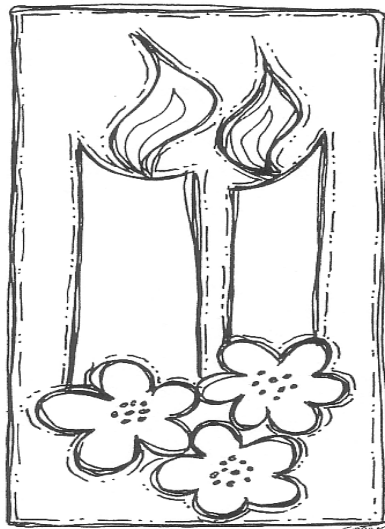




HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH JAMISON

To grow in Christ together, to equip for service, to care for all


Weekly Bulletin - 8 December 2013



Second Sunday in Advent

TODAY IN THE PARISH

8 am	HOLY COMMUNION Celebrant: Preacher:	Revd Dr Sarah Macneil Revd Mark Beresford
10 am	HOLY COMMUNION Celebrant: Preacher:	Revd Susanna Pain Revd Mark Beresford
11:30am	Youth and Children's Ministry Feedback meeting	Katherine Rainger
6 pm	TAIZE	Magnificat Revd Susanna Pain

 We welcome you to our worship and fellowship today. We offer a special welcome to visitors and new residents, and pray that you will feel at home in our community.

You are warmly invited to share Communion with us, either by drinking from or dipping the wafer in the chalice, or to come forward for a blessing.

Reflection after Communion - please feel free to light a prayer candle in the Chapel at the side of the Church following Communion.



Please join us for morning tea after the services.


THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Monday	9.00 am	Worship Centre	Covenant Care
Tuesday	12.30 pm	Worship Centre	Meditation and BYO Lunch
Wednesday	12.00 noon	Rainbow Centre	Holy Communion & BYO Lunch
	2.00 pm	Worship Centre	Ever Active Exercise Class
	6:00pm	Purple Room R.C.	Breathing Space - Eden to Emmaus
Thursday	11.30 am	Worship Centre	Community Lunch
	7.00 pm	Turkish Pide House	Women's Dinner
Friday	10.00 am	Worship Centre	Rainbow Playgroup
	10:00am	Worship Centre	Fri Volunteers Morning Tea
Saturday	4:45 - 5:45pm	Rainbow Centre	Music practice
	6.00 pm	Worship Centre	Benedictus - Contemplative Church
	6.00pm	Rainbow Centre	Camp Pelican Meeting Red Room

WEEK BEGINNING 15 December

Monday	9.00 am	Worship Centre	Covenant Care
	9.30am	Rainbow Centre	Crafty Crew
Tuesday	12.30 pm	Worship Centre	Meditation and BYO Lunch
	6.00 pm	Rainbow Centre	Parish Council End of Year meal
Wednesday	12.00 noon	Worship Centre	Holy Communion & BYO Lunch
	2.00 pm	Worship Centre	Ever Active Exercise Class
Thursday	9.30 am	Rainbow Centre	Scrabble
Friday	10.00 am	Worship Centre	Rainbow Playgroup
Saturday	4:45 - 5:45pm	Rainbow Centre	Music practice
	6.00 pm	Worship Centre	Benedictus - Contemplative Church


Morning Prayer
is held in the Chapel at 9am
Monday to Friday



(except on public holidays, or as advised)

**HOLY COVENANT
PRAYER VINE**

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER



Phone Merri Bacon on 6251 1110 or
email merri.bacon@bigpond.com

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Advent 2 (Matt. 3:1-12) Preparing a way for the Lord

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.
(Rom.15:13)*

*For the faith, the love and the hope are all in the waiting.
-TS Eliot*

'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord."' Despite feeling profoundly drawn to those haunting words from Isaiah, I have struggled to reconcile some aspects of John the Baptist's approach – especially the emphasis on judgment - for a modern audience.

When I eventually decided to play Handel's *Messiah* for inspiration, the penny dropped. I realised what was missing for me. The opening words of Handel's libretto, 'Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people; speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem... that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is covered,' come before: 'The voice of him that cryeth in the wilderness: "Make straight in the desert a highway for our God" – the part associated with John the Baptist in the Gospel reading. If we have the assurance that all is well, that we are loved anyhow, then we are able to recognise the tough, respectful, love that wants us to be accountable, to be all we can be. I find it helpful to think of judgment as accountability rather than punishment.

On the face of it, John the Baptist may seem an unlikely ambassador for the Prince of Peace: wild in attire, not given to social or pastoral niceties, reclusive, confrontational rather than diplomatic, and without qualifications except that he has spent time in the wilderness. Yet he was the messenger sent to pave the way for Jesus to begin his public ministry. And he seemed to attract the crowds, including members of the religious establishment. Besides, Jesus himself submitted to him for baptism.

At the heart of John's message is the call to repentance. I like to think repentance means more than feeling guilty (or trying to make ourselves feel guilty) about things we have done or failed to do. It is certainly more than an insurance policy to avoid God's wrath. (Preoccupation with personal salvation is hardly a sign of spiritual maturity!). But it is a call for transformation. Living mindfully or contemplatively is a way of being accountable, cultivating repentance and partnering God in our transformation. Then we can be part of God's dream of reconciliation, justice and equity reflected in the first reading (Isaiah 11: 1-9) by creating an inclusive community based on welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us (Romans 15).

- Frances MacKay

The new extension is working well, and the move was fantastic, thanks again to our wonderful helpers. The builders are now refurbishing the old rooms. They are hopeful that it will all be finished by Christmas and that we will start the new year in our new complex.

The Christmas Present Room will begin on Monday and then on the 25th we have this largish function, a great day but a lot of work. How much salad do you make for 350 people?? It will be a great Christmas for so many people, because of your generosity.

The wonderful thing for me is that the Volunteers still allow me to see clients every now and then, which is what I really love. Today I had a bit of time with a really nice bloke. He is a casual labourer, who lives in his car. He is very organised and when I asked him what types of food he would like, I thought he would be after the tins of meat and vegetables, but what he was after was fresh fruit and vegetables and some fresh meat. He explained to me that he has a single gas burner and there is a free BBQ near where he parks his car. He loves to make his own meals. Normally he can manage but at the moment he is not getting any work, a bit of a downturn in the building game. It was good to help him today but also invite him to share a meal with me on Christmas Day.

As much as we would like to help everyone, it is not always possible and sometimes we just have to say no. This week I had a call from a young woman. She was from South Australia and had come to Canberra to see her Aunt who had been hospitalised for a few days. The Aunt was now well and she rang to see if we would pay her fare back to South Australia. The only problem was she wanted me to provide tickets for herself and five children. I was a little gobsmacked that someone with five children would come all that way without thinking about the return journey. Thankfully we were able to help her get an advance on her Centrelink payment.

Most times we can't solve all their problems, we just don't have the money available, but what is really important to our clients, and what our Volunteers do so well, is just listening to our client's stories, and we are really very clever about thinking outside the square. Sometimes we can do some advocacy work, but it is just so important to listen.

***Many Thanks
Sue Jordan***

**PS: Still need people to staff the present room on 13 December;
people to help with food preparation on 23 and 24 December; and
for serving lunch and musicians on 25th December**



PRAYER POINTS FOR THIS WEEK

IN THE WORLD

- ◆ We continue to pray for those parts of the Philippines trying to recover from the massive storm last month and for the international relief programme.

IN AUSTRALIA

- ◆ We pray for the many people whose jobs are at risk due to Government cutbacks, and for the many unemployed who struggle to live off welfare.

WORLD WIDE ANGLICAN CHURCH

- ◆ We pray for the Episcopal Church in West Tennessee, West Virginia, Western Kansas, and in Western Newfoundland in Canada.
- ◆ We pray for the bishops, clergy and people of the Dioceses of Ballarat and Bathurst,

IN OUR DIOCESE

- ◆ We pray for the clergy and people in the parishes of St John's Canberra, All Saints Ainslie and Holy Cross Hackett.
- ◆ We pray for all those ordained into the Priesthood at St Saviour's Cathedral last weekend.
- ◆ We pray for St Mark's Theological College and the Centre for Ageing and Pastoral Studies.
- ◆ We pray for students, staff and teachers at Canberra Grammar, Canberra Girls Grammar and Radford College.

IN MISSION

- ◆ We pray for the work of ABM and for the Diocesan representatives.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

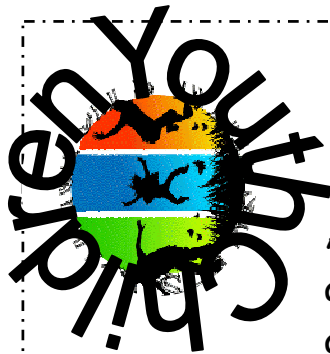
- ◆ We pray for the preparations for our Christmas Services.
- ◆ We pray for our Christmas Community Lunch.
- ◆ We pray for the team from Holy Covenant going to Camp Pelican in January.
- ◆ We pray for the following members of our parish family: Elizabeth Grant, Faye Green, Jean Groves, Clayton Gumbrell, Karen Bisley, and Jamie, Samuel and Ethan and Cecelia and Alex Gutierrez, Julia and Damian
- ◆ We pray for those in special need of prayer: Anne Ranse, Joh Sheehan, Jean Metters, Val Newton, Lexie Winders and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS:

Tuesday: Delma Murry

Thursday: Gunaseeli Lamech

Friday: Lucy, martyr and virgin Saturday: John of the Cross, mystic and teacher



Youth and Childrens Matters

What a week for youth and childrens' ministry in the parish! A combination of messy games, BBQ's, Christmas parties, Advent stories and planning for services has left us excited and thankful for the friendships and nurture of faith we find at Holy Covenant! Thanks to the families and volunteers who make it all possible.

There will be a **meeting after church today** in the Rainbow Centre to discuss youth and childrens ministry at Holy Covenant. We will reflect on the year and share thoughts about the direction we take in 2014. If you can't make it feel please fill in a feedback form or email me at youth@holycovenant.org.au

All welcome.



CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY LUNCH

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER

11.30am for 12 noon



Our Christmas Community Lunch is coming up in December. All are welcome to come along. Please also Invite any folk you know who may also be interested, as we are having a nice lunch and singing some Christmas carols, and enjoying some fellowship together.

We ask that you put your name on the sign-up sheet for catering purposes or contact Harris Boulton on 6251 2078 or hnboulton@gmail.com

NOTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL THIS WEEK:

Highlights of the meeting included:

- ✦ Congratulations and applause for Sarah Macneil on the announcement of her appointment as Bishop of Grafton. Sarah will be the first woman diocesan bishop in Australia and the third clergy person from Holy Covenant to be consecrated as a bishop.
- ✦ News of a significant increase in offerings in November, 9% above the annual monthly average. The Treasurer expects that the parish will run a budget deficit in 2013 (about \$20,000) and 2014 (about \$12,000) but that it will return to budgetary balance in 2015.
- ✦ Reports of a successful plant sale organised by the Eco Footprint Group. The sale raised over \$2,000 and it is planned that next year's event will also include a bookstall and coffee corner. A committee of interested parishioners will be needed to plan and organise the event - scheduled for November 8, 2014.

A GIFT FOR SARAH

We are so thankful to have had the wonderful pastoral and gifted ministry of Sarah and Ian this past year. We congratulate Sarah on her election as bishop of Grafton, the first woman in charge of a diocese in Australia. We will formally farewell Sarah and Ian on the first Sunday in February. You may like to contribute to a gift for Sarah's episcopal kit. We are planning to give her a pectoral cross. Offerings may be left in marked envelope in the plate or at office or transferred online marked Sarah's gift.

Thank you, Susanna



ST. JOHN'S CARE CHRISTMAS BOX is now waiting to receive your gifts. It's over near the choir.

Sue Jordan is particularly in need of gifts for teenagers - gift cards are a great idea and can be purchased from Coles or the Post Office shop. Food for hampers is also needed plus of course the usual toys etc. but **NOT** soft toys - they still have plenty left over from last year.

Anglican Church Calendars and Anglicare Christmas Cards

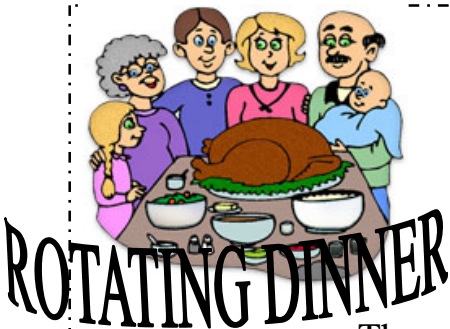
Just a reminder that if you would like to purchase an Anglican Calendar for next year please put your name down today so that the office can put an order through before Christmas. Proceeds from our bulk order will be put back into the Parish. Also if you have already collected your Anglicare Christmas cards but have yet to pay for them, please drop your money into Kathy in the office or give it to Gillian Painter at 8am or Merri Bacon at 10am.



Christmas Bowl envelopes are included in this Bulletin.

The Christmas Bowl is the Christmas Appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches Australia and a member of the global ACT Alliance. This year's Christmas Bowl hopes to raise \$2.5 million in support of Act for Peace's work with people from countries to reduce poverty, protect refugees, prevent conflicts and empower communities when struck by disaster.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 21 2014



This is NOT a progressive Dinner. This dinner will comprise four courses and each participant/couple will host one of the courses for 8 people at each sitting. The first three courses will be in participants' homes. The last course (sweets) will be at the Parish Centre where we will all gather for fellowship, coffee, cheese & port.

The sweets course is designed to cater for people unable to host in their home, who live "out of area" or who just prefer to host sweets! Sweets will be hosted in groups of 8 as for the other courses, with hosts setting tables, serving the course and cleaning up (just like at home!) You will share each course with different people. At the end of the night you will have had a meal with at least 25 people.

Everyone is encouraged to get involved and join in with this fun night.

More details and forms to register interest and preferred course to host soon/in the New Year. **Put the 21st February 2014 in your diary now. It will be a good night!**

Further information from Rod Menzies (M) 0429 098 762 or ming@homemail.com.au and if you will be away in January, Rod has forms available for you to complete before you go.

COVENANT CARE VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

The last one for this year is on the noticeboard giving a snapshot of what happens on Mondays at Holy Covenant and what is planned for the next few weeks. There is also interesting articles from volunteers and clients and some VERY interesting photos! It's worth a read.



LAST ONE FOR THE YEAR
Saturday 21 December from 9am
Let's spruce up our buildings and ground for
Christmas!
Delicious morning tea provided

AND . . .

On the back table:

- ♦ ACT for Peace Christmas Gift Catalogues
- ♦ Christian Blind Mission Meaningful Gifts 2013
- ♦ Anglican Overseas Aid Gifts of Light Gift Catalogue
- ♦ Anne Ranse's Reflection Books

PLEASE NOTE:

9am Morning Pray for this year will cease on Friday 20 December and will resume in February.



To Rebecca Lewis
for the Advent
lectern banners.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE at Radford College, 7pm TONIGHT

Bank Details for Direct Debit are:

Bank: Commonwealth Bank
Branch: Jamison Centre, ACT
BSB: 062 907
Acct No: 802 588
Name: Holy Covenant Anglican Church

ON THE NOTICE BOARD

- ♦ Blue Christmas Service 11 Dec. Kippax Uniting.
- ♦ Bishop's Cathedral Convention January 2014
- ♦ and lots more . . .

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Lord be with you

And also with you

We come open to new possibilities for our world.

We come open to new inspirations from God's Spirit

We come open to fresh calls to action in the name of Christ

Here we will listen in hope and trust for God's new word to us.

Lighting the Advent Candles

In the face of injustice and aggression

I will light a candle for peace.

Peace is God's way for our world.

In a world often given to despair

I will light a candle for hope.

Hope is the gift of God in Christ.



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Wednesday: **Maxine Rose, Anna Thorpe**

Friday: **Maggie Densborough**

*If you'd like your name in the Birthday Book,
please tell the office.*

MINISTRY TEAM

RECTOR	Revd Susanna Pain 6251 6100 or 0418 637 469	Email: rector@holycovenant.org.au Days: Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
SENIOR ASSOCIATE PRIEST	Revd Dr Sarah Macneil 0421 761 841	Email: sarah@chapmac.com Days: Sunday, Thursday, Friday
ASSISTANT PRIEST	Revd Mark Beresford 0400 242 149	Email: beresfordmk5@gmail.com Days: Tuesday, Wednesday
HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIESTS	Revd Nikolai Blaskow 0428 167 724	Email: nikolai@nikolaiblaskow.com
	Revd Sarah Gibson	Email: tshsb.gibson@gmail.com
HOLISTIC CARE NURSE	Ven Anne Ranse 0439 139 209	Email: nurse@holycovenant.org.au Days: Thursday
HONORARY DEACON	Revd Susan Joy Nevile 0431 133 852	Email: susanjoyn@gmail.com
YOUTH AND CHILDREN WORKER	Katherine Rainger 0401 142 851	Email: youth@holycovenant.org.au
ADMINISTRATOR	Kath Lake Office: 6251 6100	Email: office@holycovenant.org.au

PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH OFFICE	89 Dexter Street, Cook, ACT 2614 PO Box 98, Jamison, ACT 2614 Tel: 6251 6100	Email: office@holycovenant.org.au Web Page: http://holycovenant.org.au The office is usually open from 9am to 1pm Tuesday to Thursday
WARDENS	Kathryn Body 6104 9362 Peter Sherman 6251 3057 Evelyn David-Hoole 6259 2476	
BULLETIN TEAM	Phyl Holmes	Email: office@holycovenant.org.au phylandreg@optusnet.com.au

DETAILS FOR NEXT SUNDAY - 15 December 2013

8 am	HOLY COMMUNION	Celebrant: Revd Susanna Pain Preacher: Revd Susanna Pain
10 am	HOLY COMMUNION	Celebrant: Revd Dr Sarah Macneil Preacher: Revd Susanna Pain
6 pm	SALT	Sundays Around Little Things

TODAY

SENTENCE: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1:78-79

READINGS:

Isaiah 11: 1-10
 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-21
 Romans 15: 4-13
 Matthew 3: 31-12

8am HYMNS



270
 648
 269
 264

PRAYER:

God of our salvation,
 You straighten the winding ways of our hearts
 And smooth the paths made rough by sin:
 Keep our hearts watchful in holiness,
 And bring to perfection the good you have
 begun in us.

We ask this through him whose coming is
 certain, whose Day draws near,
 Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
 Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

AMEN



	8.00am	10.00 am
Sidespersons	Kerin and Brian Cox	Dorothy and Neville Hurst
Readers	Des Pain Ted Lilley Anne Ranse	Chris Olsson Lesley Chumak Neville Hurst
Intercessor	Peter Hall	Joh Sheehan
Organist	Kath Arthur	Heather Shelley
Word & Prayer	Steve Daniells	Anthony Frost
Deacon	Anne Ranse	
Cup	Steve Daniells Anne Ranse	Anthony Frost, Phyl Holmes, Leo Wimmer, Gwen Hallows Extra bread: Mark Beresford
Morning Tea	Margaret Meggs	Dorothy Hurst Betty Jennings
Children's Church		Katherine R, Maurice, Anne, Sophie and Lizzy M. Tea: Phyl Holmes