.facebook.com/LEADSmakingadifference)

Again, look forward to catching up!!

Kind regards,

Diordre



**A GARDEN SURPRISE**

When the shovel team arrived last week, a surprise awaited them all. Someone placed a garden setting in the space! It certainly adds to the ambience... and the Kale, which is growing madly. Thanks so much!

**PRAYER POINTS**

**IN THE WORLD**

⇒ We pray for the peoples of the world: for all whose lives are filled with misery and degradation; for those in places of oppression, war and civil unrest

**IN AUSTRALIA**

⇒ We give thanks for the rain that has eased the effect of the recent drought  
 ⇒ Pray for wisdom as we prepare for a local election

**IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER**

⇒ Diocese of Willochra  
 ⇒ Cobargo; Bodalla-Narooma; Open Sanctuary @ Tilba Tilba; Moruya: Batemans Bay  
 ⇒ Boomerang Meeting Place, Mogo (part of Batemans Bay)  
 ⇒ St Peter's Anglican College, Broulee  
 ⇒ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ministry, Bimbadeen Training College, Cootamundra

**IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY**

⇒ Congregations – 12noon Wednesday  
 ⇒ Rainbow Fellowship  
 ⇒ Meditation—Tuesday lunchtime—Refreshment and growth for Tues meditation group as they take a break over the school holidays  
 ⇒ Meditation—Wednesday evening meditation group and our meditation leaders, Heather, Anne, Ruth, Rob, Marg and John, giving thanks for the opportunity to continue to meet via Zoom  
 ⇒ EfM (Merri Bacon, Nich Hills) as they meet in person to host a two week interlude with Manuka EFM over the school holidays and for leaders Nich Hills and Merri Bacon  
 ⇒ Grow Groups—that people will discover their spiritual gifts and affirm the gifting of others  
 ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Hugo Walker; Peter and Wendy Ward; Libby Warren; Susan Webb; Prue, Ken and Ellie Wedgwood; Audrey and Stuart Wells and Janet Williams.  
 ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button, Elizabeth Grant, Andrew Hill, Phil Bloomfield, Judith Ann, Lexie Winders, Jenny Hall, Bev Barnes, Graham Bonnett, John Blue, Anne and Peter Bazeos, Violet Hart and anyone known to us personally.

**COMMEMORATIONS**

**Friday:** Stephen Conan Davies (d. 1998);  
 Portia Lillian Lloyd (d. 2015).

**COLLECT FOR 17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Grant, O merciful God,  
 that your people may have that mind that was in Christ Jesus,  
 who emptied himself, and took the form of a servant,  
 and in humility became obedient even to death.  
 For you have highly exalted him  
 and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,  
 Jesus Christ, the Lord;  
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, in everlasting glory. Amen

**READINGS**

Exodus 17.1-7  
 Psalm 78.1-4, 78.11-16  
 Philippians 2  
 Matthew 21.23-32

**MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS**

**Children's Worker**

Wendy Robertson  
 children@holycovenant.org.au

**Youth Leadership Team**

Celeste, Remus, Sarah and Tobias  
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**Wardens**

Paul Shelley 6251 1568  
 Joh Sheehan 6251 7151

**Prayer Vine**

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 6251 2009; rkmore@grapevine.com.au

**Belonging and Caring**

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 0413 994 739; annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au

Reverend Connie Gerrity

0429 423 725; connie@gerrity.id.au

**Resources Team**

0419 255 002

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

**Wednesday: Liam Harper**

**Friday: Caroline Taylor-Steele**

**Saturday: Marjorie Pratts**