ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

8 November 2026
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
(This week's service times within)

Watch and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Matthew 24.42, 44



The Ten Virgins, by John Melhuish Strudwick c.1884, Oil on canvas, Private Collection

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God,
you have taught us that the night is far spent
and the day is at hand:
keep us awake and alert,
watching for your kingdom,
so that when Christ, the bridegroom, comes
we may go out joyfully to meet him,
and with him enter into the marriage feast
that you have prepared for all who truly love you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CHURCH NEWS (IMPORTANT NOTICES)

Defence Sunday. Today we remember and give thanks for the men and women of the Australian Defence Force, and particularly for the ministry of Anglican chaplains who serve alongside them and their families. Defence chaplains provide pastoral care, spiritual guidance, prayer and Christian witness in often challenging and demanding circumstances, both at home and on deployment.

We encourage you to pray for this important ministry and to consider making a financial contribution to support the work of Anglican Defence Chaplaincy. Your generosity helps extend the Church's ministry to those who serve our nation. Find out more or make a donation: www.defenceanglicans.org.au

Friends of St John's and Schoolhouse Museum event. Today at 3pm the Friends of St. John's will combine with the Schoolhouse Museum for their next event, when Jennifer Garden will deliver an illustrated talk in the Robertson Room. Its title "Against All Odds", will explain the inspiration for the Museum's current exhibition, in which we tell the story of how Canberra's first school building survived its expected demolition. This will be followed by afternoon tea at the Schoolhouse, and then the scheduled 5pm Evensong in the Church.

Morning Tea Volunteers Needed. We are looking for 2 - 3 people to join the 9.30am morning tea team. You could be rostered monthly or bi-monthly and still get to be in church (leaving after communion). No baking skills needed! Just a friendly face and willingness to help setup,

serve and pack up morning tea. Please contact Sara Crowther, crowtherps@gmail.com or 0422 163 756.

Broken Tap Machine. Our donation tap point is broken and we are awaiting a replacement. Donations can still be received via the cash box (near the entry to the nave) or online. See page 8 for details.

Warning About Scam Emails. Parishioners continue to receive many scam emails, often claiming to be from someone in the parish. Please be cautious if you receive an unusual email that appears to come from a parish leader or member. If you're unsure whether it's genuine, don't reply or click any links. Contact the office at admin@stjohnscanberra.org, and we'll check it for you.

Parish Office: Open by appointment only. The Parish Office has now relocated to the Upper Rooms above the Hall to prepare for the building works at St John's. Should you need to come to the Office during this interim time, you will need to make an appointment by emailing admin@stjohnscanberra.org or phoning 6248 8399. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Women's Advent Afternoon Tea. Come to the Robertson Room for a relaxing afternoon of Christmas music, festive treats, sharing Christmas memories and making new ones. Bring something you enjoy crafting/ making and a recipe to share if you are able. You will have the opportunity to make a few simple decorations to take home. You are welcome to bring a plate of afternoon tea to share. See Cath McLennan for further details. Saturday 28thNovember, 2pm-5pm. RSVP at www.trybooking.com/DRDVZ

Gingerbread House Decorating Evening. Saturday the 5 December 6-9pm in the Hall. Kits from $40 each, with gluten free options available. Bring your own lollies or buy through the try booking link. All funds raised go to the St Johns Care Christmas lunch. Light supper provided. Lots of prizes! Get your friends together for lots of Christmas fun. https://www.trybooking.com/DQQTW

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

PARISH FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT (September YTD)

- *Income YTD: $680 728, consisting of:*
  - *Donations and giving: $413 053*
  - *Other (e.g. carparking fees, room hire, income from trusts, etc): $217 675*
- *Expenses YTD: $723 793 (consisting of employment, admin, property, mission, insurance, diocesan contribution etc)*
- **Operating deficit: *$43 065***

Comment: The loss of parking revenue has badly damaged our cash position this year. Remedial steps are underway, plus we received $10k above target from our fair (not yet captured in accounts). But our overall cash position is still under serious strain as we face 2027.

SUMMARY OF UPCOMING EVENTS

(*St John's event)

***Sunday 8 November: Friends of St John's and Schoolhouse Museum event.** At 3pm in the Robertson Room. See page 2 for details. Followed by afternoon tea at the Schoolhouse, and then the scheduled 5pm Evensong in the Church.

***Sunday 8 November: Choral Evensong.** Join us at 5pm for this brief, reflective service, including hymns and choral music.

Tuesday 10 November: Order of St Luke Healing Meeting. St David's Anglican Church Red Hill at 2.00pm followed by afternoon tea. Enquiries, Father John Gibson at gibsonjohn385@gmail.com or 0451 681 118.

Wednesday 11 November: A Service of Light – The Relighting of the Sanctuary Lamp. At St Paul's Anglican Church, Murrumburrah on Remembrance Day, Wednesday 11 November at 5.30pm.

Thursday 12 November: Celtic Music Concert: The Sweet Sorrows. At 7pm, St Barnabas Church, 10 Charnwood Place. All moneys go to aid in Myanmar and Ukraine. Tickets $20 at https://www.trybooking.com/DPWXK

***Saturday 14 November: St John's Care Trivia Night.** In the Hall from 6pm. See more details on page 5.

*__Tuesday 22 November: St John's Sketching/Painting Group.__ 9.30am to lunchtime, in the Robertson Room. All welcome to come along with sketch pad, pencils or paints. Contact Fiona (0404 066 021) or Jennifer (0407 286 572).

*__Saturday 28 November: Women's Advent Afternoon Tea.__ See notice, page 3. Robertson Room, 2pm-5pm. RSVP at www.trybooking.com/DRDVZ

*__Saturday 5 December: Working Bee.__ From 8.30am—10.00am. Please bring equipment (e.g. gardening gloves, hat, suitable footwear, mowers, blowers) and join us for morning tea afterwards at 10am.

*__Saturday 5 December: Gingerbread House Decorating Evening__. 6-9pm in the Hall.





A Place to Be Heard: L and His Children

Names and identifying family details have been changed to protect the family's privacy.

Abuse doesn't always come from a partner. Sometimes, it comes from within your own family.

When L arrived at St John's Care with his two children, he was seeking help after leaving a family environment affected by coercive control, emotional abuse and financial abuse. L shared how controlling behaviour by his parents, including the use of money as a means of power, had impacted him and his children.

Leaving took courage, but it also brought new challenges. The family needed food, help with medication, financial assistance and, just as importantly, someone who would listen without judgement.

At St John's Care, we believe everyone deserves to feel safe, respected and heard.

We provided the family with food relief, assistance with medication needs and a compassionate space to share their experiences. Recognising that financial abuse can have lasting consequences, we also connected L with Care Financial for ongoing assistance, food support and case management. While L and his children still face uncertainty, reaching out was an important first step towards accessing the support they need.

Your generosity makes moments like these possible.

Because of our wonderful donors and supporters, St John's Care can be there for families experiencing hardship, offering practical assistance, compassion and hope when they need it most.

Remember: Coercive control, emotional abuse and financial abuse can affect anyone, regardless of gender, age or background.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic or family violence, contact 1800RESPECT on **1800 737 732**, text **0458 737 732**, or visit **1800respect.org.au**. Support is available 24/7.

Kind regards, Jason Haines, Managing Director

Items required: Savoury Biscuits, Tinned salmon/sardines, Muesli, Dried lentils

Upcoming Services

Sunday 8 November 2026

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Joshua 24.1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78.1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4.9-18; Matthew 25.1-13

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: **stjohns@6** (Praise, Prayer and Proclamation)

Wednesday 11 November 2026

Readings: 1 Thessalonians 4.9-18;Matthew 25.1-13

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

Sunday 15 November 2026

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Judges 4.1-10: Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11; Matthew 25.14-30

8.00am: **Sung Eucharist**

9.30am: **Family Eucharist** (Kid's Church & Youth Group)

6.00pm: **stjohns@6** (Holy Communion)

Wednesday 18 November 2026

Readings: Judges 4.1-10: OR, 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11; Matthew 25.14-30

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	matthewekneuhaus@gmail.com	0487 521 120
St John's Care		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