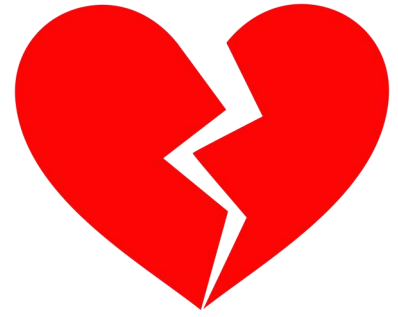


HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER 2023
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSEVIRII0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366
Password: 033643

SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER

8am & 10am Holy Communion
Celebrant: Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
Preacher: Revd Wendy Robertson

11.45am Pet Blessing

WEDNESDAY 11 OCTOBER

12 Midday Communion Service and lunch

SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER

8am & 10am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

Coming soon:

Thurs 12, 17, 26 Oct: Decluttering Workshop

21 October: Working Bee & Trivia Night

26 October: Staff Quiet Day

Bank details for direct debit:

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

Unrequited Love?

Matthew 21: 33-46

Noel Pearson recently said that rejection of the Voice would amount to unrequited love, and that Australians were not capable of that at this time in our history. Earlier Stan Grant said, *'I will meet you with the love of my people. My people can teach the world to love...Don't mistake our love for weakness. It is our strength. We have never stopped fighting for justice and truth.'* Is there not something prophetic, even Christlike, in these voices?

Initially, today's parable of the Wicked Tenants seems to be more about accountability and judgment than love. Comparing God's people to a vineyard connects it to a parable in Isaiah 5 which begins as follows: *'Let me sing to my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard.'* To see today's version as a love song is a bit of a stretch unless we take the longer view.

The tenants forgot that the land was not theirs to own, but to care

for, that they were custodians not owners. (Who else reminds us of that?) Instead of paying their dues, they respond violently when the owner attempts to collect the rent. The religious leaders are quick to condemn the tenants, not recognising that their behaviour aligns them with those they condemn. We might need to be careful we aren't making the same mistake.

Rejection is an important theme in this parable. Perhaps that is why Jesus suddenly introduces a completely different image from Ps 118:22: *'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.'* A cornerstone is the first stone laid in the foundation of a building and serves as a reference for aligning all the other stones used in the construction of the building.

This passage challenges us to be careful who or what we reject or accept. Which voices do we listen to, and are they aligned to the call to love, compassion, justice and reconciliation we see in Christ?

Frances MacKay

Family breakdown

O used to live in a home with his partner and two children. Approximately four months ago, O's partner V lost her job, and this triggered a series of events that changed the family's dynamic. The family plunged into financial hardship. V's mental health deteriorated, and the environment at home turned hostile and violent.

Fueled by the financial issues and V's drug and alcohol use, the couple's relationship soured, and ended with O seeking a Family Violence Order. O was forced to leave the family home with his children and seek accommodation with friends. Due to the severity of the situation, the children were unable to attend school, and O stayed home to care for them. Eventually, he used up his leave and was forced to resign from his job.

With limited resources and no family to turn to for support, O came to St John's Care (SJC) with his two children. He described the situation, and we spoke about some of his main concerns. O's name was still on the lease, and he simply could not afford to pay the rent. We contacted the real estate agent and were able to terminate his lease with minimal financial repercussions.

O was concerned that his children did not have backpacks, lunch boxes and drink bottles for school. Our volunteers provided each child with a brand new school pack. The children were thrilled.

I collected some bags of food for the family. O expressed his deep gratitude for the support provided his family. I encouraged him to come back regularly and since then I have seen his family fortnightly.

Last week O returned to SJC to pick up some food and cleaning supplies and was excited to tell me that he had landed a job and was starting work over the coming days. Securing employment meant that O was now able to look at more stable accommodation options. He hoped to move into a private rental over the next fortnight.

Over the next few months, I will continue to work closely with O to provide basic support in the form of food and cleaning supplies, as well as more advanced support helping the family secure long-term accommodation. Thank you to all our donors who make it possible to step in and support members of our community who need it the most.

Robbie Speldewinde Operations Manager

Items Required: cereal, juice poppers, jam, shampoo and conditioner, small boxes of sultanas

And God smiles

All things bright and beautiful.... the Lord God made them all. (TiS 135)

Spring is the time when God surrounds us with his smile. The glorious colours of the flowers in bloom, bright green grass and breath-taking sun rises and sun sets. This is the season when all of creation shouts before us the smiling face of God. His presence is a present - a gift, a treasured gift.

As I gathered myself in prayer in the sacred space my words rang out to God - How good of you, to give us all of this. How very, very good.

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

Anne, servant of the Lord



The smiling face of God

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

School holiday changes

Across the school holidays the Kids' and Youth Church part of the 10am service is on a break. Kids' and Youth Church will resume on 15 October.

Christian Leaders— Robert Altamore

It's time to celebrate one of Canberra's own Christian leaders!

Robert Altamore (OAM) is a powerhouse of advocacy for people with disability. Through his work with People with Disability ACT; the Canberra Blind Society; Radio 1RPH; the ACT Disability Advisory Council and Christians for Voluntary Euthanasia, Altamore has been advocating for inclusion in the Canberra community for over 35 years. Outside of the disability inclusion space, Altamore is engaged with the community through groups such as the Order of Australia Association, and Rotary.

In 2018 Altamore received the Achievement in Inclusion Award at the Chief Minister's Inclusion Awards. He received a Medal of the Order of Australia in 2009 for his service to people with vision impairment.

Altamore subscribes to the Holy Covenant Weekly

Bulletin, so that he can include Archdeacon Anne's reflection in the Christian Perspectives radio show on Sunday afternoons on 1RPH.

You can listen to Christian Perspectives on 1RPH at 1125 on your AM band.



Fete—11 November 2023

9.30am

The sign up sheets for fete volunteers are on the back noticeboard. There's a wealth of volunteering opportunities available both before, during and after the fete.

A couple of the stalls still need coordinators— an important role to make sure that the stalls run smoothly.



HOLY COVENANT
ANGLICAN CHURCH
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Blessed are those who have loving pets in their lives.

Pet owners and safely controlled pets are encouraged to join us at 11.45am on Sunday 8 October, at the Jamison Centre. Wet weather venue: Holy Covenant Anglican Church, 89 Dexter St Cook



**What is the Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander Voice?**
Get informed at [Voice.gov.au](https://www.voice.gov.au)



Get informed.
[Voice.gov.au](https://www.voice.gov.au)

October Working Bee

This month the working bee is focussed on getting the buildings, grounds and gardens spruced up for the fete. Knock down all the cobwebs! Wash all the windows!

Please bring along your gardening and cleaning tools and enjoy a (hopefully) glorious Spring morning in wonderful company. If the heavier cleaning and gardening tasks are physically beyond you, there's always the option of providing a morning tea contribution, or serving morning tea to the workers.

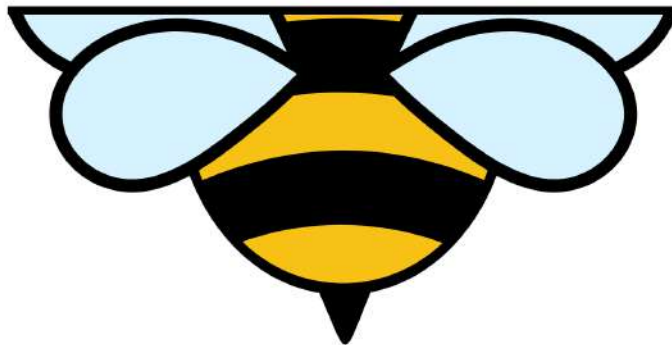
For working bee questions, please contact Paul Shelley on 0419 255 002. For gardening questions please contact Joh Sheehan on

Johann@sheehan.id.au



WORKING BEE

10 AM - MIDDAY | 21 OCTOBER 2023
HOLY COVENANT



St Mark's Conversations: Women in Ministry

Ever wanted to know about the possibilities and challenges for women in ministry? Come along and join women in conversation.

When: Thursday 19 October, 6-9pm

Where: St Mark's Theological Centre, 15 Blackall St Barton or on Zoom <https://charlessturt.zoom.us/j/64000978874>

Who: Speakers include Revd Anna Boxwell, Revd Dr Katherine Rainger and Revd Joy Harris

Cost: Free

Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/conversations-women-ministry-tickets-722438993477>



Rev. Anna Boxwell



Rev. Dr Katherine Rainger



Rev. Joy Harris

Countdown to the referendum on the Voice to Parliament

The Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, in partnership with Charles Sturt University, invite you to attend a panel discussion of the key issues informing the Australian citizenry in the run-up to the referendum.

Moderated by Professor Mark Evans, the panel includes: Michelle Grattan, Professor Sue Green, James Blackwell, Professor Kim Rubenstein and Paul House.

Is history on the side of the 'No' campaign? What would make cynics say 'Yes'? What would the implications of a failed referendum be for Indigenous Australians, and wider prospects of democratic reform, such as a referendum on an Australian republic? How would a 'Yes' vote strengthen Australian democracy? What would the political consequences of a failed referendum be for Anthony Albanese within the Labor party and on wider national and foreign affairs fronts? How would a failed referendum affect Peter Dutton's standing within the Liberal party and with the wider Australian electorate?

6-7pm, Wednesday 11 October, The Chapel, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall Street, Barton.

This is a free event but bookings are essential. To secure a place, book through: <https://events.humanitix.com/countdown-to-the-referendum-on-the-voice-to-parliament>

2023 REFERENDUM

14 OCTOBER 2023

A voice crying in the wilderness:

The fate of truth in public discourse

When a society is driven by the desire for power the consequences are disastrous. Lying becomes our stock in trade and loving truth above all else is consigned to the field of dreams. Such is the fate of truth in contemporary public discourse today.

The Referendum of the Voice to Parliament is an important case in point. The voice that cries for recognition struggles to be heard In a modern wilderness marked by a cacophony of competing voices, sounds, noise and static. How might we hear a true voice in such times? What must we do to act truthfully? What may we hope for?

Christians for an Ethical Society presents the Right Reverend Professor Stephen Pickard at a forum that will encourage discussion from the floor.

When: Thursday 12 October, 7pm (note change of date)

Where: Chambers Pavillion, Centre for Christianity and Culture, Blackall Street Barton

Cost: free (a donation would be appreciated)

RSVP: secretary@ces.org.au



Christians for an
Ethical Society

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine and the withdrawal of Russian troops
- ⇒ Safety for displaced people from Nagorno-Karabakh

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Voting in the referendum
- ⇒ Impacts of extreme weather

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Bunbury
- ⇒ St John's Canberra & Holy Cross, Hackett
- ⇒ St John's Care
- ⇒ Sutton Road Mission District
- ⇒ Australian National University chaplaincy
- ⇒ Brindabella Court Self Care Units, Downer
- ⇒ Radford College
- ⇒ Dinka Community
- ⇒ Anglican Schools Commission
- ⇒ The work of Christian education in all schools, and for the continuing development of accessible schools in the Diocese. Ministry to the students, teachers, support staff, parents and families linked to these schools. Ministry to post-secondary students.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Wendy, Lachlan, Isla, Lainie Tahli and Estelle Robertson; Clive Rodger; Luc Rose; Maxine Rose; Sandra Ross; and Richard and Maureen Scutter.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer (often for long term needs) including Barry & Sandra Button; Bev Barnes; Brian and Elaine Dennis; Glenys Wimmer; Ann & Peter Bazeos; Alice Farrington; Bev Chambers; Gracie Bonnett; Bob and Kath Arthur; Elaine Gifford; Ellie, Prue & Ken Wedgwood and anyone known to us personally

COMMEMORATIONS

- 9 Oct Alexandra Marion (Lexie) Winders (d. 2020)
10 Oct Ross Hughan (d. 1995)

COLLECT for 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Almighty God,
your Son Jesus was the stone rejected by the builders,
and, by your doing,
he has been made the chief cornerstone:
grant that, by the power of his Spirit working in us,
we may become living stones
built up into your dwelling place,
a temple holy and acceptable to you;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and 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

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

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

The Revd Lynda McMinn
0403 769 991 ellemm99@gmail.com

Resources Team

0419 255 002

BIRTHDAYS

14 Oct

Helen Boulton

BIBLE READINGS

Exodus 20:1-20

Psalms 19

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46