

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



## SUNDAY 5 MAY 2024 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRII0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366  
Password: 033643

### SUNDAY 5 MAY

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

### WEDNESDAY 8 MAY

12 Midday Communion Service and Lunch

### SUNDAY 12 MAY

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

### Coming soon:

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

One of the features of the Easter Gospel stories, is Jesus' love and care for his disciples. At their last meal together, he prays that they might love one another, and that they will know true peace. He prays too that they will have joy; joy that's not dependent on good circumstances, that's not actually about happiness, but a deep, enduring bass note that hums beneath the surface of life in spite of difficulty or pain or loss.

The Jesus we see in the Gospels clearly loved life, ate and drank with strangers, basked in friendships, and brought healing and wholeness to the sorrowful. When he attended a wedding, he fixed the wine supply. We see him teasing the Pharisee Nicodemus by playing on words, giving wry responses to challenging inquiries, and defying the laws of nature with his miracles. After he'd gone, his disciples would remember the way he enjoyed the simple daily acts of living. Even on his last evening he was eating, drinking and praying with them.

In living life this way, in sharing their lives with others, in offering friendship and love, they too would find the full measure of joy that only God could give.

Jesus calls us his friends, reminds us that we are loved, and that God is with us even on our darkest night of sorrow. But that's not the end of

the story. We are to share that experience of being loved with others. We are called to live this love among one another, and to love sacrificially, or even when it's costly. And as we do this, we can be surprised by unexpected joy that transforms our grieving and our pain, joy that gives us hope and life, joy that breaks through our prejudices and stereotypes. You are my friends, Jesus says. Love one another, and then your joy will be full.

Over the past weeks of the Easter season, Jesus has appeared to his disciples in a variety of times and places. He has walked with them to Emmaus, given fishing advice from the shores of the Sea of Tiberias, and cooked breakfast on the beach. He has shown his scars to. Doubting Thomas and been known to his disciples in the breaking of the bread. And now, as the Easter season draws to a close, like the disciples, we must prepare for him to leave.

But when our hope for life, for security, for relationship and for happiness is pinned on the only one who can truly fulfil those things, Jesus the Christ, then we can have peace in all circumstances, or peace that goes beyond all human understanding or reason, and we can have joy in the midst of despair. How is that for a counter-cultural way to live!

In peace, Revd Lynda

### Worth the wait

For over seven years, we have supported a young man named

Y who has been seeking permanent

residency here in Australia. The support St John's Care (SJC) has provided him with during this time includes weekly food, support with scripts and transport, case management, advocacy and referrals. Just as importantly, we have provided a stable and reliable form of support and connection within the community. Over the years Y has often dropped in to provide us with updates about his journey in seeking permanent residency.

His updates have included both positive news which has brought smiles to our faces, as well as negative news about obstacles and setbacks which seemed unconquerable. Often though, Y had nothing to tell us at all as his situation remained stagnant for long periods of time.

While waiting to become a permanent resident, Y has faced significant financial battles. These have impacted his education, health, housing, and his ability to effectively engage with the community. Last week we received a call from Y to inform us that he had finally become a permanent resident. The joy and relief in his voice was palpable, and the following day, he arrived at the Centre with a smile on his face that I may never forget. I invited him in, and we sat down over a coffee as he thoroughly explained the ways that his life would change. He talked through the opportunities he now has.

This was the most significant moment of Y's life, and it was a pleasure to sit with him and experience some of those positive emotions. Becoming a permanent resident means that Y can remain in Australia. He can begin studying and working. He could now apply for a Medicare card. All things that we often take for granted, but that mean so much to someone who has gone without.

In Y's own words "I feel like I have been stuck for so many years and that I can finally start living my life now".

Y thanked the staff and volunteers for their support over the years and acknowledges that he would not have been able to persevere without the help from agencies such as St John's Care. Y told me that he had made 'friends for life' at SJC and plans to begin studying this year with the aim of providing the same support that he has received to others.

St John's Care has walked alongside side Y for many years and provided him with valuable long-term support. This support initially allowed Y to survive. We are now eager to watch him thrive.

Robbie Speldewinde Operations Manager

**Items Required:** Sweet and savoury biscuits, children's toothbrushes, shampoo and conditioner, juice poppers

### Breath taking God

*See the streams of living water, springing from eternal love TIS 446*

I was in awe of the beauty of the autumn trees along the path way. Glorious in shifting colours, dressed for autumn were the trees as they prepared themselves for winter rest. They were so colourful that they took my breath away. Every leaf seemed to emanate the handiwork of God and I was left with a song in my heart: *Glorious things of you are spoken.*

I wonder how often we get so accustomed to the things about us that we fail to see God, fail to stop in awe and wonder, fail to see his creation?

May the peace of God fill your life every single day.

*Anne, Servant of the Lord*



*Glorious things!*



**SOME STEPS TO FINDING YOUR PLACE** **HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
a place for everyone



# 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

**A Zoom Course to Strengthen Your Relationship – Thu Evenings in May & June**



Whether you've been together 1 year or 61 years, married or in a long-term relationship, in a good place or struggling, [The Marriage Course](#) offers practical support and ideas to strengthen your relationship, in a fun-packed format, via Zoom.

Participate from the comfort of your home, 7-9pm Thursdays over May & June. Optional In-Person *Introduction Evening* (Thu 2 May) and *Final Dinner* (Thu 27 June). Hosted by the [Catholic](#) & [Anglican](#) Parishes of Inner North Canberra.

First Zoom session begins 7pm Thu 9<sup>th</sup> May.  
Enquiries: [helenazobec@cg.org.au](mailto:helenazobec@cg.org.au) or 0405 440 463  
More Info: <https://cgcatholic.org.au/marriagefamily/>

# 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**

# LEARNING AT HOLY COVENANT

Life with God can be exciting and enriching. What options are there to learn more?

**a THE STORY**  
The bible is our foundation story about the freedom to be who we were made to be. Why didn't someone tell me?

**b OUR FAMILY**  
The church comes in all colours, shapes and sizes. Why is it so different? Can it be better?

**c FAITH**  
God is amazing. Creator, Liberator, Sustainer. How could I connect with God more deeply?

**d HOPE**  
Most people see Jesus as a ticket to heaven. What does his life, death, resurrection and ascension mean to me?

**e LOVE**  
Love changes everything. Only we suck at it most of the time. How can I love another more safely?

**f CONNECT**  
If you'd like to learn something new, why not talk to Wayne about a small group or personalized options?

## SOME GROUP IDEAS

How are Christian ideas about gender changing?



### Vintage Piano for Free

Looking for a new home for a much loved piano. It has been with the owner for over 60 years and only moved about 4 times in all that time. It is in reasonable condition and still plays a good tune.

It will incur a cost for moving. The owner is prepared to discuss contributing to removal costs if the piano goes to a charitable organisation.

Call Alan on 0400 433 422

### Crafty Crew

Crafty Crew is cancelled this month, 10th May.

It will resume on 14th June.



## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Withdrawal of Russian forces from Ukraine.
- ⇒ Peacemaking 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

- ⇒ Women and families impacted by domestic and intimate partner violence.
- ⇒ Government reform on legislation relating to gender-based violence.

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Bathurst
- ⇒ St Mark's National Theological Centre, Canberra
- ⇒ Australian Centre for Christianity & Culture Colloquium for Ageing Perspectives & Spirituality
- ⇒ All being prepared for ministries, both ordained and lay in the Diocese and beyond
- ⇒ Pray for: Vocations to the sacred ministry (priesthood & diaconate), the process of selection of candidates. The clergy appointment selection process – Clergy Appointment Board chairs; and board members both parish and Diocesan.

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Georgina and Andrew Dudzinski; Sue Dunbar; Alan and Bea Duncan; Ray and Sue Edmondson
- ⇒ 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 known to us personally

### COMMEMORATIONS

6 May Mavis Roberts (d. 1994)

### BIRTHDAYS

5 May Luke Peebles  
8 May David Clark

### BIBLE READINGS

Acts 10.44-48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5.1-12  
John 15.26-27, 16.4-15

## COLLECT

Loving God,  
your Son has chosen us  
and called us to be his friends:  
give us grace to keep his commandments,  
to love one another,  
and to bear fruit which will abide;  
through him who is the true vine,  
the source of all our life,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 Nevile  
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