

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 23 JANUARY 2022
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

<https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUcja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRll0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

Kids church and Young Adults will resume on 6 February 2022

SUNDAY 23 JANUARY

9am Holy Communion

Preacher: Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM

Celebrant: Rev Rick Tilden

SUNDAY 30 JANUARY

8am and 10 am Holy Communion

Preacher and Celebrant:

The Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton

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

Last week I talked about Jesus as a troublemaker, and this week he is at it again!

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” Luke 4:18-19

Earlier in Luke (1:52-55), we were warned that Luke’s understanding of salvation is strongly linked to issues of social justice: removal of injustice and oppression, and criticism of religious, social, political and economic systems which enable and sustain them. And this time, Jesus is going much further than criticism. He is putting himself out there as personally responsible for getting change started. And of course, as his siblings, we are coming along for the ride.

God, through Jesus, is once again highlighting a preference for the poor, the marginalized and the outcast.

De La Torre (2014) notes that: “Justice begins with the plight of the poor, the oppressed, the marginalised, the outcast, and the disenfranchised. To engage in justice is to do it with, and from, the perspective of those whom

society considers (no) bodies” (p. 86).

For whom, and with whom, would God be writing legislation and taking other actions to improve health care, education, safety and so on? Here’s a few suggestions that spring to mind for me:

- The [Draft National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032](#) has recently opened for consultation. Do you know someone who has been impacted by violence? Can you work with them on a response, to amplify their voice?
- The Aboriginal Tent Embassy is commemorating its 50th anniversary this month. There is a 3 day event happening at the Embassy from 25-27 January. You can [make a donation](#) towards covering travel costs for elders to attend, providing campsite amenities and supporting COVID safety on site.
- Climate action is always an option. There are [Christian groups in this space](#).

Perhaps you have some other suggestions? Feel free to share them on our [Facebook page](#).

Megan Watts

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**And just like that,
it's a new year!**

Welcome back to
the New Year. It is so
good to be back at

SJC after having an extra week out. Thank you to the staff and volunteers that made this possible. As most of you are aware December for us here at SJC was so busy that we were run off our feet.

I thought I would re-send some of the information that was sent last week to show you some of the number of clients we supported last year. It's because of you, our supporters. If we didn't get your support, we wouldn't be able to do what we do to support some of Canberra's most vulnerable.

The following list outlines the assistance SJC provided to the Canberra Community in 2021.

- Assistance provided to families and individuals last year: 3,930
- Christmas lunch: 212 lunches
- Christmas hampers and Present Room: 562
- Christmas gifts: 12,106 gifts to 1875 children
- Homeless packs: 289

On Monday a young man came in last week after it was suggested to him by a Centrelink worker. I will call him S. He had not attended the centre before and did not know the assistance we could provide. He had just applied for Centrelink payments for the first time in his life. A volunteer explained how St John's Care works.

He explained that he had lost his job suddenly last September. He didn't want to apply for Centrelink as he felt embarrassed that he had been unable to find work. With the volunteer who was assisting he cried as he explained the challenges he and his family had faced over the past year. He is a single father to three children aged 6, 8 and 10. He is on a low income and was very proud that he had always financially supported his family and was feeling very lost now.

After talking to the volunteer and myself for some time, while another volunteer was collecting some groceries, we said we could help with school packs, uniforms and school shoes. He then reported that he was feeling brighter, less stressed, and able to keep moving on. He didn't want his children to miss out on the basic items that so many families are able to give their children. When he left, he was very thankful for all the assistance, especially the opportunity to talk to someone. I suggested that he come in for the next few weeks until his Centrelink payments commence.

Jason Haines, Executive Officer

Items required: School supplies (backpack, lunch boxes, drink bottles, pens pencils and pencil cases) UHT Full Cream milk, Tinned Vegetables, Vegemite

COVID-19 Update

As advised via email on 18 January, a member of our congregation who attended the 9am service on 16 January has been diagnosed with COVID-19. Since the 18 January email was sent, we have been advised of another member of the congregation who has tested positive to COVID-19. That member of the congregation was not at the Sunday service. At the time of writing, both parishioners were not unwell, for which we give thanks.

The Parish Leadership team is closely monitoring the COVID situation. In the last two weeks we have developed a risk mitigation plan for the continued provision of face to face services if the Sanctuary team or music team are heavily impacted by COVID. In the worst case scenario where the bulk of the Sanctuary team were to be unavailable at short notice, we will pivot to an online service and contact the congregation via email to advise of that change. So please keep an eye on your emails, particularly on Friday/Saturday. At this stage, morning tea will continue to be served, but please consume your food and drinks outside.

There has been a very generous donation to the Parish of two Breville air purifiers. A third device has been purchased by the Parish. It is anticipated that the first of the air purifiers will be installed before the service on 23 January. The remaining two devices have been ordered, and will be installed shortly after they have been delivered. When combined with other safety measures such as ensuring air flow through the Worship Centre by opening the sliding doors and maintaining physical distancing, this will further reduce the risk of the spread of COVID at a service.

As always when managing COVID, please remember to check in using the CBR app, use the hand sanitizer, wear your mask and maintain appropriate physical distancing from people outside your usual social circle. Thank you all for your cooperation to date.

Joh Sheehan, Rector's Warden

*And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day.
Genesis 3:8-9*

There was a visitor waiting for me at the sacred space this morning, just sitting quietly and patiently on the bright coloured flower that hung over the edge of the garden table. A beautiful bright red ladybird with black spots, and as I looked with wonder I thought "How many more creatures come to this sacred place besides me and do they come for the same reason? I know when I come here, I have a sense of 'all will be well' and I know its a place where the felt, unseen is waiting for my visit!"

As I looked at this tiny creature, a creation of God's imagination, I thought of this prayer by Macrina Wiederkehr: 'O frail and glorious creature, whoever you are, cherish this truth - there are hints of glory in your being - seeds of splendour and traces of holiness.'

I just love seeing the holy in the ordinary. One doesn't have to go looking for it, one just has to sit and sit and be quiet.

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

Anne, servant of the Lord



Have a Good Yarn returns

Are you a knitter or a crochet person? Maybe you have another yarn based craft that you enjoy? Come along to the Rainbow Centre Red Room at 10am on 25 January and share the yarn joy and a cuppa! Any questions—contact Sandra at sandra-ross@ozemail.com.au



Annual Report—Call for Submissions

The Annual General Meeting will be happening on 1 March, and the Annual Report needs to be available to the Parish by 20 February. Which means that the reports need to be lodged with the Office by 6 February. That's only two weeks away!

Do you lead one of the Ministry Teams, or organise one of our regular groups/events? Do you have any photos of activities at Holy Covenant over the last year? If the answer to any of those questions is yes, then you have a valuable contribution to make to our new format Annual Report.

Please send your photos and/or reports to the Office sooner rather than later. (You don't want to make Megan chase you).

ANNUAL
REPORT



Safe Ministries Training Cancelled

Many thanks to those who had registered to attend the Safe Ministries Training at St Matthew's Wannassa. Unfortunately, due to the COVID risk, that training has been cancelled. All those who were booked should have received an email from the Safe Ministries Team regarding the cancellation.

At this stage the Diocese hopes to reschedule the training for a date to be advised (possibly in March.)

Anyone who had not yet registered for the training, but is required/is interested in doing so can still obtain a registration form from the office. Registrations will be placed on a stand-by list for upcoming courses.

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ The people of Tonga, and those working to deliver emergency relief there
- ⇒ Worldwide impacts of the Tongan volcanic eruption, including the oil spill in Peru
- ⇒ Safety and security for those travelling to and preparing for the Beijing Winter Olympics

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ That white Australia can stand alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, seeking to grow in understanding, remembering our shared past and finding a way forward together
- ⇒ The Tongan diaspora in Australia
- ⇒ Teachers, students, school workers and parents as schools prepare to return for Term One

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Tasmania
- ⇒ South Wagga Wagga
- ⇒ The Forrest Centre, Wagga Wagga
- ⇒ Pray for: The bereaved and those who care for them.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Peter Kelley; Rosemary and David Kennemore: Gabriel, Steve, Jocelyn and Vinnie Kiereth; Stephanie and Nick Kizimchuk; and Pam Lane.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button, Elizabeth Grant, Bev Barnes, Brianna Smith, Claire Whelband and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

COLLECT for 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Life-giving God,
who sent your Son Jesus to proclaim your kingdom
and to teach with authority:
anoint us with your Spirit,
that we too may bring good news to the poor,
bind up the broken-hearted,
and proclaim liberty to the captive;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

READINGS

Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 12.12-31

Luke 4.14-21

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Children's Worker

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Youth Leadership Team

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Wardens

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Joh Sheehan 6251 7151
Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore
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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
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

Monday: Andrew Dudzinski

Tuesday: Elizabeth Grant

DECEMBER ANGLICAN NEWS

The December Anglican News is now out and is available on the website.

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