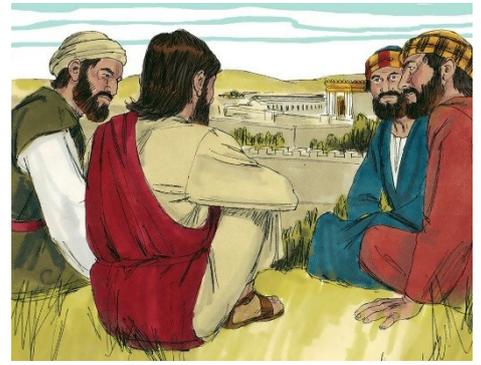


HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2021

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Mark 13: 1-8 – Great buildings and Prophecies of Doom

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

<https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUJpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRll0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

Kids church is on at 10am Sundays in person.

Young Adults at 10:30am Sundays

Meeting in person.

SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER

Registration required by TryBooking
8am

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

10am

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

8am and 10am Holy Communion

Celebrant: The Rev'd Anne Dudzinski

Preacher: The Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton

5pm – Twilight Conversations

SUNDAY 21 NOVEMBER

8am and 10am Holy Communion

Celebrant and Preacher:

The Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton

5pm – Youth Alpha

Coming up

Confirmation Sunday 5 December with
Bishop Stephen Pickard

Working bee Saturday 20 November

Big garden day Saturday 27 November

Community lunch Thursday 7 December

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

Today's Gospel reading from Mark 13 is a difficult passage about the present and the future. There are two aspects that stand out – great buildings and prophecies of doom.

Large stones, great and large buildings. The church seems to be like the disciples: impressed with great buildings. Some of the most beautiful buildings in the world are churches. For much of the second millennium they were the pinnacle of beauty and architectural and engineering innovation. Vast sums were spent on their creation which took scores of years.

Jesus' response to his disciples comments about the grandeur of the Temple is hardly confirmatory of their greatness. This is not surprising. Look at Jesus' life: no buildings, no organisational structure and an ignominious and humiliating death.

I have just finished reading Martyn Percy's *The Humble Church* and I draw from it in this reflection. The church can be narcissistic which Percy dubs "ecclesial narcissism". This contrasts with the way the Church should be: beings humble, for it is in humility that we have the capacity to see ourselves honestly and be both fresh and renewing. Real humility is not humiliation or subjugation. Real humility comes from a deep inner confidence. It also privileges the other. It has a deep sense of inner dignity. It is a fruit of the Spirit.

Real humility is described and modelled in Philippians 2. The Greek word *kenosis* sums it up: the emptying of Christ before God. The way of the cross is not a resigned stoicism. It is Jesus facing evil and overcoming it. Golgotha is not for Jesus. It is for us. It is a surrender to God into whose hands Jesus commits himself. It is in reality a commitment to hope,

celebration and joy. As Paul says to the Philippians "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name".

The church is not dependent on buildings, however grand. We are urged to model humility and follow the one who "emptied himself". So should the church. It does not mean weakness. It means meekness. It means we and the church show love, hope, joy and peace. It places others above self. No wonder Jesus was skeptical about the power of the Temple.

The second part of Mark 13 is what is known as apocalypse, an uncovering of what is secret or hidden, particularly associated with the end times. Wars, rumours of wars and prophecies about the end of the world have circulated for thousands of years. Today social media quickly circulates these forebodings of doom. In the last couple of decades we had Y2K at the turn of the millennium. Chaos and destruction was predicted for the most complex computers and also the immobilisation ranging from basic infrastructure to the most basic items. In 2012 the Mayan prophesy of world doom circulated. There were a range of eschatological beliefs that cataclysmic events would occur on or about 21 December 2012. Nothing happened and the New Age was not ushered in.

Jesus makes clear there will be many false prophets. We should not be led astray by these, even if we are fascinated by images of destruction and desolation. They seem to provide a catharsis for our fears. However the message of the Gospel is good news: giver of hope and the promise of new life. Jesus' remarks in this passage were made just before his crucifixion. Yes there was pain but in the end resurrection, new life and a new world. *Clive Rodger*

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

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

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



Change of clothes and fortune

I was sitting at my desk a few weeks ago enjoying the sun on my back when I received a request for assistance through our website. The message was brief, but the sense of urgency was quite clear.

I picked up the phone and called T, a quiet voice met me on the other end of the line. T began to explain that her family had struggled since losing her job due to COVID. She explained how the family began to dip into their savings and were now at a stage where this was no longer possible.

I told T that I would be in her area taking food to a client that afternoon and would stop past her house with some fresh food to have a chat.

Together with the volunteers, we put some fresh fruit, vegetables, meat, and dairy together for the family and I jumped in the car. When I arrived at the family's home, I was greeted out the front by T and three smiling and excited children. The children rushed to the car and helped me carry the groceries inside, discussing the contents of the bags as they went.

T was incredibly grateful for the food, and after some discussion, disclosed that her three children attended two local schools, and that she was concerned she would not be able to provide them with school uniforms. T had a long employment history and several practical skills that she was eager to use, however finding a job while caring for her family was simply too challenging.

As the afternoon ended and T began preparing dinner, I left assuring her that I would be in touch over the coming days. The next day with T's permission, I began contacting the children's schools to explain the family's situation and explore some opportunities going forward.

St John's Care worked closely with the family and the school to try to manoeuvre around the costs of schooling, and uniforms. Through ongoing discussions, SJC secured free uniforms for the family and were able to provide the children with backpacks and stationery packs.

Thanks to our donors, St John's Care were able to provide all three children with new shoes and socks for the upcoming terms.

Late last week I took the family to collect their uniforms from the uniform store. The sheer excitement on the kids' faces was incredibly uplifting, and they seemed to thoroughly enjoy trying on new clothes. We left the store and returned to the family's home with bags of uniforms, and three very happy children.

Yesterday I received a call from a job agency that I had engaged with weeks ago, and they were excited to announce that T had earned an interview and had the chance of returning to work. I phoned T to tell her the news and she broke down.

"Thank you so much for everything you have done for my family, you have no idea what it means to me. I cannot wait to move past all of this and to be able to provide for my kids again, thank you", said T.

I would like to personally thank our volunteers, donors, and general supporters for assisting us through a challenging year and continuing to allow us to provide the support that the community needs – you make all the outcomes we achieve possible.

Kind Regards,

Robbie Speldewinde, Programs Coordinator

Items required: Powdered Milk, Biscuits, Tinned Soup (Big N Chunky), Tinned Fruit

Christmas will be here in 51 days

If you are able to donate toys it would be wonderful to receive educational toys such as Lego and outdoor toys such as footballs, skipping ropes, softball kits, etc. For teenagers, the best gift is a gift card, e.g. Big W, Kmart and Ultimate Teen.

Please see our website for details on how to donate to SJC. www.stjohnscare.org.au/donate We would also appreciate your help by donating items that will go towards building a Christmas hamper for families and people in need.

- ◆ Bag of Lollies (Family Pack)
- ◆ 1 Litre Juice
- ◆ Tube of chips or pretzels
- ◆ Jelly (85grams)
- ◆ Christmas pudding/ cake or mince pies
- ◆ Pancake mix
- ◆ Chocolates or shortbread biscuits
- ◆ Supermarket Gift Cards for people to purchase meat or other fresh items

We continually thank the many generous and kind people who assist us to help others during the Christmas Season.

GLORIOUS THINGS OF THEE ARE SPOKEN

Give me joy in my heart, keep me singing, give me joy in my heart I pray. (New Harvest 58)

So many things wrap my heart in joy but nothing more so than the rising at first light. There is such an urgency and excitement about the dawn – its like a calling 'Come, it says, come quickly before I pass and we haven't met.' The sweet song of the blackbird, first call of the morning is saying come, come quickly for my first song is just for those who choose to hear it. But best of all in this morning call is the love of God who fills it all.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Anne, servant of the Lord.



Crafty Crew last meeting for the year 15 November, 9.30am-12noon in the Rainbow Centre.

Book Club last meeting for the year 18 November. Lunch at 12.30pm at Two Before Ten in Aranda.

Gillian Painter



difference.

Difference is a 5 session course for you to run exploring following Jesus in a conflicted world.

“Reconciliation is not the ending of all difference, but the transformation of how we deal with difference.”

Archbishop Justin Welby

**Starting
Wednesday
17 November
7.30pm
Join us online**

**Contact Wayne for
more information**



After all the events of the last few years we are excited to return to residential Camp Pelican.

Dear Friends and Supporters of Synergy,

We are excited to announce that residential Camp Pelican will return this summer. While we are still finalising some details we thought it was important to let everyone know that camps are on and when they are happening.

To help our fantastic and enthusiastic volunteer camp leaders with the challenges of COVID management, camps will be shorter and places will be limited. However, we are all looking forward to gathering the Camp Pelican community for a fun time at our camp site at Manna Park. So keep an eye out for future emails that will contain information on how to book.

Looking forward to the coming camping season,
Ben Paton
Director
Synergy Youth and Children



GREAT BIG GARDEN DAY

**Saturday 27 November
10am - 2pm**

**Come along to pull some weeds
share a barbeque & swap some plants**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2022

Much of our world today is either curated or contracted, either way someone else makes it happen. Church is different. Churches that value inclusion and diversity are constructed by those willing to help.

Helping can be as little or as much as you can manage. From doing a reading, sharing intercessions, playing music, operating the cameras or laughing with the kids are some ways your help can go a long way. Helping the accounts to balance, leading a home group or jumping on Council are other ways to help our church grow stronger.

Nominations for **parish council and wardens** are now open. Councillors and wardens help our parish to grow by turning aspirations into plans that are practical and achievable. All it takes is a bit of spark to make something happen, a preparedness to listen to the views of others, and the ability to work with a team.

If you'd like our church to be more outward looking and better at engaging our neighbourhood so that it can thrive, why not consider joining the team?

Have a chat with Wayne, Joh, Allison or Deranie if you're unsure or you know of someone who's just waiting to be asked.

WEDNESDAY COMMUNION SERVICE

Can you help? Audrey Wells is a member who comes along with Stuart, who has an acquired brain injury. Stuart gets bored when the service is on. It would be of great help to Audrey if someone could take Stuart for a walk to the shops between 12noon and 1.15pm. If you'd be interested to help, please contact Wayne. A WWVP card is required.

DIVING DEEPER INTO WORSHIP

Sunday 14 November 11.30AM



WHY PRAY?

Exploring intercessions and helping everyone to pray together

Zoom Chat Is Back!

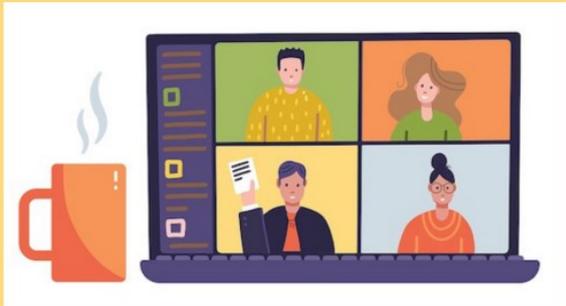
THURSDAY 10:30 Join in the fun on the below link and connect with your Holy Covenant community in small groups.

Any problems with connecting, please call Wendy 0481 458 037

<https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRll0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Passcode: 033643



FROM THE TREASURER

Offerings in October were \$22,207 – 15% above budget. Total income was also well above budget. Part of this increase is the response from parishioners to the stewardship program in increasing their regular givings. Owing to the effects of COVID on parish operations the Diocese has cancelled the monthly parish contributions for all ministry units for three months. Because of this and other COVID effects, operating expenses were significantly below budget. A draft budget for 2022 was discussed at the October Parish Council meeting. Predictions of our end-of-year financial situation suggest that we will end the year with a small surplus on both a cash and accrual basis rather than the budgeted deficit. This is largely due to the generous response to our stewardship program, the suspension of the Diocesan contribution, and Council's decision to suspend 50% of the wider work distribution.

Paul Shelley Treasurer

	October 2021	Year to 31 October	Budget 2021	EOFY predictions (accrual)
Income	\$23,632	\$240,566	\$276,200	\$281,000
Expenditure	\$26,295	\$230,741	\$311,800	\$278,400
Surplus/deficit	(\$2,663)	\$9,825	(\$35,600)	\$2,600



Useful Gifts

Each card you buy is a contribution to a long-term poverty-fighting project run by one of Tearfund's Christian partners. Projects are tailored to that community's needs, so people gain the skills and resources they need to address local problems and come up with sustainable solutions.

- a \$5 **chicken** provides food and training
- A \$70 **toilet** can lead to a healthier life
- \$25 for **safe water** reduces disease
- See a wider selection at usefulgifts.org or on the Notice Board

NEW at church this year: easy mobile card payments as well as cash or cheques.

WORKING BEE – SATURDAY 20 NOVEMBER

There will be a working bee on the usual third Saturday of the month – in addition to the Big Garden Day on 27 November.

This will focus on fixing some lights, routine aircon maintenance, clearing the gutters, etc.

Enquiries: Paul 0419255002
or epshms@grapevine.com.au

UNAVAILABILITY SHEET for rosters in December and January is on the board at the back of the church. Please sign off if you will be away during that time.

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ God of love, may we learn to live in harmony and peace. We pray for all places where there is war, violence, oppression or tyranny.
- ⇒ Strengthen all who work for freedom and justice. God be our strength and salvation.

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ We pray for the place where we work, for a proper wage or a dependable income. Give thanks for our homes and loved ones.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Good Shepherd, Curtin & Cross Cultural Ministry
- ⇒ Fred Ward Gardens RSL Lifecare
- ⇒ St Peter's Weston
- ⇒ Pray for: 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

- ⇒ Congregations – 12noon Wednesday
- ⇒ Colours of God
- ⇒ Meditation Tuesday lunchtime, Wednesday evening
- ⇒ EfM
- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Judith Ann Daniells; Lou Daniels; Steve Daniels; Audrey Dargan; and John Dau.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button, Elizabeth Grant, Bev Barnes, Brianna Smith and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

Thursday: Bruce Manning Pratt (d. 2010)

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Monday	Jenny Hall
Tuesday	Valda Bromhead
Wednesday	Tony Willis
Thursday	Oliver Feitz
Friday	Reg Holmes

CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY LUNCH

THURSDAY 9 DECEMBER 2021 AT 11.30am

Come and enjoy a pre-Christmas outing in a covid-safe environment. Lunch will be served, with sandwiches and delicious slices and we will sing Christmas carols.

There is a sign up sheet on the board if you would like to attend. Donations of slices would be appreciated, also help on the day.

COLLECT for 25th Sunday After Pentecost

O God,
welcoming refuge for the outcast,
and upholder of justice for the oppressed:
maintain the hope of the poor,
so that the time may soon come
when no one need want for food and shelter,
and all will learn to share freely
following the example of your Son, who gave his very self;
who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

READINGS

1 Samuel 1:4-20
Song of Hannah (APBA p. 429)
Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25
Mark 13:1-11

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Children's Worker

Wendy Robertson 0481 458 037
children@holycovenant.org.au

Youth Leadership Team

Tobias, Lou and Remus
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

Belonging and Caring

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

Curate and Community Chaplain

Wendy Robertson
0481 458 037 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