



# ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

**23 March 2025**  
**Third Sunday in Lent**  
(This week's service times within)

Seek the Lord while he may be  
found, call upon him while he is  
near. Isaiah 55.6



*'The crucifixion is the touchstone of Christian authenticity, the unique feature by which everything else, including the resurrection, is given its true significance ... It is in the crucifixion that the nature of God is truly revealed.'*

*Fleming Rutledge (The Crucifixion, 2015).*

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

## NOTICES



**Hymn Book Shortage.** We have been running short of 'Together in Song' hymn books at our 9.30 service. If you have accidentally taken a copy home, could you please bring it back and leave it in the porch?

**Gunfire Breakfast: Seeking Volunteers.** This year St John's hopes to again host a 'Gunfire Breakfast' for the public, immediately following the Anzac Day Dawn Service. This is a witness to Christ through hospitality to the many who will be in our vicinity on that day, while drawing on our historic ministry to the Defence community. This year some of our usual helpers are away, so we need other volunteers to step up if the event is to go ahead. For example:

- From 5.00 am: set up and cooking.
- From 6:10am: serving, collecting money, chatting to visitors, standing outside eastern lychgate inviting people to breakfast.
- From about 7.30am: packing up.

Please email the Rector ASAP if you can assist, so he can decide if the event is viable this year.

**Parish AGM and Electoral Meeting.** Our parish AGM and electoral meeting will be held at 2pm on Sunday 30 March in the Hall. Reports will soon be uploaded to the website ([stjohnscanberra.org/documents](http://stjohnscanberra.org/documents)), with a small number being available in hard copy on the day.

**"Palm-Like" Greenery required.** We require palms for Palm Sunday (13 April). If you have any "palm like" greenery that you'd like to contribute, please contact Sanya Ritchie before 6 April (6282 7118 or [sanya.ritchie@gmail.com](mailto:sanya.ritchie@gmail.com)).

**Wanted: Egg Cartons.** Please bring in your spare egg cartons for the Easter egg hunt! Please bring them to the office before 30 March (not after this date).

**Easter Letterbox Drop.** Postcards advertising our Easter services are now ready for letterbox dropping in Campbell and Reid. Please pop into the office (Tuesday -Friday 10am -3pm) to grab a map and bundle if you have time. We also have additional flyers for parishioners to do their local area, or provide to family/ friends.

**Meals for the William Family.** Meals would be appreciated for the William family as Richa continues to face further complex surgery (and recovery). Frozen meals can be left in the church freezer, clearly labelled 'Williams'. Non-spicy chicken, fish or vegetarian meals only, please. Thanks for your prayers and care for this family.

**Supporting Ministry at St John's.** As a new year begins, please take a moment to consider the appropriate level of your regular financial contribution to our parish. We are highly dependent upon regular (preferably automatic) deposits to sustain our ministry and care for our site. 'Giving' info can be found on page 7 of this newsletter, or at [www.stjohnscanberra.org/giving](http://www.stjohnscanberra.org/giving).

**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. Information session: April 7, 2025, via Zoom. For further info: [https://selah.au/trip/pursuit\\_paul/](https://selah.au/trip/pursuit_paul/)

**Anglican News March 2025.** Here is the link to the latest edition of Anglican News: <https://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/> or direct to the flipbook <https://heyzine.com/flip-book/08737a4508.html>. Many thanks to all the contributors to this edition. You can email any contributions for future issues of the Anglican News, by the first day of the month of the issue, to: [anglicannews@anglicancg.org.au](mailto:anglicannews@anglicancg.org.au)

## **UPCOMING EVENTS** (\*St John's event)

**\*Monday 24 March: Cuppacomalong.** All folk with time to spare, come for afternoon tea with fellow parishioners in the Robertson Room 2.00-4.00pm. The special focus this month will be meeting with our Bishop Vanessa. Contact Ailsa Curtis 6247 9363.

**Monday 24 March: People and Politics.** Charles Sturt University's Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture invites all to come along to discuss important issues in the lead-up to the election. Hosted by Paul Bongiorno, guest speakers include Stan Grant on Indigenous matters, Mark Evans on democracy, Monica Short on youth mental health and Christian Downie on climate change. From 5.30-7.30pm at The Chapel, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall Street, Barton. This even will also be livestreamed. Register at <https://events.humanitix.com/people-and-politics-discussion-forum>

**\*Tuesday 25 March: Making Palm Crosses.** Come and enjoy some reflective and creative time making Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday. In the Robertson Room with Jennifer Lawson from 10am -12 noon.

**Saturday 29 March: Canberra Mission Focus.** Come and be challenged and refreshed by a day of worship, Bible teaching (from Simon Gillham, former missionary and current head of missions at Moore Theological College), and sessions led by visiting missionaries. A children's program is included. For registration details and costs visit [cms.org.au/event/cms-canberra-mission-focus-2025/](https://cms.org.au/event/cms-canberra-mission-focus-2025/). Radford College, 9am – 4pm.

**Saturday 29 March: St Saviour's Youth Retreat.** 'Hope in Prayer' is the theme. Join other youth in the diocese at the cathedral in Goulburn. For more information, contact [st.savioursretreat@gmail.com](mailto:st.savioursretreat@gmail.com)

**\*Sunday 30 March: Parish AGM.** Parish AGM and electoral meeting. 2pm in the Hall.

**\*Saturday 5 April: Working Bee.** From 8.30am -10.00am. Two options this month: (a) help give the inside of the church a thorough clean, or (b) work outside helping to beautify the gardens and grounds of St John's. Please bring equipment (e.g. gardening gloves, dusters, rags, hat, suitable footwear, mowers, blowers) and join us for morning tea afterwards.

**\*Sunday 6 April: Bell Ringing.** Join us for our monthly open tower between 5-6pm as we prepare to ring in Easter during St John's 180th year. You are welcome to have a go on the ropes or just listen in. Bring along some friends and family!

**Sunday 13 April: Invictus: A Passion.** The Llewellyn Choir Performs *Invictus: A Passion*, on Palm Sunday at 5.00pm at the Wesley Uniting Church, National Circuit Forrest. Book through [www.llewellynchoir.org.au](http://www.llewellynchoir.org.au) or scan the following QR code.





### **SJC My Comfort Zone**

This morning after returning from a long weekend I saw an email from one of my clients (*she has been accessing support from SJC for over 4 years*) asking to see me for a chat. I called her and asked her to come in at 9.30am when we opened.

C came in the morning, and we went to a more private place to talk. C was very upset and sobbing. Previously, SJC had helped her through the process of finding long-term housing and financial hardship.

C began by telling me that she has had a horrible few weeks and that she had struggled to cope. She explained that last week her dog was bitten by a snake and died a couple of days ago. This had particularly impacted C's daughter who didn't want to go to school and that had compounded issues she was already having at school.

I asked C if I could talk to her daughter (*she is 16 years old*). C was happy for me to do so but explained that she may need more time to process everything. I gave her my card and told her to contact me when she's ready.

I suggested C's daughter go to the ANGLICARE JUNCTION when she was ready. (*Services include GPs, nurses, smoking cessation support, case management, youth work support and outreach in schools.*)

C explained that her health had been deteriorating more recently, and that her next brain scan was scheduled in three months' time (*covered by Medicare*) but her GP had suggested that she have it as soon as possible. It was also suggested that she have blood tests and a general check-up in order to find the answer to her ongoing health challenges (*she is suffering from incontinence, memory loss, and requires an aid to complete physical tasks*).

C also asked me if SJC would help cover any excess that may arise from her medical appointments. I assured her that SJC would do what they could to support her.

At the end of our session C was very grateful and felt that St John's Care was like her second home because we always listen to her and always try to make her feel supported/comfortable in whatever way possible.

Thank you so much to our donors for your generous donations, this story reflects how your kindness and empathy impacts the lives of the most vulnerable in our community.

Kind regards

Karen Medrano  
Case Manager

**Items required:** Shampoo and Conditioner, Tissues, Dry lentils, Muesli

# Upcoming services

**Sunday 23 March 2025**

Third Sunday in Lent

*Readings: Isaiah 55.1-9; Psalm 63.1-9; 1 Corinthians 10.1-13; Luke 13.1-9*

**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 & Proclamation)

**Wednesday 26 March 2025**

*Readings: 1 Corinthians 10.1-13; Luke 13.1-9*

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

**Sunday 30 March 2025**

Fourth Sunday in Lent

*Readings: Joshua 5.2-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5.16-21; Luke 15.11-32*

**8.00am: Sung Eucharist**

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

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

**Wednesday 2 April 2025**

*Readings: TBA*

**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

See also: <https://www.stjohnscanberra.org/giving>

## 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>Honorary Priest</b>	Rev'd Vicky Cullen		0476 777 203
<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		0414 551 821
<b>Office Administrator</b>	Jane Rose	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: 10.00am to 3.00pm Tuesday to Friday

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

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

## FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

### Living A Fruitful Life Word Search

#### Living a Fruitful Life

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' " Luke 13:8-9 (NIV)

Based on Luke 13:1-9



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

LEAVE  
VINEYARD  
TOLD  
YEARS

PARABLE  
MAN  
TREE  
USE

FRUIT  
SOIL  
DIG  
PLANTED

LOOK  
FERTILIZE  
FIND  
CUT

THREE  
FIG  
DOWN  
ALONE