

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



**SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2022**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUUpa05YTkFCNDN4MGRlSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

## **SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER**

8am and 10 am Holy Communion  
Celebrant and Preacher :  
The Revd Wendy Robertson  
5pm Twilight Conversations

## **WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER**

12 Midday Communion Service  
and lunch

## **SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER**

8am and 10 am Holy Communion  
Celebrant and Preacher :  
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton  
12 midday Colours of God Christmas  
lunch & service  
5pm Twilight Conversations

### **Coming Up:**

Pizza Night 2 December  
Community Lunch 8 December

### **Bank details for direct debit:**

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

### **Advent 1: Expectation and hope**

We look forward to Christmas. As a child it is an exciting time of expectation. Presents, special meals, family celebrations, holidays, warm summer weather. But do we look forward to the final goal of history? That is the theme of today's readings—eschatology in theological language.

The end times have been a focus for many with the *Left Behind* series selling 65 million copies. However Jurgen Moltmann's *Theology of Hope* is a very different book. Moltmann's objective was to rescue eschatology from fringe fanatics and place it at the centre of Christianity. At its essence eschatology is about hope—forward looking and forward moving. God leads the way. But we cannot be complacent about the present. As Moltmann says "Faith when it develops into hope causes not rest, but unrest, not patience but impatience. It does not calm the unquiet heart but is itself the unquiet heart within us. Those who hope in Christ can no longer put up with reality as it is, but begin to suffer under it, to contradict it."

So we should be impatient for justice, fairness, equality, peace, and the common good. History is moving towards God's goal of the reconciliation of all things. We should be a "constant disturbance in human society, the source of continued new impulses toward the

realisation of righteousness, freedom and humanity here, in the light of the future that is to come."

Victor Frankl concluded in *Man's Search for Meaning* that the Holocaust prisoners who survived were those who did not sink into despair but lived in hope: "Only those who were oriented towards the future, towards a goal in the future, towards a meaning to fulfil in the future were likely to survive."

In the Gospel reading today, Jesus reminds us of the world at the time of Noah. People were focused on their earthly concerns; they were preoccupied by the events of the world, oblivious to the more important issues of life, purpose and the divine. Their relationship with God had been neglected. This all consuming emphasis on earthly existence was seen as wickedness in the eyes of God.

Jesus goes on to exhort us to be watchful. We cannot predict when Jesus will return, but we need to be prepared and vigilant. How do we do this? Matthew makes clear: we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, support the homeless, side with the marginalised, support those with disability. The Parousia will come, but we do not know when. However we can prepare by ensuring our relationship with God is right and we are living out what that means in our lives and work.

*Clive Rodger*

### Navigating recovery

S has one preschool aged child, with whom she currently lives. A year ago, S

and her child fled their family home following a violent incident between herself and her now ex-partner, G. G had been violent towards her for some years. However, the violence had escalated significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns when he was out of work and the family was experiencing both financial and housing stress.

At the time, both S and G were surviving on Job Seeker payments and a Carer's pension. The couple had barely enough money to pay for their rent, food, and utility bills, and had no savings.

Since leaving G, S received transitional housing via a supported accommodation service. The supported accommodation service referred S to SJC as, with the high cost of living, she was struggling to pay for her bills (especially childcare), and food.

SJC supported S with advocacy to Housing ACT for her to be placed on the Priority Housing waiting list. We also helped with bills, regular food assistance and emotional support. Recently, S had a motor vehicle accident and had to pay the excess for her insurance. This amount set her back considerably at a time in her life when she is still financially very vulnerable.

This week, we are pleased to advise that S has received an offer of priority housing from Housing ACT. As a result of this offer, SJC has been supporting S with advocacy to both the Housing ACT and Domestic Violence Crisis Services to assist with her relocation expenses as she does not have the funds to pay for a removal truck herself.

Despite all that has happened in her life, S feels incredibly lucky to have her family to support her, as well as having organisations like St John's Care who have come to her aid where others cannot. Thank you to all who continue to make contributions to SJC in some way – we truly are grateful.

*Belinda Ding Social Work Student*

**Items required:** 1 litre full cream UHT milk, cooking oil, muesli, meat e.g., Irish stew, shampoo and conditioner, dishwashing liquid

**Christmas items required:** 1 litre juice (golden circle), coffee 100 grams, milo (drinking chocolate), cereal box, tuna 425 grams, tubes of chips

### Congratulations Crafty Crew

The Crafty Crew was asked for 1000 recycled Christmas Cards for St John's Care. A challenge which the group have conquered!! They have made 1045 cards. The cards will be used in Christmas parcels given out over the Christmas celebration.

Well done team. I salute your efforts! I am pleased the morning tea each meeting helped.

*Gillian Painter*



Choose a gift. Send a card.  
 Fight poverty!

We don't have a Tearfund Useful Gift Cards table this year. But you can still support Tearfund in your Christmas shopping. Check out the wealth of information and ideas about meaningful and sustainable giving at [www.tearfund.org.au](http://www.tearfund.org.au)

Will you give chickens, seeds and tools, a goat, safe water, teacher training, adult literacy or disability access this year?



# HELPING OUT

AT HOLY COVENANT IN 2023

## EXERCISING FAITH BY HELPING OTHERS

Churches should be places of abundance and not scarcity. Abundance happens when we share our gifts. We feel energized and encouraged to trust God and explore new things. How might you help others next year?

1

### JOINING A SMALL GROUP

Work, rest and play are important things that fill up the diary. Feeding our souls by meeting God and others is also important as we discover more about God and our self. Groups for study, meditation, dinner, knitting and craft operate while new leaders are welcome.

## HELPING WITH WORSHIP

Worship is an opportunity to meet with God. We love having new people in the sanctuary helping by reading, praying or with communion. Lots help behind the scenes to make Sunday happen especially with music, hospitality, greeting, audio-visual and web teams.

2

## PROVIDING SOME PASTORAL CARE

Everyone thrives when people care about each other. Caring can involve praying for others, helping with Holistic Care, Colours of God, writing cards, while welcoming newcomers over coffee is always fun.

3

## JOINING THE COUNCIL TEAM

Identifying priorities, juggling priorities and helping with stewardship are just some of the ways the wardens, council members and treasurer help us to grow. Council is looking for people with the capacity to turn dreams into reality.

4

5

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH\*

There's a stampede when the kids and youth head for their programs every Sunday. When we have good leaders who want to see kids and young people grow in faith we have great programs. If you'd like to learn or help there are many opportunities to be found.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Being a good neighbour is our goal. That's why we have a garden, pizza night, well being sessions, dinners for women and men, play group, Halloween party and other events to build connections and friendship with people who don't go to church.

6

7

## CARING FOR OUR PROPERTY

The building and grounds are bigger than you think. With plans to renovate and refresh we need people who like to roll up their sleeves and make things special. Between gardening and odd jobs, there is always room for extra hands.

\*Screening and safe ministry training requirements are necessary for many roles and often highest for activities involving children and vulnerable people. Role descriptions are available.

## WHERE YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Your skills and talents can make a great deal of difference in the following areas. If you are interested in helping out, why not talk to a member of the ministry team?

Member of Parish Council

Treasurer

Bookkeeper

Music team

Kids church helpers

Welcome and inclusion

Synod representative

Clergy Presentation Board

I'd like to help with something else

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I have an idea that could benefit our community:

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Name:

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Contact details

(email or phone)

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*Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders? Psalm 33:8*

From small seeds something big or beautiful will grow. I can hold an acorn in the palm of my hand and admire the shininess of its shell and the neatly fitting cap on one end and think to myself: "That hasn't been made in a hurry with no thought, that is neatly and perfectly crafted and it's packed with a power we can't see, a power to create a massive oak tree. How does God do that?"

How then does he create a small brown nut like seed that turns into the beautiful flower clusters of the Daphne with their stunning memorable perfume. Smell it and you feel like you are in heaven among the incense of the angels. How does God do it? How does he change a small seed into something big or something beautiful? I believe some things have to remain a mystery and just marvel at what a magnificent God we have. And I add, go and look in the mirror and you will see what he has done with something that started so tiny, yet is packed with potential.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
Anne, servant of the Lord

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



What potential!

*Christmas*

**Holy Covenant  
Anglican Church**

**18 December**  
A Blue Christmas, 5pm

**Christmas Eve**  
Kid's Christmas, 5pm  
Carols, Candles & Communion, 11pm

**Christmas Day**  
Classic Christmas Service, 8am  
Contemporary Celebration, 10am

**89 Dexter St, Cook**

### Farewell Libby

We are very sad to be saying farewell to Libby Warren, who is leaving us and moving to Melbourne in the very near future. Libby has been a valued member of our congregation and she will be greatly missed. But we are happy for this new chapter of her life. God Bless you Libby!



There is a card for Libby in the Worship Centre. Feel free to add your good wishes and goodbye messages.

## Invitation to hear from ABM's

### Partners from Papua New Guinea

We are pleased to welcome to Australia two young women leaders from Anglican Board of Mission's (ABM) PNG partner, the Anglican Church of PNG and its community development agency, Anglicare PNG: Ms Annsli Kabekabe and Ms Cassandra Opiari.

Annsli is the Communications and Media Officer for the Anglican Church and is passionate about serving her church and communities in the remotest parts of PNG. Cassandra is the Disaster Risk Reduction Officer for Anglicare PNG. She is proud of the work Anglicare PNG has achieved and is looking forward to strengthening relationships with the Australian Church during this visit.

You're invited to meet Annsli and Cassandra to hear from them about some of the amazing work the Anglican Church is doing in PNG and have a chance to ask them questions.

### Radford College Chapel

1 College St, Bruce (see map below)

**Wednesday 30th November 2022**

**5:30-6:30pm**

Please remember to only attend if you are feeling well.

For further information, please contact the Rev Katherine Rainger on [Katherine.Rainger@radford.act.edu.au](mailto:Katherine.Rainger@radford.act.edu.au)



## Advent Spirituality

Advent is the period of four weeks prior to Christmas. It means 'coming' in Latin. In our world, it's often a time of shopping and parties as we get ready for a family holiday. It can also be a time to explore how God comes into our lives bringing hope, peace, joy and love. This series will explore how we can grow spiritually during this busy season.

### Seeing hope

Walk around your favourite shopping centre. What do you see and hear? Tinsel and trees filled with decorations. Look closely and a sense of hopefulness might also come through. Around the world, people are hoping that something good is coming and that better days are around the corner.



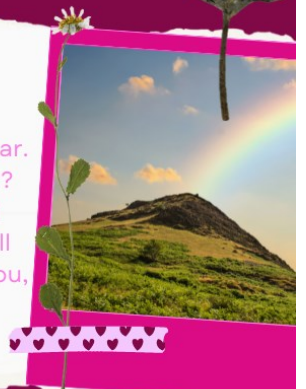
### knowing hope

Hope is the anchor of Christian spirituality. It helps us to look ahead knowing that God's purposes will come to fruition, no matter the obstacles we see today or the challenges we face.



### talking hope

Take a moment to think about the past year. What moments were the most important? Sometimes it can be hard to be hopeful especially when fear, regret and worry fill our minds and hearts. Ask those around you, what do they hope for in 2023?



### praying with hope

Pray each day for someone near to you and for whatever they hope for most. Pray that it might be an opportunity for God to meet with them, for the shadows to be left behind and that something new might grow.

### Community Christmas Lunch

Dust off your Christmas hat and check that your Christmas T-shirt is clean—it's time for the Community Christmas Lunch!

The party starts at midday on **8 December** in the Worship Centre. There will be a light lunch, much singing of Christmas carols, and yummy cakes and slices for dessert. RSVP to the office by **4 December**, or add your details to the sign on sheet on the back noticeboard. Please remember to let us know if you have any special dietary requirements.



9

### St John's Care Presents Collection

The St John's Care presents box is in the Worship Centre. You are welcome to place unwrapped Christmas presents, wrapping paper, cards and non-perishable festive food items in the box and they will be delivered to St John's Care.



### Parish Council Elections—Nominations close this Sunday

Do you have a dream for Holy Covenant? How could we help people in our neighbourhood to thrive? How could we share in God's purposes better in the year ahead? If these are some things you think about, maybe you should consider joining Parish Council?

Parish Council is comprised of Wardens and Council members, both elected and nominated by the rector. Council helps our church both set our future direction and find ways to turn these dreams into reality.

Now is the time for all of us to prayerfully consider who God is calling to this ministry. Is there someone you think would be a good member of the Council? Why not talk to those people talk to Wayne or one of the current Council members about the roles available.

Nomination forms for Wardens and Council members are on the table at the back of the church.

#### Timetable:

Sunday 13 November: Nominations open

**Sunday 27 November: Nominations close—we are here**

Sunday 4 December: Election day

Elections for Synod representatives and Clergy Presentation Board (2023-2025) will occur at the AGM in February 2023. Synod representatives attend a meeting in Goulburn in September each year on behalf of the parish. The Presentation Board is the group of parish nominees who assist Diocesan representatives with selecting a new minister in the event of retirement, resignation or incapacity. These members help the parish identify present needs and future priorities for ministry.

### Happy anniversary

This week is Megan's 12 month anniversary of starting work in the office. She sends her thanks everyone for making her job so busy and interesting!

## Parish Picnic



Despite having to move the picnic from the Cotter to the Worship Centre, an good time was had by many after the 10am service on Sunday 20 November. Thanks to Revd Wayne & Revd Wendy for their creative work with the 10am service to facilitate communion in the round before the picnic, and the plan-

ning that went into the day. We will try again for an outdoor picnic in the new year.

Eggs were broken in the egg & spoon race. Tossing and catching marshmallows proved quite amusing.



For the last time in 2022, please  
join us for

## Dinner Club

December 6 at 6pm  
Jamison Southern Cross Club

RSVP TO HILARY: 6251 8166



## Job Opportunity

### Anglican Diocesan Services

The Diocesan Receptionist/  
Executive Support  
Office position is  
becoming available  
in the new year, as  
Sue is retiring.



If you are a experienced, friendly and highly motivated person interested in working full time in the Diocesan Canberra Office, please contact Megan in our office, and she will forward on the position details.

## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Recovery efforts after earthquakes in the Pacific
- ⇒ Families and friends of those killed in hate crimes
- ⇒ Continued research for better vaccines and new antibiotics
- ⇒ Refugees from Australian detention on Nauru settling in New Zealand
- ⇒ An end to the war in Ukraine and withdrawal of Russian troops

### IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Voters and candidates in the Victorian election
- ⇒ Health and aged care workers
- ⇒ Reforms to juvenile justice systems

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Willochra
- ⇒ Cobargo; Bodalla-Narooma, Moruya and Batemans Bay Parishes
- ⇒ Boomerang Meeting Place, Mogo (part of Batemans Bay)
- ⇒ St Peter's Anglican College
- ⇒ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ministry, Bimbadeen Training College, Cootamundra

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Anthony, Sandra, Audrey and Freddie Cuthbert; Catherine D'Cruz; Judith Ann Daniells; Lou Daniels; Steve Daniels; Audrey Dargan and John Dau.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button; Bev Barnes; Brian and Elaine Dennis; Colin & Marilyn Tolano; Glenys Wimmer; Anne & Peter Bazeos; Maggie Watts, Pam Lane & family, and anyone known to us personally.

### COMMEMORATIONS

Tuesday: **Mavis Enid McLaren (d. 2017)**

## COLLECT for 1st Sunday of Advent

Faithful God,  
whose promises stand unshaken through all generations:  
renew us in hope,  
that we may be awake and alert  
watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ,  
our Judge and 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

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

### Children's Worker

The Revd Wendy Robertson  
0481 458 037 [hccommunitychaplain@gmail.com](mailto:hccommunitychaplain@gmail.com)

### Youth Coordinator

Tobias Nevile [youth@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:youth@holycovenant.org.au)

### Wardens

Joh Sheehan (Council Chair) 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 Revd Dr Wayne Brighton  
0407 408 333 [rector@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:rector@holycovenant.org.au)

### Curate and Community Chaplain

The Revd Wendy Robertson  
0481 458 037 [hccommunitychaplain@gmail.com](mailto:hccommunitychaplain@gmail.com)

### Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

#### Program Manager

Megan Arthur  
0487 945 615 [hcnmprogrammanager@gmail.com](mailto:hcnmprogrammanager@gmail.com)

### Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

#### Program Director and Chaplain

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM  
0406 379 599 [anne.ranse@gmail.com](mailto:anne.ranse@gmail.com)

### Honorary Priests

The Revd Anne Dudzinski  
0413 994 739 [annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au](mailto:annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au)

The Revd Connie Gerrity  
0429 423 725 [connie@gerrity.id.au](mailto:connie@gerrity.id.au)

### Resources Team

0419 255 002



## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Tuesday: **Margaret Meggs**

Friday: **Connie Gerrity**

## READINGS

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 123

Romans 13:9-14

Matthew 24:36-44