

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



**SUNDAY 23 JUNE 2024**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTxFcN0N4MGRiSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366  
Password: 033643

**SUNDAY 23 JUNE**

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

**WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE**

12 Midday Communion Service and Lunch

**SUNDAY 30 JUNE**

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

**Coming soon:**

Fruitful Friday, 28 June, 6-8:30pm.  
Neighbourhood Night 5 July, 6-8pm.  
Save the Date: Parish Birthday  
Dinner 27 July—Tickets available.

**Bank details for direct debit:**

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

*The Victory of an Underdog*

*1 Samuel 17:32-49*

The story of David and Goliath is a classic of the Old Testament – many people unfamiliar with the Bible know the story, or at least its basics. The young shepherd David defeats and kills the mighty warrior Goliath, the underdog vanquishes the favourite. It has been told in movies, exists as analogy in our vocabulary, and gets referenced in *The Simpsons*. Looking afresh, we might ask; why does David win? He trusts in God, but we are not told that David's words are divinely inspired, nor that God guided his hand or the stone to ensure victory. Rather, we are told emphatically that it was David who struck down and defeated Goliath in verse 50. So, if not simply through divine intervention, how is it that David emerges victorious?

The question is significant because it speaks to a greater question; how do underdogs win? How is it the mighty and proud are laid low? David possesses his sling and rocks, but more importantly David carries more – humility and wisdom. Goliath is not humble; the proud champion of an army, he is full of swagger and certainty, a man of war convinced nothing can touch him. He tries to intimidate David, but that fails. David isn't scared of the bully, trusting in himself and God. Instead, David answers right back, striking a nerve. He goads Goliath into approaching, using the Philistine's pride against him. Then he uses his experience as a shepherd to make the most of his shot. If Goliath reaches him, the fight is over. But David trusts his aim, and he makes his shot count. Goliath is stunned, both figuratively and literally, falling to the ground. David wins.

How do underdogs win? By using the pride and arrogance of the mighty against them, by making sure every shot they take counts, and by trusting in themselves, being neither scared nor intimidated. Not always an easy path to follow, but an identifiable one. If David pulled it off, so can we.

*Tobias Neville*

St John's Care (SJC) "offers practical support to people in need" and is part of the parish of St John's Anglican Church, "an oasis of quiet and beauty in the heart of our nation's capital" [stjohnscanberra.org](http://stjohnscanberra.org) Often SJC clients will talk about the serenity they feel when they visit the St John's grounds and the unconditional welcome they receive when they visit the Centre at St John's Care.

One such family who valued the peace was a mother of five very young primary school aged children. We will call her K. This young mother spoke about the family violence she had experienced in a rural Queensland town. K talked about trying to continue her life but living in a small town with a lack of facilities for her children and the continuing surveillance from the perpetrator rendered this untenable.

K had no-one to turn to in this small rural town in Queensland and had no physical or emotional supports. She had been distanced from friends, and remaining family had shown allegiance to the perpetrator of violence. She spoke about how one day she squeezed enough clothes for her five children into her car and just drove and drove.

K spent many visits to St John's Care Case Management to take time to talk about her situation and receive a hot drink, biscuit, listening ear, therapeutic sessions and referral pathways. During this time St John's Care were able to provide clothes, car seats and school equipment from Roundabout, order school uniforms, assist with applying for public housing, referrals for counselling, employment links and connect K with further local supportive networks.

K now reports that she is settling into Canberra and will make this her home. She thanked St John's Care for being a light, supporting her and her young family, showing them a physical and therapeutically supported way forward.

I am very thankful for the continuing provision from our very faithful St John's Care supporters. The amazing work at St John's is only possible from the spirit of generosity, prayers, time and donations.

Kind regards

Wendy, SJC Case Manager

**Items required:** Peanut butter, conditioner, cooking oil, 1kg rice

## Applause for God

An invitation to look at Gods wonder.

*Altogether now - applause for God. Psalm 66: 1 (The Message.)*

Take a good look at God's wonders, they will take your breath away. I mean. just look at the tree decorated with the red and green of the King Parrots. Take a good look! Take a good look at the first Jonquil to be in flower this winter, burst forth from its deep sleep to give us joy and resurrection hope. I mean take a good look. God made such things; he made all his creation just for you and me. Praise the Lord.

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

*Anne, servant of the Lord.*



King parrot decorations.

## Trajectories of hope: a future for the affirming church

**Parish Birthday—27th July 2024**

Dr Karen Pack is driven by the desire to empower young leaders with a sense of their own value and the beauty they bring to the world. She is a former pastor, missionary and bible college lecturer who has taught in Australia and internationally for over twenty years, including training pastors and lay leaders throughout Africa, Asia, North America and the Middle East.

When not training and mentoring others, Karen is a sessional academic lecturing in History at the University of Notre Dame Australia and Macquarie University. She specialises in the historical intersections of gender, faith and sexuality. She uses her research and personal experience to advocate for young queer people of faith, inspiring them to live authentically, brave and free.

Please join us on the night for a Palestinian meal, great company and a wonderful talk from Karen. Please scan the QR code below, or follow this link <https://events.humanitix.com/parish-dinner-fhcvxmsk> to get tickets.

Please also let us know if you're able to help with cooking, setting up, packing up and cleaning on the night.



## Covenant Care Winter Community Lunch

Please join Covenant Care as they have their community lunch, on Thursday 25th July 2024. 12:15pm for a 12:30pm start.

Please sign up via the sheet on the Sign Up board and let Rhonda know if you're able to help with setting up or baking a slice.

Cost is \$5. RSVP by 21st July, for catering.

## Table Arrangements for Parish Dinner

### Hosting a table?

- Hosts organise nibbles for a table.
- Those joining a table may want to talk with hosts about drinks.
- Hosts might invite guests for their table. Efforts will be made to seat people at the table of their choice.
- Please speak to the host of the table you'd like to sit at, so they can organise numbers.
- If the host of your preferred table has already filled their table, the office will present an opportunity for you to join another table.

Please volunteer to host a table on the night or sign up for a table using the blue sheets on the sign up board.



## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ For young people conscripted into battle in Ukraine and their loved ones.
- ⇒ For LGBTIQ+ people across Africa who live in fear of persecution for loving the wrong people.
- ⇒ For the mothers and fathers of Palestinian and Israeli children who live in fear of starvation and violence as the conflict escalates beyond Gaza.

### IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ For Australians as they seek to understand energy policy debates.
- ⇒ For investment in affordable and social housing and all who experience insecurity because of low paid work.
- ⇒ For essential workers that help those experiencing crisis with compassion, fatigue and burnout.

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Tasmania
- ⇒ South Wagga Wagga
- ⇒ The Forrest Centre, Wagga Wagga
- ⇒ Pray for: The bereaved and those who care for them.

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Chris Lee; Penny Lilley; Lorna Loadman; Luiza Luppi; Colin Lyons; Frances Mackay and Megan Mackay.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer (often for long term needs) including Barry & Sandra Button; Glenys Wimmer; Bev Chambers; Kath Arthur, Neville Hurst, Joh Sheehan and anyone known to us personally.
- ⇒ We give thanks for the life of Bev Barnes, and pray for Bruce and the rest of the family.

### COMMEMORATIONS

24 June **Ruth Eleanor Durie (d. 2019)**  
**Michael Andrew Martin (d. 2019)**

### BIRTHDAYS

24 June **Jo James**  
29 June **Noah Indrele**

### BIBLE READINGS

1 Samuel 17:57-18:16  
Psalm 133  
2 Corinthians 6:1-13  
Mark 4: 35-41

## COLLECT

O God our defender,  
storms rage about us and cause us to be afraid:  
rescue your people from despair,  
deliver your sons and daughters from fear,  
and preserve us all from unbelief;  
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,  
0407 408 333 rector@holycovenant.org.au

### Assistant Minister

The Reverend Dr Bili Malek  
0420 966 866 (SMS only 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 kennemorosemary@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

Vacant  
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