

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



COMING UP

To join us on Zoom, please use the link below.

<https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlloZz09>

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

Password: 033643

SUNDAY 30 MAY

Seating limited to 75 people per service.
Sign in using Check In CBR App required
8am Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
The Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton
5pm Twilight Conversations

SUNDAY 6 JUNE

Seating limited to 75 people per service.
Sign in using Check In CBR App required
8am Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
The Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton
5pm Youth Alpha

Coming up

Thur 3 June—7.00pm Domestic and family violence recognising and responding

Fri 25 June—Family Trivia Night

June—11:30am Diving Deeper—Why Sing?

Sun 24 July - 6.00pm Parish Dinner

Fri 13—Sun 15 August—Parish Retreat

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

SUNDAY 30 MAY 2021 TRINITY SUNDAY AND RECONCILIATION WEEK

LOVE: FINAL REFLECTIONS AND SUMMARY

Over this month we have been exploring in the weekly readings the significance and importance of love to Christians. As Alan Jones declares: *“we have to take care what we love, because our loving determines our living.”* Love is at the heart of Jesus's commandments to us. Jesus, who laid down his life out of his great love for us, demands that we also love: that we love God with all of our being and our neighbour as ourselves. This is at the heart of our Christian identity and living. And we are promised that in accepting Jesus as our Lord and Saviour our lives will be radically changed as we are born again. We will know the joy and hope of eternal life as we grow in these marvellous relationships with God and one another. Noel Davis reflects:

“As we surrender to the Stillness and to the Trust that waits attentively within the old pattern of our lives is changed as each thread of fear is unpicked with care by Hand replaced with deft artistry by threads of Love and our new patterns of Life begins to appear.”

But, given the demands of loving, Jesus promised that after his return to The Father, Jesus would send us the Holy Spirit, helper and guide on our journey of faith. By owning our own failings and sin, our guilt is taken away. We can offer ourselves freely to live as The Spirit takes us, true nomads of the Spirit for the love of God.

The importance of the Spirit in this dance with God is reiterated in today's Romans reading. If we are guided by the Spirit we are invited not only to live, but to live in familial relationship with God as children of God, sharing not only in Christ's sufferings, but also in Christ's glory (Rom 8:14-17). On such promises rest our hope as Jesus's followers. But it all begins with God's extraordinary passion for us: *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him, shall not perish but have eternal life (Jn 3:16).”* We are beloved, forgiven, and welcomed home into the heart of God. And we are sent out to live a life of love.

Our journey with the Spirit continues until we find our rest in God, home with the Lord of Love forever. The Spirit hones and shapes us. Our hearts and minds, our values and prejudices, our sure views and allegiances, and our boundaries and fortresses which are designed by fear to exclude and protect, are constantly being challenged. Through this, our capacity for living out that love is stretched, and our vision of what love means is broadened, that we may truly encompass that passionate, boundless love of God in our lives. That invitation is to all. That table of fellowship is but one. Praise be to God.

Meryl Clark

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COLD AND IN DEBT

I was out the front of the St John's Care Centre having a chat with one of our donors last week when I saw a young man walking up the driveway with his head hanging low. As he got closer to the Centre, his body language suggested that he was feeling dejected. I introduced myself and asked what it was that I could do for him.

His head remained low as he passed me a gas bill. After reading the document, I noticed that it was disconnection notice. As a gust of cold wind blew our way, I made him a coffee and we sat on the grounds, away from the winter breeze.

KJ had been employed in the construction industry for years, working his way through an apprenticeship for years before becoming fully qualified. He had managed to juggle work, his studies, and his young family until recently when his partner, and the mother of his children, fell back into the habit of using drugs.

Determined to keep his family afloat, KJ made the bold step of packing up and moving the kids to a new home.

Although the fresh start had been exactly what his children had needed, their new house was old and was near impossible to keep warm. The house has a gas hot water system and is warmed by an old gas heater. With minimal insulation and two young children in the house, KJ regularly turned to the heater to keep the family warm.

He began to fall behind on his bills, and as the temperature continued to drop, his debt continued to rise. With KJ next to me, I contacted ActewAGL and spoke with the senior hardship officer, who we have worked closely with, to achieve positive outcomes for so many of our clients in the past.

We set up a payment plan for KJ and applied a concession to his account which resulted in a significant quarterly discount. KJ raised his head and for the first time a smile appeared across his face. We then set up a free energy assessment of KJ's house in the hope of identifying ways to make his home more energy efficient.

I gathered some groceries, warm children's clothes, and 2 winter doonas and packed them in KJ's car. I assured him that we would continue to support his family through the challenges they faced, and he was incredibly appreciative of this. KJ will visit the Centre again soon and I am keen to hear about the positive outcomes we have helped him achieve.

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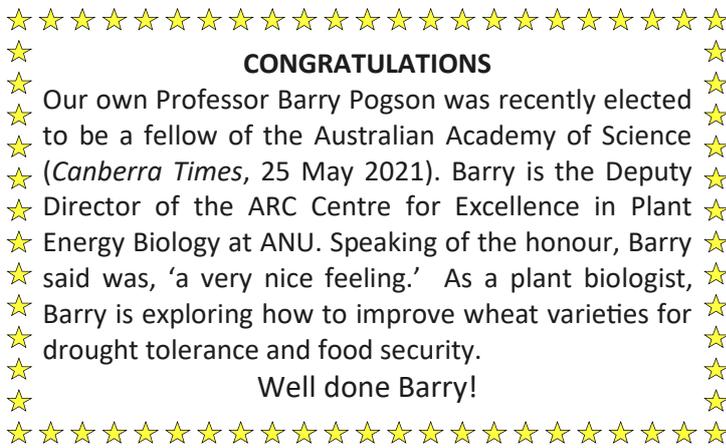
This week St John's Care is celebrating **National Volunteers' Week**. We would like to take this opportunity to recognise and sincerely thank all our wonderful volunteers for all their efforts.

We are blessed to have up to 50 volunteers who regularly donate their time in some capacity to contribute towards everything that we have achieved as a not-for-profit organisation.

We truly would not exist without the endless hours that volunteers, past and present, have put into our clients, and our organisation.

Kind regards,  
Robbie Speldewinde, Programs Coordinator

**Items Required:** Cup-a-Soup, tinned meat & vegetables, small fruits for school lunches, biscuits



## CONGRATULATIONS

Our own Professor Barry Pogson was recently elected to be a fellow of the Australian Academy of Science (*Canberra Times*, 25 May 2021). Barry is the Deputy Director of the ARC Centre for Excellence in Plant Energy Biology at ANU. Speaking of the honour, Barry said was, 'a very nice feeling.' As a plant biologist, Barry is exploring how to improve wheat varieties for drought tolerance and food security.

Well done Barry!

## HOLDING ON WITH SPINDLY LEGS

*Their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord. Psalm 112:7*

Regardless of our age God just keeps on giving and giving us experiences and I see that so much in creation. I marvel that during a storm with the wind blowing enough to shake the trees wildly even the tiniest of birds, with their spindly little legs can hold onto a branch and sleep and not fall off. I saw the wonder of God's creation when learnt that when a bird settles on a branch to sleep it bends its little knees and clutches the branch with its claws and in that moment the tendons in its legs form a lock and the bird is secure on the branch. I mean really, only God could create such a mechanism of safety for the birds. I am reminded of how we, in a storm of life or as we lay down in sleep can bend our knees before God and be secure in his love and safety.

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

Anne, servant of the Lord

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



*A little bird on a twig*



National Reconciliation Week is an annual celebration that is held from 27 May to 3 June each year that encourages us to continue to build relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples of all cultures in these lands now called Australia. This year's theme is *More Than a Word. Reconciliation Takes Action*. Christians in these lands now called Australia are asked to explore the idea *Treaty and Truth Telling for Healing Country*.

During National Reconciliation Week all Australians are invited to learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories, to share that knowledge and help us grow as a nation.

Common Grace had developed a range of resources that can help us with this journey. It is a growing movement of over 50,000 Australian Christians pursuing Jesus and Justice. Common Grace invites us to be led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christian Leaders to pursue friendship and Reconciliation in our lifetime.

Reconciliation Week begins on May 27, which was the anniversary of the 1967 Referendum that effectively gave Aboriginal peoples full citizenship

rights by finally being counted in the national census. It concludes on June 3 which was the anniversary of the 1992 Mabo decision that effectively overturned the lie our country had lived on - 'Terra Nullius' – 'empty land' or 'land belonging to no one'. Reconciliation week started as an outcome of the 1991 Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. Of 339 Recommendations made only a handful have ever been implemented. Christians that led the way when in 1993, the International Year of the World's Indigenous Peoples, we started the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation which was supported by Australia's major faith communities. In 1996, society caught up to the churches and we had Australia's first National Reconciliation Week.

Aboriginal Christian Leader and CEO of Common Grace, Brooke Prentis, calls us to "Rethink Reconciliation as friendship." She goes on to say "maybe if we thought about Reconciliation as friendship, we could close the gap a lot quicker". To Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, Reconciliation must be more than words. It needs to involve truth, justice, and action.

## ACTIONS FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

### Watch, Sign and Give

Over the Treaty and Truth Telling for Healing Country campaign over National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week 2021, Common Grace is calling people to take 3 actions - Watch, Sign and Give.

#### Watch for Healing Country

Our Treaty video officially launches our National Reconciliation Week campaign. This is a perfect opportunity to watch this video as a community to learn more about Treaty.

Please take 3 minutes to play the video on Common Grace's Facebook, Youtube, and website:

[www.commongrace.org.au/treaty](http://www.commongrace.org.au/treaty)

#### Sign for Healing Country

Common Grace has a petition calling for Treaty and Truth Telling.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have been calling for Treaty for decades and have been waiting on the unfulfilled promise for Treaty since 1988 when Prime Minister Bob Hawke promised a Treaty after receiving the Barunga Statement. We've been singing with Yothu Yindi about this broken promise since 1991! In the 2017 Statement from the Heart, the request for Treaty was made again.

The petition can be found online at

[www.commongrace.org.au/healingcountry\\_petition](http://www.commongrace.org.au/healingcountry_petition).

#### Give to the Reconciliation Appeal for Healing Country

This year, as part of 'Treaty and Truth Telling for Healing Country' Common Grace has launched a Reconciliation Appeal. Making a donation to the Reconciliation Appeal is a key part of your church's commitment to walk in friendship and pursue reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Reconciliation Appeal helps bring healing to these broken lands. By making a one off donation, we will help:

- Many more Christians to pursue Reconciliation
- Invest in the Treaty and Truth Telling campaign to make a big impact
- Empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christian Leaders to have their voices amplified
- Continue to employ an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Justice Coordinator as part of Common Grace
- Continue to equip many more churches to engage with Reconciliation

The appeal can be found at

[www.commongrace.org.au/reconciliationappeal](http://www.commongrace.org.au/reconciliationappeal)

# domestic and family violence

a conversation with Lifeline  
about recognizing and responding

Thursday 3 JUNE, 7pm

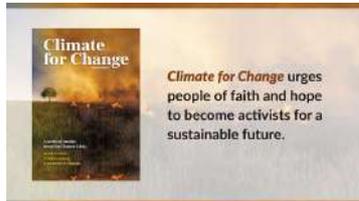


@ HOLY COVENANT CHURCH, 89 Dexter Street, Cook, ACT 2614  
Register online at <https://www.dvalert.org.au/dv-aware-cook-holy-covenant-anglican-church-cselif04773>



Abusive relationships are everywhere. No one plans or intends for them to happen. But they do. Controlling relationships can happen at any age to anyone, whether straight or queer, elderly, disabled or with kids.

As a carer it can be hard to notice the warning signs. It can be even harder to know what to ask or how to offer someone help. So if you're concerned for someone you care about who's living with a controlling relationship, why not find out more? Register online at <https://www.dvalert.org.au/dv-aware-cook-holy-covenant-anglican-church-cselif04773>.



'Climate for Change'  
Lenten Study Group

Climate for Change urges people of faith and hope to become activists for a sustainable future.

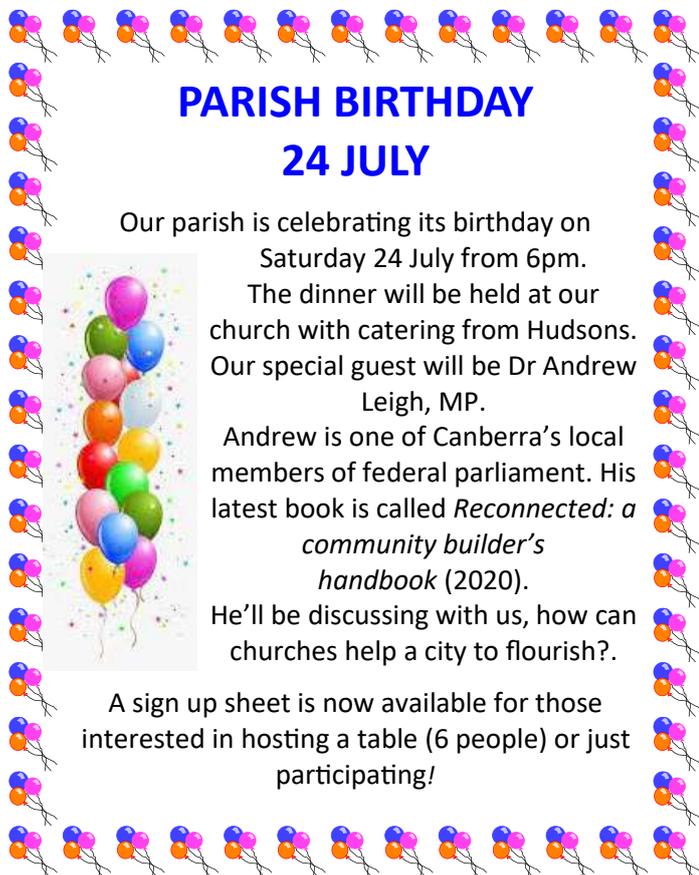
The last study of this series was deferred due to both leaders needing to be in quarantine.

The final meeting for Climate for Change will now be on Tuesday 8 June starting at 7:30pm.

## RED BALLOON OVER HOLY COVENANT AT PENTECOST



Did Wayne organise the red balloon over the church on Pentecost Sunday?



## PARISH BIRTHDAY 24 JULY

Our parish is celebrating its birthday on Saturday 24 July from 6pm. The dinner will be held at our church with catering from Hudsons. Our special guest will be Dr Andrew Leigh, MP. Andrew is one of Canberra's local members of federal parliament. His latest book is called *Reconnected: a community builder's handbook* (2020). He'll be discussing with us, how can churches help a city to flourish? A sign up sheet is now available for those interested in hosting a table (6 people) or just participating!



### OP SHOP WINTER SALE

Another Chance op shop is hosting a Winter sale with 50% off all clothing from Tuesday 1 June – Wednesday 30 June. Open weekdays 10am – 4:30pm, and Sat 10am-1pm you'll find Another Chance at Scullin shops, Ross Smith Crescent. The shop is a project of Mosaic Baptist church; "in the community, for the community".

## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

⇒ We pray for your creation that groans for salvation: for areas spoiled and desecrated by greed or insensitivity, for peoples misused, exploited and abused by others, for all places of deprivation or great poverty, for all who suffer from war or oppression

### IN AUSTRALIA

⇒ May the beats of many hearts create a beautiful symphony, In tune, In rhythm, With each other, with all of creation, and with Jesus,  
As we pray for justice to roll like the waves of the oceans that surround these lands now called Australia  
We pray to #ChangeTheHeart of Australia

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

⇒ Mission Agencies  
⇒ Missionary Work of the Church in Australia & Overseas  
⇒ Deacons in their specialised ministries  
⇒ Diocesan Clergy: Clergy currently on Long Service Leave, Study Leave or Exchange  
⇒ Retired Diocesan Clergy  
⇒ Clergy widows and widowers  
⇒ Vocations to missional service both at home and overseas

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

⇒ Yoga Classes  
⇒ Scrabble  
⇒ U3A Mahjong  
⇒ Japan Mah Jong  
⇒ Barnabas Ministries—The "Listen into Life" spiritual direction training program, in particular, the 30 participants and 11 program team  
The Soul Companions program and the eight participants who will graduate at the end of this year  
Continued opportunities to support individuals and groups in their ongoing spiritual journeys  
Wisdom for Barnabas Ministries Inc Committee and Director as they guide the work of the organisation  
⇒ For all members of our parish family including Andrew Feitz, Jodie Petrov and Oliver and Tobias; Karen Ferguson; George and Connie Gerrity; Elaine and John Gifford; and Angela Golubeff.  
⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button, Elizabeth Grant, Judith Ann, Bev Barnes, Anne and Peter Bazeos, Violet Hart and Lucia Horciu and anyone known to us personally.

### COMMEMORATIONS

**Tuesday:** John Philip Lane(d.2012)  
**Wednesday:** Isabel Hazelwood (d. 1994)

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

**Saturday:** Merrie Hepworth

## COLLECT for Trinity Sunday

O blessed Trinity,  
in whom we know the Maker of all things,  
seen and unseen,  
the Saviour of all, both near and far:  
by your Spirit enable us so to worship your divine majesty,  
that with all the company of heaven  
we may magnify your glorious name,  
saying, Holy, holy, holy.  
Glory to you, O Lord most high. **Amen**

## READINGS

Isaiah 6.1-8  
Psalm 29  
Romans 8.12-17  
John 3.1-17

## MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

### Children's Worker

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### Youth Leadership Team

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Joh Sheehan 6251 7151  
Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

### Prayer Vine

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### Belonging and Caring

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### Curate and Community Chaplain

Wendy Robertson  
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### Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

#### Program Manager

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### Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

#### Program Director and Chaplain

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### Honorary Priests

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Reverend Connie Gerrity

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### Resources Team

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