

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



**SUNDAY 28 JULY 2024**

**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Confronting darkness while celebrating the light**

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 28 JULY**

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

**WEDNESDAY 24 JULY**

12 Midday Communion Service and Lunch

**SUNDAY 24 AUGUST**

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

**Coming soon:**

Neighbourhood Night Friday, 2nd August, 6-8pm.

Commissioning of Covenant Care Manager Sunday, 4th August.

**Bank details for direct debit:**

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

In today's tragic reading, sin overtakes David. Sexual desire culminates in seduction, attempted deception, and murder. It highlights the need for the protective hope in Paul's exhortation: "may [God] grant that you be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love" (Eph 3:16-17).

Despite emphasising creation's goodness and the goodness of humans made in God's image, Celtic Christianity was pragmatic. It demanded a "sharp awareness of evil and ... constantly to guard against it" (Newel, p51). They saw God's immanent presence with them and all heaven, including angels and saints, enfolding the earth with love, as protective against evil, darkness, confusion and despair. They prayed for protection from human sin and life-threatening elemental forces like wild winds and seas, and harsh conditions. Their hope lay in John's teachings that darkness could not overcome God's light. This supported them through deep troubles which could "emerge from the most hidden recesses of our lives". They saw a need to "name and confront the darkness whilst celebrating the light that is at the heart of life" (p67-68).

"Almighty God...

Sun behind all suns, soul behind all souls, ...  
show to us in everything we touch  
and in everyone we meet  
the continued assurance of your presence around us,  
lest ever we should think you absent.  
In all created things you are there.  
In every friend we have  
the sunshine of your presence is shown forth.  
In every enemy that seems to cross our path,  
you are there within the cloud to challenge us to love.  
Show to us the glory in the grey.  
Awake for us your presence in the very storm  
till all our joys are seen as you  
and all our trivial tasks emerge as priestly sacraments  
in the universal temple of your love."

(George MacLeod, founder of the Iona Community 1895-1991)

**Merilyn Clark**

Office: (staffed Tues, Thurs, Fri 10am-3pm) ph: 6251 6100 email: [office@holycovenant.org.au](mailto:office@holycovenant.org.au)

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

Dear St John's Community!  
I would like to introduce myself to you as the fill-in Case Manager for Karen,

while she is on maternity leave for 3 months. My background is in Domestic Violence Case Coordination, NDIS Support Coordination and Case management with young people and Families. This is my 3rd week in this role, and I have supported a couple of clients that have come through to our service.

Last week, St John's Care (SJC) had a single mother who had just been in Canberra for a month. We will call the single mother D. D came to Australia with her 2 teenaged daughters as refugees through the refugee program. D has challenges in speaking and understanding English, therefore we used the Telephone Interpreter service that is used by St John's Care in supporting clients with language barriers. D said she has been to other services but hasn't been heard and was referred to come to St John's Care by a person she saw in the street.

D came in wanting support with food, financial and legal support. D explained that she cannot afford the rent at the house she is residing in, as her daughters have moved out as they wish to live in Melbourne. D was emotional about her relationship with her daughters since they arrived in Australia. Due to the cultural differences, D explained her daughters got aggressive with her and called the police on her. Due to D having limited English and no idea of the Australian laws, the police presented at D's house and spoke to D's daughters who know how to speak English. D's daughters have now moved out of the house and D is having challenges paying the rent by herself.

Firstly, one of our friendly volunteers helped D with a food hamper (fruit, vegetables, meat, bread, etc.) toiletries, blankets and warm clothes for herself. I explained to D that our food relief is a monthly service but, in this specific case, she could come every week until she gets a cheaper place to rent or share with someone. This will help D pay her rent until she is able to find affordable accommodation. D is getting Centrelink payments every fortnight now so this will help.

D was then referred to Migrant and Refugee Settlement Service (MARSS) who have a housing program and a program for financial support.

St John's Care will continue to support D and other Canberrans who reach out to us. I would like to thank everyone in the Canberra Community who donates to our organisation and supports us in the many ways you do.

Lisa Masamha, SJC Case Manager

**Items required:** Toothpaste, cooking oil, vegemite, honey, 1L full cream UHT milk

## My, they are a marvel to see

*'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your face Lord do I seek. Psalm 27.8*

In the afternoon walk I set myself a mediative goal, to see what hidden blessings I can find and have a talk with Jesus about my discoveries. I mean, look at those acorns on the ground then look at the mighty tree they have fallen from, who would imagine such a tiny thing could grow into such a tree and there, just there in a patch of the grass on the common ground is a beautiful deep purple violet, standing alone, far from its home bunch in some nearby garden, and the King Parrots, my, they are a marvel to see dressed in ever so bright red and green beautifully groomed feathers. I wonder, I just wonder what joy God must have had in creating colour, shape and images for us and how many of them we pause to marvel at. I read this little reflection: *'In the tiny petal of a tiny flower that grew from a tiny pod is the miracle and the mystery of all creation and God.'*

May the God of life bless you and keep you today and always.

Anne, servant of the Lord.



Beauty in the common grassland.

**Save the Date:**

**Saturday, 21 September 2024**

**St John's Care Groceries Collection and Cake Stall—Jamison Centre**

This year we are once again doing a collection of groceries and cake stall at the Jamison Centre to support the work of St John's Care. We would love your assistance on the day to invite shoppers at Coles and Aldi to purchase a few extra items to donate, or to do a shift on the cake stall. We are also looking for a cake stall coordinator and some willing bakers to donate cakes, jams, and other goodies to sell.

A roster will soon be put up on the back wall seeking volunteers to help.

In the meantime, please talk to Carol Kubanek  
E: [Carol.kubanek@gmail.com](mailto:Carol.kubanek@gmail.com) if you would like to help.



### **VACANCY**

Want to understand what's happening in the church beyond our parish?

Want a weekend getaway in Spring (Friday 6 - Sunday 8 September)?

Feel like a good Chinese meal and coffee breaks?

Why not become a synod member and join us this year?

Our team has a vacancy as Russell Rollason has resigned following his move to St Simon's Kaleen to support Tracey who is locum in the parish.

Contact Wayne for more information or to express your interest.

## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ For children and families in Gaza and warzones.
- ⇒ For athletes and officials competing at the Paris Olympics.
- ⇒ For the people of Lebanon and Northern Israel as tension escalates.

### IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ For homeless and insecure housing during the winter cold.
- ⇒ For those experiencing anxiety and fear at life's uncertainty.

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Bishop of Waikato and Taranaki; Senior Bishop of New Zealand Dioceses; and Primate and Archbishop of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
- ⇒ Pihopa o Tairawhiti and Pihopa o Aotearora and Primate and Archbishop of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
- ⇒ Bishop of Polynesia and Primate of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
- ⇒ Anglicare Australia
- ⇒ Synergy Youth; Synergy Camping Coordinator
- ⇒ Specialist youth ministry teams as they speak with parishes and more generally for Peace in the world, for interreligious engagement and for the challenge of the management of climate change and energy sources.

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Chris Olsson; Sue Paice; John and Gillian Painter; Thomas Parkes; Lou Passmore; Dave, Luke and Maddie Peebles; and Paula and Peter Percival.
- ⇒ 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

31 July **Graeme Neil Johnson (d. 2013)**

### BIRTHDAYS

2 August **Pam Lane**

### BIBLE READINGS

2 Samuel 11: 1-15  
Psalm 14  
Ephesians 3: 14-21  
John 6: 1-21

## COLLECT

Gracious God,  
you have placed within the hearts of all your children  
a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth:  
grant that, believing in the one whom you have sent,  
we may know him to be the true bread of heaven  
and the food of eternal life, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be glory and honour 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  
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

Leanne McKean  
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