

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2024
5th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCNON4MGRiSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366
Password: 033643

SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY

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

WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY

12 Midday Communion Service and Lunch

SUNDAY 11 FEBRUARY

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

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

My Father does not get weary

I am reflecting on this reading from Isaiah after my first day back in the office after a torrid time involving doctors, hospitals, emergency vets, and abject exhaustion. And I have to say, I am so glad that God is strong, because I most certainly am not.

How wonderful is it that the God who created the cosmos is not some far distant figure who can only be reached through sacrifices, or who only speaks through a few chosen people? Our God fully understands our weakness, and comes close to us. This God of ours renews and empowers us.

Kevin Prosch wrote a song based on this week's Isaiah reading, and in my times of struggle the lyrics are my anthem:

“Do you not know, have you not heard? My Father does not get weary. He'll bring passion to a willing heart. Even the youths get tired and faint, but strength will come for those who wait. They

that wait on the Lord will renew their strength, run and not get weary, walk and not faint.”

I reckon Simon's mother-in-law and I could have bonded over the Isaiah reading. When we meet her, she's flat on her back in bed with a fever. Just like when my husband was in the hospital, she too is separated from family, friends and all the things that she wants to do. There's no energy, no capacity, no fullness of life to be experienced.

Thankfully for Simon's mother-in-law, Jesus comes to her, heals her, and lifts her up. As he comes to all of us when we need that healing and reconnection to who and what we are.

I am in awe of Simon's mother-in-law, who was able to move straight from healing to serving. I might need a bit more time to get fully back to my servant ministry. But whether we respond instantly or it takes some time, God will be there with us, bringing us passion and strength. Thank you God!

Megan Arthur

Seeking school supplies

Yesterday I spoke with a client who had not visited St John's Care (SJC) for over two years.

P has three daughters and had shared care with her ex-husband, until he was involved in an accident in which he died instantly. Since then, she has been caring for her three daughters full time. Unfortunately, the expenses have steadily increased, particularly with the start of school.

P had already visited Centrelink to update her current situation, but that this process would take a couple of weeks. I assured P that the staff and volunteers at SJC would try to help her in any way we could.

I made a referral to Roundabout, asking for support with school packs for the children. SJC assisted with obtaining uniforms and helped her with lunchboxes and water bottles - which we had on site. A referral was also made to Thread Together to help them get some additional clothing which they all needed (shoes, socks, jackets, etc.) P expressed her gratitude to me for the support that she received from SJC.

SJC operates in a unique space in that we can 'fill the gaps' where other services may not have the resources or capacity to provide emergency relief functions (e.g., food, clothing, advice, and referral).

P and I agreed that she could come once a fortnight, to receive help with food especially for her daughters' lunch boxes. She was also offered information about food bank support closer to her home.

I would like to thank the donors, supporters, & volunteers who have contributed to SJC, and who have played a part in supporting people like P and her family.

Karen Medrano SJC Case Manager

Items required: Shampoo & conditioner, sultanas for lunch boxes, 1kg rice, cooking oil
Back to school items: Lunch boxes, drink bottles, pencil cases, stationery items

God at play

Dance then, wherever you may be. I am the lord of the dance said he and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be and I'll lead you all in the dance said he.

(Sydney Carter - hymn)

If there was ever a time to be caught off guard by God it's when the wind suddenly blows. This particular day the wind came out of nowhere and really stirred up everything around the sacred space, tossing old gathered leaves around, bending tree tops low - it was as if God was playing and this came to mind:

The windblown tree tops bow to the ground as if kissing the earth, and the birds fly sideways as the wild wind gathers pace, tossing spent leaves, tufts of dry grass and a discarded bird's nest in a swirl then dumping them 'thud' to the ground where they lay again - waiting.

Waiting for the next playful wind and the 'flying sideways' birds navigate a bumpy landing around the spent leaves, the dry tufts of grass and the discarded bird nest - to rest before the next playful gust of wind comes again. - What a joy it is to see God at play.

Moments spent in the sacred space are a blessing for the day.

May God smile on everything you do - God go with you - God love you.

Anne Servant of the Lord.



A gift from the 'flying sideways' birds



Kids' Church & Youth Resuming

Kids' Church resumes at the 10am service on 4 February. The Youth program returns on 11 February. If you are interested & available to help with the delivery of these important programs, please contact Lou Passmore (Kids Church) on holycovenantkids@gmail.com or Tobias Nevile (Youth) on youth@holycovenant.org.au. While Tobias Nevile is on leave, Remus Douglas is managing the Youth program.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 13 February 2023
Time: 6.30pm
Location: Worship Centre

<https://www2.holycovenant.org.au/>



Christians for an
Ethical Society

Forum: The Ethics of Modern Warfare

The nature of warfare is changing rapidly not only because of rapidly changing technologies and operational concepts but also because many of the West's current and potential adversaries have markedly different conceptions of what constitutes war and how it should be fought.

Australia faces serious ethical questions about whether a war should be fought, the aims of any war, the strategies that should be employed, how combat should be conducted and, not least, how democracies should prepare for such eventualities. This discussion will highlight some of the dilemmas faced by decision-makers.

When: Wednesday 21 February, 7pm

Where: Chambers Pavillion, Australian Centre for Christianity & Culture, Blackall St Barton

Speaker: Dr Ross Babbage AM. Ross Babbage has worked on Australian and international defence and security issues for over four decades. He has held senior positions in the Department of Defence, the intelligence community, at ANU and also in the corporate sector

Bookings: Ann Skamp – secretary@ces.org.au

The forum will seek to encourage discussion from the floor. A donation would be appreciated .

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

February Anglican News

The February Edition of Anglican News, is out now. You can read it online at <http://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/>

There's an interesting article about the 80th anniversary of the ordination of Revd Florence Tim-Oi. We have an icon of Revd Tim-Oi in our chapel at Holy Covenant.

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.

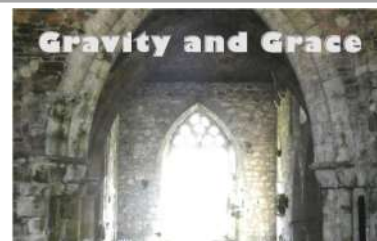
Where: Chambers Pavilion, Australian Centre for

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



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/>

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine & Gaza, and an end to occupation
- ⇒ Safety for ships and crews in the Red Sea
- ⇒ Airplane safety

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Recovery efforts after floods
- ⇒ Housing and food security for all Australians
- ⇒ Workplace safety and the relevant regulators

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Ballarat
- ⇒ Parishes of North Goulburn, West Goulburn, & Marulan
- ⇒ Wollondilly Gardens Self Care Units
- ⇒ NSW Police Chaplaincy
- ⇒ Goulburn Correctional Centre
- ⇒ Spouses and families of clergy and lay ministers and stipendiary lay ministers.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Jennelle, Denis and Simon Mitchell; Noel Montgomery; Sally, Dylan, Dougal and Jemima Mordike; and Belinda and Philip Moss.
- ⇒ 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; Chris Olsson, Dorothy Hurst and anyone known to us personally

COMMEMORATIONS

- | | |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| 30 Jan | Juliette Bowie (d. 2002) |
| 1 Feb | Des Pain (d. 2023) |
| 4 Feb | Dorothy Beryl Daniels (d. 2016) |
| 5 Feb | Colin Buxton (d. 1985) |
| | Brianna Kate Smith (d. 2022) |

BIRTHDAYS

6 Feb: Hayley Primrose

BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah 40.21-31
Psalm 147.1-11
1 Corinthians 9: 16-23
Mark 1: 29-39

COLLECT

Saving God,
whose Son, Jesus Christ, healed the sick
and brought them wholeness of body and mind:
inspire us, his disciples,
so that we may constantly proclaim his gospel
by our words
and by the dedication and integrity of our lives;
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,
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Youth Coordinator

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Wardens

Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore
6251 2009 kennemorerosemary@gmail.com

Belonging and Caring

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Children & Families Worker

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Covenant Care Program Manager

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Covenant Care Chaplain

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM
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Honorary Priests

The Revd Anne Dudzinski
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The Revd Connie Gerrity
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The Revd Lynda McMinn
0403 769 991 ellemm99@gmail.com

Resources Team

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