

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 17 APRIL 2022
EASTER DAY

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUtpa05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

EASTER DAY 17 APRIL

6am Service of Light

8am and 10 am Holy Communion

Celebrant & Preacher:

The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

WEDNESDAY 20 APRIL

Communion Service and lunch: 12 midday

SUNDAY 24 APRIL

8am and 10 am Holy Communion

Celebrant :

The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

Preacher: The Revd Wendy Robertson

COMING UP

Thursday 21 April 7-9.30pm: Wellbeing Night

Friday 22 April: Carpet cleaning at the church—worship centre closed

Saturday 30 April 1.30-4pm: Parish Planning

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

HALLELUJAH – Jesus Christ is risen today!

But now the power of Easter has burst upon us with the resurrection of Christ. Now we find in ourselves a strength which is not our own, and which is freely given to us whenever we need it, raising us above the law, giving us a new law, which is hidden in Christ: the law of his merciful love for us. Now we no longer strive to be good because we have to, because it is our duty, but because our joy is to please him who has given all his love to us! Now our life is full of meaning. (Thomas Merton)

To get to this day of Easter celebration we have had to journey through Lent with Jesus. If we haven't taken that journey, then Easter Sunday will be a bit of a shallow celebration. We need to experience the highs and lows of the stories, and feel the tears, the grief, the abandonment of Jesus in our hearts, as he endured all of this alone because no one understood what is and what was to come. There was the Passover. There was the last supper. There was his best

friend Peter claiming to not know him. There was Gethsemane.

There was the entry into Jerusalem. There was the trial. There was the resurrection. Just pause a moment and imagine all of these events as if you were there. For us in hindsight, we know the story in the big picture, we know how it has a wonderful life saving ending.

I wonder what your journey has been through Lent. Have you felt the highs and lows? I wonder what you did with the 'in-between day,' the day between Good Friday and Easter Day? Does it feel to you like a sacred space, or perhaps it's a day you are not sure how you should live.

In our very comfortable world we celebrate Easter with ceremony and family time, remembering the saving love and grace of Jesus. I can't help wondering what the Easter message will be in the churches of Ukraine. In the joy of celebrating the risen Christ may we remember the suffering, pain and abandonment of Ukraine and pray for their day of resurrection.

Archdeacon Anne

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

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

COST OF LIVING STRUGGLES

Last week one of our volunteers was met by a man who came to the St John's Care Centre and was in desperate need of support. After a quick conversation with the man, the volunteer recognised that he needed more than just the support of our pantry and came to my office to find me.

I stepped outside and saw a man who was clearly feeling dejected. His shoulders were slumped, and his head bowed as he stared at the ground in front of him. I introduced myself and asked whether he would like to sit down in the sun.

We walked through the church gardens and found a warm spot to have a private conversation. K was born and raised in Canberra and has spent his entire life here. When he was 11, his mother passed away from cancer, leaving his father to raise him and his two siblings.

Struggling to deal with the grief of losing his wife, his father turned to alcohol and drugs, and the family dynamic quickly became unhealthy. K was often left alone in charge of his siblings, and was forced to grow up at a very young age. When he was 17, K left home and began couch surfing with friends. Unfortunately, this lifestyle led to him mixing with what he describes as, "the wrong crowd".

"I had no father figure in my life, and no guidance. I was angry and frustrated and I couldn't understand why this was happening to me" he said.

"Over the last ten years I have had my own struggles with drugs, alcohol, the law; and I am still struggling to come to terms with my broken family."

K spent two months incarcerated for theft and was released last year. "Going to prison was what I needed. I was sober for the first time in years, and it put things into perspective for me," he said.

Following prison, K turned his life around. He began working in construction 3-4 days a week and found a

one-bedroom apartment to call his own. Unfortunately, with the recent rise in petrol, utility bills and food, K was now slowly going into debt, and was deeply concerned about the prospect of being homeless once again. Like many of our clients, increased costs had tipped K over the edge, and living was no longer affordable.

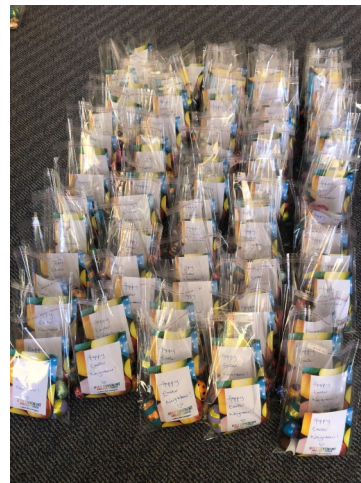
I tried to settle his concerns and explained the multiple ways in which SJC could help. Our volunteers prepared some groceries complete with fruit, vegetables, meat and dairy, and some pots and pans for his kitchen.

Through our relationship with ActewAGL, we were able to reduce his gas and electricity bills by \$100 each. We gave K a voucher to purchase a small efficient oil heater, saving him having to use the old and expensive gas heater in his home. Additionally, we referred him to the Home Energy Efficiency program which provides a free household energy assessment, and modifications to make homes more energy efficient.

K was overrun with emotions when our chat finished. He thanked the staff and volunteers for their generosity and will come back fortnightly for food support. We look forward to supporting K over the coming months and continuing to see him better himself.

Robbie Speldewinde, Programs Coordinator

Items Required: Poppers, Pasta Meals, Olive Oil, Cup-a-soup



Happy Easter to our neighbours

100 Easter packages have been dropped off to church neighbours by Revd Wendy and her team. The deliveries were well received by the folk they saw.

Thanks for this brilliant work team!

Ukraine Emergency Assistance Appeal



Surprised by Joy

For the joy of the Lord is your strength. Neh 8:10

I was caught by surprise by an unexpected visitor walking pigeon toed along the garden fence; a beautiful parrot, red and blue feathers glistening in the morning sun from a quick dip in the bird bath. It was close enough for me to see the perfect round shapes of the water drops on its feathers. I love the unexpected surprises that bring joy and delight especially in the morning when the mind is uncluttered. It's like fuel for the day when we catch a morning joy. Samuel Longfellow said: "Into our lives, in many simple, familiar homely ways God infuses this element of joy from surprises of life, which unexpectedly brighten our days and fill our eyes with light."

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

Anne, servant of the Lord



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

Morning Joy

A Retreat in Daily Life: 1 May—5 June

For many busy people, it feels impossible to take time away from the commitments of work, family, care and community. A Retreat in Daily Life allows those who cannot retreat 'away' the opportunity to focus on God in the midst of the everyday, and to practise integrating prayer, faith and work.

This retreat allows participants to:

- Identify and trust your own experiences of God
- Integrate spirituality into your daily life
- Discern and make difficult choices
- Share your hopes, struggles and losses
- Develop sensitivity for justice and concern for the poor

Over several weeks, through reflection, group work, one-to-one spiritual direction, journaling, prayer and meditation, we will begin to play/pray with the transformation journey.

An ecumenical team of qualified, experienced Spiritual Directors/Companions will accompany us.

For more information: Contact Susanna Pain susannapain63@gmail.com. 0418 637 469



Lent & Good Friday Appeal 2022

Your gift will change the lives of many communities living in poverty.



Donate online

www.abmission.org/Lent2022

Save the date

Are you one of the many people involved in leading one of the multitude of ministries that happen at Holy Covenant? If you are, then may God bless you for your blessing of others.

It's time for our ministry leaders to gather together, celebrate one another, and explore ways to strengthen and build our ministries into the future. We have set aside two afternoons for this task, and hope that all the ministry leaders can join together, enjoy each others' company, and learn together.

Who? Anyone involved in leading a ministry at Holy Covenant, including but not limited to : Ministry team, Parish Council members, Youth Leaders, Belonging & Caring team, Resources team, HCNM leaders, Community Garden team

When? Saturday 30 April 1.30-4.00pm and Saturday 21 May 1.30-4.00pm

Where? Rainbow Centre Red Room

What to bring? Draft goals for your ministry for the rest of the 2022 calendar year, something to write with, something to write on, and an object that represents something about your ministry. (Afternoon tea will be provided.)

For the first session, RSVP to Megan at office@holycovenant.org.au by midday 28 April, including information about any special dietary requirements.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday
30
April

Parish Planning Part
One

Saturday
21
May

Parish Planning Part
Two

Volunteering at Holy Covenant

Here at Holy Covenant, we have over 90 volunteer roles available. Over time, we are going to explore those roles and what's involved in them. Maybe there's a new role waiting for you?

Tracking Sheet Helper

The tracking sheet helper is responsible for:

- Finalising the tracking sheet by including any lyrics, Psalms or readings requested for copying
- Preparing the Powerpoint presentation for use by the Sound Operator
- Sending completed presentation and tracking sheets to the parish office by midday Thursday immediately preceding the Sunday service

Requirements

- Confident user of Word and Powerpoint software
- Attention to detail, including proofreading and formatting
- Be capable of following directions and guidance of the rector
- Report any needs to the office manager or the rector
- Ability to operate as part of a team in a collegial and respectful manner serving an inclusive and diverse Christian community.

If you are interested, please email Megan at the office for more details:

office@holycovenant.org.au



There's lots happening at Nungalinya College. In the last four weeks there have been 85 students attending, studying Music & Media, Art & Faith, Foundation Studies (two classes), Certificate III in Ministry and Theology and a Languages Workshop.



On April 6th the first of a series of Bible Gardens was opened. The series will reflect important narratives from the Scriptures. These gardens will feature symbolic aspects, Indigenous art-works and interactive teaching in First Languages from various Indigenous Elders. The 'Garden of Eden' includes an 'alpha and omega' pathway, trees symbolising the knowledge of good and evil, and the tree of life, over a dozen Indigenous art works and videos on the artists and teaching from Genesis 1-3.

Listen to James Woods read the [Nicene Creed in Kriol!](#)

Prayers needed

Multiple people have succumbed to COVID infections in the last few weeks. There will be more in the future. Please pray for all members of the Parish dealing with COVID infection, illness and isolation.

An update

Claire Whelband is 7 months old now, and is trialling a month without a feeding tube. She is off oxygen, has learned to laugh, and weighs over 4kg. Megan, Cate, Peter, Thomas & Claire are thankful for your prayer support.

Kids' Church Construction

Check out the very cool model of the temple in Jerusalem that Kids' Church has produced! Big shout out to Jay for project management.



PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Russian withdrawal from Ukraine
- ⇒ Human rights researchers documenting suspected war crimes in Ukraine
- ⇒ Food and medicine distribution in areas under COVID lockdown

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ People struggling with cost of living increases
- ⇒ Media literacy in a storm of election misinformation
- ⇒ Continued advances in COVID testing and management

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of North Queensland
- ⇒ Queanbeyan and District Anglican Church
- ⇒ Community of Celebration and Mary's Place
- ⇒ Anglicare Retail Outlets (Queanbeyan, Phillip, Jamison, Fyshwick & Erindale)
- ⇒ Alexander Maconochie Correctional Centre
- ⇒ The Anglican School Googong
- ⇒ Outreach amongst needy, unemployed and homeless people of all ages.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Eileen and Ian Sykes; Caroline and Richard Taylor, Pam Steele and Oliver; Michaelee Thornton, Rhonda Thorpe, and Rick and Fran Tilden.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Anne Dudzinski, Barry Button, Elizabeth Grant, Bev Barnes, Claire Whelband, Ted and Penny Lilley, Harris & Helen Boulton and anyone known to us personally

COMMEMORATIONS

COLLECT for Easter Day

God of glory,
fill your Church with the power
that flows from Christ's resurrection,
that, in the midst of this sinful world,
it may signal the beginning of a renewed humanity,
raised to new life with Christ;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

READINGS

Isaiah 65:17-25

Hymn to the Risen Christ

Acts 10:34-43

Luke 24:1-12

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Children's Worker

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Youth Coordinator

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Wardens

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Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

Prayer Vine

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Belonging and Caring

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Curate and Community Chaplain

The Revd 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

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The Revd Connie Gerrity

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Resources Team

0419 255 002

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Friday: **Ethan Gumbrell**

Anglican News

The April edition of Anglican News is available on the Diocesan website. You can [download it here](#), or if you want to print it, there is a large size version [here](#)