

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

26 April 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter

(This week's service times within)

*'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'The good shepherd
lays down his life for the sheep.' John 10.11*



*The Young Adults and Youth Event took place on
Saturday 18 April with a gathering of enthusiastic explorers who
enjoyed fellowship and camaraderie on a perfect autumn day
at Namadji National Park. (Photo by Jeremy Tsuei.)*

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of all power,
you called from death our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep:
send us as shepherds to rescue the lost,
to heal the injured,
and to feed one another with understanding;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Christian Bootcamp. ‘Bootcamp’ is our parish’s program for those (16+) seeking baptism or confirmation. It is also suitable for new Christians or enquirers. To see if this is for you, anyone is welcome to join our first session (‘Who - or What - is God?’). 7.00pm, Thursday, 30 April, in the Robertson Room). Register at www.trybooking.com/DJRND

Note to 9.30am and 6pm ‘regulars’. Visiting a church for the first time can feel daunting. Due to the lovely presence of many newcomers in recent months, it would be appreciated if our regulars could train themselves to sit (a) closer to the front of the church and (b) closer to the wall - not the aisle. This will make it easier for newcomers, and latecomers, to find somewhere to sit. Thanks for your cooperation with this.

9.30am service anthem. We are grateful for the choir’s monthly presence at our 9.30 service. Today’s anthems (during Holy Communion) are: *Lead me, Lord* (S.S. Wesley, 1810-1876), and *I know that my Redeemer Lives* (B. Helder, d.1635).

Livestream Assistance 9.30am Service. Rev’d Andrew would like to train two or three people—hopefully before mid-May—to run the livestream facility in our 9.30am services. You’d need to be a bit tech-savvy; reliable; willing to be rostered (according to your availability); and able to arrive by 9.10am when rostered. Call, email, or chat to Andrew to find out more. (See page 8.)

‘Church Center’ and Parish Roll update. If you’d like some help to check or update your details, Andrew will be available to assist after services next week (Sunday 3 May), in the Robertson Room. If you have already updated your details using the ‘Church Center’ app, well done and thanks—there’s no need for further action at this time. If all this is new to you, and you’d like St John’s staff to know contact details for you and any family member(s), take a flier from the church foyer and try out ‘Church Center’, as described in the flier.

Name Badges. You can order your own nametag for \$17.00 (resin with magnetic back) or \$15.00 (pin back). It’s a great way to help people connect with you at church. Order at stjohnscanberra.org/payments.

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).

Walk to Emmaus 2026. Have you been reflecting recently on how you’d like to deepen your relationship with God and strengthen your faith? The Walk to Emmaus may be for you. Similar to the former Anglican Cursillo, it is not a physical walk but rather a three day weekend that teaches us to live a life in God's Grace. It encourages spiritual renewal through a series of talks, worship, prayer and meditation. This ecumenical event is held at the Greenhills Conference Centre in Stromlo, with the men's walk running from 30 April to 3 May and the women’s walk from 14 to 17 May. For further information, please contact Greg from StJohn's@6 on 0449 287 275 or visit: <https://canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au/>

Sabbath Gospel. Our very own Dr Amy Erickson’s new book, ‘Sabbath Gospel’, is now available for purchase! You can purchase a copy here: <https://tinyurl.com/3trcbu6r>

Canberra and Region Heritage Festival. The Schoolhouse Museum has been very busy putting together an exhibition which is on view until Sunday 10 May, offering a different slant on the theme of

the 2026 Heritage Festival, which is “Mid-century-innovation, change and optimism”.

Periods of rapid development, while inevitable, bring with them challenges to the survival of heritage buildings and sites. As mid-twentieth century Canberra grew, several early colonial buildings were lost. Our exhibition illustrates two examples within St John’s Parish: the 19th century Parsonage, later known as “Glebe House”, and our own St John’s Schoolhouse, both of which stood in the middle of planned roads.

Read their stories, see the photos in the Museum exhibition: “Marked for Demolition: the Lost and the Saved”

SUMMARY OF UPCOMING EVENTS

(*St John’s event)

Cancelled: *Monday 27 April: Cuppacomalong. This month’s Cuppacomalong gathering is cancelled due to the ANZAC Day public holiday. The next gathering will take place on Monday 25 May.

***Tuesday 28 April: St John’s Painting/Sketching Group.** 10am, Robertson Room. We’ll be experimenting with watercolours, so come along and try your hand at this wonderful medium. Contact Jennifer Lawson (0407 286 572).

***Thursday 30 April: Who (or what) is God?** The first instalment in our 2026 ‘Bootcamp’ program (for new inquirers, or those – aged about 16 or over – seeking baptism or confirmation). All welcome. 7.00pm in the Robertson Room. Register at www.trybooking.com/DJRND

***Friday 1 May: SJC Community Lunch.** Parishioners are encouraged to join us for the monthly St John’s Care Community Lunch. In the hall, from 12pm. No RSVP necessary – just a willingness to share conversation with others and make them feel welcome.

***Saturday 2 May: Working Bee.** From 8.30am–10.00am. Two options: (a) help give the inside of the church a thorough clean, or (b) work outside helping to beautify the gardens and grounds. Please bring equipment (e.g. gardening gloves, dusters, rags, hat, suitable footwear, mowers, blowers) and join us for morning tea afterwards at 10am.

Saturday 2 May: Llewellyn Choir. Lachlan Skipworth's *Mass for Easter Sunday*, and works by Ēriks Ešenvalds at 7pm, Anzac Memorial Chapel, Duntroon. Book at www.llewellynchoir.org.au, or TryBooking.

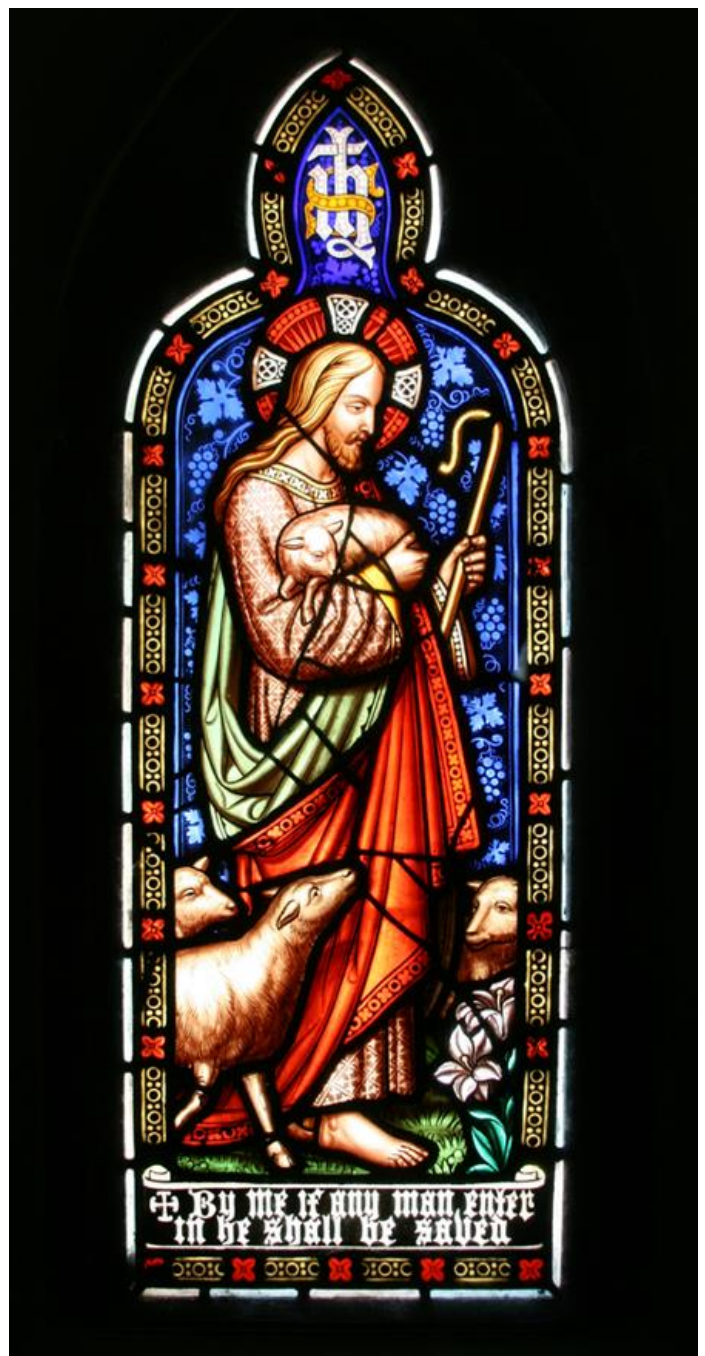
***Saturday 2 May: Flower Workshop by Lorraine Kwong.** From 2pm in the Hall. Join us in a workshop to discuss how we best work together, and what is involved. Lorraine Kwong is demonstrating how wire can be used instead of Oasis. You may like to bring a vase of your own and some greenery to have a go! Afternoon tea will be served. If you would like to join us there will be a charge of \$10 to cover our expenses (wire). RSVP Flower Team Coordinator, Barbara Griffiths 0412 164 470.

***Wednesday 6 May: ANZAC Way Pilgrimage dinner.** All welcome to join and contribute to a simple dinner, in support of this walk for veterans' spiritual health. BBQ on the deck at 5.45pm (following the Last Post Ceremony at AWM).

***Saturday 9 May: Operation Christmas Child Working Group.** From 1pm-4pm in the Robertson Room. Contact Jennifer Lawson on 0407 286 572.

***Sunday 10 May: Choral Evensong.** Join us at 5pm for this brief, reflective service, including hymns and choral music.

The Good Shepherd Window at St John's



Ruts

Brandon Flowers, lead singer of The Killers (try not to be put off by their name if you're unfamiliar), said the inspiration for the song *Rut* came from his wife's brave struggle with PTSD linked to a traumatic childhood.

Flowers said the song is written from her perspective...as though she is determinedly saying "I'm facing this thing"

*Don't give up on me
'cause I'm just in a rut
I'm climbing but the walls keep stacking up*

I too have faced my own struggles, and at times, have had to plead with those dearest to me... *'don't give up on me'*

While most of you have likely faced significant tough times in your own lives, one thing I know for sure, is that St John's Care is here for those who find themselves in a rut.

Some of our clients know deeper ruts than others and I am regularly inspired by those for whom simply asking for help is hard and takes great courage.

But asking is a crucial step, it's a sign to us, but more importantly it's evidence for *themselves* that they haven't given up. And when a client becomes aware of this it can be a source of renewed hope for them.

Whether it be emergency food relief, a chat, or simply a cup of tea or coffee, it's a privilege to be able to help people who may feel like the walls are stacking up around them.

I am also inspired by, and deeply grateful for, your continued partnership – whether that be financial, or in other practical ways – your partnership allows us to keep being here, to keep *not giving up* for those who need it.

The reality is, of course, that the foundation of St John's Care is not just inspired by, but is the *fact that*, in the person of Jesus, God didn't give up on us, but instead, got into the rut with us all, when he lived, laughed, cried and finally died, for us on the cross.

And, as we have just celebrated this Easter – he rose again – so that we can have real hope that our ruts don't have to last forever.

Grace and peace.

Nathan, Community Chaplain

Items required: Cooking oil, Biscuits, Weetbix, Vegemite

Upcoming services

Sunday 26 April 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd)

Readings: Acts 2.42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2.1-10; John 10.1-10

7.00am: Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

8.00am: Sung Eucharist

9.30am: Family Eucharist (Kids Church & Youth Group)

6.00pm: stjohns@6 (Praise, Prayer and Proclamation)

Wednesday 29 April 2026

Readings: Acts 2.42-47 OR 1 Peter 2.1-10; John 10.1-10

10.00am: Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

Sunday 3 May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

*Readings: Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 17-18; 1 Peter 2:11-25;
John 14:1-14*

8.00am: Sung Eucharist

9.30am: Family Eucharist (Kids Church in recess)

11.15am: Choral Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

6.00pm: stjohns@6 (Praise, Prayer and Proclamation)

Wednesday 6 May 2026

Readings: Acts 7:55-60; OR; 1 Peter 2:11-25; John 14:1-14

10.00am: Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

For more information: www.stjohscanberra.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>

Contacts

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
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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
SJC Operations Manager	Robbie Speldewinde	programs@stjohnscare.org.au	6248 7771

Parish Office: 6248 8399

Opening Hours: 10.00am to 3.00pm Tuesday to Friday

www.stjohnscanberra.org

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