

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

**24 May 2026
Day of Pentecost**

(This week's service times within)

'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me,' says the Lord; 'and let the one who believes in me drink. For out of your heart shall flow rivers of living water.' John 7.38



The "Parish meets Schoolhouse" morning tea last Sunday was well attended on a lovely autumn day at St John's.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God,
at the feast of Pentecost
you sent your Holy Spirit to the disciples,
filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel:
empower us with that same Spirit
to witness to your redeeming love
and draw all people 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

Children and Families Worker. We are hoping to fill the position of Children and Families Worker, primarily working with our 9.30am service, as soon as practicable. Please share the advertisement with suitable people known to you. <https://tinyurl.com/stjohnsfamilies>

Youth and Young Adults event. The next Youth and Young Adults event is coming up on Saturday 30 May at 6pm in the Robertson Room. Join us for an evening of fellowship, campfires, Mario Kart, board games and good food! We will provide baked potatoes and chilli con carne to top them, but please bring your favourite baked potato topping or dessert to share. Contact Jess at jess.evans31169@gmail.com

Youth Fundraiser – help! Thanks to all who made donations last Sunday night to the fundraiser in support of participants on this year's youth camp (scheduled for 13-15 November). Unfortunately, for those who donated via our square payment system, the technology failed us. If you would be happy to re-submit your donation that would be greatly appreciated. See <https://www.stjohnscanberra.org/payments> or <https://tinyurl.com/2stpbx8h> (Please label any such donation as 'youth'.)

Patronal Dinner. Parishioners from all congregations are invited to gather for the annual St John's Patronal Dinner. Our guest speaker will be Henry Olonga - former Zimbabwean Test cricket player and a man of inspirational Christian conviction and courage. The spit roast dinner

(incl. pre-dinner nibbles, dessert and tea/coffee) will be held on Thursday 18th June, 6pm to 9pm in the church hall. Tickets are \$50 per person, BYO drinks. Bookings can be made through the following link, or through the QR Code:

<https://www.trybooking.com/1582295>



For 9.30am and 6pm ‘regulars’. Thank you for trying to leave space near the back of the church, and near the aisles, to make it easier for visitors to find a seat. We continue to look for ushers to assist our sidespersons, (especially at 6pm). Please email jane.rose@stjohnscanberra.org if you can help.

‘Church Center’ and Parish Roll update. 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. Andrew Cameron is on leave for a few weeks, but will be glad to help when he returns. The Directory is not activated in the App yet—coming soon!

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.

Jam Stall. Jo Lloyd, our wonderful convenor, requests gifts of lemons, sugar and dried apricots which will be turned into jam in her ‘spare time’. Please encourage her. Jam making continues throughout the year as the fruits ripen. My supply of jars is getting very low, having ‘jammed up’ my strawberries and figs, so I would appreciate being gifted with your surplus clean jars and lids. Plus, if any of you have access to Feijoas they also would be welcome – they make a very interesting and tasty jam. Joan Nichols.

Flowers In Memoriam: Reverend John and Patricia Scott.

The flowers in the church today are generously donated by Barbara Griffiths, in memory of Reverend John and Patricia Scott, Barbara’s parents and parents in law of Richard, and grandparents of John and Samuel Griffiths.



In Pursuit of Paul. Follow in Paul’s footsteps on a 14-day tour through Türkiye, Greece, Malta, and Rome, visiting key sites from his missionary journeys in roughly chronological order. Highlights include

Pisidian Antioch, Ephesus, Philippi, Athens, Corinth, Malta, and Rome—places where Paul preached, suffered, and helped shape the early church. Along the way, we'll gain deeper insight into Paul's life, ministry, and letters within their historical setting. Dates: November 3–16, 2026. See https://selah.au/trip/pursuit_paul-2026/

The tour is hosted by Professor Constantine Campbell, New Testament scholar, author of several books on Paul, musician – and St John's parishioner (<https://www.constantinecampbell.info/>)

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

All Saints' Eve: Assistance needed. Are you creative or enjoy story telling? Are you passionate about sharing the history and site of St John's with the community? Maybe you have lots of great ideas? Or you just have a great sense of fun?

If any of this sounds like you, then please consider joining the team preparing for All Saints' Eve. I need people to help develop the mystery trail theme, story and presentation, and ideas for other activities. We had 75 children (plus their parents) last year celebrating All Saints' instead of Halloween. This is a Christ centred alternative for Christian families, and an outreach to others. As the event grows I need help with preparation for it to be sustainable. You can be any age and do not need to attend on the day. Please let me know if you are interested and I can share more detail – mary.delautour@stjohnscanberra.org

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

In 2025 12,205,900 shoeboxes were filled, 212,401 coming from Australia and 71,223 from NSW which includes the ACT although I was told that 2,500 came from the Capital. Jennifer Lawson



UPCOMING EVENTS

(*St John's event)

***Monday 25 May: Cuppacomalong.** All welcome for fellowship and afternoon tea. Our guest speaker will be Ailsa White on "Living in France" 2pm to 4pm. Contact Ailsa Curtis (6247 9363).

*** Tuesday 26 May: Bible for Blokes.** We will begin reading and reflecting on how the Christian Church began as told in the Acts of the Apostles. 10.30am in the Upper Room. Enquiries, Canon Kevin Stone.

***Thursday 28 May: Bootcamp—Incarnation and Atonement.** 7pm in the Robertson Room.

***Friday 29 May: Memorial Service for Anthony Newman-Gerwen.** Anthony's Memorial service will be held at 2pm.

***Saturday 30 May: Youth and Young Adults event.** At 6pm in the Robertson Room. Contact Jess at jess.evans31169@gmail.com

***Thursday 4 June: Bootcamp—How do I read the Bible?** 7pm in the Robertson Room.

***Saturday 6 June: 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.

***Thursday 11 June: Bootcamp—Reading the Old Testament.** 7pm in the Robertson Room.

***Saturday 13 June: Operation Christmas Child Working Group.** From 1pm-4pm in the Robertson Room. Contact Jennifer Lawson on 0407 286 572.

***Sunday 14 June: Choral Evensong.** Join us at 5pm for this brief, reflective service, including hymns and choral music.

***Thursday 25 June: Bootcamp—How do Christians pray?** 7pm in the Robertson Room.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT 15 April 2026

April was the first meeting of the new Parish Council following the AGM. Three new councillors have been appointed and Jo Lloyd was elected as Presiding Member. John Richards was thanked for his many years of dedicated service in this role.

Rector's Report: The Rector reported a significant increase in people attending the main services compared to the same time last year and the numbers attending Easter services were also up. The increase in numbers is good news; however, the structures of the Parish are under strain as a result. Pastoral care is becoming a critical issue and it is hoped that Community Care Teams will be rolled out through the various congregations commencing with the Sunday at 6pm service. The Rector announced the sad news that the Children and Families Worker has resigned and that a new person will need to be recruited into that role.

Finance Update: The Treasurer reported that offertories are above budget, but that parking income is well below budget. He advised that a meeting will be held in April to discuss a fundraising strategy to replenish the Trust funds which are paying for the Church building projects. Unfortunately, the Trust funds underperformed in the 12 months to December 2025 and explanations are being sought from the fund managers.

Property and Grounds Update: The Chair of the Property Committee reported on various works and projects across the St John's precinct, including unblocking and fixing drains near the Jamison apartments. She advised that a meeting will be held in April to discuss replacing the reticulation systems for the lawns and rose garden. Work on the new electrical switchboard and the poulticing of the stonework of the Church is continuing.

The development plans for the Robertson Room, offices, and St John's Care are progressing and DAs will hopefully be ready soon. The Chair advised that St John's Care was waiting on a quote from another quantity surveyor who will provide estimated costings for the work. This will determine how much of the St John's Care work can be progressed this year. It was also noted that the parish has three columbaria in which parishioner's ashes can be interred for a fee. As these are almost full, Parish Council agreed to approve an extension to columbarium three.

Save the Date: The Patronal Dinner will be held on Thursday 18 June this year. All parishioners will be invited to attend.

For any questions, please contact the Presiding Member, Jo Lloyd at admin@stjohnscanberra.org

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: 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 – russtunks@yahoo.com.au

Your Year to Volunteer

This week is National Volunteer Week, and this year's theme is "Your Year to Volunteer". It reminds us of something we see every single day at St John's Care, ordinary people doing extraordinary things for our community.

Quite simply, we could not operate without our amazing volunteers.

From packing food hampers, stocking shelves and welcoming clients, to making cups of tea, listening without judgement and helping families through some of the hardest moments of their lives - our volunteers are the heartbeat of St John's Care. Every hour they give is an act of kindness, dignity and hope. If we had to pay for the work our volunteers do each year, it would cost millions of dollars in salary expenses alone. But what our volunteers bring is worth even more than money. They bring compassion. Humanity. Community.

What many people don't realise is that St John's Care does not receive ongoing government funding. We are only able to continue this work because of the generosity of our donors, alongside the dedication of our volunteers and staff, who together make St John's Care what it is today.

At a time when more and more people are struggling with the rising cost of living, housing stress and financial hardship, our community continues to step forward to support one another.

To every volunteer - Thank You for giving your time, care and energy.

To every donor - Thank You for standing beside us and believing in this work.

And to our staff - Thank You for showing compassion and dignity to every person who walks through our doors.

Together, you are the reason hope continues to exist for so many people across Canberra and the surrounding region.

I was lucky enough to attend the National Volunteer event at Government House last night, where I listened to volunteers and staff from across the community sector share many of the same concerns we are also seeing here at St John's Care. It was both reassuring and sobering to hear that organisations across Canberra are experiencing similar challenges, with growing demand for support, increasing cost-of-living pressures, and more people seeking help for the very first time.

Kind regards,

Jason Haines, Managing Director

Items required: Soup, Instant pasta meals, Oil, School snacks, Shampoo & Conditioner

ST JOHN'S CARE WINTER APPEAL

As Canberra's temperatures continue to drop, more people in our community are being pushed to breaking point. Families who have never needed support before are now struggling to afford food, fuel, heating, and other everyday essentials.

This winter, St John's Care is expecting one of our busiest seasons yet, and we need your help. The good news is that every donation made to our Winter Appeal will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$30,000 thanks to the incredible generosity of one of our long-time supporters.

That means your kindness can have twice the impact for local people doing it tough this winter. Together, we can help provide emergency relief, practical support, and hope to people across our community when they need it most.

Donate to our Winter Appeal - <https://www.stjohnscare.org.au/donate>

St John's Care
Partnering with Anglicare
Compassion | Advocacy | Respect | Encouragement

One unexpected cost can tip everything.

This winter, help us be the support that restores balance.

Rising costs. Tight budgets. No room to adjust.
For many in our community, it only takes one unexpected cost to change everything.

RENT
FOOD
PETROL
BILLS

UNEXPECTED CAR REPAIR

St John's CARE

- We provide food and essential items
- We offer dignity, care and compassion
- We stand with our community in times of need

You can help

Your donation can turn a moment of crisis into hope and help ensure no one in our community has to face winter alone.
Donate today.

Because no one should have to choose between getting to work and putting food on the table.
Thank you for standing with us, and with those in our community who need it most.

ST MARK'S INTENSIVES



FORMED TO SERVE



MISSION, EVANGELISM AND APOLOGETICS

If you have a heart for sharing the gospel in a broken world, this unit will help you make sense of how mission, evangelism, and apologetics fit together—and why that matters now more than ever.

Learn with guest lecturer, Dr Teresa Parish.

Dates: 24–27 August. Enrol by 26 June.

Use the QR code to complete the expression of interest →



FORMED TO SERVE



INTENSIVE: BEING THE CHURCH

What does it mean to be the church today — and how did we get here? Rooted in Scripture and theology, this subject explores the identity and mission of the church from the New Testament to the present day — including its sacramental life, its calling to mission, and its relationship to Israel and the story of Jesus.

Dates: 1–3 September. Enrol by 26 June.

Use the QR code to complete the expression of interest →



Upcoming services

Sunday 24 May 2026

Day of Pentecost

*Readings: Acts 2.1-21; Psalm 104.26-36; 1 Corinthians 12.1-13;
John 20.19-23*

- 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 27 May 2026

Readings: Readings: Acts 2.1-21; John 20.19-23

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

Sunday 31 May 2026

Trinity Sunday

*Readings: Exodus 34.1-8; Song of 3 Young Men 29-34;
2 Corinthians 13.11-13; Matthew 28.16-20*

- 8.00am: Sung Eucharist**
9.30am: Family Eucharist (Kids Church & Youth Group)
6.00pm: stjohns@6 (Praise, Prayer and Proclamation)

Wednesday 3 June 2026

*Readings: Exodus 34.1-8; OR, 2 Corinthians 13.11-13;
Matthew 28.16-20*

- 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
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
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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