

21 August 2022

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



Last Saturday we were joined by Alicia Payne MP and Archdeacon Tom Henderson-Brooks for the launching of the Queen's Jubilee Tree project. The tree will eventually be planted near the East Lychgate and the project is scheduled for completion early in the new year.

Photo: Christine Hawkins

Today's Services

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Jeremiah 1.4-10; Ps 71.1-6; Hebrews 12.18-29, Luke 13.10-17

8am	Sung Eucharist
9.30am	Sunday@9.30 kids@church and Youth Group
11.15am	Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
6pm	stjohns@6 Holy Communion

Midweek

10 am	Wednesday BCP Holy Communion
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WARRIOR WELCOME HOME: PARISH DINNER

Invitation to Warrior Welcome Home Dinner: Saturday 17th September 2022

The love of community is an important part of healing for veterans. All parishioners are invited to attend our parish dinner, in support of the Warrior Welcome Home (WWH) retreat hosted by our parish next month.

Everyone who goes to war is affected; everyone comes home from war with “dents in the soul.” Overseas and Australian experience has shown that love – the love of God, church, family and community – can make a big difference to those struggling with homecoming and their families.

The WWH Retreat aims to assist in letting this love in; to reconnect veterans with the love of those for whom they went to war, with those whose love they want. The first WWH Retreat in Canberra is being conducted at St John’s Canberra from Thursday 15 to Sunday 18 September 2022. On **Saturday 17th** a community dinner will be held in the Parish Hall. Besides being a social event for the parish, this is a chance to show the veterans how much their service is appreciated.

You and your family are warmly invited:

Date – Saturday 17 September 2022, **Time** – 6:30pm to about 9:00 pm

Venue – St John’s Canberra Church Hall

Meal - Buffet main and dessert. BYO drinks

Cost estimate per person – Adults \$40, Pensioner/Child \$20. A family rate will also be available.

Please feel free to form own table group (4-5 people). Each table will host one WWH participant and/or invited VIP

Would you like to be a Table Host? Table Host duties aren’t onerous but are important. If you are happy to host and have no other guests, we can offer others places at your table. You may also wish to decorate your table and be in the running for a Best Decorated Table Award.

Participants and those attending dinner have been invited to wear medals (including family medals).

Table Host/s Name/s:

Contact Phone:

Contact Email:

Names of others in your group:

RSVP: 8 September 2022:

Hand to a Sidesperson or to the Parish Office, or e-mail to admin@stjohnscanberra.org

Other enquires to Bill Sutherland: e-mail bill.sutherland@bigpond.com, mb: 0419 611 924

REFLECTION FROM CHRIS MURRAY, PASTORAL CARER



Arrivals and Departures

Recently, I was called one night to the hospital to support family of an elderly patient that had died suddenly. I arrived before the family and had time to read the patient's notes. There were clear instructions about what the patient wanted at this time. This included being with family, reading of the bible and prayers.

I made arrangements for the family to enter the hospital and spoke to the doctor to make sure she would be available to speak to them when they arrived. I knew they would want to hear firsthand what had happened for closure and reassurance.

The family members arrived. They had been very close to the patient. The suddenness of the death was weighing on them, along with not being able to be present. I provided support around this and spoke about some practical matters. The doctor returned and explained how sudden the death had been and that they had done all they could. She reassured them of the comfort and pain relief that was provided by the medical team.

The doctor left and I provided prayer, a blessing and readings for the patient and family. Before I

departed, they reflected on the suddenness of the death, and I could see their internal processes at work as they came to terms with their loss. There was an opportunity to reflect on their times together and the memories they retained. I left them to spend some final time with their loved one.

As I was walking down the corridor thinking about this experience, I came across two people discussing a visit. One said *"I was able to hold her and cuddle her, it was wonderful. If I could, I would have stayed longer."* The other said *"I am going to see them now. I am so excited to see a new baby."* A delightful vignette of new life.

This led me to reflect on my experience. In the hospital we are celebrating arrivals and being present for departures all the time. These are times of great meaning and spiritual significance. They do however invoke different emotional and spiritual responses. It struck me that God was gently reminding me of the naturalness of life and death and of His presence in our work.

The presence I provided to the deceased and family was both practical and spiritual. There was sadness, early grieving, remembered experiences; all being suddenly experienced in the unfamiliar environment of a hospital. Holding the space, guiding, and honouring is a key part of the work we do. It is both practical and mystical and, as I was gently reminded, in the presence of God.

Chris Murray is a hospital-based pastoral carer and is currently studying at St Mark's as he heads towards ordination. He mainly attends our 6pm congregation.

Our vision is to be a vibrant Christ-centred community that engages and transforms the heart and soul of Canberra.

PARISH NOTICES

COVID UPDATE

Following current ACT health advice, **mask wearing** is encouraged inside and required when singing. If you have any symptoms or feel unwell please do not come to church services.

NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY: CLOSING SOON

If you are yet to do so, please complete a National Church Life Survey. The survey is voluntary, anonymous and confidential. Surveys will be available in the hall after the service, or if you would prefer to do your survey online, go to attendersurvey.ncls.org.au and enter our code ANC01101.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Once again St Johns is supporting this wonderful scheme which delivers Christmas joy to underprivileged children throughout the world. Volunteers will be at morning tea to show you how you can contribute or ring Jennifer Lawson 0407 286 572.

STRATEGIC PLANNING CONSULTATIONS:

Please note the following sessions scheduled to assist our mission planning work.

(All meetings in the Robertson Room.)

- **For 8.00 congregation:** Today 21 August, at 9.15am.
- **For 6pm congregation:** Sunday 28 August, at 7.30pm.
- **For BCP congregations:** Wednesday 14 September, at 11am.

PARISH FAIR: SATURDAY 15 OCTOBER

Planning continues for our Parish Fair. Bill Sutherland (Fair Convenor) is currently also acting convenor for the book stall. Contact Bill if you are able to help with this, or other fair-related tasks. (0419 611 924; bill.sutherland@bigpond.com)

CUPPACOMALONG

Please come to Cuppacomalong on **Monday 22 August** at 2pm until 4pm in the Robertson Room. Our speaker on the day will be Sanya Ritchie, who

leads our flower team. We would love to see you. Refreshments will be served. All welcome. Enquiries Coral Ogilvie on 0448 329 432.

THE MEANING OF JUSTICE

Chancellor of the Diocese and St John's parishioner Justice Richard Refshauge is presenting a lecture to 'Christians for an Ethical Society' on the topic 'The Meaning of Justice'. This lecture will draw on insights from 45 years of legal practice. **Tuesday 23 August at 7pm** in the chapel, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Blackall Street (corner of Kings Ave), Barton ACT. (A \$5 donation appreciated).

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION "BOOTCAMP"

All are invited to the next installment of our Christian Education "Bootcamp" series. This session will address the question "How do Christians pray?" with special reference to the Lord's Prayer. **Thursday 25 August, 7.30pm** in the Robertson Room All welcome. RSVP to guerin.tueno@stjohnscanberra.org

COMBINED YOUTH EVENT

Our youth are participating in a combined youth night at Woden Valley Alliance Church (Waramanga) on **Friday 26 August**, 6-9 pm. RSVP Michael (yp.minister@stjohnscanberra.org)

CMS MISSION IN THE SPOTLIGHT DINNER

CMS missionaries will bring insights from Scripture, and talk about the ministry opportunities in their locations. **Saturday 27 August** 4.30-8.30pm at St Matthews, Wanniasa. Register at: <https://www.cms.org.au/event/mission-in-the-spotlight-2022/>

CANBERRA CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CONVENTION

This year's theme will be focusing on living as the body of Christ, with talks from Ephesians 4:1-16. Get some friends together and go along on **Saturday 17 September**, 9.30am-4pm. More information and tickets at <https://canberrachristianconventions.org.au/womens/>

Couple struggle with cost of life

Two weeks ago, we received an email from a couple looking for help. In the email, the couple explained that (L) suffers from cancer, and that her husband (Y) provided care for his wife. Lately, Y had become unwell and was having problems with his leg and required an MRI which was quite expensive. The couple couldn't afford the specialists medical bills, utility bills (electricity & gas), petrol and food, and this worsened their financial situation.

Immediately after receiving this email, I called them to discuss their current situation, and to get a little more information on how to best support them. The next day they came to discuss their current situation. Upon arrival, they explained that L had specific dietary requirements and these products (fresh produce) were expensive in the shops.

After speaking with them, we suggested that they could visit SJC on a weekly basis, and the couple happily agreed.

After this we discussed the MRI, and Y explained that he is the only support for his wife, and that they do not have other family support. We agreed to support them by covering the cost of the MRI, with the hope that Y can find out what is going on with his leg, increase his mobility and reduce the pain he is suffering with.

Through our relationship with ActewAGL, we were able to reduce their gas and electricity bills by \$100 each. We also helped them with their prescriptions and offered advice/information about the other services that are in our community.

The couple was very happy and grateful. They thanked SJC staff, volunteers and donors for their immense generosity - they never thought it was possible to get this kind of help. They will continue to come back weekly for support with food.

That is where SJC's donors' generous help counts. We can focus on the specific help a person/family requires at any one time.

Thank you so very much!

Warm regards,

Karen Medrano, Case Manager

Items Required: Shampoo, tinned fruit, 100g jars of coffee, olive oil, small packets of chips for school lunches



Forthcoming services

Sunday 28 August

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Jeremiah 2.4-13; Ps 81.1, 10-16; Hebrews 13.1-8, 15-16,
Luke 14.1 (2-6), 7-14

- 7am Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
- 8am Sung Eucharist
- 9.30am Sunday@9.30
- 6pm stjohns@6

Sunday 4 September

Martyrs of New Guinea

Readings: Zephaniah 3.14-20; Ps 130; Romans 8.33-39; John 12.20-32

- 8am Sung Eucharist
- 9.30am Sunday@9.30 kids@church and Youth Group
- 5.00pm Choral Evensong (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
- 6pm stjohns@6

Sunday 11 September

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Jeremiah 4.11-12, 22-28; Ps 14; 1 Timothy 1.1-2, 12-19,
Luke 15.1-10

- 7am Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
- 8am Sung Eucharist
- 9.30am Sunday@9.30 kids@church and Youth Group
- 6pm stjohns@6

Each Wednesday at 10am: BCP Holy Communion

All services are held in the Church.

PARISH CONTACTS

Clergy

The Rev'd Dave McLennan	0468 634 351	rector@stjohnscanberra.org
Canon Kevin Stone	0450 676 864	kevin.stone@stjohnscanberra.org
The Rev'd Vicky Cullen	0476 777 203	vicky.cullen@outlook.com
The Rev'd Dr Guerin Tueno		guerin.tueno@stjohnscanberra.org
The Rev'd Tracey Sutherland	0408 242 924	tracey.sutherland@stjohnscanberra.org

Youth and Family

Michael Shaw	0458 618 595	yp.minister@stjohnscanberra.org
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Office Administrator

Kimberley van Leeuwen	6248 8399	admin@stjohnscanberra.org
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Churchwardens

John Richards (Presiding Member of Parish Council)	0407 790 767	gjrich@bigpond.net.au
Christine Hawkins		
Russell Tunks		

Music Director

Sheila Thompson OAM	6281 3433	sheila.thompson5@bigpond.com
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Sacristan

Margaret Rodgers (on leave)	0414 736 491	margaret.rodgers@stjohnscanberra.org
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St John's Care

Jason Haines	6248 7771	executive.officer@stjohnscare.org.au
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website: www.stjohnscare.org

School House Museum	0427 430 158	schoolhouse@stjohnscanberra.org
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Diana Body

Friends of St John's

Chair: Ian Doherty

friendsofstjohnscanberra@gmail.com

Parish Office Hours: Tues - Fri 9.30 am - 2.30 pm

Ph: 6248 8399 For more information: www.stjohnscanberra.org

PARISH INFORMATION

Covid Rules

Please do not attend church if you are unwell. Mask wearing is encouraged indoors and required when singing.

Holy Communion

All baptised members of Christian denominations are welcome to receive communion. Gluten free wafers are available.

Visitor? New Parishioner?

Are you a newcomer or a visitor? Please make yourself known to a member of the clergy or a Sidesperson. If anyone has any pastoral need or concern, or would like to discuss any issues from today's services or any other matter, please contact the Parish Office to arrange an appointment.

First Aid

First Aid kits are located in the church sanctuary, vestry and kitchen. A defibrillator is located in the hall foyer. Alert a Sidesperson if needed.

How to Give

The best way to support our ministry is to (annually) prayerfully consider an appropriate amount, and then set up automatic regular transfers using the following details:

BSB 702 389

ACCOUNT 0520 9450

NAME St John the Baptist Reid

Smaller donations can be offered using your credit/debit card at our tap donation point (near the baptism font).

Hearing Loop

An induction loop has been fitted into the left hand side of the Church as you enter. Please use the appropriate setting on your hearing aid.

Safe Communities of Faith

St John's places a high priority on ensuring our faith community is safe for all who worship and visit here. We follow diocesan guidelines and encourage everyone to help promote a safe environment. To report any concerns ring 1800 070 511.

St John's Care Basket

Each Sunday there is a basket in the church. This provides an easy way to make donations of food.

Schoolhouse Museum

Built in 1845, Canberra's first school and schoolmaster's residence has reopened to the public on Wednesdays 10.00am -12.00pm, and Saturday and Sunday 2.00-4.00pm.

Contact: Diana Body 0427 430 158.

Christian Meditation

'Be Still and Know that I am God' The Wednesday Meditation Gathering will continue to meet via zoom for the next few weeks. Contact Joan Armitage jarmitage@grapevine.com for the link.

Bellringing

Temporarily suspended due to Covid.
Contact Charles Body: 6241 4948 or crb34@bigpond.com

Working Bees

Held in the Church grounds on the first Saturday morning of each month from 9.30 am followed by morning tea. All helpers welcome.

Sunday's Newsletter

This can be downloaded from the parish website, www.stjohnscanberra.org, on the preceding Friday. The deadline for newsletter contributions is noon Wednesday.

Toilets & Baby Change Facilities

These facilities include a toilet for those with a disability, are available in the Hall foyer.

St Mark's National Theological Centre Library

We have a parish membership of the library and encourage you to avail yourself of this wonderful resource at 15 Blackall Street, Barton.