

# ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

**10 May 2026**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
(This week's service times within)

*'Those who love me will keep my word,' Jesus promises, 'and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.'* John 14.23



*Margaret Magi's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration last Sunday.  
(Photo courtesy of Helen Wilson).*

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God,  
you have prepared for those who love you  
joys beyond our understanding:  
pour into our hearts such love for you,  
that, loving you above all else,  
we may obtain your promises  
that exceed all we can desire;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

**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. Booking details will be advised in the coming weeks.

**Parish Morning Teas with St John's Schoolhouse Museum.** Sunday 17 May will be our first "Parish meets Schoolhouse" morning tea for 2026, to be held after both the 8am and 9.30 am services. If it is another fine autumn day, we'll meet on the northern and eastern paved areas outside the Schoolhouse. If not, 8am attendees will be inside the Museum, and the larger 9.30 crowd will meet in the Parish Hall.

The Museum will also be open that morning so that parishioners can visit (or re-visit!) our Heritage Festival exhibition, "Marked for Demolition; the Lost and the Saved". This features the Schoolhouse Museum's own story of survival, as well as the sad tale of the loss of "Glebe House", St John's second Rectory.

The Schoolhouse Volunteers look forward to greeting many of you at this twice-yearly event, when we welcome parishioners to our heritage building. Questions? Contact Jenny Garden on 0414 551 821.

**Canberra and Region Heritage Festival.** The Schoolhouse Museum has been very busy putting together an exhibition which is on view until today, offering a different slant on the theme of the 2026 Heritage

Festival, which is “Mid-century-innovation, change and optimism”.

Periods of rapid development, while inevitable, bring with them challenges to the survival of heritage buildings and sites. As mid-twentieth century Canberra grew, several early colonial buildings were lost. Our exhibition illustrates two examples within St John’s Parish: the 19<sup>th</sup> century Parsonage, later known as “Glebe House”, and our own St John’s Schoolhouse, both of which stood in the middle of planned roads.

Read their stories, see the photos in the Museum exhibition: “Marked for Demolition: the Lost and the Saved”

**Note to 9.30am and 6pm ‘regulars’.** Visiting a church for the first time can feel daunting. Due to the lovely presence of many newcomers in recent months, it would be appreciated if our regulars could train themselves to sit (a) closer to the front of the church and (b) closer to the wall - not the aisle. This will make it easier for newcomers, and latecomers, to find somewhere to sit. Thanks for your cooperation.

**Ushers needed: 9.30am and 6pm.** We need to bolster our welcoming teams to assist in directing people to their seats. If you are able to help, please email [jane.rose@stjohnscanberra.org](mailto:jane.rose@stjohnscanberra.org)

**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](https://stjohnscanberra.org/payments).

**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/](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/>)

**Anglican News April 2026.** Here is the link to the latest edition of Anglican News:<https://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/> 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)

## 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](mailto:mary.delautour@stjohnscanberra.org)

## SUMMARY OF UPCOMING EVENTS

(\*St John's event)

**\*Sunday 10 May (today): Choral Evensong.** Prayer, hymns and choral music. 5pm.

**Tuesday 12 May: Order of St Luke Healing Meeting and AGM.** St David's Anglican Church Red Hill at 2.00pm followed by afternoon tea. Info Fr John Gibson at [gibsonjohn385@gmail.com](mailto:gibsonjohn385@gmail.com) or 0451 681 118

**\*Sunday 17 May: Parish Morning Teas with St John's Schoolhouse Museum.** See page 3 for full details.

**\*Saturday 23 May: Operation Christmas Child—Working Group.** From 1pm-4pm in the Robertson Room. Contact Jennifer Lawson on 0407 286 572.

## MISSION MATTERS

### Visit to Nungalingya College – 28 April 2026

Last week I had the privilege of visiting Nungalingya College while I was passing through Darwin on holiday. As you may be aware, St John's supports Nungalingya College through the Anglican Board of Mission where we provided \$5,500 last year.

What a thrill it was to listen to the students and staff singing hymns in the humid morning air before prayers marking the start of the college's day.

Ms Yane Damanik, Nungalingya's Principal, kindly led me on a tour of the college where I viewed classrooms, the communal dining room, chapel, library and other facilities. Nungalingya is the premier combined churches training organisation for indigenous Australians and trains around 400 students annually from 80-90 remote indigenous communities and urban centres. Students are drawn from Anglican, Uniting Church, Catholic, Lutheran and Baptist backgrounds and participate in two and four week courses in ministry and theology, chaplaincy and bible translation into indigenous languages. They live on campus for the duration of their training and eat in communal dining facilities.

The need to spread the good word among indigenous brothers and sisters across the Northern Territory is vast. If there is any group or part of Australia that truly needs God's word – surely it was there. I would encourage all parishioners travelling to Darwin to seriously consider visiting Nungalingya to see its remarkable work first hand. The Missions Sub-Committee of Parish Council would be pleased to welcome parishioners interested in joining our sub-committee to help us carry forward this important ministry.



## Search for Warmth

The temperature has dropped below zero. Most of the community is inside by now. Heaters are blowing, warm baths and showers are running, and electric blankets are working hard to warm beds before we climb into them. However, across Canberra there are people preparing for a very different night.

Some pull sleeping bags tighter around themselves beneath a tree or in bushes, while others seek shelter in public toilets. Some walk the streets through the night because movement is the only thing that keeps the cold from settling in their bones. Canberra's winters can be brutal for those sleeping rough. The cold is not simply uncomfortable, but extremely dangerous as freezing temperatures increase the risk of illness, worsen preexisting health conditions, and place immense strain on a person's physical and mental wellbeing.

When people are forced into survival mode, they are consumed by focusing on their immediate threats and needs, and are often unable to plan ahead, problem solve or put things in place to better their situation. Unfortunately, at St John's Care, we see this reality firsthand. I recently provided a tent, a sleeping bag, and a warm winter jacket to a man named S who had been experiencing homelessness for approximately 6 months. S had every intention of finding more permanent accommodation, but simply did not have the financial, emotional or psychological resources necessary to undertake this process. Over the past few weeks, the cold, and the exhaustion had taken a visible toll on S. He spoke openly about how difficult it was to think beyond what was immediately in front of him. Staying safe, finding food, and seeking warmth consumed almost all of his energy. Alongside providing practical support such as a tent and warm clothing, St John's Care also worked closely with S to explore more stable accommodation options. Staff assisted him to navigate housing services, discuss referral pathways, and connect with specialist agencies better equipped to provide long-term support.

While the process was often slow and overwhelming for S, having consistent encouragement and someone to walk alongside him helped make the task feel less impossible. Stories like S's are a stark reminder of Canberra's brutal winter conditions, and the ongoing need for services like St John's Care to support those doing it toughest in our community.

Kind regards,

Robbie Speldewinde  
Operations Manager

**Items required: Oil, Lunchbox snacks, Tinned spaghetti**

# Upcoming services

## Sunday 10 May 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

*Readings: Acts 17.22-31; Psalm 66.7-19; 1 Peter 3.8-22; John 14.15-21*

**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 and Proclamation)

## Wednesday 13 May 2026

*Readings: Acts 17.22-31; OR; 1 Peter 3.8-22; John 14.15-21*

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

## Sunday 17 May 2026

Seventh Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Ascension)

*Readings: Acts 1.6-14; Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 5;  
John 17.1-11*

**8.00am: Sung Eucharist**

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

**6.00pm: stjohns@6** (Holy Communion)

## Wednesday 20 May 2026

*Readings: Acts 1.6-14; OR 1 Peter 5; John 17.1-11*

**10.00am: 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>Associate Priest</b>	Rev'd Canon Kevin Stone	kevin.stone@stjohnscanberra.org	0450 676 864
<b>Honorary Priest</b>	Rev'd Vicky Cullen		0476 777 203
<b>Children &amp; Families Worker</b>	Mary de Lautour	mary.delautour@stjohnscanberra.org	
<b>Sacristan</b>	Kim Gibson	admin@stjohnscanberra.org	
<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	5140 0101
<b>Friends of St John's, Chair</b>	Matthew Neuhaus	friendsofstjohnscanberra@gmail.com	
		SJC Emergency Relief	6248 7771
<b>SJC Managing Director</b>	Jason Haines	md@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)

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