

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 7 JULY 2024
SEVENTH 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 7 JULY

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

WEDNESDAY 10 JULY

12 Midday Communion Service and Lunch

SUNDAY 14 JULY

8am and 10am Holy Communion
Celebrant : Revd Lynda McMinn
Preacher: Revd Bili Malek

Coming soon:

Covenant Care Volunteer Forum 11 July 5-7pm.

Parish Planning Day 20 July 10-4pm

Community lunch 25 July 12.15pm

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

Flawed, Unique and Beloved

Over July I will use our readings as a focal point to explore some dimensions of Celtic Christianity, a Christian focus enjoying resurgence in the UK and elsewhere. In the readings we are reminded not only of great deeds but, also of failures of our “Scriptural characters”.

Particularly interesting is Jesus being rebuffed and rejected in Nazareth by his own village people (Mk 6:3-4), an astonishing, sombre counterpoint to his success elsewhere, even in Gentile territory. In a pointed ironic twist, Jesus expressly locates the failure of his work not within himself, but within his own people. Their flaw, their lack of faith (Mk 6:6), blocked his work. We can work with our Lord or against him.

In Corinthians Paul writes of his spiritual experiences, some of which he would like to boast about (2 Cor 12:5-7), yet he’s forced to acknowledge “the thorn in his side” (2 Cor 12:7-8) which, despite prayer, God did not remove. Paul endured insults, hardship, persecution, and calamities (2 Cor 12:9-10), yet still found contentment because his sufferings were for Christ’s sake (2 Cor 12:10).

Despite our failures, weaknesses, shadows and darkness, we each offer God our own unique gifts and God loves each of us and uses us to God’s own purposes in ways we often cannot foresee. Celtic Christianity lays some stress on our uniqueness and our being beloved by God. Contentment and peace is hoped for, if we but work with Jesus.

“Peace-giver,
who delights in the uniqueness of every different life,
help us to find the sure contentment of right relations with ourselves,
with each other and with you.

Give wisdom and support to those who struggle to balance their lives.

May we make the changes we need,

and release us from the guilt that prevents us breaking through the hard surfaces of our previous choices.

Amen.”

(Tess Ward, in *The Celtic Wheel of the Year: Celtic and Christian Seasonal Prayers*)

Merilyn Clark

Working Collaboratively with other Agencies

St John's Care (SJC) is a drop-in centre providing food, financial assistance and case management in central Canberra. "The St John's Care case management service provides a link between the important work that our volunteers do on the ground, and the circumstances that bring people to St John's Care in the first place".

In case management, SJC staff listen, show unconditional positive regard, respect and compassion through our work with families and individuals. These are people who experience complex issues including difficult mental health (MH) challenges and other circumstances which hinder them from being able to break free from disadvantage.

SJC case management also works to make connections within the community. These connections are so very important to gain up-to-date information about other community services, for referrals, advocacy and to facilitate conversations that continue to support our clients.

One such community agency recently connected to SJC case management. This agency reached out to SJC with an emergency request to support a vulnerable client on the brink of homelessness. We shall name him Bob. Bob had been a resident in the old Northbourne flats. After relocation into an inner north house without support, he struggled to cope.

Throughout the years of struggling with his MH challenges Bob lived a very difficult and narrow life. Each day was a battle with these MH challenges. His house was a danger to live in with household items filling the place to capacity. Eventually Bob faced eviction due to his hoarding disorder.

SJC partnered with Bob and another community agency to provide emergency supports to the agency and Bob. SJC also provided physical support through the provision of a skip. This enabled Bob to continue the emergency clear-out to provide proof to ACAT to stop this eviction order.

SJC endeavours to journey with clients through life's challenges. I wish to sincerely thank the amazing contributions that all donors make to enable SJC to continue to bridge the ever-widening gap of disadvantage in all its forms.

Wendy SJC Senior Case Manager

Items required: shampoo, instant pasta meals, soup, nappies and dishwashing liquid, if you would prefer us to do the shopping you can donate (<http://www.stjohnscare.org.au/>)

Kissed by His Peace

God gives richly all things to enjoy. 1 Timothy 6:17

The real gift in God's beauty is to recognise the creator, the one who made all that is before our eyes in creation. If you stand at a scenic lookout looking across vast green valleys to distant hills and high purple mountains, and then add a pastel pink and red and blue setting sun in the sky or look into the centre of a tiny, tiny Forget-me-not you will be so enriched and much blessed if you see in it all the creator and not just the creation and you will be 'kissed' by his peace.

I read these lovely words somewhere recently; 'God sprinkles tiny hints of heaven on earth.' A sunset, the smell of the ocean, strains of music, a beautiful scene, the trill of a tiny bird, the laugh of the kookaburra, the sweet, deep perfume of the Daphne flower - all to give us a hint, a tiny taste of what's to come - mere glances and flashes of heaven.'

May the God of all creation bless us and keep us today and always.

Anne, servant of the Lord



Forget me not

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.



Parish Dinner Cooks

This year's Parish Dinner has a Middle Eastern theme. Given we're eating in late July, the menu includes some hearty meat dishes, as well as traditional vegetarian dishes and tasty desserts.

To make this work, we need some volunteer cooks. Megan has copies of the recipes for you, and will also provide some of the more esoteric ingredients that you may not have in your kitchen (such as rosewater, mastic and sumac). The recipes are: Cauliflower lamb stew, Sumac chicken & onions, Chickpeas with rice and vegetables, Eggplants with tomatoes, Middle Eastern salad, Cucumber and yogurt, Fruit plates, and Rice pudding with rosewater and mastic.

There are sign up sheets on the noticeboard for the cooks. Please give Megan a call if you have any questions - 0450 502 081.

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.



Covenant Care Winter Community Lunch

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

At this lunch, Dr Merylyn Clark will speak, exploring some Old Testament lessons which have been important to her as her time as an Old Testament and Hebrew lecturer at St. Mark's National Theological Centre, and as a Bible Study leader.



Merylyn has an impressive academic background, BEc (Hons) (Monash), MBA (Toronto), BTh (Charles Sturt University), PhD (Charles Sturt University) and has provided a short bio:

"After I finished my first degree I joined the Australian Public Service in Canberra where I worked some 7 years. I had a few years off having children and rearing them up to preschool age, when I started

tutoring and later lecturing at University of Canberra in Economics and Management Studies. Then I began to take an interest in theology. Since my theological studies journey at St Mark's National Theological Centre began in 1990 I have been a student, volunteer, Academic Administrator and Associate Lecturer in Old Testament Biblical Studies and Hebrew at St Mark's. My PhD thesis (*Israel Remembers: Waters of Chaos, Waters of Hope*) through Charles Sturt University was completed in 2004. Retiring after 11 years of lecturing, I volunteered as Theology Course Coordinator and teacher at the Indigenous Wontulp-Bi-Buya College in Cairns, where I worked nearly three years. I have continued to develop and lead Bible Studies for Parishes and Clergy Conferences within the Anglican tradition in 4 different Dioceses, but also within the Salvation Army and the Catholic Church.

I delight in leading people into a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Old Testament texts, to see in these ancient texts the living word of God speaking to us in our time and place. I seek to share the power, depth and masterly story telling of the Old Testament and their rich insights.

I am married to David Clark, and have three children and seven grandchildren who live on the Central Coast of NSW, The Capricorn Coast of Queensland and in Florida, USA."

Please sign up for this lunch via the sheets on the sign-up board and let Rhonda know if you can help with setting up and/or baking a slice.

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

WHAT'S NEXT?

Church Planning Day

20 July, 10am-4pm

St Mark's Theological Centre, Barton

How can you help?

Share your answers to 4 questions.

1. Why did you come to Holy Covenant?
2. Why have you stayed?
3. What about Holy Covenant gives you energy or makes you feel alive?
4. What's one thing at Holy Covenant you might commit to over the next 12 months?

Let us know. Share an email, give us a call or discuss over coffee.



Sharing Hope with an Uncertain World

Featuring Glen Scrivener

Saturday 17 August

10:00am-4:00pm

St Saviour's Cathedral Goulburn

Between Easter and Pentecost next year Anglicans across Australia will be sharing the hope we have through Jesus under the banner of *Hope 25* (www.hope25.com.au).

This gathering will be an opportunity to hear from Australian-born evangelist Glen Scrivener (speaklife.org.uk) about how the good news of Jesus connects with our deepest needs.

There will also be opportunities to learn from each other and be introduced to resources that will help your ministry join this exciting initiative.

Register at: <https://forms.gle/pvJJDfgehaTX6FE18>

Morning tea will be provided. Please BYO lunch or purchase it from one of the nearby cafes.

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ For marginalised communities in the USA, as the election draws nearer.
- ⇒ For all who are affected by Hurricane Beryl and other severe weather events caused and exacerbated by climate change.

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ For efforts being made to protect young people who are susceptible to being radicalised online.
- ⇒ For First Nations people organising NAIDOC week celebrations, and building reconciliation.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Southern Queensland
- ⇒ Braidwood; Bungendore
- ⇒ Mulwaree Ministry District
- ⇒ Cartwright Mission District: St Edmunds Gunning; St Mark's Gundaroo
- ⇒ Collector; Crookwell/ Taralga; Binda: Tri-parish group
- ⇒ Small country churches and their ministry; co-operating parishes.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Bili Malek and Stuart Bullock; Doreen and Ian Matters; Tracey Matthews and Russell Rollason; Anne and Lindsay McDowell and Bryan McGuinness.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer (often for long term needs) including Barry & Sandra Button; Glenys Wimmer; Bev Chambers; Kath Arthur, Joh Sheehan, Celeste Sandstrom, Bruce Barnes and family, and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

- 8 July **Iris Hall (d. 1996)**
- 10 July **Grace Watson (d. 2014)**
- 11 July **Doris Dudley (d. 2008)**
John Singh (d. 2014)
- 12 July **Gerard Bacon (d. 2015)**
- 13 July **Laurie G Alexander (d. 2001)**

BIRTHDAYS

- 9 July **Elaine Dennis**
- 11 July **Carol Pogson**
- 13 July **Elizabeth Troy**

BIBLE READINGS

- 2 Samuel 5: 1-5, 9-10
- Psalm 48
- 2 Corinthians 12: 2-10
- Mark 6: 1-13

COLLECT

O Lord our God,
you are always more ready to bestow
your good gifts upon us than we are to seek them;
and more willing to give
than we desire or deserve:
in our every need,
grant us the first and best of all your gifts,
the Spirit who makes us your children.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and 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
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Youth Coordinator

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Wardens

Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore
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Belonging and Caring

The Reverend Dr Wayne Brighton
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Children & Families Worker

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Covenant Care Program Manager

Vacant
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Covenant Care Chaplain

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM
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Honorary Priests

The Revd Anne Dudzinski
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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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