

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 2 JUNE 2024
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TREASURE IN CLAY JARS (2 Cor 4.5-12)

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 2 JUNE

8am & 10am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton

WEDNESDAY 5 JUNE

12 Midday Communion Service and Lunch

SUNDAY 9 JUNE

8am & 10am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton

Coming soon:

Neighbourhood Night 7 June, 6pm
Crafty Crew 14 June, 1:30-4pm
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

Paul was troubled deeply. Judaic people were rejecting rather than welcoming Jesus as Messiah. He walked that road too before Jesus interrupted him heading to Damascus. Paul was also disturbed at how Gentiles were embracing Jesus through a growing band of wonder workers that spread around the empire often criticising Paul as they went.

Such 'super' Christians thought Paul was doing it all wrong and that his apostleship was shameful. He retorted that, 'we have this treasure in clay jars' lest no one be confused where this power of salvation came from.

Paul spoke openly about the difficulties experienced. There were no red-carpet welcomes, trumpet led successes, or riches from heaven. Instead, Paul was battered by trouble, perplexed, terrorised and knocked down repeatedly. Hardly good advertising to follow Christ.

Immature Christians easily mishear Paul's meaning. They adopt a confrontational approach to evangelism when faithfulness is associated with persecution. Such young men (and they are often overwhelmingly males who performed in this way) would 'stand for the truth' by cornering, badgering and generally plaguing everyone as they help people to see God's glory in Christ (v.4). Such 'super' Christians seem to do more harm than good.

Despite all the difficulties experienced, Paul was neither demoralised, confused, isolated or broken. In fact, such circumstances made the life of Jesus even more real. A life that was now unimpeded by human death or earthly disaster. This life now flowed through him and all his companions.

Such a life freed Paul from all mortal terrors. As he has seen God's glory face to face, Paul was prepared to take extraordinary risks so that those overlooked and despised might find themselves in God's presence too.

God's presence through the Holy Spirit changed Paul forever. The Spirit brought connection, knowledge, freedom and an unparalleled intimacy that he struggled to put into words. This presence changed him from the inside out, like a beacon lit on a cold night.

I wonder how we carry this same treasure in clay jars that are our fragile lives? Do we worry about our glazing and occasional cracks or chips? How does the light of Christ shine through us, with all our flaws, successes and failures? Do others see God's love and hope shine in your life?

Rev'd Dr Wayne Brighton

Coffee & Craft

St John's Care (SJC) is an emergency relief centre who provide food, donated

clothing, and case management to the financially disadvantaged. Part of my role involves meeting people where they are, giving clients time to talk about their challenges, working together to seek clarity and a new way forward in a current crisis. In case management we take time individually for therapeutic conversations, case management, seeking and researching referral pathways and client advocacy between other agencies.

After many of these individual conversations, many of SJC clients have spoken that they are lonely, seeking a reason to leave the house, since COVID they have forgotten how to have a conversation with someone they do not know, they do not have any family in Canberra, after experiencing a mental health or medical issue have now lost their confidence to go out, are fearful of meeting up with others and do not have the money to pay for other community agency wellbeing groups. SJC is a very special place that welcomes all, illustrating Jesus' love to all those in need of support. We continue to be very thankful for all the amazing volunteers and donors that with their selfless giving make SJC this special place.

Analytically we know that it is so very important to meet with others. To have a reason to leave the house, to be able to have a chat in a safe and welcoming environment is a huge gift. Often if we are surrounded by family and friends, we can forget how dreadful it is to feel such loneliness and isolation. When we feel okay about most things in our life and have a supportive network, we are then better able to cope with life's challenges. St John's Care is continuing this outreach in commencing another program. Coffee & Craft illustrates the SJC values of compassion, respect, encouragement and works towards empowerment and self-determination as we continue to support our clients in varying ways to achieve their goals. Coffee & Craft is a new SJC group program. This group is open to anyone. Come for morning tea, learn to knit, or crochet. Bring your current mending or knitting project along or just come for a chat! We will be meeting in the Wild Honey room, which is located at the very next door to St John's Care every Friday fortnight. 10am-12 noon starting Friday 24 May onwards. Look forward to seeing you there!

Wendy, SJC Case Manager

Items required: Large packets sultanas, milo/hot chocolate, toothpaste, up and go

The Last Rose of Summer

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. TIS 768

From the sacred space I could touch the glorious bloom of the last rose of summer. In the stillness and the quiet as I pondered with God on the gift of this new day I marvelled at the acuteness of its colour and the beauty of its perfect formation. It was as if God had placed it within my sight in an otherwise bare winter garden as an offering, a gift, of his love through creation. Stillness and quiet are what invites God into our space to sit and to be with us and to show us his love. My morning prayer rises with these words: Teach me your ways so that I may hear you in the silence, see you in the emptiness, touch you in the gifts of creation.

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

Anne, servant of the Lord



The last rose of winter—a gift.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE - 16 MAY 2024

The rector reported about clergy conference and the HOPE25 evangelism campaign that will feature prominently across the diocese and the national church in the months to come. The campaign will conclude with a national conference. The opportunity to be constructive and engaged, particularly to better understand our vicinity of Aranda, Bruce, Cook, Macquarie and Belconnen township is significant if we are to grow younger and have a vibrant future.

The treasurer reported that income had increased in April yet a deficit for the year still looks significant (\$24,500). He will convene a meeting of the finance committee in order to explore fund raising opportunities.

The renovation of the rainbow centre is presently stalled as architects, certifiers and engineers discuss where the disability parking needs to be placed and whether further approvals are required. Costings for improving the car parking have been received with reports of significant engineering works appear very costly due to the slope on the property.

Replacing the manager of Holistic Care is proving very difficult. Additional advertising will be explored.

The kitchen hotplate that is broken will not be replaced. A new bench top will be installed in mid June. Portable hotplates will be used in order to increase working space in the kitchen.

A youth camp will proceed in October with costings to be discussed with the treasurer and parents

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.

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



Affirming Sunday

*a day to celebrate with
rainbow Christians*

Affirming Sunday is an opportunity for Christian communities across the globe to unite with LGBTQIA+ people by seeing, hearing and valuing their gifts.

It's an invitation for pastors and community members to demonstrate their commitment to inclusivity, love, and acceptance by fostering a welcoming environment for all people whatever their sexual orientation or gender identity.

It is an occasion to pray that:

LGBTQIA+ people would be able to live wholeheartedly into who they were created to be;

Christian leaders, communities and denominations will receive insight, wisdom, understanding and guidance towards truth, justice, love and light;

LGBTQIA+ people, their families and allies who have been hurt by religious groups will be able to receive God's love and embrace – knowing that such people do not represent God or how God sees them;

Christian communities might recognize God's beauty in all people and dedicate themselves to building bridges of hope so that everyone can live more fully in God's love. **Amen.**

LGBTQIA+ is an evolving acronym that stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, intersex, and asexual people with space (+) for more identities to emerge.

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

St. Vinnies CEO Sleep Out



The CEO Sleepout raises funds to support homeless people and the most vulnerable in our local community. The cost of living and housing crisis has resulted in more homeless people in Canberra needing these services. If you would like to sponsor Neville Tomkins OAM JP, who is participating in the annual Sleepout for his 13th year, on 20 June, you can go to:

<https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/fundraisers/neville-tomkins-scouts-australia/act>

If you can afford it, you might consider donating all, or part of, your \$300 energy subsidy from the Federal Government. That donation will go a long way to supporting homeless people in our local communities.

Preaching Basics St Mark's short course

Preaching Basics is a three-week short course designed for any men or women who might be preaching (or anticipating preaching in the future), especially newish preachers, lay preachers, youth leaders, those involved in aged care ministry, ministry apprentices, or interns. Course participants will get to prepare and deliver a short talk and receive feedback during the final session.

In-person or online

Cost: \$60 per person inclusive of all three nights.

For more information and to register follow the link below.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CRZDE>

Anglican News

The May edition of *Anglican News* is out available.

The link to the page: <http://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/>

You can email any contributions for future issues of the Anglican News **by the first day of the month of the issue**

to: anglicannews@anglicancg.org.au.

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ For all those experiencing fear, hunger and thirst due to violence and exploitation.
- ⇒ For LGBTQIA+ people that they might find affirmation and safety in communities of faith.
- ⇒ That discrimination, violence and exclusion of rainbow Christians might end as their gifts are celebrated instead.

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ That families afflicted by violent men might be safe and flourish.
- ⇒ The forthcoming NSW Government apology to those arrested and whose lives were broken for being who they were.
- ⇒ For all that struggle to understand why celebrating marginalised groups is necessary.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Adelaide
- ⇒ Archdeacons
- ⇒ Area Deans
- ⇒ Professional Standards Board and Committees
- ⇒ Pray for: Victims of physical and sexual abuse and the continuing implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission including the National Redress Scheme and the implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care and the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Digby Habel; Jenny Hall; Gwen Hallows; Hilary Harris; Merrie Hepworth; Beth Heyde; Phyl and Reg Holmes; Nilantha Hulugalle; and Neville Hurst.
- ⇒ 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 and anyone known to us personally.

BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Jun** Lorraine Buckland, Georgia Thorpe
- 5 Jun** Merrie Hepworth
- 8 Jun** Lucy Wood

BIBLE READINGS

- 1 Samuel 3. 1-10
- Psalms 139.1-6, 139.13-18
- 2 Corinthians 4.5-12
- Mark 2.23-3.6

COLLECT

Lord God of the nations,
you have revealed your will to all people
and promised us your saving help:
help us to hear and do what you command,
that the darkness may be overcome by the power
of your light;
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

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Resources Team

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