

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



**SUNDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2022**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366  
Password: 033643

## SUNDAY 6 FEBRUARY

8am and 10 am Holy Communion  
Preacher and Celebrant:  
The Rev'd Dr Wayne  
Brighton  
5pm – Twilight Service

## SUNDAY 13 FEBRUARY

8am and 10 am Holy Communion  
Preacher and Celebrant:  
The Rev'd Dr Wayne  
Brighton  
5pm – Twilight Service

## Coming Up

19 February Gardening Day  
1 March Pancake Tuesday and  
AGM, from 5.30pm  
2 March Ash Wednesday Service  
6pm (beginning of Lent)

## 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

Epiphany is a sudden and profound understanding or revelation of something. It generally refers to an appearance or manifestation of a deity. In the church calendar it is often associated with the baptism of Jesus. Today's Gospel reading is the epiphany of God's abundance and the call of the disciples, who realise that following Jesus is their best choice. The story is of the compelling power of Jesus, the abundance of God's love and what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

Jesus asks Peter to go into the deep water. The obedience of Peter in following Jesus' command, accompanied by his protests, resulted in an unbelievably abundant catch to the extent their nets were about to break. They enlisted their colleagues to aid them only to find that the haul of fish was so great their boats were about to sink. Peter's epiphany is to recognise who Jesus is and that the Kingdom of God is a world of unbelievable abundance, plenty, generosity and overwhelming love.

Peter's reaction to realising he is in the presence of God is that it is too overwhelming and that he is unworthy. Being in the presence of God is awe inspiring; realising our unworthiness is a natural reaction. However Jesus' response was an invitation to follow him. In this Gospel Peter is the first to receive

the call. On receiving the invitation Peter, James and John "left everything and followed him".

Leaving all behind and following Jesus is a repeated theme in the Gospels. Jesus' response to the wealthy young man was to say "any of you who do not give up everything cannot be my disciple". No equivocation, no half measures, no sitting on the fence or having a foot in both camps. All or nothing. This is a tough call. Why should we follow?

The answer is that God's love is an abundant love. It is love beyond expectation, without bounds. It is over the top, excessive love. God's love and provision is beyond human comprehension. It is like the universe which he made. It is almost inconceivable in vastness, power and majesty.

As Luke makes clear, Jesus came to announce the good news to the poor, to release the captives, to give sight to the blind, to free the oppressed and to proclaim the year of the Lord. He came to call followers who will be "catching people". Catching people has pejorative overtones but what Jesus intended was the pivotal shift for these early disciples: moving from catching fish to proclaiming the new kingdom which Jesus was establishing.

*Clive Rodger*

**RECTOR:** The Reverend Dr Wayne Brighton, 0407 408 333, [rector@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:rector@holycovenant.org.au)

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**WEBSITE:** <https://www.holycovenant.org.au>



### **A Family Overwhelmed**

Early this week a young man with a familiar face visited

our centre with 3 young children by his side. As he approached me, I noticed his head was bowed, and that his children were much more subdued than usual.

Noticing the family's unusual demeanour, I took them aside to have a private conversation. T and his young family had been visiting our centre for 18 months but had not been for support in a few months. T's eye filled with tears, and he began to describe the family's recent struggles.

T's wife had suffered from an aggressive form of cancer for many years, and in October last year, her health rapidly declined. She spent several weeks in hospital, and the doctors informed T that she had just days left to live. Because of COVID-19, T and the children were afforded very limited to visit her and say their goodbyes.

"It was so hard to organise to see her, and even when she did, she looked like a shadow of the mother that the children had grown up with. That was difficult for the children, but I know it was also difficult for her, she was determined to be strong right until the end", he said.

In early December, she passed away in hospital, with no family by her side. T and the young children were devastated, and with the threat of COVID-19 present in the community, did very little over Christmas and New Years.

He took time away from his part time job to spend time with his children, however as a result, the families bills, and expenses went up. T now had large utility bills, no food in his pantry, and was on rocky terms with his employer. Additionally, he understood the school term resumes soon and was unable to purchase school supplies and clothes for his children.

The volunteers put together a large food pack for the family, and we assured T that he could visit our centre weekly for food to help him find his feet again. I contacted the ActewAGL financial hardship manager, and was able to set up a payment plan for T – they also agreed to cut his bill by almost 50%.

We settled his outstanding phone bill and late school fees from 2021. Thanks to our fantastic donors, we gave the children school packs, complete with bags, lunch boxes, drink bottles and enough school supplies and stationery for the year.

We contacted the children's school and have helped the family purchase school uniforms for the kids.

T was incredibly moved by the support we provided him and his family, and is much more optimistic about his family's future.

I would like to thank the donors and supporters who contribute to the service that we provide the community.

Operations Manager, Robbie Speldewinde

**Items Needed: school bags, lunch boxes, drink bottles, stationary, juice poppers**

### **You are invited to Godly Play Core Training**

When: 2-5 March 2022, 9am-5pm

Where: Radford College Bruce ACT.

Cost: Full fees \$650. Scholarships available for volunteers, part-time workers etc.

Registrations close Monday 22 February or when all places are filled. Registration and scholarship forms are available at <http://godlyplay.org.au/training>

Questions? Contact Rev. Katherine Rainger via email: [Katherine.rainger@radford.act.edu.au](mailto:Katherine.rainger@radford.act.edu.au)

#### **What is Godly Play?**

The result of a lifetime of research and practice by theologian, author and educator The Rev. Dr. Jerome Berryman, the Godly Play® method is a curriculum of spiritual practice exploring the mystery of God's presence in our lives. The Godly Play curriculum engages what is most exciting about religious education: God inviting us into—and pursuing us in the midst of—Scripture and spiritual experience. Godly Play practice teaches us to listen for God and to make authentic and creative responses to God's call in our lives. Based on 40+ years of research and practice, Godly Play is a creative, imaginative approach to Christian formation and spiritual guidance.

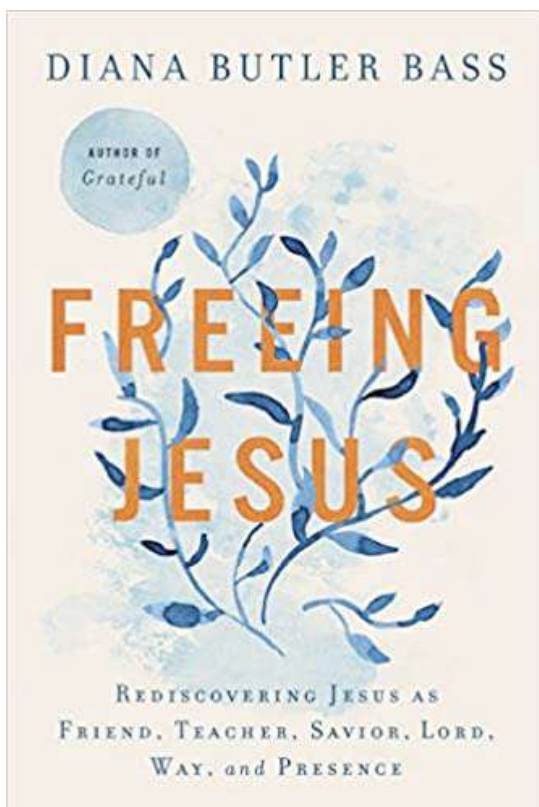
## Lenten Study—Ways We've Known Jesus

Have you noticed how your understanding of Jesus has changed over the years?

As we grow and our needs change, the way we think about and engage with God can and does shift, even when Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. Sometimes we might need a big God who meets us as Saviour and Lord. Other times we encounter someone more intimately as a Friend or Teacher. Sometimes what matters is God's direction as Way or Presence. However we have encountered God, there is always more to discover.

Beginning March 3rd, Wayne will lead a small group online using Diana Butler Bass' book *Freeing Jesus: rediscovering Jesus as friend, teacher, saviour, lord, way and presence* as our conversation guide. Let him know you'd be interested by SMS or email. The book is available in hardcopy only for between \$35 and \$45.

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.amazon.com.au%2Ffreeing-jesus-...&e=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAgQjRxqFwoTCKjd5PGD9vQCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAD>



## Free Suicide Prevention Training

LifeForce Suicide Prevention Workshops are designed to teach people how to identify the signs that someone may be at risk of suicide and appropriate action to take. Effective interventions can make a real difference and save lives.

Date: **9 February 2022**

Time:

Session 1 – Wednesday 9 February 2022 – 9.00am – 11.00am

Session 2 – Wednesday 9 February 2022 11.30am – 1.30pm

This is an online **Zoom** workshop.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/wesley-life-force-suicide-prevention-half-day-zoom-event-tickets-256421131507>

## Zoom Chat Is Back!

**THURSDAYS 10:30 in February.** Feeling isolated or alone? Or just keen for a chat? Join in the fun on the below link and connect with your Holy Covenant community. Any problems with connecting, please call Wendy 0481 458 037

<https://adcg.zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366 Passcode: 033643





### Using All Our Gifts

Wednesday 2 February was the 30th anniversary of 11 Anglican women not being ordained as priests following a NSW Supreme Court injunction. The ordinations would eventually proceed in December 1992 but for those involved, this event was the beginning of their ministry.

The service saw the ordinands affirm their convictions about being called and qualified for priestly ministry publicly. While the service suddenly stopped for the women it continued for the four men involved that day.

The inability to proceed caused an immediate public outcry. Many asked, why wouldn't the church recognise women's equality? In many ways, the long-drawn-out argument about the church's willingness to use the leadership gifts of everyone ended only when challenged in this way.

Women's leadership has been central to Anglican identity in Canberra ever since. It is of particular importance to our congregation as three members of that courageous group comprised of Ruth, Daphne, Margaret, Gill, Anne, Gail, Elaine, Vicki, Susanna, Julie and Pamela have called Holy Covenant home at various times.

Their strength is part of our story and vision to be a church where everyone thrives and their talents and gifts are celebrated

*Rev. Wayne Brighton*



### Resumption of Regular Activities

As we return from the summer break and deal with the ongoing COVID situation, many of our regular activities are returning. This list, to the best of our knowledge, summarises the current situation:

#### Services

Twilight Service – returning this week, on Zoom  
Wednesday midday – delayed until March

#### Groups

MOTH – online  
Morning Tea & Chat – online  
Have a Good Yarn – in person  
Tuesday & Wednesday Yoga – in person  
Dinner Group – in person  
Community Garden – in person  
Colours of God – delayed until March  
Playgroup – in person  
Wednesday meditation - online  
Lenten Study—online March 3rd

#### Children & Families

Kid's Church resuming Sunday 6th  
Postponing pizza night until March

#### Youth

Fruitful Fridays—TBA

#### Holy Covenant Nursing Ministries

Covenant Care—delayed until March  
Morning Teas—delayed until March  
Trash & Treasure—in person March 19th  
Covenant Care Birthday Celebration—TBA

## Transformation

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 2 Corinthians 5:17*

I love those unexpected moments of surprise that have the power to bless us and linger into the day and its only if we have our eyes open that we truly see them. One such surprise came today in the silence beautiful little fairy like butterfly, a delicate, fragile creature, so pretty. Not a sound can be heard as it flies among the blossoms on the Buddleia bush investigating what might be on the breakfast menu. Watching it I fell into meditation and reflection thinking how such a beautiful creature can immerge from a dark cocoon, how such a thing can be transformed out of darkness into light. Then I thought of us, of you and of me and our life cycle that is full of transformation and shades of dark and light. I think this quote speaks to that: "Perhaps the butterfly is proof that you can go through a great deal of darkness yet become something beautiful."

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

*Anne, servant of the Lord*



A delicate, fragile creature.

## Conversation with Auntie Jean Phillips

Auntie Jean has been educating Australian Christians for decades on the true history of these lands now called Australia. Auntie Jean has said to many Australian Christians, "Your history is our history, our history is your history."

Auntie Jean will share about her work in Aboriginal ministry over the past 60 years, including her current ministry with Aboriginal peoples across South East Queensland, opening our eyes to the reality of the injustices facing Aboriginal peoples and the importance of acknowledging our shared history.

**Day:** Tuesday 15th February, 2022

**Time:** 7:30pm

**Where:** [Online via Zoom](#)

**Cost:** Flexible ticket prices - all money will go to Auntie Jean's ministry



## Exciting Learning Opportunity!

Now that school's back, is it time for you to try learning something new? Maybe it's to get more involved in the community? Then why not combine both by enrolling in a Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Introductory Course.

This 5 day course is a great way to get a feel for pastoral and spiritual care and includes topics such as: What is Pastoral/ Spiritual Care; empathy, grief and loss, spiritual reflection and self-care. It runs on 5 Wednesdays from Mar 2 to Mar 30, 9-5pm in Queanbeyan and costs \$400. It is followed by a longer CPE unit for those interested in more in-depth training in spiritual care. Enrolments close soon.

Please contact Susanne Schmidt for enrolment on 0431 243 486 or at [susannecpe@gmail.com](mailto:susannecpe@gmail.com)

## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ .Australia-Vietnam Human Rights Dialogue Roundtable on 11 February 2022
- ⇒ Safety, security and good health for competitors and officials at the Winter Olympics
- ⇒ The people of Tonga, as the country deals with its first COVID cases, while recovering from the recent volcanic eruption and tsunami
- ⇒ Tensions in and around Ukraine as talks continue between Russia and NATO members

### IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ .All those impacted by fire, flood and disease
- ⇒ Protection for our natural environment and endangered native species
- ⇒ The journey towards friendship, national truth –telling, justice, reconciliation and healing together

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Bendigo
- ⇒ Canberra Grammar School
- ⇒ Canberra Girls' Grammar School
- ⇒ Anglican News
- ⇒ Cursillo Movement generally.

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Carolyn, Mick, Clara, Eli, Jay and Zachary Lundie; Luiza Luppi; Colin Lyons; Frances Mackay; and Megan Mackay.
- ⇒ 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

## COLLECT for 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Most holy God,  
in whose presence angels serve in awe,  
and whose glory fills all heaven and earth:  
cleanse our unclean lips  
and transform us by your grace  
so that your word spoken through us  
may bring many to your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## READINGS

Isaiah 6.1-8  
Psalm 138  
1 Corinthians 15.1-11  
Luke 5.1-11

## MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

### Children's Worker

Wendy Robertson 0481 458 037  
children@holycovenant.org.au

### Youth Coordinator

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### Wardens

Deranie Jackson 0408 443 709  
Joh Sheehan 6251 7151  
Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

### Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore  
6251 2009; rkmore@grapevine.com.au

### Belonging and Caring

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

### Curate and Community Chaplain

Wendy Robertson  
0481 458 037 warobertson4@gmail.com

### Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

#### Program Manager

Rhonda Thorpe  
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### Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

#### Program Director and Chaplain

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM  
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### Honorary Priests

Reverend Anne Dudzinski  
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Reverend Connie Gerrity

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### Resources Team

0419 255 002

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Thursday: Brian Dennis

Good luck breeding those lions

