

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



**SUNDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2024**  
**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUtpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366  
Password: 033643

## **SUNDAY 18 FEBRUARY**

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

## **WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY**

12 Midday Communion Service and  
Lunch

## **SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY**

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

## **Coming soon:**

Pizza Night: 1 March

## **Bank details for direct debit:**

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

## **A good conscience?**

There's a fascinating sentence in this week's Epistle. "And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 3:21). This is a reminder of the fact that there is more to our faith than the fact that Jesus died for our sins (penal substitutionary atonement). God doesn't have to do all the work! Through the resurrection, we have an opportunity to work with God to change ourselves and our world for the better.

So what does appealing to God for a good conscience actually look like? And what can we do with that during Lent and throughout the year?

Walter Rauschenbusch suggests that any appeal for a good conscience will involve a request to remove our moral and political complacency. Oscar Romero encourages us to pray that God will protect us from numbness to

the pain of other, and equip us to begin to take action on their behalf.

Lent is a great time to focus on our consciences, as we have an opportunity to apply the three pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting and charity. Pope Francis talks about the development of conscience as "learning to change our attitude towards others and all of creation, turning away from the temptation to devour everything to satisfy our voracity and being ready to suffer for love, which can fill the emptiness of our hearts".

There's an abundance of Lenten resources available on the Internet. My personal favourites are Lent Event, which this year is focussed on action to mitigate the impacts of climate change on the most vulnerable, and Common Grace, who provide a weekly video series each Lent.

How are you developing your conscience this Lent? And how will that flow on to influence your actions in the rest of 2024?

*Megan Arthur*

The St John's Care (SJC) satisfaction survey aims to measure clients' satisfaction across several domains including the quality and range of food offered, quality of service provided by staff and volunteers, overall experience, and likelihood to recommend SJC to others.

We are pleased that despite the increase in numbers that we have seen over the past 12 months, the most recent survey scores have generally improved.

This year's survey found that 98% of community members who we support 'strongly agree' with the survey item "I would highly recommend St John's Care to others". In understanding the significance of these findings, it is important to note the tireless work of our volunteers and staff members. They constantly strive to improve service delivery with the goal of improving client outcomes.

The survey also asks clients "what was the most helpful thing that SJC did to support you?". Here are some of the responses:

"Everything, I love St John's Care"

"When I was pregnant, they helped me out with lots of baby clothes, toys and costs, making sure I had support to provide for my baby" .

"Listened to me without any judgement. Assisted us with food, without their help we would have been hungry for days." .

"Compassion and humility, touched my heart!"

"They took the time to understand my needs and were welcoming on the first visit. They have always helped in times of need and have been like a little family to me in Canberra. I appreciate everything."

"Conversation and friendship, just continue on!"

These words are reminders of the profound impact that donors, volunteers, supporters, and staff members can have on some of the most vulnerable members of the community.

I hope that hearing these words continues to encourage and inspire you in the same way that it does me.

*Robbie Speldewinde Operations Manager*

**Items Required:** children's toothbrushes, cling wrap and aluminium foil, shampoo, tomato sauce

## Walk and Talk

*I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses and the voice I hear falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses. And he walks with me and he talks to me and he tells me I am his own and the joy we share as we tarry there non other has ever known.*

*(Hymn. Austin Miles)*

I love strolling through the garden alone early in the morning with a cup of tea in hand, listening to the morning song of the birds, a beautiful chorus of different calls. I feel the freshness of the air and gaining warmth of the sun just up and still ,O so still and quiet. Looking behind me I can see my footprints in the dew laden grass and I am reminded I am never alone. Be it in the garden in the still of the morning, or in a busy Mall, or entrenched in the daily grind, we are never alone. Whenever I see my footprints or my shadow for that matter, I know Jesus walks with me. Our sacred spaces are so valuable to us, especially in the early morning and the quiet for it's here that Jesus walks with us (or sits with us) and talks to us and joy is shared.

Jehovah - shalom. The Lord is peace

*Anne Servant of the Lord.*



Dance, dance wherever you may be

# 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**

## Lenten study update

The Lenten study is moving online from Wednesday 21 February. If you can't commit to every week, just come along when you can! You can access the study on Zoom:

[https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?](https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRII0Zz09)

[pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRII0Zz09](https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRII0Zz09)

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## Nungalinya News



There have been some significant improvements to the physical spaces at Nungalinya. Two new theology classrooms have been completed in the old library area, complete with stunning Art & Faith murals and new access paths. The dining hall has had an external paint, updated ceiling panels and a new stove, and the hostel accommodation rooms have new floors and internal painting. Thanks to the property and residential teams for their hard work over the 'holiday' period!



## In memory: Dorothy Hurst

Dorothy Hurst died last week, surrounded by her family, after a short struggle with cancer. Please keep Neville and the family in your prayers. Dorothy's funeral will be at Holy Covenant on Thursday 22 February at 3pm.

## Casserole Bank

Many thanks to the people who have kept the Casserole Bank well stocked over the summer. We have had a sudden surge in requests for emergency food support, and more food is needed. You can bring your contribution along to the office during the week, or on Sunday mornings. Remember an ingredients label!

## Annual General Meeting Report

The Parish Annual General Meeting was held on 13 February, chaired by Revd Wayne Brighton. There was a verbal report on the Youth Ministry, and a written report on the Children's Ministry was circulated on the night. Once the written Youth Ministry report is received, both the late reports will be circulated to the Parish.

A small but deeply invested collection of parishioners quizzed the staff and Parish Council members about aspects of their reports. The Annual Report was accepted.

The draft Budget was endorsed, and Parish Council will now take action to administer that Budget. The Treasurer has been authorised to seek a new auditor for the Parish finances, as Wendy Elkhuisen will no longer be providing that service.

Multiple motions of thanks were passed by acclamation. Thanks to Bob Arthur, Revd Wayne, Archdeacon Anne, Jennifer Berrie, Mel Cantwell, Anne McDowell and Rhonda Thorpe for their invaluable support for Covenant Care. Thanks to Anne McDowell and Dr Joh Sheehan for their outstanding work on Safe Ministries implementation. Thanks to Mark Cooper-Stanbury for a highly detailed and accessible Treasurer's report, and Wendy Elkhuisen for all her work with financial audits over many years.

Revd Wayne closed the meeting with a prayer that we might be grateful for all those who come and call Holy Covenant home. May we hear each other's voices.

## Parish Council 2024

Thank you to these people who have volunteered their time to ensure that Holy Covenant is well administered.



**Secretary:** Tobias Neville



**Treasurer:** Mark Cooper-Stanbury



**Safe Ministries Coordinator:** Anne McDowell



**Councillors:** Timothy Farrington, Peter Dent and Phil Trigge (not pictured)



**Rector's Nominee:** Anna Thorpe



**People's Warden:** Allison Cooper-Stanbury

There are still some unfilled positions: Chair, Rector's Warden and the second People's Warden. Revd Wayne is actively recruiting for these positions, but you don't have to wait to be asked. If you have a passion for Holy Covenant, its people and its mission, please chat with Revd Wayne about the possibility of serving on Parish Council.

## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine & Gaza, and an end to occupation
- ⇒ Safety for ships and crews in the Red Sea
- ⇒ An end to Myanmar's opium poppy trade, and a just transition for farmers
- ⇒ The outcome of the Indonesian election

### IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Standards and behaviour of elected representatives
- ⇒ Meaningful consultation and informed action on the Closing the Gap targets, particularly where outcomes have worsened
- ⇒ The appointment of a national commissioner for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children
- ⇒ Storm and fire recovery work, both short and long term

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of North West Australia
- ⇒ Yass Valley
- ⇒ Christian unity at local, national and world levels, National Council of Churches in Australia, Churches Together NSW, ACT, ACT Churches Council

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Lou Passmore; Dave, Luke and Maddie Peebles; Barry and Carol Pogson; Anne Ranse; Robin Rawson; Clive Rodger; Luc Rose; and Maxine Rose.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer (often for long term needs) including Barry & Sandra Button; Bev Barnes; Glenys Wimmer; Bev Chambers; Bob and Kath Arthur and anyone known to us personally

## COMMEMORATIONS

21 Feb Baden Clarence Powell (d.1991)

## BIRTHDAYS

20 Feb Nick Kizimchuk  
24 Feb Christine Mitchell

## BIBLE READINGS

Genesis 9:8-17  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Peter 3:18-22  
Mark 1:9-15

## COLLECT

God of the new and eternal covenant,  
as the forty days of the great flood  
swept away the world's corruption  
and watered new beginnings of righteousness and life:  
grant to us, who are washed clean and born again  
in the saving flood of baptism, the wellspring of your  
grace,  
that your gift of new life may flourish once again;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,  
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

### Youth Coordinator

Tobias Neville  
0468 969 372      youth@holycovenant.org.au

### Wardens

Allison Cooper-Stanbury      0410 506 231

### Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore  
6251 2009      kennemorerosemary@gmail.com

### Belonging and Caring

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

### Children & Families Worker

Lou Passmore  
0411 338 361      holycovenantkids@gmail.com

### Covenant Care Program Manager

Megan Arthur  
0487 945 615      nurse@holycovenant.org.au

### Covenant Care Chaplain

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM  
0406 379 599      anne.ranse@gmail.com

### Honorary Priests

The Revd Anne Dudzinski  
0413 994 739      annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au

The Revd Connie Gerrity  
0429 423 725      connie@gerrity.id.au

The Revd Lynda McMinn  
0403 769 991      ellemm99@gmail.com

### Resources Team

0419 255 002