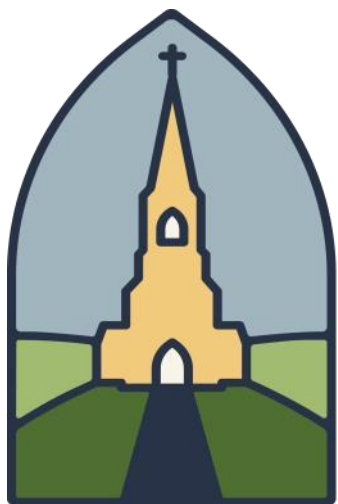




ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CANBERRA

2 August 2026

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

(This week's service times within)

The Lord is near to all who call on him in truth. He fulfils the desire of all that fear him, hears their cry, and saves them. Psalm 145.18–19



Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled
(Matthew 14:13-21)

Photo by [Art Institute of Chicago](#) on [Unsplash](#)

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God,
with whom we wrestle until the break of day:
make us long to seek your face beyond the limits of our strength,
that in our wounds we may remember you,
and in your blessing we may find ourselves;
through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Baptism: Today we welcome Clinton Scott Stranger into the church family through the gift of baptism.

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).

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.

Our Parish Fair 17 October. All the convenor positions are filled, but if you wish to assist in other ways, please email the office at admin@stjohnscanberra.org. 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*".

Reel Theology: The Zone of Interest. A chilling look at the "banality of evil" through the life of German Auschwitz commandant Rudolf Höss and his wife Hedwig, who live with their family in a home in the "Zone of Interest" next to the Auschwitz concentration camp. Our conversation will provoke enduring questions about the sufferings to which we turn a blind eye and deaf ear. On Friday 7 August, 6pm. At St Mark's Theological Centre, 15 Blackall St, Barton ACT. Tickets \$20 include dinner, drinks/wine and dessert! Register at the following link: <https://stmarks.edu.au/events/reel-theology-the-zone-of-interest/>

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>

Anglican News July 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

UPCOMING EVENTS

(*St John's event)

***Sunday 2 August: Bellringing.** The monthly bellringing practice is on again today, from 5pm to 6 pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and join in the ringing. (You could then stay on for the St John's@6 service).

***Tuesday 4 August: Bible for Blokes (then weekly).** 10.00am in the Upper Room. Enquiries, Canon Kevin Stone.

***Thursday 6 August: Guided Eucharist.** All welcome to experience a 'Guided Eucharist', in which the various aspects of a Holy Communion service are explained. 7pm–9pm in the Church.

Friday 7 August: Reel Theology: The Zone of Interest. 6pm. At St Mark's Theological Centre, 15 Blackall St, Barton ACT.

Saturday 8 August: Understanding Islam. 9:30am - 3:30pm. No cost, although donations appreciated. Lunch provided. Details & Registration: <https://events.humanitix.com/understanding-islam>

Saturday 8 August: The Llewellyn Choir: Dona Nobis Pacem. 7pm. At All Saints Anglican Church, Ainslie.

***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).

***Sunday 16 August: Public reading & intercessions training**

(option 1). Voice training for our public readers and intercessors. All welcome. 11.15am, (in the Church).

***Tuesday 25 August: Public reading & intercessions training**

(option 2). Voice training for our public readers and intercessors. All welcome. 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

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The work that God is doing through this simple system is amazing. In 2025 4 million children accepted Christ as their saviour after hearing the gospel stories that accompany the boxes. Just imagine the way this will spread through their communities and bring love to our increasingly fractured world. Also, consider that one box given to one 7-year-old child about 30 years ago has resulted in the whole of that child's family finding Christ AND that little child becoming a minister currently working in one of South Africa's most difficult cities, Soweto. In 2025, their church distributed 150 boxes to the children and had to send for more for the children lined up outside the church door. How wonderful is our God who can take some simple gifts and save a soul! If you missed out last week and still want to support this ministry you can do so during morning tea after the 9.30am service or you can contact Jennifer Lawson (0407 286 572).

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT July 2026

The most recent Parish Council meeting was held in the evening on Wednesday 15 July 2026 at which Councillors discussed several issues, including the Oral History Project and the growth in Youth Ministry within the Parish. A summary is provided below.

Finance Update: The Treasurer reported that due to the generosity of parishioners our offertories are 13% above the budget, however, parking income remains a particular challenge. It is hoped that the parking situation will improve over time and strategies are being developed to help this. However, year-to-date revenue is 22% below budget this month. As a result, cash flow needs to be looked at carefully. It was decided that all non-essential or unbudgeted expenditure be paused until the Resources and Investment Committee has had a chance to meet and has reported back to Parish Council and budget re-forecasting undertaken.

Property and Grounds Update: The Chair of the Property Committee updated Councillors in relation to the Parish Centre extension project. The documentation for the submission of the Works Approval for the Robertson Room and Offices extension will be submitted soon. The Quantity Surveyor for the St John's Care Redevelopment has provided updated costings following a meeting with the two architects who have been working on the project. The costings are high so a decision will need to be made by the St John's Care Management Committee on how to stage the various extensions. St John's will also apply for a 2026/27 ACT Heritage Grant to complete the poulting to the outside of the Church.

Community Outreach: Council was advised that St John's Care raised over \$1 million in their recent fundraising appeal. These funds will help support those in need who come to St John's Care for assistance.

The St John's Community Fair will be held on **Saturday 17 October from 9am to 2pm**. The Fair Convenor, stall convenors and the managers for the Fair are now all confirmed. There will be monthly updates included in the Newsletter about the Fair. All Parishioners and their friends are invited to be volunteers on the day. You can volunteer for an hour or more if you wish. It is a great way to meet and get to know people from across the Parish.

For any questions, please contact the Presiding Member, Jo Lloyd.

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	

Every Child Needs to Feel Seen

No parent should have to choose between meeting the complex needs of one child and giving their other children the time, attention and opportunities they deserve. Yet for many families, this is the heartbreaking reality.

Every day at St John's Care, we meet people carrying burdens that most of us can barely imagine. Recently, we supported a single father raising four children on his own. One of his children lives with a significant disability and requires constant care, appointments, advocacy and supervision. His love for all four of his children is unwavering, but every day he faces an impossible balancing act. While so much of his time and energy must be devoted to the child with the highest needs, he carries a deep sadness knowing that his other three children sometimes miss out. They are wonderful children who also need time, attention, encouragement and the simple reassurance that they are just as important.

Financial pressure only adds to the emotional strain. Extra medical costs, transport, specialist appointments and everyday living expenses leave little room in the family budget. There are times when putting food on the table or replacing worn-out school shoes becomes another difficult decision. When this father came to St John's Care, he wasn't asking for sympathy. He was asking for practical support so he could keep being the father his children deserve. Along with providing emergency food assistance and a listening ear, we worked with him to connect him with other services that could help. Our goal is always to ensure people receive the right support, from the right service, at the right time.

This is what community looks like. It is organisations working together so that no family has to face hardship alone. Sometimes, the greatest gift we can give isn't just a bag of groceries. It's helping a parent breathe a little easier, knowing their children will have enough to eat this week, and reminding them that they don't have to carry the weight alone.

Your support makes these moments possible. Every donation, every food item and every act of kindness helps families like this one find hope in the middle of incredibly difficult circumstances. **Thank you for standing beside families when they need it most.**

Kind regards, Jason Haines, Managing Director

Items required: shaving cream, honey, 375g conditioner, 1L chicken or veg stock, laundry liquid

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 2 August 2026

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Readings: Genesis 32.22-31; Psalm 17.1-7, 16; Romans 9.1-8 (9-16);
Matthew 14.13-21*

- 8.00am: Sung Eucharist**
- 9.30am: Family Eucharist** (Baptism & Kid's Church & Youth Group)
- 11.15am: Choral Eucharist** (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
- 6.00pm: stjohns@6** (Praise, Prayer and Proclamation)

Wednesday 5 August 2026

Readings: Genesis 32.22-31; Matthew 14.13-21

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

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: stjohns@6** (Praise, Prayer and Proclamation)

Wednesday 12 August 2026

*Readings: Genesis 37.1-4, 12-28; OR, Romans 10.4-15; Matthew
14.22-36*

- 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

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