

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 29 JANUARY 2023
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUplaj05YkFCNDN4MGRlSEVIRllOZz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366
Password: 033643

SUNDAY 29 JANUARY

8am Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
5pm Twilight Conversations

WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY

12 Midday Communion Service and lunch

SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY

8am Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
3.30pm Colours of God
5pm Twilight Conversations

Coming up:

3 February: Pizza Night
9 February: Missional Spirituality

Bank details for direct debit:

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

God's Blessings

Matthew 5: 1-12

How often do we hear the Beatitudes? From church leaders in cathedrals to comedy groups like Monty Python, these words of Jesus are often referenced. They are one of those bits of the Gospel that even non-Christians have some understanding of, and which shape the idea and image of who Jesus is. We may know in some sense what the Beatitudes are, but as is often the case with Scripture we know well, it is worth it to look deeper.

The surface meaning of the Beatitudes is commonly centred on Jesus' salvation ministry. The poor in spirit are those aware of their sinfulness, the mourners are those who mourn their sin, and so on. This reading is entirely legitimate, but there is more to Jesus' words here, about what the kingdom of God and the followers of Christ should be like. If we reflect on the words of Jesus, we can see a clear outline of who God stands with, and what kinds of people Jesus hopes we will be as we are renewed by God's love and grace.

Blessing the poor in spirit connects not only to being aware

of sin, but to the spirits of the oppressed and the broken hearted as referenced in the Psalms and Isaiah, to name only two examples (Ps. 34:18, Is. 57:15). Jesus' blessing of those who mourn is not only a follow up on sinfulness, but also a blessing to those suffering, and to those who weep with them. Simply put, to mourn something or someone is to feel, keenly, for them; you cannot mourn that which you do not love. The meek, or humble, are uplifted to power over the haughty and powerful, and those who show mercy to others receive it in return. And of course, God blesses those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, which can mean not only to hunger for the righteousness of God, but to feel keenly the need for justice and peace in the world.

As Christians, we are called not to simply to shut ourselves off from the world, to be aware of sin and earnestly hope God will save (just) us. Rather, Jesus wants us to care about the world, to be agents of justice, love, peace, and hope. In this way, the church can be a light on a hill.

Tobias Neville

Regular programs returning

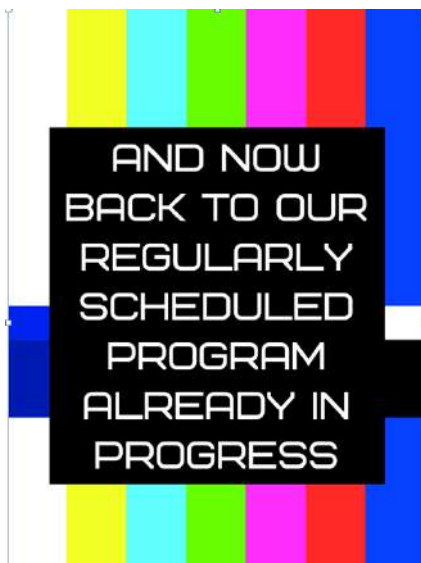
After four weeks on our summer timetable, we are retuning to regular programming this Sunday, 29 January. Which means:

- Sunday Services at 8am, 10am, and 5pm
- Meditation Service: Tuesdays at 12.45pm
- Communion Service & Lunch: Wednesdays at midday
- Online Meditation Service: Wednesdays at 6pm

Many, if not most, of our community events and community bookings are also on their way back, so please double check the church calendar or the What's On list on the noticeboard near the servery for events that may interest you.

Do you run one of those regular community events? Has anything changed about this event—start time, end time, location, main contact person? Please

touch base with Megan in the office to double check that your event's calendar listing is correct.



Found!

If you lost a Restaurant Gift Card, one was found outside the church on Sunday 15 January. It is available for collection from the church office.



The presence of God

May the foot of God walk with you and his hand hold you tight. (TIS 779)

There is something magical about the time of the new day when the sun filters through the night sky and breaks into light. Stepping out the door for the first time in a new day is like my feet touching the newness, the 'never walked on until now' path of the new day. As God comes along side, I discover the offerings of the day that would have otherwise been missed. Offerings and events that give joy and blessings and the day's strength, like the magpie kicking in the tan bark, and the different shades of glory covering the sky as it ventures further into the day. Have you heard the call of the starlings? I love it, they sound like tiny horses whinnying.

This wonderful gift of time with God, new every morning is the most powerful pearl of great price to deposit in our hearts and minds as we go further into the unknown of the day. I love these words of St Patrick's loric: *Christ be with me. Christ be within me. Christ behind me. Christ before me. Christ beside me.*

May the presence of God fill your life every day.

Anne, servant of the Lord



Morning Glory

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

Seeking support to keep a roof over their heads

L recently came to the St John's Care (SJC) Centre for the first time. She explained that until recently she'd had a part time job and paid all her bills with money from her job and Centrelink payments. L said that a couple of weeks ago she lost her job, and what she receives from Centrelink is barely enough to pay her rent. L was looking for help with food, nappies, petrol and above all with school supplies and clothes as school starts soon.

L and I came to an agreement SJC would help her with food on a weekly basis (fruits, vegetables, meats, non-perishable food) and the needs of her two children such as nappies, lunch box snacks, etc.

SJC referred L to *Thread Together* for support with essential clothing and school uniforms. We were then able to give her lunch boxes, backpacks, school shoes and school supplies. We also contacted the Actew-AGL financial hardship team; and informed them about the sudden change in L's income. The Actew-AGL team was kind enough to work with L, developing personal and practical solutions to help keep the electricity and/or gas supply connected, as well as tailoring a flexible payment plan.

L was very happy with all the help she received. As rent increases year after year, it is extremely difficult for a single parent to cover all the expenses. L will do everything she can to keep a roof over the family's heads; she understands that if she can't cover the rent and her other payments it would mean leaving the house and becoming homeless.

SJC works with families of various structures within our community to assist those in need, helping them get back on their feet and gain independence. This is one of our hardest tasks as Centrelink payments are not enough for people to get by in our community. Considering all of this, we take every opportunity to thank everyone in our churches and community who donate to SJC. These donations, be they gifts-in-kind or financial donations, provide us with the items we need to support vulnerable people and families.

Items Required: Cup a soup, adult toothpaste, vegemite, shampoo, conditioner, milk and school lunch snacks.

Robbie Speldewinde - Operations Manager

February 13 - Men's Luncheon Forum

Christ Church Hawker are hosting a Men's Luncheon Forum on 13 February at Birrigai Café, Kangara Waters (close to Belconnen Town Centre), meeting from 11.45am-2pm time.

- Cost: \$32 a head for a 2-course meal plus tea/coffee.
- Speaker: the Venerable Dr Royce D Thompson, Chaplain (Air Commodore) Retired, Primatial Archdeacon Emeritus who has chosen as his topic "City Slicker to Bush Padrë."

RSVPs by Thursday 9th February to Bruce Hoolley ph: 62517124

email: brucehooley.1@bigpond.com

**A Retreat in Daily Life—Integrity for Living
 30 April to 28 May**

Revd Susanna Pain is inviting those interested to join her on a five week retreat in daily life.

The retreat involves optional Sunday afternoon gatherings for reflection, prayer, meditation



and listening. Retreatants meet with a spiritual companion for about half an hour about four times during the retreat period. During the week, retreatants are

expected to continue their normal daily activities while keeping the allocated retreat time as free as possible from unnecessary distractions, to listen, to notice, to reflect and to pray.

For more information contact Revd Susanna Pain ph: 0418 637 469, email susannapa-in63@gmail.com

IT'S TIME TO *Dinner*



Southern Cross Club Jamison
6pm February 7th
RSVP to Hilary 6251 8166

Synod & Appointments Board Representatives

Interested in being more involved in the decision making of the wider church? Then being a Synod Representative, or being on the Appointments Board could be a role for you.

Please contact Revd Wayne for more information: rector@holycovenant.org.au

PIZZA TIME

FRIDAY
**FEB
3RD**



**1ST FRIDAYS
@ HOLY COVENANT**

89 DEXTER STREET COOK
BRING FAMILY & FRIENDS PIZZA LOVERS!

**6 PM
THROUGH
8 PM**

R S V P : 0 4 8 1 4 5 8 0 3 7

GROWING SPIRITUALLY IN 2023

The massive Sequoia trees of California might grow large but they grow slowly. Similarly, our spiritual lives emerge through many small steps over a long time. It too requires care and attention.

Being With is a 10-week series that helps us pay attention to how God is present within our lives through our everyday experiences. We'd love you to join us.

To run the group, we need a few folks who can learn the ropes as host and storytellers who offer hospitality and manage group life.

The course will help us to see Jesus not as someone who does things FOR us but as God who travels WITH us through all of life's challenges. It'll be an opportunity to discuss things like presence, the person of Jesus, the church, God's mission in the world, the cross and resurrection.

Starting Wednesday 15 February 2023, 7.30pm – 9pm

A COURSE EXPLORING
CHRISTIAN FAITH AND LIFE

Being With

St
Martin
in
the
Fields

Being
With

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine and the withdrawal of Russian troops
- ⇒ The new Prime Minister of New Zealand, and outgoing Prime Minister
- ⇒ Anti-corruption efforts around the world

⇒ IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ The appointment of Dorrelle Anderson as Central Australian Regional Controller
- ⇒ In consultation with the community, implementation of effective solutions for the long-term issues in Alice Springs

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Province of Papua New Guinea
- ⇒ Theological Colleges & Church Schools of the Anglican Church of Australia
- ⇒ Special Ministries: Military Christian Fellowship; Business Life
- ⇒ Religious education in schools and parishes in both ACT and NSW
- ⇒ Education for Ministry Diocesan Coordinator
- ⇒ Confirmation Preparation: Confirmation candidates, the Catechumenate and Alpha programs

- ⇒ Outreach and ministry amongst youth

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Nilantha Hulugalle; Neville and Dorothy Hurst; Dal and Christine Hyde; Deranie and Phoebe Jackson; and Gareth, Jo, Elanor, Hannah and Isaac James.
- ⇒ 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; Maggie Watts; Alice Farrington, and anyone known to us personally

COMMEMORATIONS

- 30 January Juliette Bowie (d. 2002)
4 February Dorothy Beryl Daniels (d. 2016)

COLLECT for 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Righteous God,
you confound the world's wisdom
by giving your blessing to the lowly and pure in heart:
give us such a hunger and thirst for justice
and perseverance in striving for peace,
that in our words and deeds
the world may see the promise of your kingdom,
which has been revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of 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
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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 rkmore@grapevine.com.au

Belonging and Caring

The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
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Children & Families Worker

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Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

Program Manager

Megan Arthur
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Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

Program Director and Chaplain

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM
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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

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Feb Russell Judd, Dorothy Hurst
2 Feb Emma Judd

BIBLE READINGS

- Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5: 1-12