



# ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

**28 April 2024**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Today's services are at  
7am, 8am, 9.30am, 6.00pm

In this is love, not that we loved  
God but that God loved us.  
Beloved, since God loved us so  
much, we also ought to love one  
another. *1 John 4.10-11*



On a chilly morning following the Anzac Day Dawn Service, we welcomed many onto the St John's precinct for 'Sergeant Murray's Gunfire Breakfast'. The warming food and drink were accompanied by churchyard tours and some good conversations. Thanks to all who helped in this act of hospitality.

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

## PARISH NOTICES



**BAPTISM:** Today we welcome Barnabas Walker into the church family through the gift of baptism.

**KIDS' CHURCH AND YOUTH:** These ministries are in recess for the school holidays, recommencing **next Sunday** (5 May). In the meantime, activity sheets are available in the foyer.

**SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM:** During the Canberra and Region Heritage Festival (finishing **today, Sunday 28 April**), the Schoolhouse Museum is open daily from 2 - 4pm, offering a special exhibition of beautiful handmade items. Parishioners are encouraged to come and admire the treasures on display.

In addition, there will be a couple of special 'parish viewings' of the Schoolhouse displays after the 8 and 9.30 services on **Pentecost Sunday** (19 May) over morning tea.

**2024 HERITAGE FUND APPEAL:** Parishioners and friends are invited to donate to this year's Heritage Fund Appeal which aims to restore the pews by removing unsightly scratches and creaky joints and recondition the timber kneelers. Conservation work on the altar rails in the sanctuary and the pulpit will also form part of the project. Donations of \$2 or more to the Heritage Fund are tax deductible. The Heritage Fund's Appeal letter and brochure will be sent to you shortly by email or through the post. You can also donate via our [website](#). Your support for this year's project would be greatly appreciated.

Randall Wilson, Chair of Trustees

**KNEELERS:** The beautiful kneelers in the church were sewn by loving hands some 60 years ago and are showing their age. If you could assist in the process of unpicking, washing, re-stretching, embroidering etc, please contact Jennifer Lawson.

[jennifer.lawson@stjohnscanberra.org/](mailto:jennifer.lawson@stjohnscanberra.org/)

Please also be mindful that they need to be hung on their hooks such that they don't touch the heater, especially over winter. (Plans are in place to prevent this problem, but in the meantime please avoid bending them and, if necessary, hang them with the inside facing you.)

**SJC CRAFT SESSIONS:** St John's Care are seeking to set up regular craft sessions. Are you a knitter (or similar) who would like to share your enthusiasm of craft with others? St John's Care would like to hear from you! Please contact Wendy on (02) 6248 7771 or [casemanagement@stjohnscare.org.au](mailto:casemanagement@stjohnscare.org.au).

**FUNDRAISER FOR RICHA:** Friends of Richa William (9.30 service) are raising money to help purchase an insulin pump and other supports to assist with the significant changes she is facing following recent major surgery. Please keep her and her family in your prayers. If you would like to support this fundraiser, go to <https://gofund.me/95738524>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**WORKING BEE:** Our next working bee is this **Saturday, 4 May (9.30am-11.30am**, followed by morning tea in the Robertson Room). This month's priority remains grounds maintenance, including mowing, 'whipper snipping', pruning, and especially raking Autumn leave. Please bring gardening gloves, hat, suitable footwear and any favourite tools (mowers if possible). In the event of wet weather the working bee will be deferred.

**BELLRINGING:** All are welcome to attend our next bell ringing practice on **Sunday 5 May at 5-6pm**. Try ringing yourself or sit in our beautiful grounds and enjoy them!

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER:** The Canberra ecumenical Christian gathering for the National Day of Prayer (NDOP) is on **Saturday 18 May 24** from **1-4pm** at St John's Anglican Church. All are welcome. Register at [www.australiaprays.com.au](http://www.australiaprays.com.au)

**CHRISTIAN BOOTCAMP:** This year, we are again running 'Christian Bootcamp' – evening classes, held approximately monthly. Ideal for those (16+) seeking baptism or confirmation, new Christians or enquirers. Flyers with more detail are available in the church porch. Our first session ('Who - or What - is God?') might help you decide if this is for you. Robertson Room, **Wednesday 29 May**, 7.30pm. Contact Rev'd Dave McLennan ([rector@stjohnscanberra.org](mailto:rector@stjohnscanberra.org)) to register your interest.

**PATRONAL DINNER:** Our parish dinner to celebrate our patronal festival will be held on **Thursday 13 June** at the CIT restaurant from **6.00pm - 8.30pm**. Further details to come. For now, please save the date.

**EQUIP WOMEN'S CONFERENCE:** Save the date – **Saturday 22 June** from **9:30am** in the Robertson Room. Details to come!



## PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE - 17 APRIL

### **Rector's Report**

The Rector reported that Easter services were well attended and our weekly average attendance is up by 16% so far this year. He reported on a Diocesan Planning Day which focussed the declining reach of the Anglican Church in Canberra and nearby NSW, especially relative to Canberra's rapid population growth. Discussion focussed on plans for new leaders, new land and new churches. Planning for the Missions trip to Timor Leste is well underway, with 10 parishioners having indicated their intention to take part.

### **Strategic Planning – Implementation**

Christine Hawkins gave Council a list of 23 projects that had been identified in the needs analysis reported previously. These were seen as important to consider for inclusion in an upcoming major building program for the Parish. Council produced a nominal priority list of those projects which, when combined with a similar analysis from St John's Care, will be used as guidance by the Parish architects in developing concept plans.

### **Finance Update**

The very good offertory income was noted, as was that from parking. Income from property rental was down, but the Rector advised that 1 Amaroo St should soon be occupied again. The invoice had been received from the Diocese for our annual insurance premium (\$72,919).

### **Property and Grounds Update**

Parish Council noted that the continuing problem with rising damp, and consequential salt damage of the stonework of the Church. A damp proof course and poulticing on 50% of the outside stonework could cost up to \$50,000.

- Simone Ilett reported on the work of the new Technology (IT) Committee, and progress with a review of Parish IT. The Committee has also examined the current bandwidth limitations experienced in both the Parish office and St John's Care and discussed the StarLink as a possible temporary fix. She also drew attention to the cyber security training program for the Parish being developed by the Committee.
- There were two instances of vandalism in the past two months: on 10 January a number of the glass objects on the graves were shattered. On 19 March the shed was broken into: fuel, a whipper snipper and a new hose were stolen.

### **Community Outreach**

The Presiding Member noted that the organisation of the Fair had been split into eight work packages—four focussed on the principal activities of the Fair itself and four concerned with support. Managers for each package are in place and planning has commenced. With the further aid of several parishioners, an effective basis has now been established for a successful event (Saturday 19 October).

If you have any questions please contact the Chair, John Richards, on 0407 790 767 (mobile) or [gjrich@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gjrich@bigpond.net.au)

## Worth the wait

For over seven years, we have supported a young man named Y who has been seeking permanent residency here in Australia. The support St John's Care (SJC) has provided him with during this time includes weekly food, support with scripts and transport, case management, advocacy and referrals. Just as importantly, we have provided a stable and reliable form of support and connection within the community. Over the years Y has often dropped in to provide us with updates about his journey in seeking permanent residency.

His updates have included both positive news which has brought smiles to our faces, as well as negative news about obstacles and setbacks which seemed unconquerable. Often though, Y had nothing to tell us at all as his situation remained stagnant for long periods of time.

While waiting to become a permanent resident, Y has faced significant financial battles. These have impacted his education, health, housing, and his ability to effectively engage with the community.

Last week we received a call from Y to inform us that he had finally become a permanent resident. The joy and relief in his voice was palpable, and the following day, he arrived at the Centre with a smile on his face that I may never forget. I invited him in, and we sat down over a coffee as he thoroughly explained the ways that his life would change. He talked through the opportunities he now has.

This was the most significant moment of Y's life, and it was a pleasure to sit with him and experience some of those positive emotions. Becoming a permanent resident means that Y can remain in Australia. He can begin studying and working. He could now apply for a Medicare card. All things that we often take for granted, but that mean so much to someone who has gone without.

In Y's own words "I feel like I have been stuck for so many years and that I can finally start living my life now".

Y thanked the staff and volunteers for their support over the years and acknowledges that he would not have been able to persevere without the help from agencies such as St John's Care. Y told me that he had made 'friends for life' at SJC and plans to begin studying this year with the aim of providing the same support that he has received to others.

St John's Care has walked alongside side Y for many years and provided him with valuable long-term support. This support initially allowed Y to survive. We are now eager to watch him thrive.

Kind regards,

Robbie Speldewinde  
Operations Manager

**Items Required:** Sweet and savoury biscuits, children's toothbrushes, shampoo and conditioner, juice poppers

## Upcoming services

### Sunday 5 May

#### Sixth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 10.44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5.1-12;  
John 15.9-17 (or 16.16-24 tbc)

- 8am **Sung Eucharist**  
9.30am **Family Eucharist** (Kids' Church & Youth Group)  
11.15am **Choral Eucharist** (1662 Book of Common Prayer)  
6pm **stjohns@6** (Praise, Prayer & Proclamation)

### Sunday 12 May

#### Seventh Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 1.15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5.9-13;  
John 17.6-19

- 7am **Eucharist** (1662 Book of Common Prayer)  
8am **Sung Eucharist**  
9.30am **Family Eucharist** (Kids' Church & Youth Group)  
5pm **Choral Evensong** (1662 Book of Common Prayer)  
6pm **stjohns@6** (Praise, Prayer & Proclamation)

### Sunday 19 May

#### Day of Pentecost

Readings: Acts 2.1-21 or Ezekial 37.1-14; Psalm 104.26-36; Romans 8.22-27;  
John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15

- 8am **Sung Eucharist**  
9.30am **Family Eucharist** (Kids' Church & Youth Group)  
11.15am **Matins** (1662 Book of Common Prayer)  
6pm **stjohns@6** (Holy Communion)

### Each Wednesday

- 10am **Eucharist** (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

For more information [www.stjohnscanberra.org](http://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

### Contacts

<b>Rector</b>	Rev'd David McLennan	rector@stjohnscanberra.org	0468 634 351
<b>Senior Associate Priest</b>	Rev'd Dr Andrew Cameron	andrew.cameron@stjohnscanberra.org	0477 689 421
<b>Curate</b>	Rev'd Anna Krebs	anna.krebs@stjohnscanberra.org	0411 367 817
<b>Honorary Priest</b>	Rev'd Vicky Cullen		0476 777 203
<b>Honorary Deacon</b>	Rev'd Chris Murray		0433 322 206
<b>Youth Leader</b>	Kirsten Lamb	kirsten.lamb@stjohnscanberra.org	
<b>Children &amp; Families Worker</b>	Mary de Lautour	mary.delautour@stjohnscanberra.org	
<b>Sacristan</b>	Jennifer Lawson	jennifer.lawson@stjohnscanberra.org	0407 286 572
<b>Schoolhouse Museum</b>	Jennifer Garden	schoolhouse@stjohnscanberra.org	0414 551 821
<b>Office Administrator</b>	Kimberley van Leeuwen	admin@stjohnscanberra.org	6248 8399
<b>Operations Manager</b>	Alison Hosking	alison.hosking@stjohnscanberra.org	6248 8399
<b>Friends of St John's, Chair</b>	Matthew Neuhaus	friendsofstjohnscanberra@gmail.com	



SJC Emergency Relief Centre 6248 7771

<b>SJC Executive Officer</b>	Jason Haines	executive.officer@stjohnscare.org.au	6248 7771
<b>SJC Operations Manager</b>	Robbie Speldewinde	programs@stjohnscare.org.au	6248 7771

**Parish Office: 6248 8399**

Opening Hours: 9.30am to 2.30pm Tuesday to Friday

[www.stjohnscanberra.org](http://www.stjohnscanberra.org)

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

## THE DEER'S CRY - LISA KELLY

I arise today  
through the strength of heaven  
Light of sun, radiance of moon  
Splendour of fire, speed of lightning  
Swiftness of wind, depth of the sea  
Stability of earth, firmness of rock

I arise today  
through God's strength to pilot me  
God's eye to look before me  
God's wisdom to guide me  
God's way to lie before me  
God's shield to protect me

From all who shall wish me ill  
Afar and a-near  
Alone and in a multitude  
Against every cruel, merciless power  
That may oppose my body and soul

Christ with me, Christ before me  
Christ behind me, Christ in me  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me  
Christ on my right, Christ on my left  
Christ when I lie down,  
Christ when I sit down  
Christ when I rise, Christ to shield me

Christ in the heart  
of everyone who thinks of me  
Christ in the mouth  
of everyone who speaks of me ... I arise today.

From Lisa Kelly's album *Celtic Woman Presents: Lisa*, available at <https://www.amazon.com/music/player/albums/B073JVJH5Q> .