

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 7 APRIL 2024
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUcja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRll0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366
Password: 033643

SUNDAY 7 APRIL

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

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL

12 Midday Communion Service and Lunch

SUNDAY 14 APRIL

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

Coming soon:

Community lunch 18 April

Bank details for direct debit:

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

John 20:19-31

Peace be with you

It is of great significance that the first words spoken by Jesus to his disciples as the risen Lord in John's gospel are Peace be with you! It is in fact a double peace that Jesus brings. First Jesus shows his wounds, the appalling wounds of scourging and crucifixion. Clearly pain and suffering are marked in his body, but are overcome in the new body post death. They are not the last word.

Jesus came to take away fear, most especially the fear of death. This embodies peace: Jesus appears as peace incarnate. He overcomes the negatives: of anxiety, grief, doubt, fear. Most importantly Jesus brings the peace of shalom. This is a word freighted with meaning: peace with God, with ourselves, with our past, with other people and with creation.

It is also noteworthy that the disciples come to believe. Throughout the gospel of John belief is not accepting facts. Rather it is entering into a deep and abiding relationship with Jesus. John employs relationship language to describe his disciples' reaction to the risen Jesus "they rejoiced when they saw the Lord". That relationship was transformative, with new perceptions of seeing Jesus as he is seen by heaven: Jesus is Lord, with the broken and tragic pieces of history gathered into the glory of God.

The opening verse 19 of this reading describes a group without the Risen Lord. Locked doors, fear shared, without hope. It is a picture with parallels to a church locked off from the world, crouching in fear. His disciples were in fear of the civic and Jewish religious leaders. They had been associated with a convicted insurrectionist, who had been done away with in the national interest. The disciples believed themselves at risk, in danger of their lives, afraid, powerless, directionless. Into this group the reembodied Jesus appears. It is their life moment of epiphany: eyes are opened, hearts empowered, fear transformed into actions grounded in faith. They are our forbears in being open to being empowered and instructed for a new mission as sent ones. Jesus says I am sending you, just as Jesus has himself been sent by the Father. The Holy Spirit is breathed on them, echoing the words of Genesis 2 where God formed humankind from the dust of the ground and breathed life into them, creating living being-in-relationship. Likewise the breath of Jesus is new life from God: inseparable from peace and from being sent. The disciples receive the Spirit of the crucified and risen Jesus, infusing them with the narrative embedded within his life, death and resurrection. The revolution we come to know as Christianity has begun.

Clive Rodger

Office: (staffed Tues-Thurs, 10am-3pm) ph: 6251 6100 email: office@holycovenant.org.au

Website: <https://www.holycovenant.org.au>

Last Monday I received a call from a client who was looking for help to buy medicine she needed, I asked her if she could come and visit me so that we could talk and look for possible solutions.

M arrived that same afternoon. She has been divorced for several years but was only able to have custody of her daughter this year. M tells me that it has been very difficult for her to deal with the whole situation and she has kept it a secret. She detailed the severe DV she suffered throughout her marriage which is why she opted for divorce but divorce in her culture is seen an imperfection in a supposed perfect, lovely marriage. She reported feeling lonely and only having her daughter to rely on. I provided her with information regarding the following programs available in our community:

- Health and wellbeing programs
- Counselling Program
- Community development
- Domestic and family violence program
- Men and Women's outreach workshop (MOW)
- Emergency Relief
- Young Mentoring Program

I told M that SJC would support her with food, prescriptions (PBS), bus tickets and support in participating in our community Morning Tea/Lunch. We also agreed to go to MARSS to get more information about the Counselling program and Women's outreach workshop. Before leaving, M thanked me for listening to her. She felt very confident in telling me her story, she felt safe and above all free from any kind of harm/shame.

Sometimes it is evident that our clients simply need some human contact to help make them feel secure and happier. Other times just a few minutes to speak and be heard without judgement and be supported by organisations within the community can make all the difference. M was so grateful and had a smile on her face when she left.

When you support St John's Care, you're not only supporting people's physical needs – you're supporting the whole person, at the most difficult times of their lives.

Items Required: Children's toothbrushes, Shampoo and conditioner, Lentils, chickpeas, tinned fish

Beauty.

One God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all and is present in all.

Ephesians 4:6

Something of beauty catches my eye as I pass along the garden path. A glorious perfectly formed rose. I pause and look; I catch its perfume and reflect. How do you see the things of beauty? Wonder and amazement or common place? Look, look long enough that you become a part of it so that the fine line between you and its creator become one. Look deeply, there is beauty, there is beauty going deeper and deeper and deeper among its petals - there is God.

Easter. Has it been a common place experience for you or one full of wonder and amazement?

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

Anne, servant of the Lord.



Community Lunch

18 April

You are invited to the next community lunch on 18 April, 11.30am for a 12 noon start.

There will be a guest speaker, yummy food and good company. Please put your name on the list at the back of the church. We need some help with set up from 10.30am, some slices or biscuits for dessert and help with serving, clean up and pack up. If you can help, that would be great.



Anglican News

The March edition of Anglican News is now available from the Diocesan website: <http://anglican.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/>

There's an interesting article about Season of Outreach for the entire Anglican Church of Australia, in 2025.

Have a Good Yarn

Have a Good Yarn is a chat and knitting group.

Last meeting our good yarners enjoyed some Easter fun with an Easter bonnet competition. There was lots of laughter and some very creative entries. New people are very welcome.

Meetings on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month

Time: 10.30am to 12.30pm in the worship centre.

Any inquires to Sandra Ross

Phone: 0408 438 770

Email: sandraross@ozemail.com.au



Face to Face Safe Ministries Training

Are you a new volunteer needing to complete Safe Ministry Training?

OR

Are you due for Safe Ministries Refresher Training ?

Do you prefer in person (face to face) to training in the on-line environment?

Holy Covenant is hosting Face to Face Safe Ministries Training on

Saturday 6th April in the Worship Centre

The format for the day is as follows:

- 8:30am: Venue available for people to sign-in for the first module.
9am -11am: Safe Ministry Essentials (also called Module 1)
11am: Morning Tea (Attendees for the next course can sign-in).
11:30 am-1.30pm: Safe Ministry with Children (also called Module 2)
1.30pm: Lunch (Attendees for next course are able to sign-in)
2pm – 4pm: Safe Ministry Implementation for Senior Leaders (also called Module 3)

Please bring your own lunch.

Tea, coffee etc. provided.

The format of the day allows people to do the module/s they require to volunteer in our many activities.

Having our volunteers complete the relevant training enables our community to be a safe place for everyone. It reminds everyone of the acceptable standards of behaviour and conduct required by volunteers. Furthermore, it enables participants to know how poor conduct might be addressed when it occurs. Poor behaviour and abusive speech are leading causes for withdrawal by effective volunteers.

Education for Ministry (EfM)

EfM is a theological program that enables people to delve deeper into Scripture and to reflect on how tradition and culture shape our life of faith. By working as a group participants are welcome to ask questions and encouraged to think about their often unconscious theological assumptions. It is a deeply transformative experience for all who join in.

Holy Covenant has had a number of EfM groups over the past 20 years. We have also worked closely with Manuka parish and had representatives from a number of other parishes from the north of Canberra as part of our group. If there is anyone in the parish that would be interested in exploring EfM this year or next year could you please contact Merri Bacon?

Merri will see whether it would be possible to form a new group with members of Manuka parish. There need to be sufficient numbers to make a group viable and we would also need to find a mentor and a suitable time. A possible suggested time would be Sunday afternoon. If you know about the program and feel now is the right time or if you are interested in finding out more, please have a chat to Merri

email merri.bacon@bigpond.com or feel free to contact Rev'd Kay Pendlebury at St Paul's Manuka, email kay@stpaulsmanuka.org.au

Coles is offering Ovenware as a reward. If you don't need any, please consider redeeming your points on an item and donating it to St John's Care or The Refugees in Cook.

For further information please see Gill Painter.

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ That light triumphs over darkness
- ⇒ Withdrawal of Russian armed forces from Ukraine
- ⇒ Ceasefire in Gaza and new elections in Israel'

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Safety across east coast during storms and flooding
- ⇒ Safety for children and families during Alice Springs curfew
- ⇒ Youth in detention centres

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Southern Queensland
- ⇒ Braidwood
- ⇒ Bungendore
- ⇒ Mulwaree Ministry District
- ⇒ Cartwright Mission District: St Edmunds Gunning, St Mark's Gundaroo
- ⇒ Collector
- ⇒ Crookwell/ Taralga
- ⇒ Small country churches and their ministry; co-operating parishes

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Valda Bromhead; Lorraine and Geoff Buckland; Barry and Sandra Button; David and Mel Clark; James Collier; and Ursula Conan-Davies
- ⇒ 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, Neville Hurst and anyone known to us personally

COMMEMORATIONS

13 Apr Ross McGregor Mitchell (d. 2018)

COLLECT

Risen Christ,
whose absence leaves us in despair
but whose presence is overwhelming:
breathe on us with your abundant life,
that where we cannot see
we may have courage to believe
that we may be raised with you. **Amen.**

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Rector

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

Assistant Minister

The Reverend Dr Bili Malek
0420 966 866 (SMS please) bili.malek@gmail.com

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

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Apr Sandra Ross
- 1 Apr Elaine Gifford
- 1 Apr Rhys Thorpe
- 2 Apr Karen Gerguson
- 4 Apr Elizabeth David-Hoole
- 5 Apr Ann Drummond
- 6 Apr Eileen Sykes
- 9 Apr Annabelle Farrington

BIBLE READINGS

Acts 4.32-37
Psalm 113
1 John 1.1-2.2