

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



**SUNDAY 21 MAY 2023**  
**ASCENSION**

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUplajQ5YTXFCN0N4MGRlSEVIRll0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

## **SUNDAY 21 MAY**

8am & 10am Holy Communion  
Celebrant : The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton  
Preacher: Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM

## **WEDNESDAY 24 MAY**

12 Midday Communion Service and lunch.

## **SUNDAY 28 MAY - Pentecost**

8am : Holy Communion 10am: Youth and Kids Church leading service, Holy Communion  
Celebrant : The Revd Wendy Robertson  
Preacher: The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton  
**Coming soon:**  
Fri 26 May: The Stones Cry Out— Movie and Q&A  
Sat 27 May: Planning Day  
Fri 2 June: Pizza Night

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

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

### **When are you going to do something? Acts 1:6-14**

One of the biggest barriers to faith can be our disappointment that God does nothing to stop bad things from happening in our world. We grow disheartened when so many of our prayers about poverty, war, famine, natural disasters or chronic illness seem to go unanswered.

The disciples had seen God's kingdom draw near in the ministry of Jesus. People were set free from dominance of suffering and evil. Although the powers responded by crucifying Jesus, God resurrected him.

Surely, God would do something now. The wheat had fallen into the ground. Now would be time for the harvest when everything wrong would be set right and broken things fixed. No wonder the disciples asked Jesus, 'is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?'

The kingdom Jesus promised would not be contained to Jerusalem or restricted to the Roman province of Judea. Neither would it be limited by the disciple's lack of boldness, strength or imagination.

God's kingdom would come in the same way that Jesus ascended into heaven. Not with a bang of domination or the crash of

destruction. The end would arrive as a fresh start and a new beginning.

What started with one person became a room filled with students, women and family. In a week it would fill the streets. In a generation it would spread around the world. God's kingdom would jump between cultures and networks enduring all manner of hardship and cataclysms along the way.

Perhaps our world would be different and the church more faith-filled if we stopped staring up at an empty sky. God is not up there.

If we saw each other as beloved, we might find the boldness to be curious about why so much remains unchanged. If we saw ourselves as beloved, we might discover the strength to be present rather than running away when things get hard. If we saw the world as beloved, maybe our imaginations might unfurl and creativity blossom.

God is never silent or powerless when confronted by a suffering world. God always sends the right people to help by calling out the best from the worst, replacing weakness with strength and shame by glory. Nothing remains the same when God's love takes root.

*Wayne Brighton*

It's enough to break your heart. So many people living in Canberra, living alone, often on the street. Struggling with poor mental and physical health.

Winter is coming and the lucky ones find a place to rest with a roof over their heads. Not the kind of roof we enjoy but a bus shelter roof or the awning over a closed shop. Yes, they are lucky.

The unlucky ones can only stare up at the sky. They huddle under a tree. Their days and nights are even longer and colder. They are forever fearful their meagre belongings will be stolen.

And if that isn't bad enough, many of them don't eat well. They can't afford good food and rely on wonderful people like you to donate to our Winter Appeal.

I don't know what is sadder: Empty hearts or empty stomachs... But there is something you can do this Winter. By providing a gift of any amount it allows us to buy the necessary items to provide a bag full of easy to prepare meals for those living in such conditions.

How do people get to be in this situation? Could you or I end up like this? Perhaps...

I know you care because you've given before. Your generosity has already made a difference... Your giving spirit is part of what it means to live here in our community.

We look out for each other. It is the Canberra way. I can assure you that we at St John's Care are totally focused on putting your generosity to work in the best way possible.

Please send your gift now. We have clients who need a hero like you right now. You'll feel good about the difference you make.

Jason Haines, Executive Officer

P.S. I hope you can renew your support for our Winter Appeal. Your caring kindness is a big part of what makes our community a great place to live!

P.P.S. Donations can be made by giving online at <https://www.stjohnscare.org.au/>

## Confirmation Classes

Coming Soon

# 7 REASONS FOR CONFIRMATION

COMING IN JULY  
 SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

Helps us to grow in faith, understanding and wise living



An opportunity to ask the minister tricky and awkward questions



To make a fresh start by having another go



Work out what's important



A chance to change your mind



Learn how to read the Bible wisely



Discover more about Jesus' life, work, death and resurrection



Wayne will be running a group for young adults (12-18 years) and another for older people (19-95 years). Email for more information



## IDAHOBIT—17 May

IDAHOBIT stands for the International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexphobia and Transphobia. IDAHOBIT is May 17th because that's the date that homosexuality was removed from the International Classification of Diseases in 1990. This occurred because sexual orientation and gender fluidity were considered ordinary variations in human experience.

I have heard far too many Christians say 'I'm not homophobic—I'm not afraid of gay people'. But the definition of homophobia (and bi-, intersex- and transphobia) is not just about fear. It also includes hatred, contempt, prejudice, aversion, antipathy, discomfort with or mistrust of people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, intersex or trans.

*I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. (John 13:34)*

Jesus demands that our relationships with our fellow humans are about love. It was not love that an allegedly Christian youth group leader showed my bisexual 14 year old daughter, when telling her that she was going to hell. It was not love that an allegedly Christian pastor showed me, when telling me that queer Christians like me don't exist, and that I should have a millstone hung around my neck and be drowned in the depths of the sea. It is not love to deny a trans or gender diverse person their name or their pronouns.

This IDAHOBIT, and every day, may our lives be filled with love. The kind, patient, inclusive love that rejoices with the LGBTIAQ+ community and works towards a time when days like IDAHOBIT are no longer needed. May we all safely gather into loving communion with our brother Jesus. May we enlarge the place of our tent (Isaiah 54) and make room for everyone.

*Megan Arthur*

## Our Creating God

*O Lord how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all, the earth is full of your possessions Psalm 104:24*

Take a look at everything that is in your field of vision and reflect. God made it all! What strikes me is that he is still making, creating and being extravagant. Every sunrise, every new day, the fresh shower of rain that transform the roadside with pink and blue and yellow wild flowers. The baby birds in the nest. Everything that is in your sight God made. They are his. They are his possessions (had you ever thought of creation in that way?) and he wants to share them with us.

Lord, you are a constant, faithful, creating God and we thank you.

*Anne, servant of the Lord*



Made for our joy

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



## Garden Redesign

Parish Council is interested in progressing the next stage of our garden redesign project. We will focus on the eastern side of the grounds to expand the children's play area, put in a pizza oven and a desire path. (Desire paths are informal pathways created by pedestrians, bikers, and animals that carve out routes considered more desirable to travelers.)

We would like to submit an application for the ACT Government Community Gardens Program. To do this we need to determine the materials we wish to use and obtain

quotes. Do you have a passion or interest in our grounds, skills in landscaping or contacts with people who have expertise in these areas? If so, we would love to hear from you. Please speak with Joh, Wayne or Wendy.



## Save the date:

**Saturday 17 June 2023**

**St John's Care Groceries Collection and Cake Stall  
at the Jamison Centre**

This year we are recommencing a collection of groceries and cake stall at the Jamison Centre to support the work of St John's Care. We would



love your assistance on the day to invite shoppers at Coles and Aldi to purchase a few extra items to donate, or to do a shift on the cake stall. We are also looking for a cake stall coordinator and some willing bakers to donate cakes, jams, and other goodies to sell.

A roster will soon be put up on the back wall seeking volunteers to help. In the meantime, please talk to Carol Kubanek

E: [carol.kubanek@gmail.com](mailto:carol.kubanek@gmail.com) or Prue Wedgwood

E: [pruewedg@gmail.com](mailto:pruewedg@gmail.com) if you would like to help.

## Anglican News

The May edition of Anglican News is now available from the Diocesan website: <http://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/>. There's a great article from Revd Wayne on The Voice.



## Neville Tomkins—CEO Sleepout

The CEO Sleepout raises funds to support homeless people and the most vulnerable in our local community.

As described in the St John's Care article on p.2, COVID and the cost of living crisis

has resulted in more homeless people in Canberra needing these services. If you would like to sponsor Neville Tomkins, who is participating in the annual Sleepout for his 12th year, you can go to:

<https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/fundraisers/neville>

## Archdeacon Anne's Anniversary



Congratulations Anne!

We are celebrating Archdeacon Anne's quarter century of ordination this Sunday. There's a card to sign; if you can't get into church to add your signature, please email the office and Megan will add your name.

## 2023 Tax Appeal



Anglicans in Development's partners are experiencing severe economic downturns and the impact of local disasters such as cyclones, droughts or political conflict. These come on top of the pre-existing issues of extreme poverty—hunger, lack of money to send children to school, gender-based violence, alcoholism and conflict over scarce resources. Children are particularly impacted, since without good nutrition and education, they cannot break the cycle of poverty.

Donations to this appeal may be made online at: [www.abmission.org/Tax2023](http://www.abmission.org/Tax2023)

## Changes at Holistic Care Nursing Ministries (HCNM)

Those who have been following along may remember that HCNM is working towards becoming a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC). Part of that journey is having a constitution approved by the Diocese, and the ACNC. In working through the establishment of the constitution, it has become apparent that a change of name is needed. After much conversation among the Management Committee, the final decision is a rebranding to:

### Covenant Care

#### The Holistic Care Program of the Anglican Parish of Holy Covenant, Jamison

The rebranding has almost no impact on the day to day functioning of the organisation, once we deal with changing our letterhead, business cards and policy documents. We anticipate the name change will ease the passage of the ACNC registration process.

There are no changes to the functioning of the various subprograms of the organisation. There is a flow on name change though, as what was known as Covenant Care (CC) becomes the Covenant Care Day Hospice (CCDH).

Please keep an eye open for the Covenant Care volunteers as we continue our work to build the profile of the organisation. We have a stall at the Volunteering Expo at Campbell High School on May 20th.

Anyone who is interested in volunteering with us is most welcome to contact me.

*Megan Arthur*



## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Survivors and victims of the Wellington hostel fire; hostel staff and first responders
- ⇒ Safe and secure elections in Türkiye & Cambodia, and a peaceful transition of power in Thailand
- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine and the withdrawal of Russian troops
- ⇒ Rescue efforts following cyclone Mocha in Bangladesh

### IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ The Diocese of the Murray as they seek to approve the ordination of women to the priesthood at their Synod in June
- ⇒ Willingness to listen to Australia's First Peoples and a successful outcome in the Voice referendum
- ⇒ Practical assistance for those struggling with housing and food security
- ⇒ Efforts to combat rising suicide rates

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Rockhampton
- ⇒ Parishes of Holbrook & Gundagai
- ⇒ Diocesan Candidates training for ordination at St Mark's and elsewhere
- ⇒ Licensed Lay Ministers in Parishes and Ministry Units throughout the Diocese.

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Prue and Ken Wedgwood; Audrey and Stuart Wells; Tony Willis; Leo and Glenys Wimmer; and Raphael, Belinda, Kate, Lucy and William Wood.
- ⇒ 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; Alice Farrington; Bev Chambers, Anne Drummond, Gracie Bonnett, Lou Daniels, Geoffrey Ross and anyone known to us personally

### COMMEMORATIONS

## BIRTHDAYS

21 May Lainie Robertson

## BIBLE READINGS

Acts 1:6-14  
Psalm 68:1-10,32-35  
1 Peter 5  
John 17:1-11

## COLLECT for Ascension

O God,  
whose Son, Jesus, prayed for his disciples,  
and sent them into the world to proclaim the  
coming of your kingdom:  
by your Holy Spirit,  
hold the Church in unity,  
and keep it faithful to your word,  
so that, breaking bread together,  
we may be one with Christ in faith and love and  
service,  
now and 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 kennemorerosemary@gmail.com

### 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

### Covenant Care Program Manager

Megan Arthur  
0487 945 615 nurse@holycovenant.org.au

### Covenant Care 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