

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone

SUNDAY 28 JANUARY
4th SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366
Password: 033643

SUNDAY 28 JANUARY

9am Holy Communion Celebrant
Revd Connie Gerrity, Preacher Revd
Lynda McMinn

Wednesday Midday service in
recess—resuming 7 February

SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY

8am & 10am Holy Communion
Celebrant & Preacher TBA

Coming soon:

Shrove Tuesday & AGM: 13 February
Ash Wednesday service: 14 February
midday & 6pm

Bank details for direct debit:

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

Using knowledge wisely

1 Corinthians 8: 1-13

The Corinthians reading is about instructing those with knowledge to help those less educated to be better informed in their spiritual beliefs. Paul did not want the Corinthian followers of Jesus to continue having meals in the Temples of those still engaged in idolatry. There are still people in the world who have a multiplicity of Gods. Bringing food for those Gods is still a form of worship. Multiple Gods do exist in the mindset of those believing this is the case. And the twelve great Greek mythological Gods still exist in literature and poetry across the centuries. Apollo, the God of the Sun, has accompanied humanity on space travels. (Poetically speaking of course.)

Although knowledge is highly commendable, it can foster conceit and provide glib answers. I try to encourage people to think for themselves and check how their understanding agrees with others. But knowledge can easily mislead when that person looks

up to a person in authority.

Christians teach their children that there is only one God. This is instilled in their mindset at an early age. The importance of this belief is continually emphasised when we read the first line of the Apostle's Creed. But when a child teases you and bombards you with *What ifs ... What if* there are four of them? *What if* they are sitting at a table having a nice meal? *What if* they have a bit of fight? You can admire a child's imagination and sense of humour! But you know that sharing your religious belief is one way to educate and influence a child's development, and that it is always their decision that defines their own belief system.

Putting knowledge in perspective, Paul states that knowledge is independent of your basic relationship with God. What matters more is love. Love promotes the good of others and this is the only way you become known by God.

Richard Scutter

Stand and see

O sing a new song to the Lord. Psalm 96

The glow of the rising sun casts shades of pink across the branches of the white river gum outside my window and on a single branch the magpie sings his morning song. What a delight to wake up to such a kaleidoscope of colours and a chorus of song, in the still, otherwise quiet morning. And God is there, God is in it, it is God wrapped in light. It's times like these that nourish our inner lives and strengthen our faith.

Mary Oliver said: "Sometimes I only need to stand where I am to be blessed."

As you bless us with light at the sun's rising, shine on us now with love.

Anne, servant of the Lord.



Pink hues in the snow gum

2024 LENTEN STUDY UNDERSTANDING MOSES

THE PERSON, THE PROPHET, THE PROMISE

WEEK 1 - 14 FEB foundations - the runaway

WEEK 2 - 21 FEB meeting God - the burning bush

WEEK 3 - 29 FEB* leaving Egypt - Pharaoh

WEEK 4 - 6 MAR leaving slavery - the decalogue

WEEK 5 - 13 MAR learning to lead - Jethro

WEEK 6 - 20 MAR seeing the future

Join us for a journey of discovery
as we read through Exodus
to understand this key figure
and how Jesus fulfilled the promise.

WEDNESDAYS, 7.30PM

Vale Brian Dennis (1933-2024)

Farewell Brian.
We shall miss
you at
Covenant Care
particularly
your wonderful
sense of
humour.



Photos for Annual Report

Contributions to the Annual Report are due to the office by Sunday 28 January. If you have any photos of church activities, it would be wonderful to include them in the Annual Report. Please make sure that you have permission from any people in the photos, and then email the photos to the office:

office@holycovenant.org.au

Saturday 2nd March 2024

Truth telling—the Recognition Way

You are invited to be part of a Truth Telling Gathering at Kamay Botany Bay on Saturday 2nd March 2024.

On this day a 'Truth Telling Gathering' will be held at Kurnell, Kamay Botany Bay, near the landing site of Lieutenant James Cook. This is a joint venture designed by first and later Australians working together, with the support of local Elders and the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Kamay was the site of Cook's first encounter with First Nations people, the Gweagal people in 1770, and it is fitting that it should also be the site where Australians recognise the truth about our shared history since colonisation. This will be an important



opportunity for healing by jointly speaking truth in unity after such a difficult national referendum debate. In light of outcomes from earlier gatherings, our Recognition Team is confident this will be a unifying experience.

Our Truth Telling model and more information about the gathering can be found on our website www.actofrecognition.org.au.

Because of space constraints at the Kamay site, attendance is limited to 1000 people. This is a ticketed gathering, with a cost of \$40.00. You can donate the same amount to cover the cost of

tickets for any attendees under financial stress. You can register or make a donation to assist with the running of the day here: <https://actofrecognition.org.au/going-forward-a-day-of-truth-telling/>

Quiet Day 17 February 2024

While graced by creation with hearts that are loving and good, we are weighed down by the world's suffering and violence, and the anger and sorrow this causes. How might we respond without losing sight of our true selves, and allow a bit more grace into the world?

This quiet day will explore living with grace in difficult times, impediments to the graceful life, and being open to grace when we least expect it.

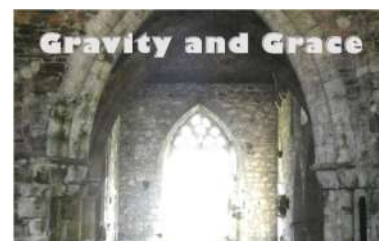
Where: Chambers Pavilion, Australian Centre for

Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall St, Barton, Canberra

When: Saturday 17 February, from 9:30am to 3pm.

Cost: \$30 via electronic transfer to "Australian Network for Spiritual Direction" BSB 032-719 Account 301 994

RSVP: by Friday 9 February to ansdact@gmail.com



PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine & Palestine, and an end to occupation
- ⇒ An end to religious divisions in India and Houthi raids in the Red Sea
- ⇒ Actions to minimise the impact of our changing climate

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ All those affected by Cyclone Kirrily
- ⇒ Housing and food security for all Australians
- ⇒ Actions to reduce cost of living challenges

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Primates and Archbishops of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia: the Most Revd Philip Richardson & Most Revd Don Tamihere
- ⇒ Anglicare Australia
- ⇒ Synergy Youth
- ⇒ Synergy Camping Coordinator, Team members, directors, chaplains & leaders
- ⇒ Specialist youth ministry teams as they speak with parishes and more generally for Peace in the world, for interreligious engagement and for the challenge of the management of climate change and energy sources

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Anne & Lindsay McDowell, Bryan McGuinness, David & Margaret Meggs, Rod & Ann Menzies, and Christine Mitchell
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer (often for long term needs) including Barry & Sandra Button; Bev Barnes; Elaine Dennis; Glenys Wimmer; Bev Chambers; Bob and Kath Arthur; Reg Holmes, Chris Olsson, Dorothy Hurst and anyone known to us personally

BIRTHDAYS

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

BIBLE READINGS

- Deuteronomy 18: 15-20
- Psalms 111
- 1 Corinthians 8: 1-13
- Mark 1: 21-28

COLLECT

God of compassion,
you have shown us in Christ
that your love is never ending:
enable us both to love you with all our
heart
and to love one another as Christ loved us.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Rector

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