

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



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

<https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUcja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRII0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

**Kids church is on at 10am Sundays in person.**

**Young Adults at 10:30am Sundays**

Meeting ID: 851 1798 8397

Passcode: Y4wsCZ

## SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER

Registration required by TryBooking  
8am

<https://www.trybooking.com/BUYMM>  
10am

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

8am and 10am Holy Communion

Celebrant and Preacher:

The Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton

5pm – Twilight conversations

## SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER

Registration required by TryBooking  
8am

<https://www.trybooking.com/BVDGD>  
10am

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

8am and 10am Holy Communion

Celebrant :

The Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton

Preacher: The Rev'd Connie Gerrity

3.30pm: Colours of God

5pm – Youth Alpha

## Coming up

Confirmation – Sunday 5 December with  
Bishop Stephen Pickard

## Bank Details for Direct Debit are:

Bank: Commonwealth Bank

Branch: Jamison Centre, ACT

BSB: 062 907

A/C No: 802588

Name: Holy Covenant Anglican Church

**SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER 2021**

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

## Psalm 146

The Psalms of the Hebrew Bible are a wonderful consolation for so many. In 150 Psalms there is praise for God for his power and beneficence, for the beauty of the world, for the deliverance of Israel. They also contain lament, questioning, anguish, wisdom, bewilderment, consolation, doubt and confidence in God. They provide the means to come to prayer with a fresh state of mind.

Today's Psalm 146 is a Psalm of praise. It is one of the Psalms that conclude the Psalms with hymns of praise. This Psalm expresses praise to God *singing praises to God all my life long*. It urges us to get our priorities right. Trust God, not human frailty. God is eternal, human beings are ephemeral and finite. God's eternal existence extends over all generations. Placing our allegiance with the influencers, heroes and those with huge Facebook following is warned against. All are subject to death, their influence evaporates. Not so with God.

Psalm 146: 5-9 extols the wonderful characteristics of God. Happy are those God helps and those who put their faith in God. Why is this so?

God made heaven and earth, the seas and everything within them.

God is wrapped in justice: it is he who keeps truth and faith. God is moral and upright.

God is the God of creative power: it is God who provides. God is the source of food for prisoners and

the hope of freedom. God protects, supports and cares.

God provides the triple blessing of justice, bread and liberty.

But there is more. God also:

Opens the eyes of the blind. God is compassionate and responds to human need.

Lifts up those who are downtrodden and burdened.

God is universal in looking after the strangers, those outside the system: he upholds the orphan and the widow.

This is a God worthy of praise, our love and service. All these characteristics are manifest in the life of Jesus who opened the eyes of the blind, who raised up those bowed down, who loved and supported the righteous and blessed the fatherless and widow.

Importantly Psalm 146 reminds us of the consequences of not following God: *the way of the wicked he brings to ruin*. The wicked ultimately fail. God's reign crushes evil. The resurrection is the ultimate confirmation of this.

This Psalm concludes:

The Lord will reign forever ... for all generations  
Praise the Lord.

God's wonderful giving knows no end, its abundance is overwhelming. God's love creates, sustains, liberates, supports, cares, and is inclusive. Let us praise the Lord.

*Clive Rodger*

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



## No Longer Safe

I received an email from a man who reached out to St John's Care three weeks ago – he described his story to me. C is a middle aged man who had lived in a two bedroom house for eight years with his wife and two daughters. C and his wife were never wealthy, but had always managed to provide a stable and safe environment for their young family. The two children shared a bedroom, and the family managed with one bathroom – although this certainly provided its challenges.

Early this year, C lost his job when COVID-19 forced large sections of the work force into unemployment. Money became increasingly tight, and the family began to face significant financial struggles. C described the pressure that their finances had placed on their marriage, which ultimately triggered their split.

C's wife struggled to come to terms with the family's sudden change in fortune, and turned to alcohol to cope. Their relationship continued to fracture, and after weeks of friction, it turned violent.

C was desperate to escape with his children, and contacted the police to report the incident. His wife remained in the family home, and he moved to a cheap motel. With little money to his name, C recalls reaching his breaking point while watching his children eat instant noodles for breakfast, and he decided to reach out for support.

After reading his email, I immediately contacted C and asked him to visit our Centre. I met him outside our Centre, his young daughters following closely behind him. We took a seat in the courtyard and I began to collect some basic information.

C was reluctant to ask for help, but after insisting, he conceded that the family were desperate for fresh fruit, vegetables, meat and some clothing for the children. Our volunteers put together a family pack complete with healthy snacks for the kids. We gave C clothing for the kids, and provided him with a donated gift card to purchase some additional clothes.

I went to our storage room and found some presents to occupy the children over the coming weeks – C was grateful, his children appeared more so! We contacted Housing ACT and Onelink to begin applying for more stable accommodation options. We connected C with Mensline Australia, an organisation that provides support to men and boys experiencing domestic and family violence and relationship difficulties.

In the three weeks since C's first visit to SJC, we have provided him and his family with regular hot meals and fresh food. We have assisted with contributions towards his accommodation costs. C has connected with other fathers in similar situations through Mensline, and believes this was most helpful. We have supported C in

finding affordable living options, and are pleased to announce that he is in the process of securing an apartment this week.

I look forward to hearing from C as he transitions into his new home, and would like to thank all of those who are involved in providing emergency relief to those who need it most.

This story provides a very real and raw insight into the adversities that so many families are facing within the ACT community and beyond, and is a reminder of the importance of supporting our fellow community members.

Robbie Speldewinde,  
Programs Coordinator

**Items required:** School Lunch Snacks, Biscuits, 1 Litre UHT Full Cream Milk, Powdered Milk

### GOD IN CREATION

*For in him all things were created.*

*Col 1:16*

Whether it's a thick fog full of mystery, a storm of lightening and clashing thunder, a brilliant sunrise, an even more brilliant sunset, crashing waves on the sea shore, birds of every type filling our skies or flowers, a kaleidoscope of colour in the garden, it is all made by the hand of God our creator and I say, 'When you see the beauty around you, let each little detail remind you to lift your head in praise.' O God, our God, how wonderfully you have made it all for our joy and delight.

I love that song which goes: I see the skies of blue, clouds of white, the bright blessed day, the dark sacred night and I say to myself, what a beautiful world. (Louis Armstrong)

Each day. Every day lift your head and thank God for all you see.

Grace and peace from the Lord Jesus Christ  
Anne, servant of the Lord.



Yes, he made you too!



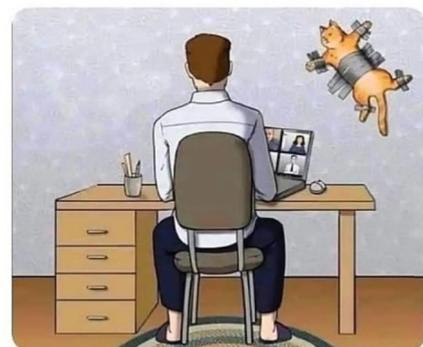
# Cuppa & Chat

It's time to reconnect!  
Come and talk to your Holy  
Covenant friends and enjoy a warm  
drink and morning tea. All welcome.

Thursday 4 November  
10:30-12:00

Holy Covenant Anglican Church  
89 Dexter St  
Cook  
Call Wendy 0481 458 037 for more information

## How to prepare for a Zoom meeting



Thanks to Wayne for continuing with our zoom services over lockdown. It's not easy preaching to an empty church.

Thanks also to the sound desk people, particularly Mark Cooper-Stanbury and Anne and Martin Lange for their dedication.

### RUNNING OUT OF READING MATERIAL DURING LOCKDOWN??



No need to worry, the Street Library in the foyer of the church can meet your needs.

Take one and leave one or just take one. And while you're there you can help yourself to wool from the container to make warm scarves and hats for St John's Care to distribute at the start of

## GREAT GARDEN DAY SATURDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2021

We are planning a Great Garden Day! Come and help clean up our gardens, have a sausage sandwich, tea or coffee and a catch up with people not seen for a while.

Please keep potting plants which can be sold at the garden day. More details later.

**WEDNESDAY COMMUNION SERVICE** at 12 noon will recommence this coming week, 3 November. Please bring some lunch to share afterwards.

### DINNER CLUB

1st Tuesday of the Month  
Is meeting on 2 November at 6pm  
Good Food! Good Company! Good Vibrations!  
At the Southern Cross Club in Jamison  
Please confirm attendance with Hilary 6251 8166



## ROAD TO REOPENING

Restrictions are easing shortly as vaccination targets are achieved. It will be important for us to maintain social distancing and other safe practices.

We value our freedom to love and serve our neighbours. We encourage all volunteers and participants in worship and other activities to be vaccinated, noting that some may have a medical exemption or not be old enough to receive it. Unvaccinated adults and those concerned about their health should continue to participate using ZOOM during this transition period.

Our reopening is likely to proceed through a series of steps:

### The next step from 29 October

- face masks (indoors only) and QR Codes required
- attendance based on 1 per 4 sqm or 50 people in worship centre
- morning tea at worship may recommence
- Home and pastoral visits of up to 10 people can recommence
- Kid's church will resume in-person on 31 October, going to Rainbow Centre directly

### Step 3 in late November / December

- face masks (indoors only) and QR Codes required
- in-person music to resume when singing is permitted
- HCNM and Colours of God are discussing the process for returning to activity

Thanks for all your patience and prayers as in-person activity slowly resumes as restrictions ease.

Wayne

# ST MARK'S OPEN DAY

**Our annual Open Day is coming up!**

And this year, you'll have TWO dates to choose from.

Come speak to lecturers, learn about our courses, and find out how you can deepen your faith and enhance your work and ministry by studying with us — all from the comfort of your natural surroundings.

2PM SAT 6 NOV  
7PM WED 17 NOV



ONLINE  
**OPEN  
DAY**

ON ZOOM



Choose a gift \*\* Send a card \*\* Fight poverty

See <https://www.usefulgifts.org/> or ...

... watch out next month for this year's Useful Gifts 'shop' at morning tea. It's so easy to bring hope, education, empowerment through **tearfund**

2021 coordinator: *Elaine Gifford*

CASTLE OF KINDNESS REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP GROUP

## Open Garden Fundraiser

BRIC A BRAC! ART! CONTESTS!

SATURDAY 6TH NOV  
10:00AM-4:00PM  
67 WAGABOND CR  
MCKELLAR

MORNING TEA!

BOOK STALL!

FUN FOR KIDS!

CRAFT! COVID SAFE!

PLANT STALL!

AFTERNOON TEA!

\$5 ENTRY PER PERSON (UNDER 5YRS FREE)



## SHARING YOUR GIFTS

COVID has been a time when many people have started to rethink what's important to them and where their energy and attention is most needed. Usually the list starts with work and family. Then comes sport, birthdays and holidays. Church sometimes peaks in just ahead of cleaning out the shed.

Did you know that church is one of the few places where the quality of the experience depends on those who participate voluntarily?

Everything at church depends on people giving their time and energy for others. Whether it is putting out the seats we sit on, greeting each other at the door, paying music or running the video cameras, helpers make all the difference.

Our worship is open to all people, irrespective of their age, orientation, gender, class, background or impairment. This is why we need to see all kinds of people in the sanctuary whether they are carrying the cross, reading with expression, praying with passion or helping out with communion.

Morning tea is everyone's favourite time. Without people to make the coffee and share the cake, we all head home feeling like something was missing.

I hope you might think you could give it a go. We'd love to hear your voice, share your perspective or make your contribution to the mix that is Holy Covenant.

If you want to have a go, talk to Wayne. We can give you a brief role description, some pointers to help you grow in confidence and heaps of encouragement for the journey.

We just can't make church without you.

*Wayne Brighton*

# Advent Invitations

amid COVID uncertainties

## ANSD Quiet Day

with Dr Frances MacKay

Saturday 27 Nov 2021

9.30 am to 3pm



Although we are emerging from lockdown, we might still feel we are in a wilderness of uncertainty. This Quiet Day is an opportunity to reflect on how we might make a way in this wilderness by pondering what has been germinating in us during the extended time of compulsory retreat imposed by COVID, and what might now be seeking to be born in us and in our world at this time.

Are we, like Mary, willing to say 'yes' to what has been given us to birth – for our own sake and for the sake of the world? Even without knowing what that might be? In pondering these powerful archetypal themes of gestation, annunciation, creativity and birthing, we shall be seeking wisdom and inspiration not only from scripture, but also poets and mystics of different eras.

Frances MacKay, after retiring from university teaching, continues pastoral supervision, spiritual companionship and retreat facilitation. She is particularly grateful for the companionship of nature and books, as well as opportunities to find community via Zoom, at a time when face-to-face contact with others has been so restricted.

Please RSVP by Friday 19 November to [ansdact@gmail.com](mailto:ansdact@gmail.com)

**Venue:** Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall St, Barton, Canberra (off Kings Ave, parking available). This event is subject to Zoom delivery, depending on numbers and social restrictions at the time. Venue or Zoom details to be advised closer to the date.

**Cost:** \$30 (cash only on the day) Electronic transfer to "Australian Network for Spiritual Direction" / BSB 032-719 / Account 301 994 / Reference: SurnameQD

Please arrive by 9:20am for registration. Morning tea provided. Please BYO lunch and journal.

Outdoor reflection possible, weather permitting. Further enquiries: Annie Patterson, ANSD Convenor for Canberra & Region, 0450 488 278.



## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

⇒ We give thanks for all who live dedicated lives in our world, all who by sacrifice and goodness maintain the fabric of our society.

### IN AUSTRALIA

⇒ We pray for all who are the church but cannot come to church, all who are hindered through disability, or other infirmities.

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

⇒ The National Council of Churches in Australia  
⇒ Council of the Church in South-East Asia (Anglican) and the Christian Conference of Asia (Ecumenical)  
⇒ ACT Churches' Council Inc  
⇒ Religious Orders serving within the Anglican Church of Australia  
⇒ Pray for: Partner relationships between our Church and other Churches of Asia and the Pacific especially those in Indonesia our nearest geographic neighbour.

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

⇒ Congregations – 5pm Sunday  
⇒ Belonging and caring team  
⇒ Monastery of the Heart  
⇒ Work Health and Safety  
⇒ Curate and Community Worker – Wendy Robertson  
⇒ For all members of our parish family including Barry and Sandra Button; John and Marg Christensen; David and Mel Clark; and James Collier.  
⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button, Elizabeth Grant, Bev Barnes, Brianna Smith and anyone known to us personally.

### COMMEMORATIONS

**Monday:** Arthur Olsen (d. 2005)  
**Friday:** Paul Bruce Free (d. 2010)

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

**Tuesday** – Raphael Wood  
**Thursday** – Tobias Nevile

Australian Anglican Church

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Ideal for gifts!

Contact

[www.aachurchcalendar.com](http://www.aachurchcalendar.com)



## COLLECT for 23rd Sunday After Pentecost

God of peace,  
you taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved,  
in quietness and confidence shall be our strength:  
by the power of your Spirit  
lift us to your presence,  
where we may be still and know that you are God;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### READINGS

Ruth 1:1-18      Hebrews 9:11-15  
Psalm 146      Mark 12:13-17, 28-34

## MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

### Children's Worker

Wendy Robertson 0481 458 037  
[children@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:children@holycovenant.org.au)

### Youth Leadership Team

Tobias, Lou and Remus  
[youth@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:youth@holycovenant.org.au)

### Wardens

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

### Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore  
6251 2009; [rkmore@grapevine.com.au](mailto:rkmore@grapevine.com.au)

### Belonging and Caring

The Reverend Dr Wayne Brighton  
0407 408 333; [rector@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:rector@holycovenant.org.au)

### Curate and Community Chaplain

Wendy Robertson  
0481 458 037 [warobertson4@gmail.com](mailto:warobertson4@gmail.com)

### Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

#### Program Manager

Rhonda Thorpe  
0487 945 615; [nurse@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:nurse@holycovenant.org.au)

### 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](mailto:connie@gerrity.id.au)

### Resources Team

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