

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

22 June 2025
Birth of John the Baptist

(This week's service times within)

You will go before the Lord to
prepare his ways, to give
knowledge of salvation to his
people by the forgiveness of their
sins.
Luke 1.76–77



St John's East Window
Photo courtesy of Rev'd Dr Andrew Cameron

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



Patronal Celebrations.

Patronal Service: Today, the whole parish will gather for worship together in the Hall at 9.30am, followed by morning tea. This evening at 6pm there will be a Singalong and 'hymn fest' (in the Church), followed by mulled wine and nibbles (in the Hall). Other services are cancelled for today.

Patronal Dinner: If you are coming to Wednesday night's 180th patronal celebration dinner, remember it's BYO drinks.

(Bookings have now closed for this event, but if you would like to be contacted in the event of a late cancellation, email the parish office to be added to the waitlist.)

We are also looking for some **helpers** to set up tables beforehand, and to run glasses through the dishwasher at the end of the night. If you can assist, contact Alison (see contacts page).

Fiji Mission Trip WhatsApp group. Annemieke Earp (6pm service) is grateful for peoples' support for her upcoming mission trip to Fiji. If you would like to join her WhatsApp group for mission updates, contact her on 0402 858 583 and she will add you to the group.

Bootcamp (training in Christian essentials). We recently held the first of our annual 'Bootcamp' sessions. For those who hoped to join but missed the first session, contact Rev'd Dave for an update, including dates for the rest of the year.

('Bootcamp' is our parish's program for new Christians or enquirers, or those seeking baptism or confirmation. Our next session - of 9 - is on the topic 'Who is Jesus, and what is a Christian?')

Rev'd Anna Krebs' induction. Rev'd Anna Krebs will be inducted by the Bishop at the Parish of Christ Church, West Goulburn (28 June, 2pm). St John's friends are most welcome to attend – and we are looking for some to 'present' Anna as part of the service. Let Rev'd Dave know if you are planning to attend. (There will be afternoon tea afterwards!)

Volunteers to Clean Church. We are seeking the help of some volunteers to vacuum and tidy the church on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Monday of each month. Please contact Jane at admin@stjohnscanberra.org if you are able to offer assistance.

'Flower Power' vacancies. We would love to welcome new members to our flower team. It's a great way to contribute to the experience of those who enter our church for worship, funerals, weddings or as visitors. Sanya Ritchie would love to hear from you if you would like to know more. Leave her a message on 6282 7118, or email sanya.ritchie@gmail.com.

St Mark's Timetable. Semester 2 timetable at St Mark's has been released, with many evening classes to accommodate full-time workers who would like to join live. Contact Dr Amy Erickson (6pm service) or see https://stmarks.edu.au/semester_timetable/

Scripture Union ACT bushwalking camp in Namadgi National Park. Planned for the Spring school holidays this year (Sept 29-Oct3). Our team is currently seeking young (or young at heart) Christian leaders for this base and transit camp with year 7-11 students. No prior experience is necessary, but a WWVP card, pastoral referee and some pre-camp Childsafe training will be required. If you are interested (or know someone who is) please email brentonprosser@hotmail.com or if you have questions catch Brenton at the 9.30am service.

In Pursuit of Paul. Come with Professor Constantine Campbell (St John's parishioner) and follow in the Apostle Paul's footsteps as we travel to major sites on Paul's journeys in Türkiye, Greece, Malta, and Rome. From the site of Paul's first recorded sermon in Psidian Antioch, to the Ephesian theatre where he sparked a city riot, to the spot where Lydia was baptised, to where Paul preached to the Athenians, to where he pleaded with the Corinthians. We'll visit the site of Paul's infamous shipwreck where he is still honoured, his Roman prison and his burial place. Along the way we'll gain deeper insights into Paul the man and missionary, as well as a greater appreciation of the backdrop for his letters that have shaped the church (and the world) for two millennia. November 6–19, 2025. For further info: https://selah.au/trip/pursuit_paul/

'Theology Matters' Book Launch. The Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture (Barton) is hosting the launch of 'Theology Matters', a collection of stories from prominent Australians. The launch will feature a panel discussion by Peter Sherlock, broadcaster and author Stan Grant, public theologian Robyn Whitaker, and former ACT Supreme Court judge Richard Refshauge. It will be moderated by Genevieve Jacobs. 6:00pm on Thursday, 10 July. Info (including registration) at <https://about.csu.edu.au/community/accc/events>

SUMMARY OF UPCOMING EVENTS

(*St John's event)

***Sunday 22 June: Patronal Festival.** Combined Patronal Eucharist (9.30am in hall). Singalong and 'hymn fest' (6pm, in the church), followed by mulled wine (in Hall).

***Monday 23 June: Cuppacomalong.** Afternoon tea with fellow parishioners in the Robertson Room 2.00-4.00pm. This month's special guest is Tecia Thompson, the new Community Chaplain for St John's Care. Contact Ailsa Curtis 6247 9363.

***Wednesday 25 June: Patronal Dinner.** 6pm to 8.30pm in the hall for a spit roast and dessert (BYO drinks). (Bookings now closed.)

***Saturday 28 June: Rev'd Anna Krebs induction.** Rev'd Anna Krebs' induction as Rector of the Parish of West Goulburn, will be at 2pm. (There will be afternoon tea afterwards!)

Sunday 6 July: Silo Sounds Concert. At the Ross Memorial Uniting Church in Murrumburrah will feature the Estivo Trio. Click on this link for details and bookings: <https://events.humanitix.com/concert-3-estivo-trio>

Monday 7 July -Friday 11 July: Scripture Union Youth Leadership Conference.

Connecting faith in Jesus with everyday life so that young leaders develop in their character and conviction. At the Shoalhaven Youthworks Conference Centre, \$425 -\$500. Bookings through the QR code



Thursday 10 July: 'Theology Matters' Book launch. 6:00pm at Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture (Barton). Info (including registration) at <https://about.csu.edu.au/community/accc/events>

***Sunday 20 July Order of St Luke Healing Meeting.** All are invited to the Healing Service at St John's Anglican Church Reid at 2.00pm followed by afternoon tea. There will be a retiring collection to support OSL and St John's Church. Info Fr John Gibson at gibsonjohn385@gmail.com or 0451 681 118.

***Saturday 26 July: St John's Care Trivia Night.** An entertaining evening for a good cause. In the Hall from 6pm. Bookings through <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1397030>

Saturday 26 July: Anglican Mother's Union NSW Conference. Triannual conference and barbeque dinner, at Bishop Mark and Dr Monica Short's home in Watson from 5pm to 8.30pm. Bookings through Alison Payne alison.payne@anglicancg.org.au

Thursday 31 July: 'Bootcamp'. Who is Jesus, and what is a Christian?. 7.30pm in Robertson Room. RSVP to Rev'd Dave.

***Saturday 18 October: 2025 St John's Parish Fair.** Save the date! Contact John Richards on gjrich@bigpond.net.au



*St John the Baptist Church, Norway, consecrated Midsummer's Day, 1990.
Photo courtesy of Wygene Chong*

JOS JOTTINGS

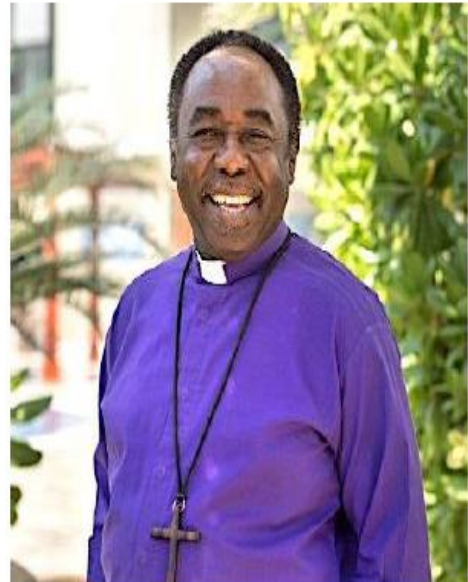
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil (Psalm 23:4)

Walking through dark valleys

Our Nigerian sisters and brothers have a great deal to teach us about trusting in, and being genuinely and deeply comforted by, our Lord Jesus in those times when we feel like we are being crushed by brokenness and evil in a world which we know is not as it was created to be, and in the lives of those precious to us. Their comfort, and ours, is not in some sort of wistful hope that we will not be touched and even hurt by the deep brokenness of sin in ourselves and in others. Rather, they and we know that in the middle of all that messiness, sorrow and pain we have a loving Saviour who walks powerfully alongside and inside us. As Comforter, Counsellor, Advocate, Redeemer, healer and transformer of our inner beings, we know he will carry us through our valleys of the shadow of death to the still waters and refreshing of soul he has prepared for us, showing us in his grace glimpses of that heavenly rest here on earth. That's why we remind each other each Sunday that the peace we experience here and now in Christ "passes all human understanding"!!

Please join in prayer for healing for Archbishop Ben Kwashi

On 29 May, we received the sad news that, during a routine medical check-up during his current visit to the United States, scans detected a cancerous nodule under Archbishop Bens right lung. Further scans have been undertaken, and surgery/radiation treatment options are being developed, and Mama Gloria has flown out to join him in Roanoke, Virginia. Ben is praising God for the fact that this nodule had not given rise to any symptoms, and for the early detection which will greatly assist in treatment. Nevertheless, while thanking you all for your support and prayers to date, Archbishop Ben asks for us to pray fervently and confidently for a third deliverance from cancer, so that he may continue to do the Lord's work in Plateau State. He will likely need to stay with fellow-supporters in the United States for a number of months as the treatment proceeds. So please also pray for the smooth continuance of our Mission Partnership work back in Jos, especially



the continuing construction work at the new Tambes orphanage school, and the Lord's protection of the work of the Zambiri School in Jos itself against vandalism and attack, while he and Mama Gloria are absent. Archbishop Ben has been especially thankful already for the assurances of our love, prayer and support sent him personally by Bishop Mark!

"You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies ..."

Archbishop Ben, in his response to Bishop Mark, went on to say: *"We are encouraged by your love, friendship and partnership in the mission of the gospel with us. Plateau state continues to be under much attack by the Fulani jihadists who also come as herders operating a terrorist style on a most horrible and vicious manner. They are killing farmers at this start of our rainy season in their farms. Then they attack their home lands destroying barns, homes and killing families leaving behind a river of blood. Your constant prayers has kept us."*

And, regrettably, this is indeed the case. Alongside renewed waves of horrific Fulani terrorist attacks during May on predominantly Christian villages in Benue and Taraba states (south and southeast of Plateau State, at least 86 killed in the former, and 42 in the latter, aside from destruction of homes, crops and belongings), deadly planned and coordinated attacks have resumed in Plateau State. After the April massacre of more than 50 Christians in



in Bassa Local Government Area northwest of Jos in April, reports have come in of 6 Christians being shot and wounded in May, and 3 shot and killed in an ambush on 3 June in Kwall village, 2 on 4 June in Nkienwhie village. In addition, eyewitness accounts from survivors recovering in hospital in Jos tell of a large-scale attack on the Kpachudu village on 14 May, resulting in the large-scale destruction of Christian farmers' crops in the Ngbrakunvu community, and "the destruction of nearly 100 farmsteads, covering over 40 hectares of cultivated land." Other fatalities and woundings occurred in attacks on 10 May (Kigam and Zanwra communities) and 14 May (Rikwe-Rishe village).

Meanwhile, in Riyom Local Government Area just southwest of Jos City, Fulani attacks kept coming throughout May. Over

12-13 May, Fulani attackers reportedly killed 12 Christians in Wereng, 4 in Chido, and 2 in Dachidom village, as well as burning down houses. After these attacks and killings, armed herdsmen renewed their attacks on the communities in Bachi, Jol, and Rim villages, the full details of which are yet to be reported. One resident wrote: "Please pray for my village, Jol. An attack by Fulani herdsmen is ongoing there." Another, Judith Bature, writes: "My heart is heavy as I write this. The ongoing insecurity in Plateau State, particularly the attacks on Christians in Bokkos, Mangu, Barakin Ladi, Riyon and Bass, is alarming. The Fulani terrorists' relentless assaults have left us questioning the effectiveness of our leadership... another painful reminder of the silence from Nigerian leaders."

Hope Restored

A few months ago, my manager and I noticed a family who consistently visits on the same day each month for emergency relief support. I approached the family and introduced myself. They were pleased to have a conversation, and during our chat, the wife introduced me to their young children, who were waiting in the car.

While we talked about how things were going, the wife's eyes filled with tears. Concerned, I gently asked if everything was okay. For confidentiality, I'll refer to her as *T*. She shared that her husband had recently been diagnosed with cancer. He also lives with diabetes and had just lost his job due to company redundancies. It was heartbreaking to hear. After a pause, I asked *T* what kind of assistance she and her family need from SJC. *T* requested help with their ACTEWAGL bill, more frequent food support until she finds employment, PBS medications for her husband, assistance with rent arrears, as well as a Thread Together referral for clothing and a Roundabout order for the children's clothes and nappies.

I asked *T* to sign a consent form so I could refer her to partner organisations for services beyond what we directly provide. She signed it, and I began the process immediately:

- Completed and submitted the Care Financial rent relief application.
- Processed referrals for clothing (Thread Together) and for children's clothing and nappies (Roundabout Canberra).
- Contacted Campbell Pharmacy to confirm they had the required medication and to check the PBS pricing.

Regarding their utility bills, I applied on her behalf for the ACTEWAGL Energy Support Scheme \$300 for electricity and \$100 for gas. I explained that we'd need to wait for her next bill to confirm the voucher credits had been applied. *T* was happy to come in every fortnight for food top-ups until they managed to settle some medical bills and until she heard back from a recent job interview. She was deeply grateful and visibly relieved. *T* shared that although she'd always felt welcomed and supported by our staff and volunteers, she had previously hesitated to share her story or ask for more support.

My heartfelt thanks to our generous donors, volunteers, staff, and partner organisations. Your continued support helps restore dignity and hope to families like *T*'s -families facing unimaginable challenges. Your kindness truly makes a difference.

Kind regards,

Lisa Masamha
Case Manager

Items required: Baked beans, dry soup mix, stock, tissues, deodorant

St John's
Care
presents

TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday
26
July



\$25 Adults
\$10 Kids U 15
Tables of 8
nibbles on
table



Doors open at 6 pm
Game starts at 6.30 pm
BYO Food and Drinks

stJohn'sCare 
Partnering with Anglicare

Dessert Auction
Raffle and other fun
games

**ST JOHN'S HALL
REID**



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	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

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

Upcoming services

Sunday 22 June 2025

Birth of St John the Baptist

Readings: Isaiah 49.1-6; Psalm 139.1-11; Luke 1.57-66, 80

9.30am: Combined Patronal Eucharist (in the Hall)

6.00pm: Singalong/Hymnfest (in the Church)

Wednesday 25 June 2025

Readings: Isaiah 49.1-6; Luke 1.57-66, 80

Sunday 29 June 2025

Peter and Paul, Apostles and Martyrs

Readings: Acts 12.1-11; Psalm 87; 2 Timothy 4.6-8 (9-16) 17-18; John 21.1-23

8.00am: Sung Eucharist

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

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

Wednesday 2 July 2025

Readings: Timothy 4.6-8 (9-16) 17-18; John 21.1-23

10am: Eucharist (1662 Book of Common Prayer)

For more information: www.stjohnscanberra.org

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Birth Of John The Baptist Word Search

"His Name Is John"

"And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High because you will prepare the way for the Lord." Luke 1:76 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 1:67-80



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

SALVATION
PRAISE
PREPARE

SAVIOR
DAVID
FEAR

MERCY
LORD
ROYAL

HOLY
PROPHET
MIGHTY

PEACE
SERVE
ISRAEL