

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 16 JANUARY 2022

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

[https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?](https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlI0Zz09)

[pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlI0Zz09](https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlI0Zz09)

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

Kids church and Young Adults will resume on 6 February 2022

SUNDAY 16 JANUARY

9am Holy Communion

Preacher and Celebrant:

The Reverend Connie Gerrity

SUNDAY 23 JANUARY

9am Holy Communion

Preacher: Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM

Celebrant: The Reverend Rick Tilden

Coming up

9am Services until 23 January

Morning Tea: in the Worship Centre. Wednesday 19 January 10-11.30am

Bank Details for Direct Debit are:

Bank: Commonwealth Bank
Branch: Jamison Centre, ACT
BSB: 062 907
A/C No: 802588
Name: Holy Covenant Anglican Church

Do you ever get the feeling that the Holy Family have a tendency to be troublemakers? (In an Aussie lexicon, I would call them sh*t-stirrers, but that might be going a bit too far for the Weekly Bulletin.) In what other family can you find a mother who encourages her son to make somewhere between 450-680 litres of wine for a party that's already gone through all the alcoholic beverage provided, and has also run out of water? And when you look back to some of our readings in previous weeks (Jesus as a precocious young person in the Temple—'where else did you expect me to be Mum?', or Jesus and cousin John upsetting the order of things and conducting ceremonies out in the desert), or forward a little further (Jesus going after the moneylenders in the Temple), I think you can probably see what I mean.

I think that tendency towards holy troublemaking threads through many of this week's bible readings. In Isaiah we are reminded not to keep silent, while the Psalm reminds us that God saves humans and animals alike. (There's a challenge there about the value of the created world, isn't there?) The discussion of spiritual gifts in Corinthians reminds us that we are all "activated by one and the same Spirit" (verse 11), which happens to be the same Spirit that leads Jesus

towards his crucifixion. Jesus refused to accept the political messiah role that his followers expected, and instead set up God's kingdom on earth. That kingdom still exists for us here and now.

But if our brother Jesus is a holy troublemaker, what does that make us?

"Do whatever he tells you," Jesus' mother told the servants. And that holds true for us as well. We do not have the luxury of the guests at the wedding, who received the bounty of Jesus and had no idea where it came from. We are the servants who witness the miracle, and continue in our roles. We have to fill the jars with water, fill our lives with justice, fill our world with love that frees the oppressed, changes the lives of the poor, and provides a place of safety for every child.

There are many opportunities in this world of ours for us to stir up godly trouble. Like those Christians before us who set up hospitals and charities, fought for the abolition of slavery and universal suffrage and changed their world, we can do the same.

In the words of the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

Megan Watts

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COVID Update

Many of us are deeply concerned by the increasing COVID numbers across Australia. It is becoming increasingly likely that multiple members of our congregation will be COVID positive. So what can we do?

- Get boosted when you can, use hand sanitiser regularly and wear a mask in public.
- Remember to check in on the CBR app when you arrive at church.
- Please advise the office if you or someone in your household is diagnosed with COVID. This will enable us to provide pastoral support and any necessary ministry coverage.
- If you are diagnosed with COVID, please take time to rest and heal. Some of us will be tempted to 'push through' and keep working from home as normal, but it is important to recognise that we are all human. Taking time to heal will also give permission for others to do the same.
- Please check up on people that you know who are vulnerable, isolating and/or COVID positive. Do they need help with groceries, or medication? Perhaps they just need a chat? *Proverbs 12:25 Anxiety weighs down the human heart, but a good word cheers it up.*
- Activity group leaders: please let the office know if there will be changes to the return dates for your activity as a result of the increased COVID risks.

The COVID safety plan is currently being reviewed and updated. The new plan will be available on the Parish website.

If the paid staff are in isolation, they will access working from home arrangements. This will potentially impact on the opening hours of the Parish Centre.

If we are advised of a COVID positive/infectious person attending a worship service, there will be an email update to the congregation.

If multiple members of the leadership team for worship services are impacted by COVID, there will be a 9am online service, potentially with lay leadership. Again, an email update will be provided to the congregation in this circumstance.

Thanks to all those attending last Sunday morning's service who wore their masks, maintained physical distancing, and took their morning tea outside. This will be normal practice until further notice.

If you are concerned about the potential for COVID infection, please remember that the Zoom option is available for all worship services. Those parishioners providing bible readings and prayers can do so via Zoom, but please login 10 minutes before the service to allow the PA team to conduct a sound check.

And above all else, let's remember that we are a community of children of God. *"And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful." Colossians 3:15*

Safe Ministry Training

As part of our church's commitment to help people to thrive, many of our volunteers are required to undertake safe ministry training. The Diocese has responded to feedback and developed a general workshop and another specific to children and youth ministry.

Safe Ministry Essentials (Level 1) is a two hour (approximately) workshop for all clergy and church workers to develop awareness of the Diocesan Safe Ministry policy, protocols, procedures and practices. The training includes biblical foundations, healthy team ministry, screening, boundaries, code of conduct, duty of care, responding to concerns and self-care as church workers. This training costs \$20.

Safe Ministry with Children and Young People (Level 2) is a further two hour (approximately) workshop for all clergy and church workers that work with children and youth to develop awareness of Child Safety. The training includes empowering children, identifying and responding to concerns (risk of harm), reducing the risks of child abuse, and caring for all parties. This training costs \$15.

The **Refresher** provides an overview and update of information covered in the three years since Safe Ministry Training was last completed. The Refresher costs \$15.

The next face to face training sessions coming up where the new course content will be used will be at St Matthew's Wanniasa (5 Laurens Street, Wanniasa ACT):

- Refresher course – Thursday 27 January 2022 – 6:30pm to around 8:45pm
- Levels 1 and 2 – Saturday 29 January 2022 – 9:30 to around 3:30 – with Level 1 before the lunch break.

Registration forms are available from the Parish Office.

To ponder

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to preach the good news to the poor. Luke 4: 18

From within my sacred space, I was looking at the 'love' embedded in the beautiful rose, its formation, its colour, its perfume, only love that could come from God. As I gazed into this love a gentle breeze touched my face like a breath of fresh air on a hot day. It seemed to just pass across my face leaving a sense of what I could only call a deep peace and inner warmth. I just wanted to sit and stay in my sacred space where God felt so close and my prayer for this New Year was: *'Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me in 2022.'*

What are your thoughts? What is the Spirit saying to you about this New Year?

Grace and peace from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Anne, servant of the Lord

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



Embedded love.

Are you a musician?

The music team at 10am needs your help. The team is seeking new members who can play an instrument confidently or could lead congregational singing. If you'd like to help out, why not talk to Jodie Petrov or Wayne to get involved.



Anglican Board of Mission Project Update

In 2021, after much consultation, the Diocese of North Queensland Synod set out a new structure to give greater authority to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ministries in North Queensland.

Two new autonomous councils have been created: the Meriba Maygi Zageth Anglican Council for Torres Strait Islander ministry, and the North Queensland Aboriginal Anglican Ministry Council.

Most of the congregations in the Diocese of North Queensland rely on non-stipendiary ministry. The new ministry councils provide a structure of the aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglicans to be expressed. However, the Diocese faces severe financial challenges and has called upon the national church to do more to enable ministry and mission in the Torres Strait Islands and the Cape York Peninsula.

This Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) project helps to support a part-time Ministry Development Officer for the Cape York Peninsula and other priority Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mission in the Diocese of North Queensland.

ABM hopes to raise \$25,000 for this project in 2022.

Last Chance Wednesday Morning Tea—19 January

Our gatherings on Wednesday mornings have been very enjoyable, but Wednesday the 19th is your last chance to join us. Morning tea and conversation are happening from 10-11.30am. To minimize the COVID risks, there are tables and chairs set up under cover, outside the front door of the church. Please remember to check in on the CBR app when you arrive, then come inside to collect your cuppa and delicious snack before moving to the outdoor tables.



Dog Library?

We had a street library during the last COVID lockdown. Should we add an alternative for the neighbourhood doggos?



Rosters



The rosters for Sunday morning services in February will be distributed in the week beginning 24 January.

Many thanks to those regular roster participants who have already supplied information about their availability. If you haven't yet done so, the sheet is on the rosters board beside the chapel. Alternatively, you can email the office and let us know that way.

If you have been thinking about getting involved in morning services, you would be most welcome! Please email the office and let us know which elements of the service you are interested in, and your availability.

Missing!

Has anyone seen Megan's cup? It was here when we closed the office before Christmas, but not here when we returned.



Anglican Board of Mission works with Anglican Church partners to develop and provide for the spiritual, social and material needs of people, both overseas and within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Australia. ABM helps the Anglican Church and the wider community realise and respond to the call for everyone to be a part of God's mission.

Please see the noticeboard for a thank you card from ABM for our support in 2021.



PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Health systems and health care workers
- ⇒ Preparations for COVID safe lunar new year events

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Planning for COVID safe returns to school
- ⇒ The upcoming 50th anniversary of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Newcastle
- ⇒ St George's Anglican Life Centre, Pearce
- ⇒ Arawang Anglican, Kambah
- ⇒ St Matthew's, Wanniasa
- ⇒ Lanyon Valley Anglican Church
- ⇒ St Mary-in-the-Valley, South Tuggeranong
- ⇒ Anglicare activities in partnership with parishes and with government: child care, foster care, young people and families; for staff and volunteers in regional offices and in Goulburn; for clients, for Anglicare Appeals; and bushfires recovery work.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Deranie and Phoebe Jackson; Gareth, Jo, Elanor, Hannah, and Isaac James; Russell Judd, Jayne Murray, Aidan and Emma.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button, Elizabeth Grant, Bev Barnes, Brianna Smith, Claire Whelband and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

Wednesday: Andre Ronald Eric D'Cruz (d. 2000)

COLLECT for 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Bountiful God,
whose Son revealed his glory at Cana of Galilee:
help us to believe and obey,
so that, as our Saviour promised,
we may be filled with the wine of new life
and show forth his joy and love;
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

READINGS

Isaiah 62.1-5
Psalm 36.5-10
1 Corinthians 12.1-11
John 2.1-11

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Children's Worker

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Youth Leadership Team

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Wardens

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Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

Prayer Vine

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Belonging and Caring

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Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

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Honorary Priests

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Reverend Connie Gerrity
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Resources Team

0419 255 002

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Sunday: Jenny Tompkins

Monday: Deranie Jackson

Thursday: Peter Ward

Friday: Mary David-Hoole

Saturday: Meg Brighton

DECEMBER ANGLICAN NEWS

The December Anglican News is now out and is available on the website.

<http://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/>