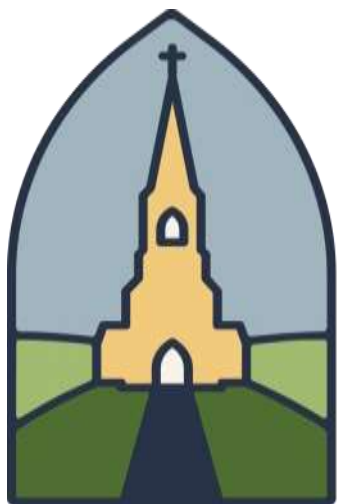




ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

13 September 2026

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

(This week's service times within)

If you, O Lord, should note what we do wrong, Lord, who could stand?
But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. (Psalm
130.3-4)



***St John's exists to bear public witness to Jesus Christ,
the source of life.***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God,
you call your Church to witness that in Christ
we are reconciled to you:
help us so to proclaim the good news of your love,
that all who hear it may turn to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Synod: This week, church members from throughout our diocese are participating in our local synod at Canberra Grammar. Please pray for wisdom, charity and good government.

Almighty and everliving God,
give wisdom and understanding,
to the members of the General Synod of our Church.
Teach them in all things
to seek first your honour and glory.
May they perceive what is right
have courage to pursue it
and grace to accomplish it,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friends of St John's: How International Law can help in a world in chaos – a Christian perspective: Professor Don Rothwell, Professor of International Law at ANU and a member of St John's 8am congregation will speak at the Friends of St John's event this Sunday afternoon, 13 September at 3.30pm, in the Robertson Room. This will start the new series of Friends events of an afternoon tea and speaker followed by a traditional Evensong at 5pm.

General Meeting: Notice is hereby given that a (brief) special general meeting of the Parish of St John's will be held in the church, immediately following the 9.30 am service on 20 September 2026.

The purpose of the meeting is to consider only the following motion:

That, pursuant to Schedule 6, clause 8.1 of the Governance of the Diocese Ordinance 2000, this meeting requests Bishop-in-Council, as the Standing Committee of Synod, to amend Schedule 6, clause 3.1 in its application to the Parish of St John's so that the Parish of St John's shall hold its annual general meeting not later than 30 April in each year.

All parishioners are welcome.

Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast. This annual event, to be held on 26 October at 7.15am – 8.15am (in the Great Hall of Parliament House) offers us a chance to pray for our members of parliament, in the presence of many political and faith leaders. The two St John's tables are now fully booked, but you can put yourself down on the waitlist by emailing admin@stjohnscanberra.org or you can purchase a ticket directly at <https://nationalprayerbreakfast.org>.

Keynote speaker Amy Brown will draw on her experience of leadership and personal challenge in public service, to explore the theme “The Way Down is the Way Up” – the counterintuitive Christian hope that God meets us in the valley, where we may be formed deeply and encounter Him most clearly.

Diocesan Young Adults' Dinner and Games Night. Young Adults from across the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn are invited to gather for a free night of dinner and some games on Friday 25 September, 6.30pm – 10pm, at St Mark's Theological Centre, Barton (Durie room). All Anglicans from 18–30 are welcome. It would be great if you can bring some dinner or snacks to share, and a favourite board or card game. But if you can't, we'd still like to see you. Book at trybooking.com/DOIJL or use the QR code.



Our Parish Fair 17 October: Several stalls will need extra volunteers, including: white elephant, treasures & trinkets, cake, craft, gardening stall and the BBQ. Also, anyone interested in helping with the sound system on the day, we'd love to hear from you.

See page 8 for “*What When and Where to leave your donations*”.

For the garden stall. Please start thinking about planting/potting so that we have good items for sale at our gardening stall, plus any garden equipment or pots should be quality, and we don't want the disposable seedling containers – best spot for them is the Bunnings recycle bin!

Any queries: contact Jon Hawkins (0458 967 662).

Youth and Young Adults camp. Registrations are now open for our Youth and Young Adults weekend away, Friday 13 – Sunday 15 November, at tinyurl.com/SJCampRego. See the flier in the foyer for more information on the camp, on costs, and on how to use the website to register.

Praying the Daily Office. Create habits of daily prayer. E-Pray Daily is a free online resource providing daily prayers and Bible readings from *A Prayer Book for Australia* and *An Australian Lectionary*. It can be viewed at daily.epray.com.au

Name Badges. You can order your own name badge at stjohnscanberra.org/payments. It's a great way to help people connect with you at church.

Sermon audio available. If you want to get a sense of what we teach at St John's, or if you've just missed a week, our Sunday sermons are available on our website <https://www.stjohnscanberra.org/sermons>) and also via podcast: search for *St John's Canberra Talks* on Spotify, Apple, or PocketCasts (also via QR code on the web page).

Free membership at St Mark's National Theological Centre Library. St John's parish holds an institutional membership of St Mark's extensive and historic Library (at 15 Blackall Street, Barton). If you regularly attend one of our congregations, you are entitled to free membership of the Library. Steps to join:

- Email Rev'd Andrew (see contacts page), asking for a letter stating that you regularly attend St John's.
- He will send you the letter in PDF format. Save it somewhere handy.
- Go to <https://stmarks.edu.au/library-membership-form> .

- Fill in your details
- Under membership type select 'Free Memberships', and then under 'Free membership type', select 'Individual — Under institutional membership'.
- Upload the PDF letter.
- Click 'I'm not a robot' and 'Submit'

All further enquiries please to stmarkslibrary@csu.edu.au or via <https://stmarks.edu.au/library> .

UPCOMING EVENTS

(*St John's event)

***Sunday 13 September: Friends of St John's.** Guest speaker Professor Don Rothwell on "How International Law can help in a world in chaos – a Christian perspective". Today at 3.30pm in the Robertson Room with an afternoon tea followed by a traditional Evensong at 5pm.

Saturday 19 September: St Saviour's Cathedral Inaugural Lecture. Rev'd Dr Michael Jensen on 'What does it mean to be human?' Bookings via the Cathedral Office (02 4821 2206).



**What Does It Mean
to Be Human?**

REVEREND DR. MICHAEL JENSEN
to Deliver Inaugural St Saviour's Cathedral
Annual Lecture

Saturday 19 September 11:00am	St Saviour's Cathedral 170 Bourke Street, Goulburn
\$10 Admission	
For bookings and further information, contact the Cathedral Office on (02) 4821 2206.	

***Sunday 20 September: General Meeting:** A (brief) special general meeting of the Parish will be held in the church, immediately following the 9.30 am service to consider the question of the timing of the annual general meeting. See also pages 2-3.

Sunday 20 September: Order of St Luke Healing Service. All are invited to the Healing Service 3.00pm at Yarralumla Uniting Church, 7 Denman St Yarralumla ACT followed by a cuppa. Books will be free to take or purchase. There will be a retiring collection to support OSL and Yarralumla Uniting Church . More information from The Revd James Ellis at minister@yarrauniting.org.au or 0444 516 542 or Fr John Gibson at gibsonjohn385@gmail.com or 0451 681 118.

***Friday 25 September: Diocesan young adults' dinner and games night.** 6.30pm – 10pm, in the Durie Room at St Mark's Theological Centre, Barton. (See page 3 for details.)

***Saturday 17 October: St John's Parish Fair.** 9am-2pm for a wonderful time of food, festivities and bargain.

Monday 26 October: Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast. 7.15am–8.15am (in the Great Hall of Parliament House). For waitlist email admin@stjohnscanberra.org or you to purchase ticket directly visit <https://nationalprayerbreakfast.org>.

***Friday 13 – Sunday 15 November: Youth and Young Adults camp.** Registrations are now open for our Youth and Young Adults weekend away at tinyurl.com/SJCampRego.

st John's Care

TRIVIA Night

St John's Care



SATURDAY
14 NOVEMBER 2026



ADULTS \$25
KIDS U 15 \$10



PLEASE BRING AN
UNWRAPPED PRESENT
FOR OUR CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS GIFT ROOM



DOORS OPEN
AT 6PM



TRIVIA STARTS
AT 6.30PM



BYO FOOD
AND DRINKS



RAFFLE AND
OTHER FUN GAMES



TABLES OF
8-10 PEOPLE



*Gather
your friends,
test your
knowledge
& have a
great night!*



ST JOHN'S HALL
45 CONSTITUTION AVE REID, ACT



ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY FAIR 2026 DONATIONS

The following lists *What, When & Where you can leave your Donations* for the Community Fair:
Please do not leave donations before the times below

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	NOTES
Books, Games, Puzzles, DVDs and CDs	Now	Bench outside Church Hall	<i>If the Hall is open, please leave your donations on the stage.</i> Good quality fiction and non-fiction, including large print books and books for young adults and children. <i>Please no textbooks, manuals, Readers Digest, encyclopedias, videotapes or audio cassette tapes.</i>
Oranges, lemons, limes, apples, dried dates, or dried apricots	Now	Parish Office	Tuesday – Thursday 10am-3pm
Clothes	From 1 September	Hall	<i>If the Hall is open, please leave your donations in the marked area, immediately to the left inside the Hall.</i>
Craft, Trinkets, Treasure, White Elephant	From 28 September	Bench outside Church Hall	<i>If the Hall is open, please leave your donations in the marked area, immediately to the left inside the Hall.</i>
Raffles	From 28 September to 11 October	Bench outside Church Hall	
Plants & Gardening	From 12 October	Bench outside Church Hall	
Jam & Cake	From 15 October	Central bench in Kitchen	

St John's Study Groups

Monday: 'Young Blokes' Bible Study

When & Where: Mondays, 6.30pm, Campbell

Who: Young men (ages approx. 18-25)

Focus: Bible study and discussion

Contact: Rev'd Andrew - Andrew.Cameron@stjohnscanberra.org

Tuesday: Bible for Blokes

When & Where: Tuesdays, 10.am, Upper Room

Who: Men of any age

Focus: Bible study and discussion

Contact: Rev'd Kevin – Kevin.Stone@stjohnscanberra.org

Tuesday: Young Women's Bible Study

When & Where: Tuesdays, 7:00–8:30 pm, at a home in Reid (school terms)

Who: Women aged 15–30; new Christians and those exploring faith welcome

Focus: 30 min fellowship + 1 hour study; social events in school holidays

Contact: Jess – jess.evans31169@gmail.com or 0404 703 847

Wednesday: Southside Bible Study

When & Where: Wednesdays, 2pm, Fadden, Tuggeranong

Who: Adults, any age.

Focus: Bible study and discussion

Contact: John Richards—0407 790 767

Wednesday: Adults Bible Study

When & Where: Wednesdays, 7:00–8:00 pm, Rectory (school terms)

Who: Adults, any age. Mostly connected with stjohns@6

Focus: Bible study; group communicates via Signal

Contact: Russ Tunks — rustunks@yahoo.com.au

Thursday: Ladies' Bible Reading Group

When & Where: Thursdays, 9:30 am (after school drop-off), Robertson Room (school terms)

Who: Women, especially with pre-school children

Focus: Bible reading and discussion (currently Matthew)

Contact: Mary de Lautour — mary.delautour@stjohnscanberra.org

There may be scope for a new Bible study to commence. Contact clergy if you'd like to be involved.

As Good as it Gets?

There is an old movie from way back in 1997 called *As Good as it Gets*. It's worth watching if you've never seen it.

There is a haunting scene where the protagonist comes out of his therapist's office and is walking back through the waiting room. He pauses before leaving and says out loud to a room full of weary looking 'patients'..." What if this is as good as it gets?"

From memory, a woman gasps at this intrusion, but mostly there is silence, as the weight of his words sinks into them and ultimately, to us as the audience.

What if this is as good as it gets?

What if your life, as it is now, is it?

What if you've peaked?

What if you've got everything and it's still not enough?

Or alternatively, what if you feel like you're at rock bottom?

For some of you, the thought that your life is as good as it gets, might be ok.

For most of us, I reckon if we sat with it long enough, we would be terrified.

Of all the possible directions a thought experiment like this could take; I want to say one main thing:

St John's Care exists to offer people the hope and possibility that wherever they may find themselves, ***it does not have to be as good as it gets.***

There is a way back. There is hope. There are options. There is a way forward.

Whether that be through a smile, a listening ear, kind words, or much needed emergency food relief SJC exists to offer people who feel overwhelmed by their situation hope and possibility.

Ultimately the hope that we offer is grounded in the person and work of Jesus Christ; God in person; who refused to let us live with our 'as good as it gets reality' and can offer us true and lasting hope because of his life, death and resurrection.

Thank you for your partnership that allows us to offer this hope to many.

Grace and Peace,

Nathan Vandersee
Community Chaplain

Items required: Conditioner, powdered milk, 1.25kg box Weetbix, muesli

Upcoming services

Sunday 13 September 2026

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Readings: Exodus 14.19-31; Psalm 114; Romans 14.1-14;
Matthew 18.21-25*

- 7.00am:** Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
8.00am: Sung Eucharist
9.30am: Family Eucharist (Kid's Church & Youth Group)
5.00pm: Choral Evensong (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
6.00pm: stjohs@6 (Praise, Prayer and Proclamation)

Wednesday 16 September 2026

Readings: Romans 14.1-14; Matthew 18.21-35

- 10.00am:** Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

Sunday 20 September 2026

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Readings: Exodus 16.2-15; Psalm 105.1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1;
Matthew 20.1-16*

- 8.00am:** Sung Eucharist
9.30am: Family Eucharist (Kid's Church & Youth Group)
6.00pm: stjohs@6 (Holy Communion)

Wednesday 23 September 2026

Readings: Exodus 16.2-15; Philippians 1; Matthew 20.1-16

- 10.00am:** Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

For more information: www.stjohnscanberra.org

SUPPORTING THE MINISTRY OF THE PARISH

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

BSB:702 389 **ACCOUNT:** 0520 9450 **NAME:** St John the Baptist Reid

See also: <https://www.stjohnscanberra.org/giving>

Rector	Rev'd David McLennan	rector@stjohnscanberra.org	0468 634 351
Senior Associate Priest	Rev'd Dr Andrew Cameron	andrew.cameron@stjohnscanberra.org	0477 689 421
Associate Priest	Rev'd Canon Kevin Stone	kevin.stone@stjohnscanberra.org	0450 676 864
Honorary Priest	Rev'd Vicky Cullen		0476 777 203
Children & Families Worker	Mary de Lautour	mary.delautour@stjohnscanberra.org	
Sacristan	Kim Gibson	admin@stjohnscanberra.org	
Schoolhouse Museum	Jennifer Garden		0414 551 821
Office Administrator	Jane Rose	admin@stjohnscanberra.org	6248 8399
Operations Manager	Alison Hosking	alison.hosking@stjohnscanberra.org	5140 0101
Friends of St John's Chair	Matthew Neuhaus	friendsofstjohnscanberra@gmail.com	
		SJC Emergency Relief	6248 7771
SJC Managing Director	Jason Haines	md@stjohnscare.org.au	6248 7771
STJ Operations Manager	Robbie Speldewinde	programs@stjohnscare.org.au	6248 7771
SJC Chaplain	Nathan Vandersee	chaplain@stjohnscare.org.au	6248 7771

Parish Office: 6248 8399

Opening Hours: 10.00am to 3.00pm Tuesday to Friday

www.stjohnscanberra.org

45 Constitution Avenue, Reid 2612 GPO Box 219, Canberra 2601