

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 26 MAY 2024
TRINITY SUNDAY

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 26 MAY

8am & 10am Holy Communion

Celebrant :Revd Dr Wayne
Brighton

Preacher: Revd Bili Malek

WEDNESDAY 29 MAY

12 Midday Communion Service and
Lunch

SUNDAY 2 JUNE

8am & 10am Holy Communion

Celebrant and Preacher:
Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

Coming soon:

Neighbourhood Night 7 June, 6pm

Save the Date: Parish Birthday

Dinner 27 July

Bank details for direct debit:

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

Trinity is the day in the liturgical calendar when we draw together all those loose theological ends that have been floating around since Christmas and try to make sense of them. We marked the incarnation at Christmas; God the Creator come among us in Jesus. At Easter, we marked Jesus' death and resurrection and recently remembered his ascension. Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. Then last Sunday we celebrated the great Feast of Pentecost – God's Spirit come among us in power as the promised Advocate and Comforter. So how do all these things shape how we see God, and perhaps more importantly, what on earth can this have to do with our ordinary everyday lives as we care for families, try to make the budget stretch, and make the daily pilgrimage into work or study.

So, here's why I think this day is important. Trinity could be called the feast day of community, or about God as Trinity in holy relationship. We don't exist alone, even God does not exist alone, but in relationship. Since we are created in God's image, we too are created for relationship. We become whole persons only in relationship with one another and with God. God who is community, is therefore found in community. God is found in this community, and in the love between us.

So often we think about God as the one revealed to Isaiah – awe-inspiring, powerful and utterly other. If this is our only image of God, God 'from a distance', and the only God we ever experience, then the idea of God can make us either angry or afraid. In Paul's letter to the Romans, we find a different image, a God near enough to be known as Abba, with whom we can have life-giving intimacy. As Jesus talks with Nicodemus in John's Gospel we find that relating to Jesus is also about relating to the Father, and that living within that relationship is living by the Spirit. By anchoring faith and spirituality in a relationship and a person John invites us into a spirituality that sees God in all of life, and in all the everyday things that occupy us.

The Doctrine of the Trinity helps us to see that although God is the Creator, the awesome God astride the universe, holy, other and transcendent, God is also the God of our experience: personal, knowable, and close by. This God is revealed in the beauty and grandeur of creation, and yet is the one who is close to us on our human journey and who has experienced the very things we experience day by day, our joy, our pain and our sorrow. On this Trinity Sunday, this feast of holy community, we celebrate and remember all these things.

In peace. Revd Lynda

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

Assistance for a family who fell on hard times

I first met G a few months ago when she presented to the St

John's Centre (SJC) with her three children. G is a single mother who has experienced long term financial discomfort as the sole provider for her family. Despite this, she has always managed to juggle her parental duties and casual employment and give her children a positive life.

Recently, G's youngest child was diagnosed with a debilitating illness which requires short term care. G was no longer able to work and spent most of her time at home caring for her child. This loss of income provided a number of challenges for the young family.

G was unable to afford registration costs for the children, she fell behind on the quarterly bills, and the family's pharmacy bill skyrocketed. G explained that she had turned to cheaper options for meals, however she was concerned about the long-term implications that this would have on her children and their health.

G explored the option of applying to receive the carers payment. However the payment is only available to those who are caring for someone for longer than 6 months and she was ineligible. With nowhere to turn and the growing feeling of dread hanging over her, G reached out for support for the first time in her life. G later described the anxiety and shame that she felt when initially reaching out for support.

'I never thought I would need to reach out for support. I remember walking up the driveway to St John's Care and contemplating turning around and leaving but I am so happy I didn't', she said.

Our staff and volunteers supported G with her pharmacy bills, and some healthier food options including fruit, vegetables and meat. After advocating on G's behalf, we have also arranged for some support caring for her child, allowing G to return to work and alleviating some of the financial stress she was facing. Through the provision of support, advocacy, and referrals, SJC managed to walk with this family at a crucial time in their life and ensure that they did not fall into a cycle of disadvantage. G's child's health has improved, and we are excited to continue supporting her beyond her recovery. This is just one of the many client stories that would not be possible without the instrumental support we receive from those in our community – thank you.

Robbie Speldewinde Operations Manager

Items Required: Pads and tampons, Cup-a-Soup, peanut butter, milo, rice meals

Reflections

In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song. Psalm 62.

I was driving home from Goulburn reflecting on the things the deacons had shared at the cathedral and into my mind came the words of Joyce Rupp when she says "Driving along in my car - my little hermitage on wheels. (Don't you love that.) It was on that drive I reflected on two things I discovered at the cathedral that over all these years, had never known. One was the bricks that pave the foyer and along the isles of the cathedral which are from the original cathedral and were made by convicts. On the back of them is an arrow, the convicts mark. Then down the aisle among an array of the bricks was a Cross carved into one of the bricks, its origin unknown. These were the marks left by the builders. In Israel the Crusaders left the mark of their cross on the columns and massive road pavers. Where, I wonder have you left your mark? I don't advocate walking about carving crosses on columns but have you left your mark of faith on the lives of those who God puts in your path?

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Anne, servant of the Lord.



Can you see the cross?

Save the Date—Parish Birthday

Our Parish Birthday is on 28 July is fast approaching! To celebrate we will be having a birthday dinner on Saturday 27th July. Please put these dates in your diaries.

Our speaker for the celebration will be Dr. Karen Pack. Karen is a religious historian, ordained minister, a marriage celebrant and President of Spiritual Care Australia.

For decades, she has worked training pastors, chaplains, leaders and teachers in Australia, North America, Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

Her doctoral study explored the marginalisation and erasure of women and LGBTQIA+ Christians from Australian religious histories.

In 2024, she organised the first Future Church Conference.

She will talk with us about the Future of an inclusive and diverse Church.



PROGRAM MANAGER-COVENANT CARE NURSING

Holy Covenant Anglican Church, Jamison is seeking experienced applicants with strong leadership skills interested in managing its Covenant Care Nursing (CCN) program.

The successful applicant will need to demonstrate high level policy and program skills, strong written and oral communication skills and the ability to work flexibly and independently with minimal supervision from the Management Committee.

CCN is a community outreach program in the Belconnen area which provides a weekly respite care service for people with life-limiting illnesses, supports individual clients with household needs and offers an outings program for socially isolated community members. It has a small number of staff positions and a larger volunteer base.

The Program Manager position is offered as Permanent Part-Time at 20 hours per week. Final salary will be negotiated but will be within the range of \$45-\$50 per hour.

If you would like more information or to receive a copy of the Position Description, please email nurse@holycovenant.org.au or call Rhonda Thorpe on 0487 945 615.

Jesus and Mother on Mother's Day

It is Mother's Day today. There are two important passages concerning Jesus and his close caring contact with his mother.

The Wedding at Cana (John 2:1-11): This is where Jesus performs his first miracle, turning water into wine, at a wedding feast in Cana. Jesus' mother Mary plays a significant role in this event, as she informs Jesus that the hosts have run out of wine. Although Jesus initially seems hesitant to intervene, Mary instructs the servants to do whatever Jesus tells them to do, prompting him to perform the miracle. It is the start of his public ministry at the bequest of Mary.

The Crucifixion (John 19:25-27): During the crucifixion of Jesus, we see Mary standing near the cross along with other women, witnessing her son's suffering. Jesus, in his final moments, entrusts the care of his mother to the beloved disciple (traditionally identified as John), saying to Mary, "Woman, behold your son!" and to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" This passage highlights Jesus' concern for his mother's well-being.

In the time of Jesus the stereotype image of mother is one of subservience and background duties as an adjunct to male dominance. Today the mother image has changed but father image has become tainted by current domestic violence concerns. Those victims of such abuse might well hold negativity in the reference to *our father and heaven in the Lord's Prayer. Especially those outside the traditional church view of Father. And those that equate creation with love outside personification.*

I attempted to find some balance by including a reference to mother in the following contemporary version below

Our Father

Our Father, Mother of all life living in timeless beauty
your name is sacred always to be praised and adored

You created our world and continue to transform
the wonder of your creation

We thank you each day for having given us your son

Forgive our wrong behaviour as we forgive the wrongs of others

you know us intimately
guide our lives and protect us from harm

For you are all good, pure love, and perfect
all honour, power, and glory are yours now and forever

Richard Scutter

(published in a Yass Valley Writers anthology)

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

THURSDAYS

7.30PM

CHOSEN BY GOD
SAMUEL, SAUL AND DAVID

30
MAY

SOMEONE FROM NOWHERE

A KING IS WANTED

06
JUNE

13
JUNE

THE FALL OF SAUL

FOUND IN THE PADDOCK

20
JUNE

4
JULY

JEALOUSY IS A CURSE



MORE INFO:

WAYNE 0407 408 333

NEW ASSISTANT BISHOP



Ven Vanessa Bennett

Vicar

On 5 May Bishop Mark announced a new Assistant Bishop

Vanessa has experience and qualifications in education and ministry. She has held positions as a high school teacher, a School Chaplain, and has ministered in the Anglican parishes of Avalon with Palm Beach, St Andrew's Wahroonga, and St Anne's Strathfield. Vanessa has also served as a member of the School Council of Barker College Hornsby and as a member of the Anglican Education Commission in the Sydney Diocese.

Vanessa currently serves as Archdeacon of Essendon and Vicar of the Parish of Moonee Ponds in the Diocese of Melbourne. In those capacities she has led an established congregation into growth and worked with a broad range of Parishes in a culturally diverse part of Melbourne to find new avenues for effective mission.

Vanessa will be consecrated in St Saviour's Cathedral at 11am on 24th August.

Silent Auction

At our Parish Birthday Dinner, we will be holding a silent auction, as part of our fundraiser. Please start to consider any good quality items you may be able to donate to the auction.

We also need someone to take over the role that Bob used to do, in terms of organising and running the silent auction.

Help Wanted

- ◆ Do you like statistics from the ABS and love thinking about town planning?
- ◆ Do you want to know how Belconnen has changed and will change in the years ahead?
- ◆ We're looking to understand how our corner of Canberra is changing. If you'd like to help us understand the suburbs of Aranda, Cook, Macquarie, Bruce and Belconnen Town Centre better, please speak to Wayne.

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ For residents of Kharkiv and the end of Russian militarism.
- ⇒ That residents of the West Bank and Gaza might live in peace with dignity, while residents of Israel have security.
- ⇒ For the people of Vanuatu as they consider matters of citizenship and belonging.

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who lost family members through forced removal of children.
- ⇒ For our connection with First Nations people through truth telling and treaty making.
- ⇒ For participants in Reconciliation Day activities.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Wangaratta
- ⇒ Anglicare South East, Eden
- ⇒ Sapphire Coast Anglican Church
- ⇒ Bimbimbie Park/ Albert Moore Gardens, Merimbula, Sanananda Park/ Hugh Cunningham Gardens, Tura Beach and Ross Wotton Gardens, Eden
- ⇒ Bega
- ⇒ Wambiri Youth and Conference Centre
- ⇒ Sapphire Coast Anglican College
- ⇒ Pray for: The Church's ministry in holiday resorts, and the work of evangelism in every parish and institution throughout the Diocese.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Douglas Guilfoyle, Zoe Rose and Jamie; Patrick Guinness; and Clayton Gumbrell, Karen Bisley and Ethan, Jamie and Samuel.
- ⇒ 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, Joh Sheehan

BIRTHDAYS

26 May John McCaffrey
31 May Gabe Dent

BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah 6: 1-8
Psalm 29
Romans 8: 12-17
John 3: 1-17

COLLECT

O blessed Trinity,
in whom we know the Maker of all things,
seen and unseen,
the Saviour of all, both near and far:
by your Spirit enable us so to worship your divine
majesty,
that with all the company of heaven
we may magnify your glorious name,
saying, Holy, holy, holy.
Glory to you, O Lord most high. **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

Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

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

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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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