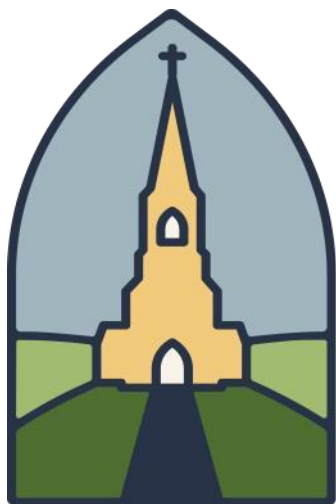




ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

9 August 2026

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

(This week's service times within)

They cried out in fear, but Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.' Matthew 14.26–27



Jesus Walks on Water by Tracy Councill,

<https://fineartamerica.com/featured/jesus-walks-on-water-tracy-councill.html>

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Mighty God and ruler of all creation,
give new strength to our faith,
that we may recognise your presence
even when all hope seems lost.
Help us to face all trials with serenity
as we walk with Christ through the stormy seas of life
and come at the last to your eternal peace.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

IMPORTANT NOTICES

General Synod: This week, three members of our parish, including the Rector, are attending the Anglican Church's General Synod. Please pray for wisdom, charity and good government.

*Almighty and everliving God,
give wisdom and understanding,
to the members of the General Synod of our Church.
Teach them in all things
to seek first your honour and glory.
May they perceive what is right
have courage to pursue it
and grace to accomplish it,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Vale Rev'd Canon Geoffrey Sibly: Longtime parishioner and beloved priest of several dioceses passed away peacefully on Tuesday. We give thanks to God for Canon Geoffrey's long life of ministry and service, and look forward to the day of resurrection when every tear shall be wiped away. Funeral details will be advised as they come to hand.

Our Parish Fair 17 October-Clothes Convenor Needed. Please contact Jon Hawkins ASAP at Jon.hawkins@bigpond.com if you can take on the task of being the Clothes Convenor for the Clothing Stall. Several stalls will need extra volunteers, including: white elephant, treasures & trinkets, cake, craft, and the BBQ. Also, anyone interested in helping with the sound system on the day, we'd love to hear from you. See page 8 for "What When and Where to leave your donations".

Training for Bible Readers and Intercessors. Are you part of our regular team of Bible readers or intercessors or would like to consider joining? Please make use of this training session to assist your ministry.

Rosemary Thwaites (9.30am service) is an experienced voice coach and will offer some helpful tips to help your reading voice enhance this important part of our public worship. The event will be held twice, to maximise opportunities for attendance: 11.15am, Sunday 16 August and 7pm, Tuesday 25 August (in the Church).

Youth and Young Adult Bouldering Event. Join us for bouldering, slack lining and table tennis at Blochaus, Mitchell on Saturday 22 August at 10:00am. Please RSVP to Jess Priest (Jess.evans31169@gmail.com or 0404703847).

Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast. This annual event, to be held on 26 October at 7.15am – 8.15am (in the Great Hall of Parliament House) offers us a chance to pray for our members of parliament, in the presence of many political and faith leaders. St John's has again booked 2 tables for interested parishioners. If you'd like to claim one (\$75), email the parish office at admin@stjohnscanberra.org as soon as possible to secure your spot. Keynote speaker Amy Brown will draw on her experience of leadership and personal challenge in public service, to explore the theme "The Way Down is the Way Up" – the counterintuitive Christian hope that God meets us in the valley, where we may be formed deeply and encounter Him most clearly.

Lunchtime Conversations at St Mark's. St Mark's brings leading international scholars to Canberra, connecting our community through public conversation. Dr Kate Flaherty (St John's) is Lecturer in English and Drama at the ANU and an award-winning teacher. Her research on Shakespeare and public culture spans books, international partnerships, and public outreach. Thursday 13 August, 12.30pm. BYO lunch. All welcome. Free of charge.

Southside Bible Study. Glenda and John Richards have started a new Bible study group at their home in Fadden, Tuggeranong. Led by Peter Gobbo, the group meets at 2pm on Wednesdays. Contact John Richards on 0407 790 767.

God's Yes to Women. Our very own Dr Amy Erickson's new book, *God's Yes to Women* compiles contributions from Christian authors across Australia to explore the biblical case for and contemporary experience of women in ministry with the hope that it equips and encourages a younger generation of women and men to partner together in all corners of church life for the sake of the gospel. Here's a link to the book website, which includes a discussion guide: <https://www.godsy.es.org/> You can purchase a copy here: <https://tinyurl.com/384ekfs9>

UPCOMING EVENTS

(*St John's event)

***Sunday 9 August: Choral Evensong.** Join us at 5pm for this brief, reflective service, including hymns and choral music.

***Tuesday 11 August: St John's Sketching/Painting Group.** 9.30am to lunchtime, in the Robertson Room. All welcome to come along with sketch pad, pencils or paints. Contact Fiona (0404 066 021) or Jennifer (0407 286 572).

Tuesday 11 August: Order of St Luke Healing Meeting. St David's Anglican Church Red Hill at 2.00pm. Info Fr John Gibson at gibsonjohn385@gmail.com or 0451 681 118.

Thursday 13 August: Lunchtime Conversations at St Mark's. Dr Kate Flaherty (Shakespeare scholar). 12.30pm. BYO lunch.

***Sunday 16 August: Public reading & intercessions training (option 1).** Voice training for our public readers and intercessors. 11.15am, (in the Church).

***Saturday 22 August: Youth and Young Adult Bouldering Event.** At Blochaus, Mitchell at 10:00am. Please RSVP to Jess Priest (Jess.evans31169@gmail.com or 0404703847).

Saturday 22 August: Church Missionary Society - Mission in the Spotlight Dinner. 5.00pm-8.40pm at St Matthew's Anglican Church, Wanniasa. Enquiries Canon Kevin Stone, 0450 676 864.

***Tuesday 25 August: Public reading & intercessions training (option 2).** Voice training for our public readers and intercessors. 7pm, (in the Church).

***Saturday 17 October: St John's Parish Fair.** 9am-2pm. Save the date!

***Friday 13 – Saturday 15 November: Youth Camp.** A weekend supported by Scripture Union, offering teaching and encouragement for our youth and young adults. Contact jess.evans31169@gmail.com

MISSION MATTERS

The Christian Institute, Jos, Nigeria

St John's provides financial support to the Christian Institute in Jos, Nigeria via Anglican Aid as part of our parish's missions giving. Jos is the only Anglican Bible and leadership training institution that serves the vast expanse of northeast Nigeria. Jos is providing theological and other training for Pastors and health workers that sends well-trained, loving and resilient shepherds who work in disadvantaged Christian communities.

The work of the Institute occurs amid a dangerous and deteriorating security situation that includes attacks on Christian villages by Fulani herdsmen and militants on a regular basis. It appears that they are specifically seeking out Christian leaders and pastors.

Notwithstanding this difficult security environment, three of the 10 Bachelor of Theology bursary students at the Christian Institute are due to graduate in coming weeks, all from resource-poor 'front-line' Anglican dioceses adjacent to the Diocese of Jos. St John's and Anglican Aid's generosity is making a real difference to the Anglican church in Nigeria that perseveres under incredible challenges and helps build their hope in Jesus.

Joshua, one of the Theological students asks for our prayers 'that God will bring an end to the terrorism, kidnapping, banditry and corruption that are destroying lives and the hopes of so many.'

See more information at <https://anglicanaid.org.au/locations/Nigeria>

Joan Nichols

CHURCH CENTER & PARISH DIRECTORY

You may have heard by now about Church Center, the app and website we're using to assist communication at St John's.

We recognise that not everyone loves phones and apps and technology, or wants to sign up in this way. **That's completely OK.** The information below is for those who'll find it useful.

If you've not signed up yet and would like to, download the 'Church Center' app (note the U.S. spelling!), search for 'St John the Baptist Anglican Church', and give it a go. Or, email admin@stjohnscanberra.org for a short PDF on how to proceed.

We're rolling out two new functions in Church Center that will enable us to contact each other: the **Directory**, and **Groups**.

The Directory: what you need to know. If the following seems a little cumbersome, that's because we're ensuring the security of your details, your control over your details, and your decisions about to whom you'll respond.

- A 'Directory' icon now appears at the bottom of the Church Center app. *(You can also access it on a computer through the web. But we'll focus here on the app.)*
- You'll only appear in the Directory if you are enrolled in Church Center **and then ask to join** the Directory (see below).
- If you join, others will be able to contact you, but **via email only**. Your email address is initially hidden from them.
- In the Directory, you click on 'Contact [person's name]'. You write a note in the app, which then goes to their email inbox. They'll then respond to you (or not) **via email (not via the app.)**
- When you *receive* a contact in this way, it's up to you whether to reply to their email. (If you're not sure who someone is, you can always check with church staff before replying.)

- We strongly suggest you'd **only** share a phone number, or anything else, **with someone you know**.
- You cannot be contacted via the Directory if you've not entered an email address into Church Center. It relies on email addresses.
- Phone numbers and email addresses **will never appear** in the Directory.

To join the Directory, after you've enrolled in Church Center (see above), you need to do **three things**:

1. Email Jane at admin@stjohnscanberra.org, and ask for an 'invitation' to join.
2. You'll receive an email from 'St John the Baptist Anglican Church <no-reply@churchcenter.com>' (check your spam folder!). In that email, click 'Yes, share my information'.
3. In the app, go to your 'information and settings', then to 'Directory Listing'. Select 'Allow others to contact me', and hit 'Update'. (You might also like to share your photo, as an aid to us getting to know one another.)

That's it. You should then be able to contact others, and be contacted.

Groups. Groups are a powerful function allowing smaller groups within St John's to communicate with each other—this time, *through* the app (and so reducing endless emails).

It will also enable you to share resources, advertise meeting details, and do some other things.

If your small group (e.g. a Bible study group; volunteer workers' group; music team; catering team, etc.) would like access to that function, let Rev'd Andrew know, or email admin@stjohnscanberra.org.

There'll be some policies you'll need to know and observe. But this aspect of Church Center will be very useful.

Of course, you need to be enrolled in Church Center to use the Groups function. However, you can be in a group *without* also being in the Directory.

ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY FAIR 2026 DONATIONS

The following lists *What, When & Where you can leave your Donations* for the Community Fair:
Please do not leave donations before the times below

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	NOTES
Books, Games, Puzzles, DVDs and CDs	Now	Bench outside Church Hall	<i>If the Hall is open, please leave your donations on the stage.</i> Good quality fiction and non-fiction, including large print books and books for young adults and children. <i>Please no textbooks, manuals, Readers Digest, encyclopedias, videotapes or audio cassette tapes.</i>
Oranges, lemons, limes, apples, dried dates, or dried apricots	Now	Parish Office	Tuesday – Thursday 10am-3pm
Clothes	TBA		<i>If the Hall is open, please leave your donations in the marked area, immediately to the left inside the Hall.</i>
Craft, Trinkets, Treasure, White Elephant	From 28 September	Bench outside Church Hall	<i>If the Hall is open, please leave your donations in the marked area, immediately to the left inside the Hall.</i>
Raffles	From 28 September to 11 October	Bench outside Church Hall	
Plants & Gardening	From 12 October	Bench outside Church Hall	
Jam & Cake	From 15 October	Central bench in Kitchen	

Supporting Communities in Times of Need

At St John's Care, we are committed to supporting people experiencing hardship in our local community. However, from time to time, we are also given the opportunity to extend that support beyond our own doors. Recently, one of our clients shared information about a community fundraising event in Canberra for the people of Venezuela following the devastating earthquakes that struck the country. The event aimed to bring the community together to raise funds and provide aid to families who had lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods.

After learning about the initiative, St John's Care contacted the event organisers to ask how we could help. We were pleased to donate essential supplies to support the event, contributing to a collective effort led by passionate volunteers and community members.

On the day of the event, members of the St John's Care team attended to show their support and stand alongside the Canberra community. It was truly inspiring to witness the incredible turnout and generosity of everyone involved. Seeing people from diverse backgrounds come together with a shared purpose to help those affected by the earthquakes in Venezuela was both humbling and deeply rewarding. It was a powerful reminder that compassion knows no borders and that, together, our community can make a meaningful difference.

This is only possible because of the generosity of our donors. Every donation we receive not only helps us support local individuals and families facing hardship but also enables us, when appropriate, to stand alongside other communities responding to humanitarian crises.

We are proud to be part of a community that believes compassion has no borders. Thank you for making moments like this possible and for helping us extend kindness wherever it is needed most.

Together, we are building stronger, more caring communities.

Kind Regards, Karen Medrano, Case Manager

Items required: Juice poppers, laundry liquid, dry red lentils, body wash

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: Southside Bible Study

When & Where: Wednesdays, 2pm, Fadden, Tuggeranong

Who: Adults, any age.

Focus: Bible study and discussion

Contact: John Richards—0407 790 767

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

Thursday: Ladies' Bible Reading Group

When & Where: Thursdays, 9:30 am (after school drop-off), Robertson Room (school terms)

Who: Women, especially with pre-school children

Focus: Bible reading and discussion (currently Matthew)

Contact: Mary de Lautour — mary.delautour@stjohnscanberra.org

There may be scope for a new Bible study to commence. Contact clergy if you'd like to be involved.

Upcoming services

Sunday 9 August 2026

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Genesis 37.1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105.1-6, 16-22; Romans 10.4-15; Matthew 14.22-36

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

Wednesday 12 August 2026

Readings: Genesis 37.1-4, 12-28; Matthew 14.22-36

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

Sunday 16 August 2026

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Genesis 45.1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11.13-32 (33-36); Matthew 15. (10-20), 21-28

- 8.00am:** Sung Eucharist
9.30am: Family Eucharist (Kid's Church & Youth Group)
6.00pm: stjohs@6 (Holy Communion)

Wednesday 19 August 2026

Readings: Genesis 45.1-15; OR, Romans 11.13-32 (33-36); Matthew 15. (10-20), 21-28

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

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>

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
STJ Operations Manager	Robbie Speldewinde	programs@stjohnscare.org.au	6248 7771
SJC Chaplain	Nathan Vandersee	chaplain@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