

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

11 May 2025
Fourth Sunday of Easter

(This week's service times within)

The Lamb in the midst of the throne
will be their shepherd, and will guide
them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear
from their eyes.



Last Sunday, the 8am congregation enjoyed their first morning tea in the new location of the Schoolhouse Museum. This morning tea will be held either outside or inside the Schoolhouse during term times. It makes use of this unique building, and frees up space in the Hall for our expanding Kids ministry.

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

REPORT FROM THE MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL OF 16 APRIL

Rector's Report: The Rector reported that Kirsten Lamb has resigned after 2 excellent years as Youth Worker at the 9.30am service. We'll miss her presence on the ministry team. But this change also offers an opportunity to reconsider the shape of our youth ministry, given that youth now spread beyond the 9.30am service.

The Rector also reported on progress on a donations policy (to shape any future donations to the Parish and set the terms of giving) and the establishment of a 'History and Archives Committee'. The latter will help the parish consider its custodianship of historical items, including our rich oral history and perhaps an online guide for visitors. He also reported that a wedding course is now ready to advertise to wedding couples.

Finance Update: The treasurer gave a thorough report on the current state of the Parish's finances. The offertory income is ahead of budget and parking is slightly above budget, year to date. So far this year the cumulative income has been greater than the cumulative expenditure. It was noted that St John's trust funds have been affected by the current volatility of the share market. The large upcoming expenditures include the insurance premium and the redevelopment of the kitchen, followed by the Robertson Room and office space. Fund raising will play a crucial part in paying for the Parish redevelopment.

Property and Grounds Update: The April working bee was very well attended, and it is hoped this will continue. Three builders have been approached for quotes to redevelop the kitchen. A meeting with the Rector and office staff will be held to finalise the design layout for the redevelopment of the Offices. A Parish architect has been meeting regularly with St John's Care regarding their redevelopment, and they are close to having a final layout. The soft floorboards below the pew at the rear of the church could have been caused by rising damp or termites. This will be investigated further after Easter and ANZAC Day and then fixed. The old zip hot water system in the kitchen is no longer working and will be replaced.

Community Outreach: The Gunfire breakfast will be held again at St John's this year after the dawn ANZAC Day service. A good lot of volunteers will be running this event. The Patronal Dinner will be held in June in the Hall. Further details to come.

For any questions, please contact the Presiding Member John Richards on gjrich@bigpond.net.au



Hope 25. Along with Anglican Churches throughout Australia, we are participating in the Hope 25 campaign between Easter and Pentecost, to share our Christian hope across our nation. The following events are of special relevance:

Introduction to Christianity. What's Christianity all about? Our simple '3-2-1' course is a beginner-level introduction to Christian basics. Held over three consecutive Thursday evenings in the Robertson Room: 7.30pm **Thursdays May 22, May 29 and June 5.** For further details contact Rev'd Andrew (see page 9) or Jamie Young jfyoung3@outlook.com.

Hope 25 'for Blokes'. Canon Kevin's 'Bible for Blokes' is held in the Robertson Room, on Tuesdays at 10am. He is looking into a series of conversations that Jesus had with people in John's gospel. They include a confused minister and a desperate woman, a lifelong loser and an anxious politician. Let Canon Kevin Stone know that you are coming by contacting him on stonesaway@gmail.com or on 0450 676864 .

'Making Marriage Work'. We are now offering a short marriage course to those who have booked a wedding at St John's. Occasionally we expect to have spare spots, which we can offer to interested parishioners. Whether you are recently married or have been for many years, this material – drawn from the Gottman Institute's extensive research – could benefit any couple. Cost is \$120, and the next courses are in late May and October. If you're interested in knowing more, contact one of the clergy, or weddings@stjohnscanberra.org

Young Women's Bible Study: Seeking Expressions of Interest. Any young women (ages 15-25) who wish to be part of a regular fellowship and Bible study are invited to contact Jess (0404 703 847). In coming weeks, we hope to identify a suitable time (likely a week night or Sunday afternoon). Looking forward to hearing from you!

Christian Bootcamp: 'Bootcamp' is our parish's program for those (16+) seeking baptism or confirmation, and is also suitable for new Christians or enquirers. Our first session ('Who—or What—is God?', **7.30pm, Thursday, 12 June**) might help you decide if this is for you. Contact Rev'd Dave (rector@stjohnscanberra.org) to register interest.

Fiji Mission: Annemieke (stjohns@6) is doing the Year 13 Christian Gap Year, which includes a three-week mission in Fiji where she will spend time serving the church and learning from her Fijian brothers and sisters in Christ. Annemieke would really appreciate your prayers for strength and wisdom. She also needs to raise \$3,600 to pay

for the trip (she has already raised approximately \$1,500). If you would like to help, you can donate at <https://www.year13.net/student-fundraising>.

Knitting for Operation Christmas Child. Thoughts are turning to winter now with the cold weather. Beanies are easy to knot and we need lots for Operation Christmas Child. We are told that even when the boxes go to countries in the South Pacific the first thing children do is to put one on. Last year we sent 110 boxes so that is our aim this year. Do email Jennifer.lawson@stjohnscanberra.org for a pattern or wool.

Canberra Christian Writers Group: Annual Anthology. Dianne Porter (Wednesday service) is editor of the Canberra Christian Writers' Group Annual Anthology. Their 2024 edition has now been published and is available for download (free of charge) at www.canberrachristianwritersgroup.com. Hard copies are also available for \$30 (plus \$10 postage where needed). Dianne can be contacted at porter.32@bigpond.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS (*St John's event)

Tuesday 13 May: Order of St Luke Healing Meeting. All are invited to the Healing Meeting at St David's Anglican Church Red Hill at 2.00pm followed by afternoon tea. The meeting will focus on teaching and/or prayer. Sessions are held 2nd Tuesday of the month. Info Fr John Gibson at gibsonjohn385@gmail.com or 0451 681 118.

Friday 16 May: Film, Theology and Pizza Night. St Mark's National Theological Centre is hosting this timely viewing and discussion of the recent blockbuster movie 'Conclave'. Details and \$10 payment via <https://www.trybooking.com/DBEYE>

***Thursdays from 22 May: '3-2-1' Introduction to Christianity.** A three-week evening course (22 May, 29 May, 5 June) designed to help people understand what Christian faith is all about. This will be of interest to people of faith, as well as curious inquirers. Robertson Room at 7.30pm.

***Thursday 12 June: 'Who – or What – is God?'** This is the first session of our annual 'Bootcamp' program, and also serves as a 'taster' to help people decide if this course is for them. (See earlier notice, 'Christian Bootcamp'). 7.30pm, Robertson Room.

***Saturday 14 June: Safe Ministry Training.** St John's will be hosting a Safe Ministry training day in the Robertson Room. For other dates/locations and online options, see <https://safercommunities.net.au/anglican-diocese-of-canberra-goulburn-online-training/>. All training for St John's parishioners is arranged and paid for by the Parish. Contact alison.hosking@stjohnscanberra.org if you would like to book your training or if you have any questions.

***Saturday 18 October: Our 2025 Parish Fair.** Please note the date of our Parish Fair in your diaries! We have already started planning for this key event with a special theme this year celebrating the 180th year of the consecration of the Church. We need to fill some crucial positions as soon as possible: volunteers to run the white elephant stall, the treasures and trinkets stall, the cake stall and the BBQ. We also need volunteers for several stalls including the craft stall. And if anyone is interested in taking responsibility for the sound system on the day, we'd love to hear from you. If you can help in any of these ways, please contact John Richards on gjrich@bigpond.net.au



Heartbeat of Hope

**A creative presentation of the gospel
of Christ in music and spoken word.**

8 vocalists. 10 piece band.
Music composed by Michael Dooley



Venue: St Matthew's Anglican Church, Wanniasa.
Date: 31st May 2025, 7 to 9 PM
Cost: \$15 adults. \$10 concession. Family ticket \$30

Book through TryBooking
<https://www.trybooking.com/DBCJS>

Proceeds from ticket sales will go to Anglican Aid's
emergency relief project in Democratic Republic of Congo.

HOPE25
HOPE IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

2025 HERITAGE FUND APPEAL NOW UNDER WAY

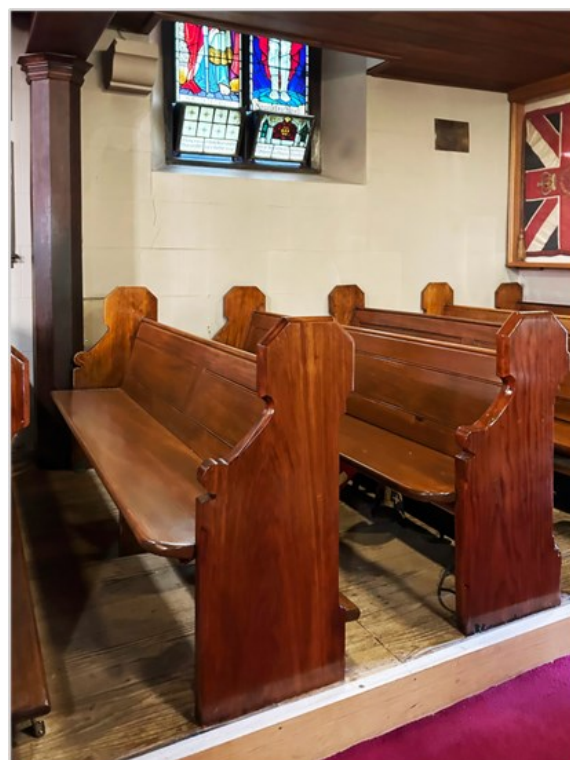
Parishioners and friends are invited to donate to this year's Heritage Fund Appeal which aims to further our conservation work on the Church.

Our aim this year is to complete the restoration of the pews and the doors in the church. By the end of this year we hope the results of our three years of work will be apparent to parishioners and visitors alike. This is an expensive process and is budgeted at about \$60,000. We are suggesting therefore that we approach this project as we did in 1990, inviting parishioners and friends to donate \$2,000 to meet the cost of restoring an individual pew, and to have a dedication plaque acknowledging their financial support placed on it.

This year's Appeal letter will be sent by email to most people, with printed letters being sent to those who do not use or have access to email or the internet. Donations of \$2 or more to the Heritage Fund are tax deductible. Your support for this project would be greatly appreciated.

Randall Wilson

Chair of Trustees



OTHER MATTERS

Accommodation for refugee family.

Bishop Carol would like to ask whether anyone within the Canberra Parishes might have a rental property that they could make available to a refugee family she has been supporting at market rate.

From Bishop Carol:

Their issue is that they are unable to provide a current rental reference that is acceptable to real estate agents. For the past 15 years, they have been moved from house to house by various charities that have supported them while they have sought permanent residence in Australia. They have mostly been subsidised in their accommodation. The current charity has just passed the house they're in to another charity, and the family has been told they can no longer live there. They have 5 months to find another place.

During the time they have been in Australia, there have been two periods where their visas have allowed them to work, and they have paid rent. One was when they first arrived and were living in the cottage next to the church in Narooma. They were exemplary tenants in every way - but that was back in 2011-13. Another period was for the five years following that, in Canberra, when they were working and paying rent. Unfortunately, the owner of the house they were in for 5 years in Canberra is presently untraceable. In either case, both tenancies were too long ago for references to be acceptable to the estate agents.

Their present visa allows them to work, and they are able to pay market rent. However, they need to be able to find a property where the owner is willing to take a risk on them and provide a rental without the standard references. I can certainly vouch for them, and they can provide pay slips.

For more information, please contact Alison Payne at the Anglican Diocese

alison.payne@anglicancg.org.au

St John's Care Bring your Bills workshop and Birthday Celebration

Last week on Friday, St John's Care hosted the 'bring your bills' workshop at our community lunch, whilst celebrating our 34th birthday. The workshop was an overwhelming success, with so many community members coming along to receive support, advice, and advocacy from the following services:

- Care Inc Financial Counselling Service ActewAGL
- Vinnies Canberra/Goulburn Origin Energy
- Woden Community Service Legal Aid ACT
- Canberra Community Law Services Australia
- Housing ACT Access Canberra

"It is so helpful to have all the services here in one spot, so instead of waiting on the phone for hours, or spending days travelling to every service by bus, everyone is in one place at the same time", said one of our clients.

We would like to thank Care financial for helping us organise and promote the event and look forward to working with them in facilitating future 'bring your bills workshops'.

We were delighted to celebrate our 34th birthday with Ailsa Curtis – a volunteer who played a significant role in getting St John's Care off the ground 34 years ago. Ailsa Curtis was a founding member, and it is because of hers and others insight and dedication we can now support almost 100 households every week.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ailsa for her dedication and ongoing support and acknowledge the impact that she has had in the community.

Kind regards,

Robbie Speldewinde, Operations Manager

Items needed: School snacks, shampoo and conditioner, Vegemite, dishwashing liquid, sweet biscuits, adult toothpaste, size 5-6 nappies, baby wipes

Happy Birthday St John's Care

At our recent monthly community lunch, we celebrated St John's Care's 34th birthday. Ailsa Curtis (left) was part of the original group of visionaries who established this ministry, and Glenda Richards (right) is the current chair of the Management Committee. Those wishing to contribute to the SJC winter appeal can find details at stjohnscare.org.au.



Upcoming services

Sunday 11 May 2025

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 9.36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7.9-17; John 10.22-30

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

Wednesday 14 May 2025

Readings: Revelation 7.9-17; John 10.22-30

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

Sunday 18 May 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 11.1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21.1-5; John 13.31-34

- 8.00am:** Sung Eucharist
9.30am: Family Eucharist (Kids Church & Youth Group)
11:15am: Choral Matins (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
6.00pm: stjohns@6 (Holy Communion)

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>

Contacts

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 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 Kevin Stone | stonesaway@gmail.com | 0450 676 864 |
| Honorary Priest | Rev'd Vicky Cullen | | 0476 777 203 |
| Children & Families Worker | Mary de Lautour | mary.delautour@stjohnscanberra.org | |
| Sacristan | Jennifer Lawson | jennifer.lawson@stjohnscanberra.org | 0407 286 572 |
| Schoolhouse Museum | Jennifer Garden | | 0414 551 821 |
| Office Administrator | Jane Rose | admin@stjohnscanberra.org | 6248 8399 |
| Operations Manager | Alison Hosking | alison.hosking@stjohnscanberra.org | 6248 8399 |
| Friends of St John's, Chair | Matthew Neuhaus | friendsofstjohnscanberra@gmail.com | |



SJC Emergency Relief Centre 6248 7771

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|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| SJC Executive Officer | Jason Haines | executive.officer@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

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

The 23rd Psalm



The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. Psalm 23:1

Y J S M M V V H O U S E J R C
 W E V I L U F A H F N K G L K
 R O D R T N H W L E U X O V P
 G G U I D E W R E L D U O N A
 T A B L E K A R S S E A D G S
 P C H W L E G M M S Z Y N D T
 R C O A F C Y X E T Z S E G U
 R O W M P A O T R A N H S D R
 E W U S F R C K C F B A S L E
 S A P I D O E S Y F K D U W S
 T T U P Q K R P W C I O C Y L
 O E T C A U B T A P S W L L L
 R R F V S T I F O R E V E R Y
 E S D E A T H E U Y E W G Z Z
 S E N E M I E S T A D J A E T

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|----------|--------|--------|---------|----------|
| green | soul | shadow | staff | goodness |
| pastures | guide | death | comfort | mercy |
| quiet | paths | fear | prepare | dwelt |
| waters | walk | evil | table | house |
| restores | valley | rod | enemies | forever |