

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 28 APRIL 2024
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366
Password: 033643

SUNDAY 28 APRIL

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

WEDNESDAY 1 MAY

12 Midday Communion Service and Lunch

SUNDAY 5 MAY

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

Coming soon:

Neighbourhood Night: Friday 3 May, 6pm

Dinner Club: Tuesday 7 May, 6pm at the Southern Cross Club, Jamison

Eurovision Night: Saturday 11 May, 7pm

Bank details for direct debit:

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

I am the vine ***John 15***

Wine can be a delightful accompaniment to our meals. Jesus made copious amounts of wine at the wedding in Cana. In this chapter he uses vine as symbolic of his life-blood—*Take and drink this in remembrance of me*. Wine symbolised life and vitality. It was a sign of joy, vigour, celebration, blessing and prosperity.

In Israel wine was produced from the fermented juice of grapes—a fruit grown very widely in the holy land. The alcoholic content at the time was significantly lower, and generally diluted with water.

This week Jesus speaks of himself as the true vine. It is another image, a metaphor or allegory which emphasises connection, relationship and mystical union.

The image of Jesus as the true vine draws on the Jewish depiction of Israel as God's vine. It is God's care that ensures thriving. The metaphors used in the Hebrew scriptures convey God's love and deep care for Israel and God's desire to ensure fruitfulness and connection with God, but also pruning and judgement. Un-

derstanding the metaphor of Jesus as the true vine and the disciples as branches, together with the repetition of *remain* and *abide* is intuitive and mystical. *I am the true vine* encourages us to meditate on the way Jesus lives following his death and resurrection and the ways in which we are now in union with him.

Our relationship with Christ is fundamental to fruit bearing for *no branch can bear fruit by itself*. Fruit bearing is Christ's work through us and in so doing brings joy.

Christ is revealed when people love each other, modelling Christ's love and becoming more like him. This is the result of abiding. Christ's love is demonstrated in laying down his life for his friends.

Jesus' whole mission was directed towards the glorification of God. The disciples (us) are to continue this work by our faithful commitment to the task. It is in so doing that the fruit will emerge. The *agape love that is required here is the wonderful gift of God that we endeavour to indwell and to demonstrate as fruitful vines*.

Clive Rodger

RENT RELIEF PROGRAM

Recently I received one of our clients who we shall call N. She is a monthly visitor to St John's

Care (SJC). She told me that she could not come last month because she has been too busy and has had too many things to do. I asked N if there was anything I could help her with. N explained that things at home were a bit complicated as she had been going through some problems after separating from her husband.

N tells me that she and her husband are still living in the same house but that she is looking at moving to a different place with her three children. Unfortunately, she was having difficulties moving forward with this due to the amount of rent they currently owe (one month in arrears). N feels that living in separate houses would be best for all members of the family.

I assured N that she could come to SJC fortnightly to have a break from the environment which was causing her stress. I also mentioned the Rent Relief Program to her. She said that she had not heard about it but would like to have more information.

Care is administering the ACT Government's Rent Relief Program. The Program is designed to assist private renters on low/moderate incomes to catch up on arrears, relieve some financial pressure and/or prevent eviction. This program's purpose is to sustain existing tenancies and/or prevent evictions.

The Rent Relief program provides a one-off payment of four (4) weeks rent, up to a maximum of \$2,500.

N was very interested in applying for this program, so I printed out the necessary forms and information and assisted N in with the application process. I also offered N some extra information about other services including:

- Financial Counselling & Capability
- Counselling (Family & relationship issues)
- Depression & anxiety
- Separation and counselling

N was very grateful for all the assistance and information we offered and told me that she finds it rewarding to come to SJC and be able to receive help with food. Just as importantly, N appreciates being able to talk to someone without being judged.

Once again, we would like to thank all our supporters, your support is instrumental in enabling us to assist families within our community.

Karen Medrano SJC Case Manager

Items required: Size 6 nappies, tissues, Vegemite, toothbrushes, dishwashing liquid.

Daily blessings

The gifts of God for the people of God. (APBA)

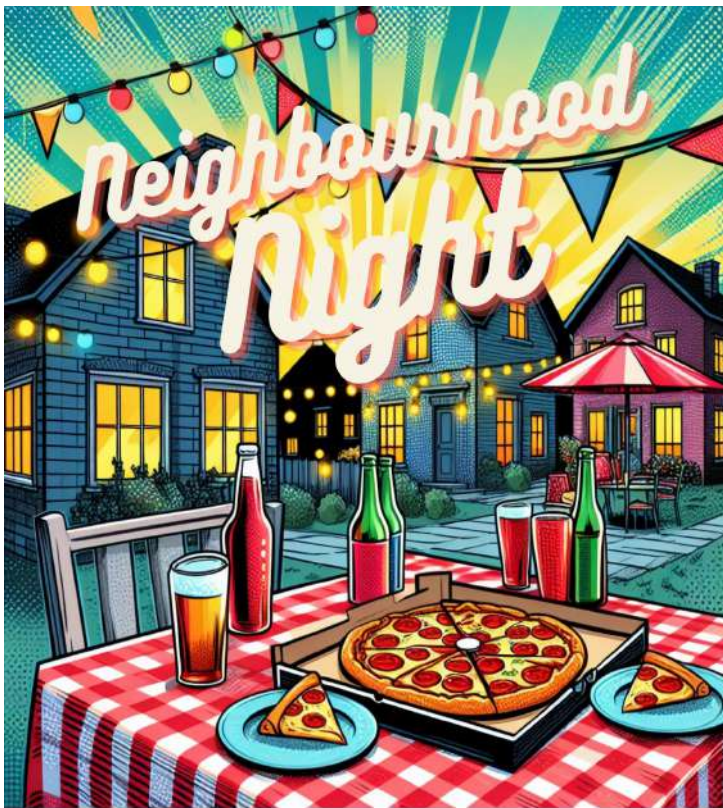
Gifts are wonderful things full of surprises and there are no greater gifts than those showered on us by God. From the sacred space my morning is filled with gifts. There is the sun shining through the autumn trees at day break. The dew glistening on the grass, the last rose of summer opening, the Rosellas bathing in the birdbath with sheer joy and the Rufus Whistler whistling, now that's a gift! And of course the gift of being alive and loved by God. We are so blessed when we are open to the gifts from God, daily. What gifts I wonder have you received today?

May the peace of God (and his gifts) fill your life every single day.

Anne, servant of the Lord.



Now there's a gift!!



**A FUN NIGHT FOR ALL!
FRIDAY 3 MAY FROM 6PM**

**HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH
89 DEXTER STREET COOK**

Music Team Changes

We say farewell and thanks to Michael Troy who helped with keyboards at 10am while completing studies at ANU.

We say welcome to Hannah David-Hoole who will step in playing keyboard at 10am services.

PARISH COUNCIL OUTCOMES

Parish Council met on Thursday 18 April.

Rector's desk

Wayne shared about the Diocese's Strategic Summit held on 6 April. The summit highlighted forecasts for population growth across the ACT and NSW. The opportunities and challenges associated with church planting were emphasized particularly the need to develop new leaders, new communities and new facilities. Belconnen is expected to grow significantly, particularly in western fringe and densification in established neighbourhoods.

Finances

The treasurer noted that the parish is running behind budget with a deficit of \$1,600 in March and \$3,000 for the 1st quarter. As expenses have risen, a deficit of \$47,400 is possible and so attention will be needed across the year. A significant bequest was received, a portion of which is likely to be used for the Rainbow Centre.

Renovation progress

Progress on finalising contracts for the commencement of renovation work has been delayed. Conversations between the builder, architect and certifier concerning the location of disability parking are ongoing.

Program updates

Covenant Care will be adjusting its programs following Mel Cantwell's resignation effective at the end of May. This will impact decluttering support but not interrupt home support activity. Catherine d'Cruz has joined Covenant Care's management committee.



Ginninderra & Yerrabi Candidate Endorsement Town Hall

Thursday 2 May 2024 at 06:00 PM

*Holy Covenant Anglican Church in
Cook, Australia*

Independents for Canberra are hosting an event where we can meet potential candidates for the election in October.

Each candidate will have 7 minutes to speak and 18 minutes for Q&A from the audience.

Community members are encouraged to provide their input which will be considered by *Independents for Canberra* when considering endorsements

If you want to have a say in which candidates are endorsed, come along!

Anglican News—April

Here is the link for the April edition of the Anglican News

<http://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/>

PEACE MAKING TODAY



IN A WORLD
FILLED WITH
CONFLICT,
HOW CAN A
CHURCH BUILD
FOR PEACE?

Join a discussion group as we read together,
*Practicing Peace: Theology,
Contemplation and Action*
by Michael Wood
starting **Wednesday 22 May**

EUROVISION NIGHT

SATURDAY 11 MAY
FROM 7PM

it's time to get your dancing shoes on
bring some meatballs
a disco costume for
a night of fun and laughter

89 DEXTER STREET
COOK

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Withdrawal of Russian forces from Ukraine.
- ⇒ Peace-making efforts in Gaza to avert famine among Palestinian people.
- ⇒ People of Myanmar and the Burmese Spring Revolution following the coup d'état in 2021.

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Veterans and service people who endeavour to protect lives in difficult circumstances.
- ⇒ Workers and those living around Bondi Junction.
- ⇒ The community of Christ the Good Shepherd and the Assyrian community in Sydney.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Bishop of Waikato and Taranaki; Senior Bishop of New Zealand Dioceses; and Primate and Archbishop of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
- ⇒ Pihopa o Tairāwhiti and Pihopa o Aotearoa and Primate and Archbishop of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
- ⇒ Bishop of Polynesia and Primate of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
- ⇒ Anglicare Australia
- ⇒ Synergy Youth; Synergy Camping Coordinator
- ⇒ 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 Jenny DeBont; Elaine Dennis; Peter Dent, Alira Prideaux and Gabe and Edward; Remus Douglas; Anne and Garry Drummond; and Anne Dudzinski.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer (often for long term needs) including Barry & Sandra Button; Bev Barnes; Glenys Wimmer; Bev Chambers; Kath Arthur, Neville Hurst and anyone

BIRTHDAYS

- 28 Apr Michael Troy
- 1 May Eleanor James
- 3 May Prue Wedgwood
- 4 May Isobel James

BIBLE READINGS

- Acts 8: 26-40
- Psalm 22: 26-32
- 1 John 4: 7-21
- John 15: 1-8

COLLECT

O God,
form the minds of your faithful people,
that we may love what you command
and desire what you promise,
so that, amid the many changes of this world,
our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are
to be found;
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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Assistant Minister

The Reverend Dr Bili Malek
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Youth Coordinator

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Wardens

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Prayer Vine

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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
0413 994 739 annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au

The Revd Connie Gerrity
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The Revd Lynda McMinn
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Resources Team

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