

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 23 OCTOBER 2022 TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

SUNDAY 23 OCTOBER

8am and 10 am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher :
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
5pm Twilight Conversations

WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER

12 Midday Communion Service
and lunch

SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER

8am and 10 am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher :
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
5pm Twilight Conversations

Coming Up:

Parish Retreat: 21-23 October
Fete 5 November

Bank details for direct debit:

Bank: Commonwealth
Branch: Jamison Centre ACT
BSB 062 907
Account No: 802588
Name: Holy Covenant Anglican
Church

Dreams and Prophecies (Joel 2:23-32)

It's difficult to be positive about the opening verse of this reading, isn't it? It feels like most of the Australian east coast is over "abundant rain". But let's move past that challenge.

This is the section of Joel that Peter preached from at the first Pentecost. The opening verses are designed to encourage the Israelites (and us) to live in expectation and hope. God's people will not always languish in exile and hardship; there will be joy and abundance.

I want to focus our attention on verses 28-29:

Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit

Gosh that's radical stuff.

The book of Joel was written sometime around 350BC. That long ago, women were prophesying. That long ago, people outside the power structures of the day (i.e. women and slaves) were filled with the Holy Spirit. And yet, it was only 30 years ago that the first women were ordained in the Anglican Church of Australia. I suspect that the number of people from outside the power structures of today (e.g. refugees, people with disability, LGBTIAQ+ people) who have been ordained in the Anglican Church of Australia remains low.

To quote Carl Gregg "this is not an abstract, theoretical debate". Words

and actions matter; people from minority groups are facing discrimination and harassment in their everyday lives. The recent hearings of the Disability Royal Commission provide ample evidence of that.

The suffrage exhibition at Parliament House celebrates the 120th anniversary of the Commonwealth Franchise Act 1902, which gave most women the right to vote in Australian elections. Not all, but most. That status quo needed to be challenged, to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders could also vote.

The church needs to be a place where people are celebrated for who they are, and where everyone has the opportunity to use the gifts that the Spirit provides. If the church actively discourages women, people of colour, people with disability or LGBTIAQ+ people, or fails to model leadership from people in those groups, we are potentially a part of blocking people from hearing God's call.

The ordination of women was a step forward in the life of the Anglican church. We can imagine yet more, where people from other groups outside our current power structures can be empowered to answer God's call on their lives. As St. Augustine famously said, "Hope has two beautiful daughters: anger and courage. Anger that things are the way they are. Courage to make them the way they ought to be."

If the church is to fulfil the promise of Joel's prophecy in verses 28-29, then who should we ordain? And why?

Megan Watts

Mental Illness is not Failure

V has been in Canberra for about seven years

and to this day had not returned to his family overseas. Five years ago he got married and has two children with his wife. About a year after their marriage, things started getting complicated. V has experienced physical, emotional, and psychological abuse including social isolation and dominating behaviour from his wife. V feels ashamed and at fault for not doing anything to improve his situation.

The last episode of violence happened a fortnight ago, when his wife told him if he didn't leave immediately, she was going to physically force him out. At the time he didn't know what to do and he didn't know where he could go. Not wanting his children to witness a bad scene, he opted to leave immediately. That night he slept in a park which was the worst night of his life. The next day he went to the police to ask for help.

The police offered him a temporary stay for three days and offered him mental help support. He applied for Centrelink support because he can't sleep, is unable to concentrate and is constantly having bad thoughts. He is ashamed to go through this experience and feels like a complete failure.

V recently found a room in a house. After rent he is left with \$50. He asked for help with transport and SJC provided an Action bus card (with credit) so that he could get around town for the next four weeks. We also contributed bedding, pillows, towels, toiletries. and some food bank vouchers.

V is following a Mental Health program developed by his GP. I invited him to come to the Centre whenever he needs to talk to someone and provided information about Head to Health and Safe Haven Belconnen. No appointment is needed for either, and services are free.

V felt happier and more relaxed after he received this assistance. He will do everything he can to improve his mental health, so he is able to move forward and gain employment. V expressed his sincere thanks to all the donors, volunteers and staff who are involved in providing this high level of support and assistance to those in the community who need it most.

Karen Medrano, Case Manager

Pantry Items Required: pasta sauce, tinned fruit, tinned green vegetables, tinned soup. Christmas Items: Drinking chocolate, coffee 100gm, 50 pack tea bags, packets of lollies

A National Act of Recognition

Truth Telling – the Recognition Way

A National Act of Recognition with the First Peoples of Australia is about to begin.

On 29 October 2022 a Recognition Team Gathering will be held at the Lieutenant James Cook landing site at Kamay Botany Bay. This will be an advance party of around 100 people.

We are preparing the way for a major public gathering at that site in 2023, to which every person in Australia will be invited.

These gatherings follow 25 years of preparation. The way ahead is finally clearing and we are ready to go!

This initiative is not interested in the blame game. On the contrary our aim is, by working from early factual records, to genuinely, and very lovingly, help the wider Australian community to have a deeper understanding of what really happened in this country from the day our shared history began on 29 April 1770. If we can reach that understanding, we believe it will lead to us all having a deeper understanding of each other.

And our end point? If we can succeed in reaching these stated goals – we will be well on the way to becoming one people.

Reverend Lindsay McDowell and the Recognition Team



30th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women in the Anglican Church

2022 is a very significant year in the history of women's ordination in the Anglican Church. It has been 30 years since the first women were ordained to the priesthood in the Anglican Diocese of Perth on the 7th of March, 1992. This was followed by the ordination of eleven women from the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn on the 23rd of December 1992. These eleven women were those who had previously been 'turned back at the post' on February 2nd, due to a court injunction.

The Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn is hosting a diocesan service of celebration to mark the 30th anniversary of the ordination of women, which will be held in St Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn, on the 5th of November at 2.00 pm. The preacher will be Bishop Genieve Blackwell, from the Diocese of Melbourne.

Our first women priests in this diocese travelled a difficult road to fulfil their call. We recognise the pain of that journey, but also the great gift they gave our diocese as they have continued to

serve with wisdom and grace. We greatly value the legacy they created which continues to encourage women who feel called to the priesthood to pursue their call. It is fitting that we celebrate their ministry to us in a diocesan Eucharist.

At Holy Covenant, we note that many of the first eleven ordained in our Diocese are known to us personally as members of our church family. Our thanks to Anne Dudzinski, Elaine Gifford and Ruth Dudley for their determination to follow God's call on their lives, and for their loyal service to the church in the 30 years since their ordination. We also recognise Susanna Pain, who was ordained in Adelaide two weeks earlier.



Parish Fete - 5 November

Two weeks left until the fete! Thanks to everyone who has already signed up for a task to make the fete happen—you are appreciated.

There are vacancies on the sign-up sheets on the board near the chapel for the full range of volunteer jobs that need doing for this event. If you can't make it on the day, there are jobs to be done before the event.

For more information chat to Archdeacon Anne or email her at anne.ranse@gmail.com.

Book Stall:

Books (in good condition), DVDs & CDs can be left at church from Monday 31/10 after Covenant Care (4pm) to Friday 4/11 by 3pm. Clean shopping bags are useful too. NO BOOKS ACCEPTED ON SATURDAY!



Glorious things of you are spoken.

May the Lord rejoice in his glorious works. Psalm 104

We get so much joy and delight from God's glorious works especially when we have our 'spiritual eyes on' and we rejoice. But how often do we think of God as rejoicing at his glorious works be they the creation of ourselves or the wonderful world we live in?

A wonderful retreat in Alice Springs gave me an opportunity to stop and gaze in wonder at God's glorious works and share my delight with him and thank him for what he has created from the most delicate, perfect wild flowers and every shape and design of the gum nuts, to the magnificent desert landscape. Indeed, may the Lord rejoice in his glorious works. May he shout it from the mountain tops to the ocean and may we praise him for it knowing he created all for our delight.

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



Made by God.

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

IT'S TIME TO *Dinner*



Southern Cross Club Jamison
6pm November 1st
RSVP to Hilary 6251 8166
Cup Day - fancy hats and
fascinators encouraged

Fête

November
5, 2022
9.30am -
1.30pm

READING THE BIBLE TODAY

*How do we read ancient stories faithfully
for spiritual growth and social change?*

AN ONLINE CONVERSATION
STARTING WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER. 7.30PM
contact Wayne for details

HOLY COVENANT'S HALLOWEEN PARTY MONDAY 31 OCTOBER, 5-7PM

Halloween is a great chance to get to know the neighbours. Everyone can get dressed up and be in a safe space



As a church, we want to get to know people we wouldn't usually meet so we're having a party

We'd love it if you came along, dressed up with kids of course! There'll be a BBQ, treats and face painting too!



Why not carve a pumpkin with family and bring it along? Bake a scary pie or some terrifying treats?

Christians can worry about Halloween. As Jesus has risen from the grave, we can rejoice that death has lost its sting



Contact Wayne or Wendy for more information

Sister Jane, Faisal Amin, the Brigadines and Bangladesh

We have had a request for some more information about the work that our Parish Dinner guest speakers are doing in Bangladesh.



Here's a photo from earlier this year of the 100 food bags that were put together for 100 needy families so that they all had something to eat at night during Ramadan. And another of Faisal with some of the students from Cox's Bazaar that are sponsored to keep them in

school in Bangladesh.



Parish Council has

contributed \$500 from the wider works program funding to Jane and Faisal's work in Bangladesh. If you would like to make a contribution yourself, the account details are:

Brigidine Sisters

BSB 062904

Acct 1060 2969

Reference : Bangladesh

HOW HOLY COVENANT WORKS: THE GIFT OF TEACHING



what gifts are there?

God wants the world to get better and so calls the church to help. The gift of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers help God's people join in this work of new creation (Eph 4.11-13).



how is teaching a gift?

Teaching is about modeling the Christian life by helping others to understand God better and so grow in faith, hope and love.

why do we need teachers?

Teachers helps us to learn how to be students of Jesus. Following God involves learning how to read Scripture, talk theology, deepen our prayer life and engage with a complex world better.



what difference does it make?



Teachers help us do new things. Without them we go stale or become know-it-alls. They help bring God's word to life and enable us to express our discipleship through work, play and family.

where can I use this gift?

We see this gift working in any team when someone helps another to learn or do something new. Those leading small groups, kids' church and youth group are some places this gift can be found. Why not talk to the ministry team about your interest?



How Holy Covenant works, next week: the gift of caring

visit fivefoldsurvey.com to learn more

The Garden Refurbishment has begun!

Many thanks to all those who spent time working in the garden last Saturday. Many weeds were pulled, much mulch was spread, and the space is ready for the installation of our new Street Library. The pile of sticks waiting for the dog Stick Library is a nice touch.

A reminder that the new garden design is displayed on the wall near the entry to the kitchen.



If you are interested in joining in the next step of the garden refurbishment, or have any questions about the future garden planning, please chat with Joh Sheehan or Allison Cooper-Stanbury.

The October edition of Anglican News is now available on the Diocesan website: <http://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/>

Check out the article about Covenant Care's 10th Anniversary!

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine, an end to war crimes and the unconditional withdrawal of Russian troops
- ⇒ Financial stability and care for the poor
- ⇒ Scientific developments in dementia research
- ⇒ Actions as well as words in the fight against polio and other diseases

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Those impacted by flooding
- ⇒ Help for frontline workers dealing with burnout
- ⇒ Successful implementation of the new National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children
- ⇒ A federal budget that successfully balances competing priorities, and provides security for vulnerable Australians

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Tasmania
- ⇒ South Wagga Wagga, The Forrest Centre, Wagga Wagga; Pastoral Care Team Mary Potter Nursing Home and The Loretto Home of Compassion
- ⇒ The bereaved and those who care for them

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Prue and Ken Wedgwood; Audrey and Stuart Wells; Tony Willis; Raphael, Belinda, Kate, Lucy and William Wood; and Rika and Roger Amos.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button; Bev Barnes; Brian and Elaine Dennis; Colin & Marilyn Tolano; Libby Warren; Margaret Martin and family; Phyl Holmes; Phil & Wendy Bloomfield; Glenys Wimmers; Helen Boulton, Anne & Peter Bazeos and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- Sunday: **Mary Lynn Mather**
Monday: **Wendy Ward**
Wednesday: **Harris Boulton**
Saturday: **Aidan Judd, Clive Rodgers**

READINGS

- Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:15-30

COLLECT for 20th Sunday after Pentecost

O God,
who alone can probe the depths of the heart,
you hear the prayer of the humble
and justify the repentant sinner:
grant us the gift of humility,
that, seeing our own faults clearly,
we may refrain from judging our neighbour
but rely solely upon your saving grace.
We make our prayer through your Son, our Saviour,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Rector

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Resources Team

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