

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2023  
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUplajQ0SUYXFCNON4MGRlSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

## SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

Celebrant : The Revd Wendy Robertson

Preacher: The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

5pm Twilight Conversations

## WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY

12 Midday Communion Service and lunch

## SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

Celebrant and Preacher:  
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

5pm Twilight Conversations

### Coming up:

Parish Picnic: Sunday 19 February,  
12 midday, John Knight Park

### Bank details for direct debit:

Bank: Commonwealth

Branch: Jamison Centre ACT

BSB 062 907

Account No: 802588

Name: Holy Covenant Anglican Church

## Jesus' Transfiguration

Matthew's version of the transfiguration story opens with Jesus, Peter, James and John ascending a high mountain (Matt 17:1) and closes with them descending it (Matt 17:9). This important story is set in the context of discussion "on the meaning and cost of discipleship" (Eugene Boring, *The Gospel of Matthew*, 1995, p366). The central meaning of the Greek word translated as transfiguration is that of metamorphosis. In the disciples' mountain top experience "*Jesus glows with a transcendent glory reserved for heavenly beings, an anticipatory revelation of Jesus as belonging to the divine world*" (Boring, p363). On the mountain the disciples see Jesus talking to Moses and Elijah, further shaping Matthew's view "*that Jesus is in continuity with and the fulfilment of God's work as represented by the*" Old Testament (OT) (Boring, p363).

These OT links are not confined to Moses and Elijah being prophets "*who were initially rejected by the people but vindicated by God, both were advocates of the covenant and the Torah, both worked miracles, and both were considered by first century Judaism to be transcendent figures who did not die but were taken directly to heaven*" (Boring, p363). There are OT transfiguration

stories (e.g. Moses' transfiguration after descending Mt Sinai with the Ten Commandments' tablets, Ex. 34:29-30).

On the mountain God speaks out of a cloud to the disciples, using the same words God spoke at Jesus' baptism, "*confirming the identity and mission of Jesus declared there, and confirming the confession Peter had made in the preceding scene*" (Boring p.364). They are called to hear and obey Jesus. The effect on the disciples was fear (Matt 17:6), echoing that of the Israelites when Moses' shining face bedazzled them (Ex 34:30). It took Jesus' touch and words to get them back on their feet (Matt 17:7). Whilst descending the mountain Jesus charges them to secrecy until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead (Matt 17:9), prefiguring the Easter events. Such OT echoes and links place this transfiguration story within the Jewish heritage of Matthew's church.

This epiphany shows the wrapping of God's Shekinah glory around Jesus and the affirmation of God's love for and delight in His Son (Matt 17:5). What is startling is that this does not "save" Jesus from suffering and death. Indeed, the paradox of the cross is sharpened by the juxtaposition of the transfiguration story with the unfolding events of the season of Lent and Easter.

Merilyn Clark

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

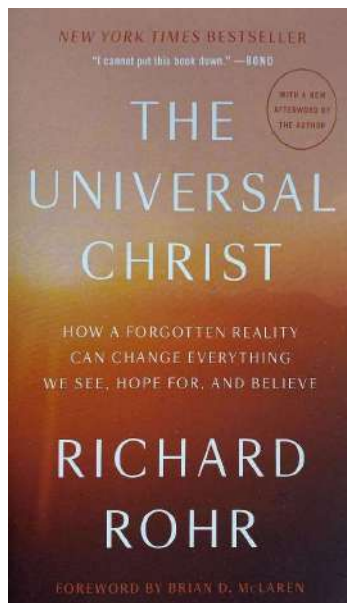


## Lenten Study

Lightning in a bottle is one way of thinking about how the divine presence was contained within the person of Jesus. Another way, is to see Jesus as reconnecting us with the majesty of love, which is God's presence within you, me and the entire cosmos.

Join us for a six week tour with Richard Rohr as we read together, *The Universal Christ*.

Starting Wednesday 22 Feb, 7.30pm in the Rainbow Centre.



## Garden Morning 18 February 9am to 12 noon

We are making fantastic progress weeding the south-west corner of the block. The Community Hub has been installed and is already being used.

The next steps are for the wonderfully creative youth team to paint their design and for us to get ready to do some planting in April. There is a bit

## Fragile Blessings

*Count your blessings name them one by one. (Hymn)*

My mother use to say precious things come in small parcels and I thought of that when I saw the small, beautiful feather lying on the table in my sacred space. A gift for the morning. It wasn't just any feather because when it caught the light its true colours were revealed in a magenta, purple like shining colour which caught me by surprise. Such a fragile little thing yet so full of beauty! I thought of the bird who had left it there for my delight and I thought of its creator and I thought of how the light of Christ can come and shine on us and reveal our true colours. Joyce Rupp says: *"And so in my life, what I see as fragile, weak and frail, may be my greatest gift."*

May the peace of God fill your life every single day.

*Anne, servant of the Lord*

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



A gift of delight

more weeding to do, some more pruning and the planning for where we will ultimately have the path and the plants.

If you are able, please bring your hat, sunscreen, gardening gloves and gardening tools. The following will be particularly helpful: whipper snipper; spades; pruners/loppers; wheelbarrows, and a trailer.

Recently St John's Care (SJC) received a new client whom we are going to call T. She was embarrassed and very distressed. It was obvious she needed to talk to someone. One of our SJC volunteers kindly offered her a cup of coffee and some delicious biscuits.

I asked T if she would like to talk in a more private place to which she replied "Yes please." I began by first validating her feelings and emphasised that we were here to help her in any way we could.

T began by telling me that she had been using drugs for many years; she had been lost in that world and hadn't understand that drugs also separated her from her loved ones. She has promised herself never to fall into drugs again and wants to keep that promise.

T explained that she has been clean for 12 months and no longer uses drugs. She wants to get ahead and prove to herself that she can do it, but sometimes there are times when she feels very lonely. She feels that she has no one to rely on and has had thoughts of using drugs again because it makes her feel numb.

She also told me that she found a part-time job which provides enough money to pay for the room where she lives - but is not enough to buy food or her bus tickets (to be able to go to work).

T asked me if we could help her with food for this week because she had just made some payments and had run out of money to buy food. I spoke with T and we came to an agreement that she could come once a week to pick up food until she gets a job with a better income.

I explained to her that whenever she felt lonely or needed to talk to someone, she was more than welcome to come to SJC and visit us, have a chat or a cup of coffee.

I also offered her information about SAFE HAVEN BELCONNEN. Safe Haven offers people in distress an opportunity for connection and support from peer workers, no appointment is needed, and services are free. Safe Haven is open Tuesdays - Saturdays, 4:30pm – 9:00pm.

Other important information I shared with T is about HEAD TO HEALTH. Head to Health is a new mental health service which supports all Canberrans. This is a free service that does not require a booking.

As T left, she exclaimed, "I would like to repay all the kindness when I get back on my feet and I'll try to keep my promise!" She turned and waved goodbye.

I would like to thank St John's Care donors for their generous help. It makes a real difference to peoples' lives.

Karen Medrano SJC Case Manager

**Items required:** dry spaghetti, full cream UHT milk, jam, packet meals.

## St Mark's Library

Did you know that Holy Covenant has a membership of St Mark's Theological Library? The benefits of our membership include:

- access to St Mark's comprehensive and specialised resources in biblical studies and languages, theology, church history, missions and ministry
- Unlimited loans and renewals
- access to key scholarly journals
- access to library study spaces with wireless internet access
- photocopying and printing facilities
- support from library staff
- access to the St Mark's community including weekly chapels and the many events they hold.

If you have queries about how to access the St Mark's Library, please email [stmarkslibrary@csu.edu.au](mailto:stmarkslibrary@csu.edu.au) or call (02) 6272 6222.



## Out of Office

A reminder that Megan's office hours are unpredictable for the next few weeks while she is supporting her mother through radiation treatment. Best contact is email: [office@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:office@holycovenant.org.au)

◇◇◇  
Out of Office

## Annual General Meeting

How is it possible that Lent starts in less than a week?



Having grasped that reality, we have Shrove Tuesday to look forward to.

**When:** 21 February, 5.30pm

**Where:** Worship Centre

**What:** bring pancakes & your favourite pancake toppings

And after the pancake extravaganza, it's the Annual General Meeting.

**When:** 21 February, 7pm

**Where:** Worship Centre

**What:** bring your (already read) copy of the annual report, and any questions you have for the outgoing Parish Council.

Copies of the annual report will be available for collection and email distribution on Sunday 19 February.

## St Mark's Commencement Lecture

**27 February—7pm**

Celebrate the achievements of the theological students, and hear St Mark's Director, the Revd Associate Professor Andrew Cameron explore the complex and often confusing intersection between emotions and ethics and how Christian theology can offer guidance on this important subject.

The event will be held in the Durie room and over Zoom (<https://charlessturt.zoom.us/j/5426137945>)

If you are coming in person please RSVP for catering to 02 6272 6252 or email: [admin@stmarks.edu.au](mailto:admin@stmarks.edu.au)



Across Christmas & New Year there has been much building work at Nungalinya. Multiple projects were completed: new dining room floor, disabled unit bathroom and kitchenette, asbestos veranda roofing removal, and the old and faithful servant- unit 2-demolished completely! Much painting, plumbing and electrical work was also completed. Thank God for this provision and for the property and residential team who worked so well together!



## Life Context Workshop

All are welcome to the Intensive Journal workshop coming up in Canberra led by Kate Scholl. The workshop is co-hosted by Eremos and the Benedictus Contemplative Community.

- Friday and Saturday 3 - 4 March 2023
- 9:30 am-5 pm Friday and 9 am – 4:30 pm Saturday (AEDT)
- Venue: **St Ninian's Uniting Church** 150 Brigalow St, Lyneham ACT

Often we desire to live more authentically and to feel more connected to our 'soul' or 'spirit'. This workshop introduces the Intensive Journal® process developed by Ira Progoff which is a practical tool to explore our inner stirrings and become more grounded in our own life. No prior experience with journal writing is needed.

Cost: \$180 or \$160 for Eremos and Benedictus members. Bookings close **28 February** or when

workshop is full.

\$20 discount for previous participants who have the Intensive Journal workbook.

For more details or to register go to: [https://www.eremos.org.au/index.cfm?mod-ule=event&pagemode=indiv&page\\_id=1779967](https://www.eremos.org.au/index.cfm?mod-ule=event&pagemode=indiv&page_id=1779967)

More information about Kate and the workshops can be found on the Eremos website: <https://www.eremos.org.au/intensive-journal--workshops>

This workshop is on our Facebook page as an event. Please share! <https://www.facebook.com/events/525190239628575/>

Questions? Contact Kate



**Intensive Journal®: Life Context (Part 1)**  
**In Person Workshop**  
Friday 3 March 9:30am - 5pm  
and Saturday 4 March 9:30am - 4.30pm  
This workshop is offered in collaboration with  
Benedictus Contemplative Church Community



**FEB 20**  
**CRAFTY CREW**

RECYCLING CARDS TO GIVE AWAY  
ALL WELCOME!

CONTACT  
GILLIAN PAINTER 0447 480 503

ALL EQUIPMENT (APART FROM  
SCISSORS) AND MORNING TEA  
PROVIDED

**9.30 AM RAINBOW  
CENTRE**

## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine and the withdrawal of Russian troops
- ⇒ Return of Ukrainian children held in Russia
- ⇒ Provision of aid to those in need in Türkiye and Syria
- ⇒ Recovery efforts in New Zealand after Cyclone Gabrielle and the recent earthquake

### IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Love, joy and safety for performers, attendees and spectators at World Pride in Sydney
- ⇒ Support for those struggling with the increased cost of living, and food, work and housing insecurity
- ⇒ Visa changes in Australia, and the possibilities these present for refugees and our Pacific neighbours
- ⇒ Lenten opportunities for reflection and growth

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Perth
- ⇒ Young District Anglican Ministry
- ⇒ Mothers' Union
- ⇒ Embracing Ministries
- ⇒ Ministry in the Dioceses of Riverina, Grafton, Bathurst, Gippsland, Wangaratta, and Sydney.

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Luiza Luppi; Colin Lyons; Frances Mackay and Megan Mackay
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button; Bev Barnes; Brian and Elaine Dennis; Colin & Marilyn Tolano; Glenys Wimmer; Ann & Peter Bazeos; Maggie Watts; Alice Farrington; Bev Chambers, and anyone known to us personally

### COMMEMORATIONS

- 21 Feb Baden Clarence Powell (d. 1991)  
25 Feb Clifford Jack Daniels (d. 2005)

## COLLECT for 7th Sunday after Epiphany

Hidden God,  
whose wisdom compels our love  
and unsettles our values:  
fill us with the desire to search for her truth,  
that we may transform the world,  
becoming fools for her sake,  
through Jesus Christ,  
your Word and Wisdom made flesh,  
to whom be glory for ever. **Amen.**

## MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

### Rector

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

### Assistant Minister & Community Chaplain

The Revd Wendy Robertson  
0481 458 037    hccommunitychaplain@gmail.com

### Youth Coordinator

Tobias Nevile    youth@holycovenant.org.au  
0468 969 372

### Wardens

Joh Sheehan    6251 7151  
Allison Cooper-Stanbury    0410 506 231

### Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore  
6251 2009    rkmore@grapevine.com.au

### Belonging and Caring

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

### Children & Families Worker

Lou Passmore    holycovenantkids@gmail.com  
0411 338 361

### Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

#### Program Manager

Megan Arthur  
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

The Revd Anne Dudzinski  
0413 994 739    annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au

The Revd Connie Gerrity

0429 423 725    connie@gerrity.id.au

### Resources Team

0419 255 002

## BIRTHDAYS

24 Feb

Christine Mitchell

## BIBLE READINGS

Leviticus 19: 1-2, 9-18

Psalms 119: 33-40

1 Corinthians 3:10-17

Matthew 5: 38-48