

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=YUtpa05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlloZz09>

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

Password: 033643

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

SUNDAY 13 JUNE

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

Coming up

Fri 25 June—Family Trivia Night

Sun 20 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 6 JUNE 2021 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHO WILL I SERVE?

The readings this week leave me with a recurring question: Who will I serve? In *1 Samuel 8*, the crowd demand 'Give us a king to lead us', so that the king can 'fight our battles'. We know how this story ends, so we can so easily become smug at their foolishness. Why do they need a king when Samuel tells them that have the Lord!

But let us not be swift to condemn past stupidities. We live in a world today where many of us are all too willing to give extra powers to leaders or governments to fight our battles whether it be to protect us from crime, stop the boats, save us from China, or whatever it is that we fear. Many leaders tap into this fear for their own ends and use the powers they are given, or that they acquire, to serve themselves rather than to serve others.

We no longer have kings to rule over us, but some of those in authority are all too willing to take more than their fair share of the modern-day equivalent of "best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves" as their recompense for assuaging our fears. In this bargain we may vote for leaders who promise to 'fix' the problems we most fear while ignoring their questionable actions and behaviours so long as we are not personally inconvenienced. Is that so different to what the Israelites were doing when they demanded to have their own kings to keep them 'safe'?

Psalm 138 offers another path. Who needs a king when we have a loving and faithful God? But this faith in

something more than what it is front of us, or the voting booth, is easier said than done. When the world appears to be going to hell perhaps the last place we turn to is heaven! We may even blame God for our own or the world's troubles. For without hope or faith, or faith in the material, how can we believe in a future?

Mark's Gospel (*Mark 3: 20-25*) holds the key as to where we should turn. In Jesus' words; "Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother." He points us to a spiritual, not a material, power and for each of us to do what is right for ourselves, for others, and the world around us. There is no Caesar, Great Leader, King, Führer or President that we need to look to or to save us. We need look no further than the Comforter (*John 14*), the Holy Spirit to guide us.

So what is it we should do? First and foremost, be sure to know that we are loved, and that our love must be shared with others. Be aware that we are not alone and we need to be part of, and to work together, in community. Be careful to look to the spiritual for inspiration so that 'Therefore we do not lose heart' (*2 Corinthians 4:16*) because faith in earthly leaders and their promises frequently disappoints. But, in the end, all of us are going to have to serve somebody...

Gotta Serve Somebody (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wC10VWDTzmU>)

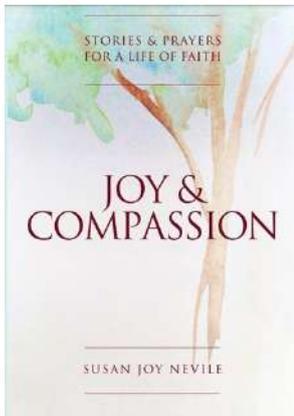
Who will you serve?

Quentin Grafton

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STORIES FROM THE HEART

Susan Joy's book was launched at an event held at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture. Reflections about Susan Joy's life and work were shared by colleagues, friends and family. This week, her husband Maurice Neville described his journey preparing Susan Joy's stories for publication. Reflections from the day will feature over the next few weeks.



I am Maurice Neville, Susan Joy's husband of almost thirty years, and I compiled and edited her writings and brought them to publication.

I'll begin by acknowledging that we meet today on the land of the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples, the traditional custodians of the Canberra and ACT region, and by recognising their continuous connection to culture, community and Country.

A few months after Susan Joy passed away, I found a folder of her writings with a note taped to the cover describing them as "my voice, on faith and how to live as a person of faith in this world". I subsequently found many more writings, in various places, and I realised how remarkably consistent they were in purpose, form, and style. I realised that together they could be a book. The result is a collection of more than 80 reflections, each oriented around 'stories' and each focussed on a specific aspect of faith life. Every reflection is accompanied by a directly-related prayer. Together, the reflections show how a life of faith is one of joy and compassion, as gifts from God for how we can live, and live with others, to become the people God knows we can be.

Susan Joy had a love of 'story'. She believed that 'story' was a powerful means for understanding ourselves, our experiences, and our relationship with God. The book's stories are drawn from the Bible, but also from well beyond, such as ordinary moments of life or from literature, especially children's books, and from movies and even sport and politics. So, alongside Bible figures, great and otherwise, we hear too about Charlie Brown and friends, Indiana Jones, Mary Poppins, Lucy and Aslan from the Narnia books, a fourth wise man, and a bird who shares bread with a homeless person, among many many others!

Susan Joy was a 5-year educated primary and early childhood teacher. She later completed training as a Lifeline Crisis Counsellor, and in Clinical Pastoral Education. She completed a Master of Ministry

degree and a Diploma of Anglican Orders at St Mark's National Theological Centre. In 2009 she was ordained into the permanent diaconate of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn. She was an accomplished worship leader. She was an avid reader. She had a passion for creativity and colour. She was a mother of three.

Susan Joy writes from her extensive experience as a school chaplain, as a hospital and hospice pastoral carer, as a teacher of Religious and Values Education, and as a children's and family minister. She was a humble person of quiet wisdom and calm presence, whose gift was to come alongside people right where they were in life, to listen, to care, and when possible, to bring peace, strength, and guidance.

In this book, she constantly encourages us to reflect on our own life stories and how they relates to others' stories, to Christ's story, and to God's great story for the world. Through this book her voice on faith can be heard, and her ministry to come alongside and to care for people ... continues.

Speaking as a publishing academic, I can tell you that are some words that you long to hear when others review or read and respond to your work. I'll pick just three: 'insightful', 'elegant', and 'important'. OK, I am biased, and *Joy and Compassion* is NOT an academic text, it is a book for everyone, BUT to me it IS all those. It is full of *insights* on the characters and circumstances of life and faith, it shows throughout her *gift for writing* that is deeply thoughtful and crafted, but still kind and clear and highly accessible, and it is *important* because it seeks no less than to support readers in their faith, in how to live and how to be, as God hopes for them, with joy and with compassion.

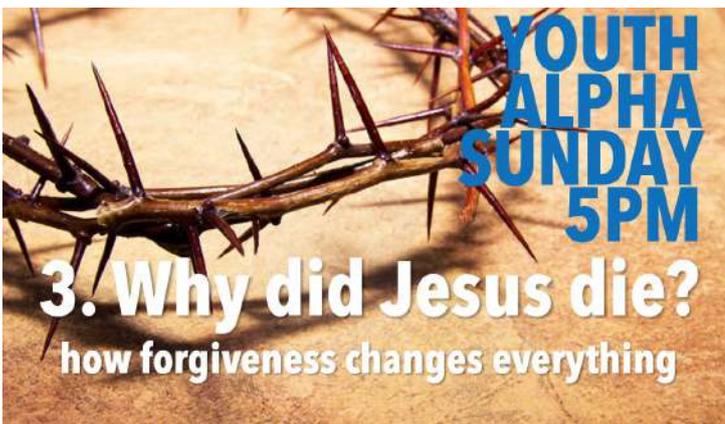
BUT, more than those three words, it is a *beautiful* book. That is the word people most commonly use when they describe the book to me. It is physically beautiful - thank you to Coventry Press! - and it shows throughout a beautiful voice and heart. Again, thank you for being here to launch and celebrate Susan Joy's book.

Maurice Neville

YOUR OFFERTORIES

Generosity is what allows churches to move and grow. In 2020, regulars were encouraged to make their offertory through direct credit facilities with their banks. It made a big difference for us as giving often falls behind expenses when people go away over winter for weeks at a time. We'd encourage regulars to keep using direct credit so that we can avoid the stress of falling behind.

While many things are back to normal, COVID restrictions mean that we are still unable to pass the offertory plate around the congregation during the service. The plate is still available on the table at the rear of the church. Any who wishes to use offertory envelopes is welcome to do so. New boxes of envelopes are available if you wish to use this method of giving. Don't worry as they have last year's dates printed on them. We figured it was better to reuse and recycle!



'Have a Good Yarn'

Have a Good Yarn group is a chat and knitting group .

Meeting on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month 10.30am to 12.30 pm in the worship centre. The next one is 8th June 2021

Any queries to Sandra Ross 0408438770

sandraross@ozemail.com.au

FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT FRIDAY 25 JUNE 2021 AT THE WORSHIP CENTRE

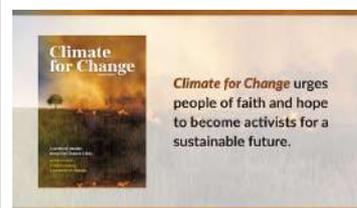
Start thinking about who could be in your team, watch all the quiz programs on the television for practice, and come along and see how you go!

Further details and sign-up sheet on the board next week.

DIVING DEEPER

Why do we sing?
a conversation about
music and church
20 June, 11.30am

Our second conversation in our series about worship will explore the question, why do we sing at church? Join us for a conversation that will explore the differences between traditional and contemporary music and how we can enrich the experience here at Holy Covenant, after the 10am service from 11.30am - 12.30pm.



'Climate for Change' Lenten Study Group

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.

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".



CONCERN FOR POTENTIAL LOSS OF ELECTRICITY

Earlier this month I looked out of the St John's Care Centre window and saw a woman driving into the carpark in her old car - which had obvious signs of unrepaired damage all over it. She opened the car door slowly, stepped out and walked towards our Centre. I opened the door and greeted the woman, she was polite, but very reserved.

Jolene (not her real name) and I sat down for a chat and the deeper she went into her story, the more emotional pain could be seen on her face.

Some years ago, Jolene lost her two children to an accident she said that she never fully recovered from. As a result of this, she still suffers immense depression and PTSD. Jolene explained that due to her mental illness she can't work and the complex treatment medications she has are expensive.

On top of that difficulty, Jolene started to fall behind on her electricity bill, which was close to \$950 and currently overdue. Disconnection notices started to arrive in the mail.

Huge worries were 'paralysing' her day in day out, she stopped opening her mail as she feared reading the notices and seeing debts piling up. Jolene was deeply worried about her electricity supply being cut off and went into 'shut down from the world' mode.

It was her friend who was a client of St John's Care who insisted Jolene come to our Centre. Luckily, she did.

During her visit, we provided her with plenty of fresh vegetables and fruit, as well as some long life food to last her a few weeks.

We called Care Financial and introduced Jolene to their amazing caring team who were able to book an appointment for Jolene to see them the next day. We paid for half of her overdue electricity bill to take some of the burden off her shoulders and to give her some hope.

Jolene could not believe what was happening! She didn't say much, she just started crying and her body language showed her appreciation. Joy and relief from worries made her speechless.

A couple of weeks later, I made a follow up phone call to Jolene and it was as if I were speaking to a different person. She was over the moon about the outcomes of St John's Care support and raved about how Care Financial were able to negotiate a payment plan with her electricity provider to best suit Jolene's capacity to pay it off.

She told me that the day she came into SJC was her lucky day, she now feels more hopeful and a little more optimistic about the future. She said there are still difficulties she needs to address, but at least she has electricity in her flat and the bills are less of a worry.

I would like to thank St John's Care donors for their generous help. It makes a real difference to peoples' lives.

Kind regards,

Nailia, SJC Case Manager

Items Required: powdered milk, biscuits - sweet and savoury, tinned meat, tinned fruit 820g, Weet-Bix, honey, olive oil.

RECONCILIATION

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

Tjukarpa palya Jesunya is the name on the New Testament I have in the language of the Pitjantjatjara people of the far north west of South Australia. In English it translates: *This man Jesus is good.*

The ancient peoples of that area still speak their language and they have added new words and actions that they value from our language, words like Jesus. Their timeless stories of creation blend with ours and fit in likeness and they have a very deep and rich spirituality. For them and for us surely the name of Jesus must be a point of reconciliation.

I like this line from the Prayer for Reconciliation from APBA: Lord God, bring us together as one, different in culture, but given new life in Jesus Christ, together as your body, your church, your people.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Anne, servant of the Lord

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



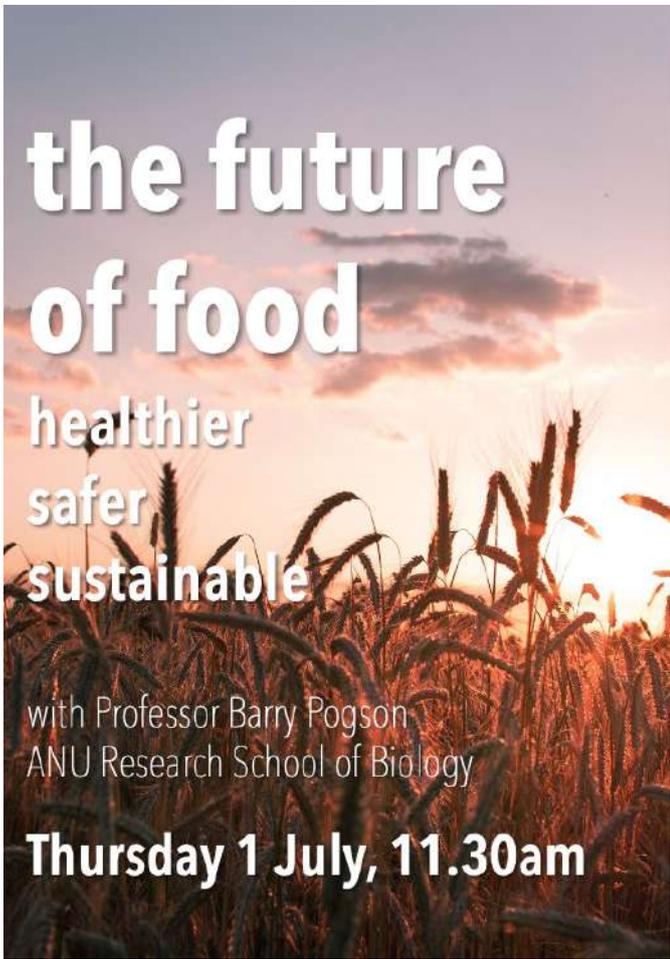
Lord God, bring us together as one

RECONCILIATION DAY AND POETRY ...

On Reconciliation and Poetry ... here is a link to a famous poem by a well-known indigenous poet ... [We are going – Oodgeroo Noonuccal \(Kath Walker\) Comments | my word in your ear](https://mywordinyourear.com/2021/05/28/we-are-going-oodgeroo-noonuccal-kath-walker-comments/) (https://mywordinyourear.com/2021/05/28/we-are-going-oodgeroo-noonuccal-kath-walker-comments/)

... also below is my personal encounter with 'the cover up' expressed in poetic terms ... [Red Rock Headland | my word in your ear](https://mywordinyourear.com/2019/01/31/red-rock-headland/) (https://mywordinyourear.com/2019/01/31/red-rock-headland/)

Richard Scutter



the future of food

healthier
safer
sustainable

with Professor Barry Pogson
ANU Research School of Biology

Thursday 1 July, 11.30am

Canberra Women's Christian Convention

Running from a Gracious God

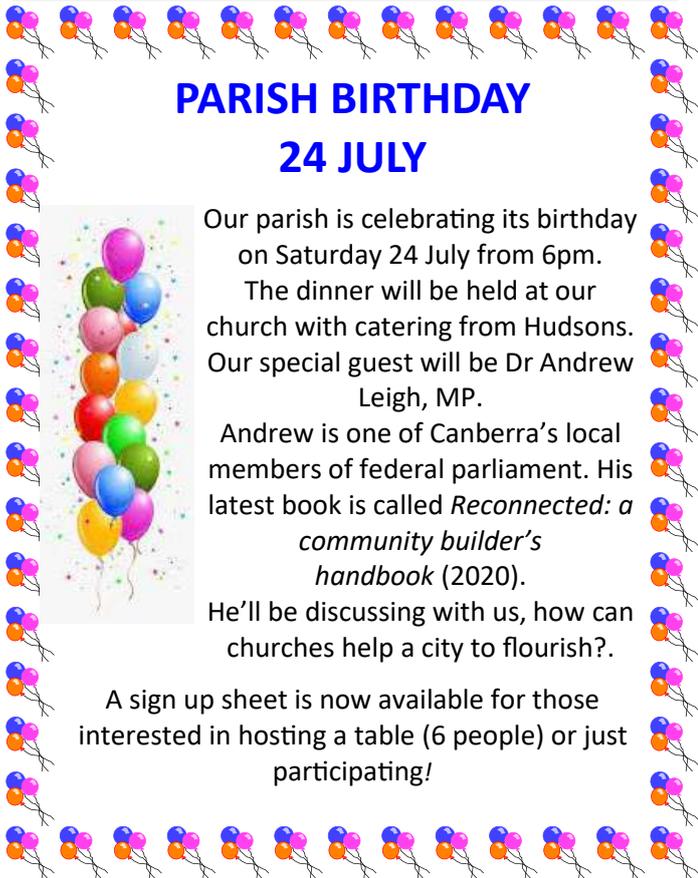
Saturday 18 September

Helen Bell will be preaching from the book of Jonah

Early bird Registration is now open

Tickets are available at [https://](https://canberrachristianconventions.org.au/womens/)

canberrachristianconventions.org.au/womens/



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!

FROM THE TREASURER

Offerings in May (direct credit and plate) were \$20,200 – a little above budget, but total income was below budget mainly owing to reduced fee income from hiring our facilities. We are in discussion with two new groups who are interested in using the Worship and Rainbow Centres, and parish council has been reviewing the current hiring arrangements.

We rely on the parish community's regular offerings for 80% of our income. We are pleased to advise that in the five months to the end of May offerings were close to budget. We thank you all for your faithful financial stewardship.

Expenses in May were \$23,250 which was close to budget. Approximately 65% of our expenses are salaries and associated allowances.

Paul Shelley

becoming well

TOWARDS HOPEFULNESS

*A monthly conversation about mental health
to help us care for others better*

1 July – men and depression
with Alistair Jones from Everyman

5 August – digital life for families
with Toni Hassan, journalist and Associate Fellow at
the Australia Institute for Responsible Technology

2 September – what's new with eating disorders
with Dr Denise Riordan, Centre for Mental Health Research

CEO SLEEPOUT

The St Vincent de Paul CEO Sleepout fundraiser for the homeless, on 17 June, raises funds to support the most vulnerable in our local communities. COVID has resulted in more homeless people in Canberra needing these services, but also greater challenges in raising funds. If you would like to sponsor Neville Tomkins OAM JP, who is participating in the annual Sleepout for his 10th year, please go to:

<https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/ceos/act-ceos/neville-tomkins-scouts-australia/>

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ We pray for all who suffer from the dangers of war, for the dispossessed and refugees; for the hungry and those who cannot feed their children; for those who have no work or means of support. Help us to do your will, to work for your reign of justice and peace
- ⇒ Continue to pray for all affected by the coronavirus

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ For all who are caught up in crime or addiction, for all who are giving their allegiance to wrong things or feel trapped in circumstances beyond their control
- ⇒ Continue to pray both for a good delivery of coronavirus vaccinations and the continued control of the infection

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Bendigo
- ⇒ Canberra Grammar School
- ⇒ Canberra Girls' Grammar School
- ⇒ Anglican News
- ⇒ Cursillo Movement generally

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ Congregations—8am Sunday
- ⇒ Children's Ministry—for more willing volunteers for this ministry
- ⇒ Parish Council/Wardens
- ⇒ Holistic Care Nursing Ministries—that clients, staff and volunteers will stay well and safe as winter approaches. Give thanks for good numbers on the Outings program
- ⇒ Rainbow Playgroup—Gratitude for the opportunity to extend hospitality and to show love in this way
- ⇒ Lids4Kids
- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Quentin Grafton and Carol-Ann Kubanek; Elizabeth Grant; Janice Green and Perry and Cassandra Wiles; Jean Groves.
- ⇒ 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.

COLLECT for Second Sunday after Pentecost

Almighty God,
give us such a vision of your purpose,
and such an assurance of your love and power,
that we may ever hold fast the hope which is in Jesus
Christ our Lord;
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

READINGS

- 1 Samuel 8.4-20
- Psalm 138
- 2 Corinthians 4.13-5.1
- Mark 3.20-35

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Children's Worker

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Youth Leadership Team

Tobias, Lou and Remus
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Wardens

Deranie Jackson 0408 443 709
Joh Sheehan 6251 7151
Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore
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Belonging and Caring

The Reverend Dr Wayne Brighton
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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

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM
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Honorary Priests

Reverend Anne Dudzinski
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Reverend Connie Gerrity

0429 423 725; connie@gerrity.id.au

Resources Team

0419 255 002

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Tuesday: Lucy Wood