

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



## SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER 2023 TWENTIETH 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 15 OCTOBER

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

### WEDNESDAY 18 OCTOBER

12 Midday Communion Service and lunch

### SUNDAY 22 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

## Come As You Are?

### *Matt 22:1-14*

*Come as you are ...*

*No need to fear, love sets no limits... (Hymn)*

Today's gospel does not sit easily with these comforting words. Yet who kills the messenger because they don't want to be pestered with an invitation? Or which king takes revenge not only an individual offender but destroys the whole city where they live?

Perhaps exaggeration is used to make a point, as is the stark contrast between a generous, Inclusive invitation, where all are welcome, and the seemingly arbitrary decision to throw out one guest who turns up in the wrong clothes. Some scholars get round this by saying that wedding hosts in those days kept appropriate garments for such contingencies.

What is he thinking? He seems completely unaware of the occasion. Who invited him? Why does it matter that he is not wearing the wedding garment?

The clothing metaphor runs through scripture. Adam and Eve try to cover their shame with fig leaves; later God makes clothing for them. Paul develops this metaphor in several places: he tells his readers to 'put on Christ' (*Rom 13:14*), 'clothe yourself with your new self' (*Eph 4:22-24*), and 'clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience' (*Col 3:12*). It takes time to gather a wardrobe like this, though. Yet we can always pray, 'We do not presume to come to your table, Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies...' God is nothing if not realistic.

Yes we come as we are – How else can we come? God is with us even during those dark times of weeping and gnashing of teeth. But we must be ready to change. Love may have no limits, but it sets limits so that we can be all we are meant to be. Besides, there is a garment with our name on it. Why not try it on?

*Frances MacKay*

## Conversations and therapeutic conversations

At St John's Care (SJC) Centre our days are increasingly busy. We

acknowledge that the needs of our community are growing and becoming progressively more complex.

Our volunteers demonstrate Jesus' compassion to all who enter our doors, providing unconditional respect and encouragement through listening, and sharing time by way of conversation. They then prepare emergency relief food and personal care packages, individualising these packages so that they relate to the person and family circumstances. The time that volunteers give and the respectful conversations which take place with our clients gives hope and illustrates compassion.

Within Case Management we spend time with our clients having therapeutic conversations. It is important that we support clients not only practically but also by encouraging self-determination through a strengths-based approach. The client determines the challenges and works together with SJC Case Managers to achieve their goals. By working through this supportive framework individuals and families receive the respect, compassion, encouragement and often advocacy they feel they require. Thus, this partnership with our clients empowers them to understand that they are worthy, that there is a brighter tomorrow and that SJC is here to support them in their journey.

Supporting a client in Case Management means taking time to have therapeutic conversations. We complete assessments that look at family structures and safety concerns. We highlight life challenges, formulate plans to work towards, and advocate in terms of support and communication with other organisations. Importantly we highlight our clients' strengths, their coping mechanisms, their support networks and then work out the next steps. This process takes time but is essential to the relationship with our clients and being able to support their needs. Often when in dark times it is difficult to see the light in life and through building relationships we can assist in this process.

One example of the importance of building relationships, and therapeutic conversations: I received a message that someone required food to be urgently delivered. After speaking with them for some time, I was able to unpack what was happening. We talked about safety, and they shared a little of their trauma story and their fear of seeking medical assistance. Together we spoke about the physical pain they were currently experiencing and worked through barriers and strategies toward seeking medical treatment. They called me back to confirm that they now had sought medical attention and to thank me for the support they received through our therapeutic conversations. They told me they had felt accepted. By providing unconditional support, acknowledging their strengths, and the offer of future support, SJC had given them the confidence and belief that they were worthy and able to continue their current challenges.

Wendy Senior Case Manager

**Items required:** cereal, fruit cups, school lunch snacks, jam, sardines.

## A morning offering

*I arise today, blessed by all things. May I live this day.* John O'Donohue

'It's 4 in the morning; why is the currawong calling? It's moon light before the dawning - why is the currawong calling?' Those were my thoughts as I lay awake listening to the sound of the currawong, I felt it was a special gift in the silence and I recall these words (By John O'Donohue) *'Meet me in the morning dawning - I will wait for you there.'*

Just you and me Lord and that bird singing to us from a tree. Peace, O such peace. What a gift. Ah, its moments like these that I know God is with me.

May the God of life bless you and keep you today and always. Anne - servant of the Lord.

*Anne, servant of the Lord*



It's 4 in the morning

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

## Return of Kids' and Youth Programs

The school term has recommenced, and that means that Kids' Church and the Youth Program have returned to their normal programming. Thanks for making this happen team!

## Christian Leaders— Louise Gosbell

Louise Gosbell is Principal of Mary Andrews College, and writes on disability and the Bible. Gosbell has been involved with CBM Australia's Luke14 program for many years, helping train churches and Christian organisations on disability and inclusion. She literally wrote the book on disability inclusion in the church, worked with the Sydney Anglican Social Issues Committee to produce a set of guidelines to help churches. You can download the guidelines here: <https://bit.ly/3R1VgZ8>

As a person with disability, and a parent of a child with disability, Gosbell has many questions for churches to consider. How can we develop and implement plans to care for people affected by disability - so that they can hear the gospel clearly and engage in Christian fellowship? What are the theological foundations for disability ministry? How do we in our hearts and attitudes welcome or distance those with disability? What language



should we use? How do we include people on the autism spectrum? What are the complexities welcoming people with mental health challenges?

You can listen to Gosbell explore these and other questions on the Pastor's Heart podcast: <https://www.thepastorsheart.net/podcast/accessibility-louise-gosbell>

## 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.

Coordinators are still needed for the cake stall and signage — important roles to make sure that the publicity and the stall run smoothly.



**TRIVIA NIGHT**

SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER 2023  
6PM START  
HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH  
89 DEXTER ST COOK

BYO DRINKS & SNACKS

RSVP: [OFFICE@HOLYCOVENANT.ORG.AU](mailto:OFFICE@HOLYCOVENANT.ORG.AU)

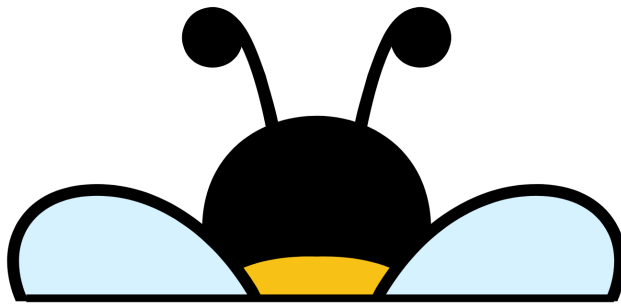
**HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
a place for everyone

## 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!

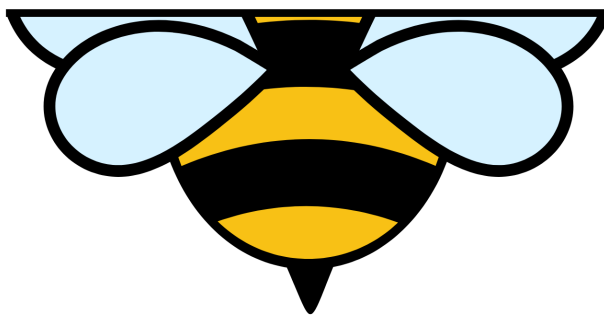
Please bring along your gardening and cleaning tools and enjoy a (hopefully) glorious Spring morning in wonderful company. If the heavier cleaning and gardening tasks are physically beyond you, there's always the option of providing a morning tea contribution, or serving morning tea to the workers.

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



**WORKING BEE**

**9 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**

## Friends of St Saviour's Cathedral Annual Service, AGM and High Tea

The Friends of St Saviour's Cathedral annual service is happening again. The guest preacher and speaker this year is Bishop Stephen Pickard.

**When:** Service—midday 28 October. AGM immediately after the service, and High Tea immediately after the AGM.

**Where:** St Saviour's Cathedral and Parish Hall, Bourke St Goulburn

**Cost:** Service & AGM are free, High Tea cost is \$35

**RSVP:** by 20 October to Charles Body email: [crb34@bigpond.com](mailto:crb34@bigpond.com) or phone 0421 250221

Payment can be made on the day, or by direct transfer to the Friends' bank account BSB 032 721, account number 138962 (put your surname in the reference field).



## St Mark's Film and Theology Night - The Barbie Movie

Join the St Mark's Film, Theology, and Pide Night on 26 October to watch and discuss The Barbie Movie.

With discussion points varying from the true utopia, and how all of us are invited to find our purpose in Christ, the film gives us the opportunity to engage with popular culture through a Christian lens.

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/st-marks-film-and-theology-night-the-barbie-movie-tickets-722445543067>

## A note from the Parish treasurer

You might have seen in the parish dream document that it costs about \$1,000 per day to operate the parish. Our income is falling short of that, so I'd like each family to think about whether you can increase your regular giving by a small amount.

If each family gave just \$5 more per week—around the cost of a cup of coffee—we would nearly fill the gap for this year AND help fund some of our dreams for next year. I recognise that not all families can afford to increase their giving, so others might consider doing a little more.



As set out in the Dream document, some of the ways you can help financially are:

- Have a look at what you are currently giving (and/or check that your regular bank transfer is still happening!).
- Pick one of the ministry areas that excites you and make a one-off or regular donation
- Talk with your family about leaving a bequest to the parish
- Have a think about whether you could offer an interest-free loan to the parish.

Thank you all for your incredible generosity.

Mark Cooper-Stanbury  
[treasurer@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:treasurer@holycovenant.org.au)  
Mob 0408 417340

## Anglican News

The new edition of Anglican News is now available at <http://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/>

This edition includes almost four pages on the recent Synod meeting, and a deeply moving article from an Aboriginal writer about the Voice referendum.

## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine and the withdrawal of Russian troops
- ⇒ Peace in Israel and Palestine, and the return of civilian hostages to their families
- ⇒ Relief efforts after the earthquake in Afghanistan

### IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ The impact of the result of the Voice referendum
- ⇒ Thanksgiving for the successful release of Australian journalist Cheng Lei

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Melbourne
- ⇒ St Alban the Martyr, Woden
- ⇒ Australian Federal Police Chaplains
- ⇒ Canberra Hospital and North Canberra Hospital: Chaplain and chaplaincy teams
- ⇒ Ministry to mentally ill and depressed people; the work of Lifeline Canberra.

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Joh Sheehan; Paul and Heather Shelley; Carol Sherman; Mandy Squair; Eileen and Ian Sykes; and Caroline, Richard and Oliver Taylor-Steele.
- ⇒ 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; Ellie, Prue & Ken Wedgwood and anyone known to us personally

### COMMEMORATIONS

- 15 Oct Daphne Watts (d. 2000)  
Francis Thomas Freeman (d. 2003)
- 18 October Dawn Jane Hardman (d. 2020)

## BIRTHDAYS

- 15 Oct Phyl Holmes
- 16 Oct Kath Arthur, David Meggs
- 17 Oct Bob Arthur
- 18 Oct Dave Peebles

## BIBLE READINGS

- Exodus 32:1-14  
Psalm 106:1-6,20-24  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

## COLLECT for 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Saving and healing God, you have promised that those who have died with Christ shall live with him:  
grant us grace to be continually thankful for all you have done for us,  
and in that thankfulness  
to be eager to serve and live for others,  
so that we and all your children may rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, 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

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