

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2021 TRANSFIGURATION

What Does the Transfiguration Mean for Us?

Mark 9:2-9

We had the experience and missed the meaning. (TS Eliot)

This is my Son, the Beloved, listen to him. (Mark 9:7)

COMING UP

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=YUtpa05YTxFcN0N4MGRiSFVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

SUNDAY 14 FEBRUARY

Seating limited to 75 people per service.

8am Holy Communion

No registration required (sign-in only)

10am Holy Communion

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

Celebrant and Preacher:

The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton

5pm Twilight Conversations

WEDNESDAY 17 FEBRUARY

6pm Ash Wednesday

The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton

A service for renewing our faith in

preparation for the journey towards

Easter

SUNDAY 21 FEBRUARY

Seating limited to 75 people per service.

8am Holy Communion

No registration required (sign-in only)

10am Holy Communion

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

Celebrant and Preacher:

The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton

5pm Twilight Conversations

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

Have you noticed how often Jesus swears people to secrecy? He won't let the demons speak because they know who he really is. He usually warns those he heals to tell no one what he has done for them. And in today's account of the Transfiguration, as they are coming down from the mountain, he tells Peter, James and John to tell no one what they have seen until after the resurrection. Is it that he does not want to be thought of as just another wonder worker, as Rowan Williams suggests? That the disciples might have had the experience but missed the meaning?

In all three synoptic gospels the Transfiguration follows Jesus' foretelling of his death and resurrection. This experience thus serves to validate Peter's earlier declaration that Jesus is the Messiah, and to fortify them for the suffering to come. Seeing Jesus transfigured before them, and then to see him joined by Moses and Elijah must have been an overwhelming experience. We can only imagine what it might have meant to them at this stage to see Jesus appearing with these OT heroes representing the law and the prophets respectively. (They also include wonder working and mountaintop experiences in their portfolio!)

If epiphany means the unveiling of what has previously been hidden – you know the sort of thing: 'I've had an epiphany moment' – then the transfiguration can be seen as the climax of the season of epiphany. Certainly the disciples saw Jesus in a completely different light. (Pardon the pun.) Yet Mark subsequently presents the disciples as slow to understand what Jesus is about. Such experiences, though memorable, are fleeting. They aren't usually part of our ongoing fare. Peter's suggestion to build three booths to enshrine the experience is not encouraged. Having said this, we can cultivate practices which make it more likely that we glimpse things and people as they truly are, irradiated by divine presence. (Contemplative writers speak of cleansing the lens of our perception.) The process of transformation – our transformation – takes much longer, and is more the fruit of daily faithfulness over time.

The Transfiguration also ushers in the season of Lent which begins on Wednesday. Our journey into God can often feel more like wilderness than mountaintop, but wilderness can be a place of profound transformation, as we shall see.

Frances MacKay

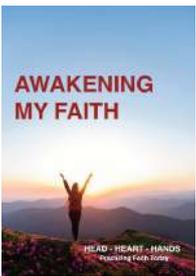
RECTOR: The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton, 0407 408 333, rector@holycovenant.org.au

OFFICE: 6251 6100, office@holycovenant.org.au

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

LENTEN STUDIES

Lent is a period of six weeks that proceeds Easter. Historically, it is a time of fasting, reflection and renewal. Fasting is a much misunderstood spiritual discipline. Most people think of fasting as a time of abstinence and restraint from good things like food and drink. Sugar, chocolate and coffee often top the list often with the result that people look gloomier and are slightly grumpier during March. But this is only half the story because fasting isn't about being miserable so much as taking a step towards freedom by letting go of things that trap us while digging deeper into God's presence. When done well, Lent can be an opportunity to take stock, make different choices, start on a different path and get new habits nailed down. This year Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 17 February. While some people take the journey alone others like companions. Three study options will be available this year. The details are below. Why not consider joining in?



Bishop Jeremy Greaves

This is a study that could be done privately.

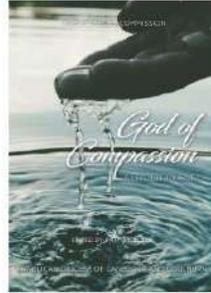
This series of Lenten studies will lead participants in a journey through the Year 'B' Gospel.

When Jesus called the first disciples he did not have them learn great tomes of doctrine and dogma, he asked them to do something. From the very beginning Christians were known for what they did and how they lived more than for what they believed. The 'people of the Way' knew how to practice the faith.

For Christians, practices are things we do that shape our lives and "narrows the gap between who we are and who we are becoming."

The journey of Lent invites us to explore what it might mean for us to practice faith in our time.

This study can be ordered from <http://www.grassroots.com.au/>



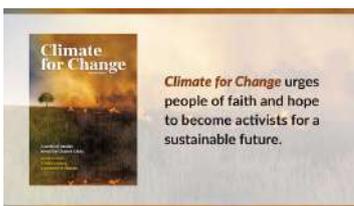
God of Compassion: A Lenten Journey

A new six-week study from the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn, written by the Public Issues Commission, published with the support of Anglicare. Wayne will be leading this study starting on

Wednesday 24 February—see sign up board.

Available in electronic (free) and printed (nominal cost) versions from <https://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/publications/>

Jesus' life, death and resurrection and the letters of the early church guide us in engaging with compassion in today's society: in our parish, in our Anglican communion, nationally, and intergenerationally.



'Climate for Change' Lenten Study Group

A six-weeks Lenten Study will meet at the Holy Covenant

Anglican Church Worship Centre (89 Dexter Street, Cook, details at <https://www2.holycovenant.org.au/>)

on Tuesdays, **beginning Tuesday 23 February** (with last session Tuesday 30 March) from 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

The Lenten Study will be based on materials developed by Russell Rollason AO for the Anglican Board of Mission in 2020 entitled 'Climate for Change'.

The complete study material is available for free and can be downloaded at:

<https://www.abmission.org/resources.php?action=list-items&catId=33>

To register, please send an email to:

quentin.grafton@gmail.com **AND** to Katy at pikjam3@gmail.com

with the subject heading 'Lenten Study Group: Climate for Change Registration'.

Registration is on a first a 'first come-first served' basis and all are asked to register by Tuesday 9 February, if at all possible.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, 23 February.

Katy and Quentin

SMALL GROUPS FOR 2021

A wide range of groups operate in the parish. Some have a spiritual focus while others emphasise social connections. In general, three types of groups operate:

1. *Spirituality* groups where the focus is explicitly about growing as disciples through prayer and study. We have groups that do meditation, Education for Ministry, reading groups like Lenten studies, and Grow Groups.
2. *Social* groups where the focus is a social activity that is fun and which provides opportunities to meet new people and have different experiences. Such groups include our Yarn group, Scrabble, Tai Chi and Playgroup.
3. *Missional* groups where the focus is a shared activity where participants engage in God's mission through acts of loving service. Such groups include the Holistic Care Nursing Ministries, the Community Garden, Kids Church and the young adults' Fruitful Fridays.

These groups will be featured over the next weeks with a focus on why they are important and how you might become involved.



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKES

Please bring pancakes and toppings to share at 6pm on Tuesday 16 February in the Worship Centre



ASH WEDNESDAY

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. It is an opportunity to change our hearts and minds while remembering with confidence that we are united with Christ who has overcome death and sin. As part of the service participants can receive the sign of the cross, written in ash, on their hands or foreheads as a reminder of their baptismal calling to let go of those things that hold us back and embrace our new life.

Worship Centre, 17 February at 6pm.



ALL SHE NEEDED WAS TO BE HEARD

I met LM outside the St John's Care Centre. She was sitting on the bench with her shoulders covered with a thin scarf. She was staring blankly into the sky. I

asked how I could help.

LM looked at me, her eyes filled with tears that spilled down her face. She said quietly, "I want to talk to someone, I need someone to hear me out".

I took LM to our garden bench at the back of SJC where it is quiet and peaceful. We asked if she wanted anything to eat or drink, LM said she did not. All she wanted was to talk to someone. So we sat down and she started to tell me her story.

LM's mother brought her up as a single parent, according to LM, her mother was "on and off" with love towards her. All she needed was to be loved, heard, hugged, and validated.

When LM was 18, her boyfriend physically abused her and when she fell pregnant, he continued to do so, which caused a miscarriage. She had one toxic relationship after another and several domestic violence situations where she ended up in hospital.

Four years ago, LM met a man who showed her kindness. A year after meeting, she gave birth to a beautiful girl. Unfortunately, it became obvious that this man was using substances and would become physically and emotionally abusive to LM and the baby whilst using them.

After a particularly bad incident, the police became involved. It was decided that it was too unsafe for the baby to stay in the house with LM and her partner. Their daughter was taken away from them by Child and Youth Protection Services (CYPS).

LM continued crying whilst telling me her story. She told me she cannot work anymore as her mind is filled with grief of loss and worry about her daughter's welfare. There are also endless court appearances as she fights to get her daughter back.

After an hour of listening, LM paused and a faint smile appeared on her face. She said, "Thank you for listening to me."

We agreed for her to come in for another session where I can refer her to other specialist services such as Legal Aid and a psychologist.

When LM left SJC she looked like a different person than the one that arrived, as a load had been lifted from her. All she needed was a caring, listening ear.

At SJC, we have seen a huge increase in the number of clients with trauma backgrounds. They often do not, or cannot, communicate their needs or their pain. Many have not been given a chance to be heard. We are very happy to help.

Kind regards,

Nailia, SJC Case Manager

Items required: sultanas (in small boxes for lunchboxes), juice poppers, savoury biscuits, shampoo & conditioner

MID WEEK ACTIVITIES RESUME ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS

Crafty Crew	Tuesday 16.02.21 9.30am. Rainbow Centre
Book Club	Thursday 18.02.21 2pm Rainbow Centre

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be held on Tuesday 16 February 2021 at 7.30pm in the Worship Centre (after Shrove Tuesday Pancakes at 6pm).

Papers for the AGM are available at the back of the church.

The Annual General Meeting is an opportunity for members to discuss our church's ministry over the past year (2020) and consider our priorities for the year ahead (2021), including the budget. We are looking to grow our capacity for ministry by supporting the addition of a curate and community chaplain (11 hrs per week).

HOW CAN I HELP?

Churches are like wheelbarrows. They only move when people push them! Your help can make our church a place that is satisfying and life-giving to everyone. There are four ways you might consider helping in the year ahead:

1. *The Building.* Your help doing things like mowing lawns, putting out chairs on Saturday afternoon and keeping the garden tidy all makes the building inviting and welcoming.
2. *Sunday Services.* Worship is great when people get to hear lots of different voices. You can make a big difference in a number of ways by helping out with hospitality at morning tea, reading the Bible, doing intercessions, serving in the sanctuary, meeting guests, running the AV desk, joining the music team by singing or playing an instrument.
3. *Volunteering.* Our missional groups need all kinds of helpers, from hospitality to driving vans, weeding gardens beds, meeting new people in the community, to helping with kids church. Cooking for our casserole bank makes a big difference for those dealing with unexpected challenges like illness or when money is tight.

A little bit of your help can make a great difference to the lives of many. Why not talk to Wayne or Wendy?



CHAIRS

Your help with putting out chairs for Sunday will make a big difference.

If you are able to assist could you please put your name and contact details on the sign up sheet on the board?

Chairs need to be set out either on Saturday or before 7.30am on Sunday



HCNM NEEDS YOU!

HCNM is starting its programs for 2021 on 1 February.

We're very keen for some more volunteers to join our

wonderful team.

Do you have a few hours to spare on a fortnightly or monthly basis?

Covenant Care needs volunteers across all activity areas. We would love some extra help for our monthly outings and our morning teas. Maybe you could help with office administration or assist Jennifer with her decluttering program?

Please see the HCNM display board outside the church, take a leaflet and contact Rhonda (0487 945 615) for more information.



SERVICE ROSTERS

Thanks to all those who have been able to assist in all the tasks needed to run Sunday Services.

We are now at a point where we are very short of people for all the duties at both services.

If you are able to assist in any of the duties, can you please contact Phil (office@holycovenant.org.au) in the office?

The current duties can be seen on the rosters just outside the office door.



CASSEROLES

Our casserole bank is almost empty. Can you help? Our regular band of cooks have been asked for support but hopefully there might be a few more people in the congregation who could make a casserole and pop it in the church freezer. Containers and labels are at the back of the church behind the sound desk.

FEBRUARY ANGLICAN NEWS

The February Anglican News is now out and is available on our website for any printing required.

To the page:

<http://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/>

Straight to the pdf on the website (larger size for printing):

<https://anglicancg.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Anglican-News-February-2021.pdf>

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Transfigure our towns and cities. We pray for areas of danger, for poor housing and for the street-dwellers
- ⇒ Transform our places of poverty; change our attitudes for the better towards each other

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ for all those living in abusive relationships that they may be know God's care and experience health and healing, wholeness and strength, calmness and peace

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Parish of Good Shepherd, Curtin & Cross Cultural Ministry
- ⇒ Fred Ward Gardens RSL Lifecare
- ⇒ Parish of St Peter's Weston
- ⇒ Organisations offering counselling, care and support to families and individuals; and plight of refugees and asylum seekers; and those suffering in the current Covid-19 pandemic

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ 10am Sunday Congregation
- ⇒ Young Adults Ministry
- ⇒ Shovel Community Garden— give thanks for the abundant harvest and ask for guidance as we consider have expanded the gardening community over the coming year
- ⇒ Resources group— for a good attendance at the working bee next Saturday
- ⇒ Tai Chi- for members of the group who have health issues. Give thanks for new members who liked the first week and intend returning
- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Wendy, Lachlan, Isla, Lainie, Tahli and Estelle Robertson; Clive Rodger; Maxine Rose; Luc Rose; and Sandra Ross.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button, Elizabeth Grant, Judith Ann, Bev Barnes, John Blue, Anne and Peter Bazeos, Violet Hart and Lucia Horciu and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

Sunday: **Julie Ann Shelley (d. 1978)**

COLLECT for last Sunday after Epiphany

Almighty God,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us faith to perceive his glory,
that being strengthened by his grace
we may be changed into his likeness,
from glory to glory;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God,
now and for ever. **Amen**

READINGS

2 Kings 2.1-12

Psalm 50.1-6

2 Corinthians 4.3-12

Mark 9.2-9

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Children's Worker

Wendy Robertson 0481458037
children@holycovenant.org.au

Youth Leadership Team

Celeste (0474 547 531), Remus, Sarah and Tobias
youth@holycovenant.org.au

Wardens

Paul Shelley 6251 1568
Joh Sheehan 6251 7151

Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore
6251 2009; rkmore@grapevine.com.au

Belonging and Caring

The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton
0407 408 333; rector@holycovenant.org.au

Curate and Community Chaplain

Wendy Robertson
0481458037 warobertson4@gmail.com

Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

Program Manager

Rhonda Thorpe
0487 945 615; nurse@holycovenant.org.au

Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

Program Director and Chaplain

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

Resources Team

0419 255 002

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Monday: **Ken Wedgwood, Jean Main**

Tuesday: **Jenny Lange**