

Please pray for:

International Community and Church in: Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands

The Anglican Communion: Maiduguri - (Jos, Nigeria)

Churches in Australia: Lutheran Church of Australia

Anglican Church of Australia: Diocese of Bunbury

In the Diocese: St John's Canberra, St John's Care, Sutton Road Mission District, Chaplaincy Teams at ANU and University of Canberra, Radford College, Bishop's Prayer for Healing Team; Ministry to post-secondary students.

St Margaret's: Rev'd Chris Lockley and his wife Madeleine and church Elders.

Our Parish: Erica Mathieson and Ray Williamson; Wardens and Parish Council, the Tuckerbox, the Choir and Children's Ministry.

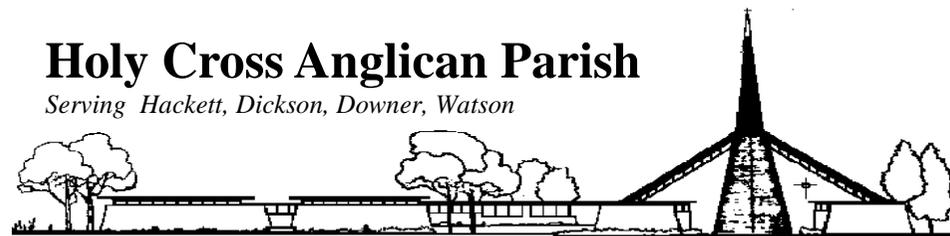
From the Parish Directory: Kenneth Ihuoma, Tony and Sue Jordan, Dorothy Judd, Irena Kurek-Braden, Chris Ledger and Geoff Alves.

People for Prayer: June and Keith Burnett, Miriam Rijven, Jackie and Brush Gordon-Smith, Bryce and Kate Wilson

Give thanks for the life of: David Walsh (9.2.2014)

Holy Cross Anglican Parish

Serving Hackett, Dickson, Downer, Watson



Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany 8th February 2015



The Rector Writes

Dear Friends,

I welcome you to Holy Cross for our Eucharist this morning. May we find the grace we need, and learn to become the grace others need as we worship this week.

Next Sunday, after our Eucharist, we will be having a quick morning tea and then moving to the hall for the start of our parish annual meetings. At the AGM we will receive the various reports on the parish's activities during the last twelve months, set broad directions for the coming year and agree to a budget. The AEM is for the purpose of electing those who are to serve the parish as Churchwardens and Parish Councillors during this coming year. There is still time to nominate people for these roles, but please hand in the appropriate form today.

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, is only ten days away. The final pre-Lenten indulgence will be dessert pancakes in the Rectory on Shrove Tuesday (Tuesday week) at 7.00pm. Please let us know if you can come. Over the page there is a more extensive note about Ash Wednesday and the 'study' groups that will be held during Lent. I urge you to consider how you will observe this important season in our Christian year, especially in terms of regular worship, additional study of the faith, and thoughtful service towards others.

Again, the gospel this morning tells of a healing episode — Jesus healing Peter's mother-in-law — followed by the first of several Markan summaries of Jesus' healing ministry. These summaries function to articulate Jesus' compassion for others and his vision of God. Such gospel passages help to focus our attention in preparation for Lent as a time for us seriously to examine our own endeavour to follow the way of Jesus.

Every blessing for the week ahead,

Erica

FOR NEXT SUNDAY 15TH FEBRUARY

Minister of the Word

Chris Ledger

Readings and Readers

2 Kings 2:1-12 Geoff Alves
Psalm 50:1-6
2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Sandra Blaik
Mark 9:2-9

Intercessor

Fay Nevile

Chalice

Howard Smith

Organist

Susan Reid

Door

Don Doering
Jean Hambley

Welcomer

Volunteer

Morning Tea

Tony Jordan
Sue Jordan

Counting

Patricia Stoddart
Nick Radford

Cleaning

Frances Sutherland
Dorothy Mackenzie

Children

Toni Hassan
Adrian Wright

Flowers

St Margaret's

Holy Cross Office: Lynda Dyer
Thursday, 1.30pm - 3.00pm
Phone: 6248 0282
Email: st_marg_uc_act@bigpond.com

Rector: Rev'd Dr Erica Mathieson.
PO Box 164, Dickson ACT 2602
Phone: 6248 5327
Email: holycrosshackett@bigpond.com

All items for the pew sheet to **Lynda by Wednesday**, please.

Observing Lent at Holy Cross

Ash Wednesday 18th February

We begin our observance of Lent with the Eucharist and the Imposition of Ashes at both 10.00am and 6.00pm.

Weekly Worship

We give priority to worshipping every week at the Eucharist on Sundays at 9.00am and/or Wednesdays at 10.00am.

Lent Groups

We extend our understanding and practice of our faith, and to help us we will:

- ♦ explore *Questions in Christianity*, with prayer and discussion. This is a series of DVDs, and the sessions will be in the Rectory on Sundays 4-5.30pm, and repeated on Monday at 10am. Please put your name on the lists.
- ♦ conduct an introduction to *Christian Meditation* on Monday afternoons at 5.30 in the church for one hour.



St John's Care

On Friday Lana and I spent time with a young woman (early 30s) and her Mum. I call her Mary. She has 3 daughters, one 16 and the youngest a pre-schooler. They have been staying with their Grandmother in Canberra for the past few weeks.

Mary normally lives in country NSW but lately she has been in a coastal town looking after her dying father. He has 4 to 6 months to live, and according to Mary his family is not coping. Then her stepmother, who Mary has problems with, arrived so Mary had to leave and can't return while she is there.

Mary's mother brought her in this morning. She also needed help. The Mum is on Newstart Allowance and trying to look after her 3 grandchildren while Mary was with her father. We were able to help Mum with food and we wanted to help Mary, but we just didn't know how.

I have never met anyone so confused. We offered to contact the Mental Health Crisis Team, but that was the last thing Mary wanted. She just wanted our help. She was due to be evicted from her house in the country. I contacted the Real Estate Agent, could I pay a couple of weeks rent and buy Mary a little breathing space. That was not acceptable. Mary was not a good tenant. We then contacted the storage people in this country town. They had no space available. I could see no solutions.

I told Mary what I had tried to do but I had not been successful. We had helped her Mum with food for the next few days, would she like some too? All of a sudden Mary seemed to relax. At least she had been listened to, we had tried to help and more importantly we had been non-judgemental.

My wish list for this week: tinned fruit, tinned Vegetables, and tinned meat.

Many thanks Sue

This Week

In the Parish

<i>Eucharist</i>	10.00 am	Wednesday
<i>Meditation</i>	5.30 pm	Wednesday
<i>Gardening Group</i>	9.00 am	Thursday
<i>Choir</i>	6.30 pm	Thursday
<i>Tuckerbox</i>	2.00 pm	Saturday

Holy Cross Walking Group **Tuesday 10th February 9.15 am**
The walk will be at Weston Park. Meet in the church carpark. Morning tea at cafe. Contact: Claire Lewis 6248 0302

Choir **Thursday 12th February 6.30pm**
The combined choir is beginning practice for Good Friday. If you enjoy singing and would like to come, you are welcome. Contact Sue Reid 6241 7040

Beyond the Parish

Christians for an Ethical Society **Thursday 12th February 7.30 pm**
New President, Rev'd Dr Thorwald Lorenzen, will introduce the theme, "Free and equal! Towards a more humane society". \$5 Donation. Venue, ACC&C. Contact Robyn Coghlan 6254 0487.

Beyond this Week

In the Parish

Forthcoming Meetings in the Parish

Parish AGM and AEM

These annual parish meetings will be held next Sunday at 10.30am. The reports have been sent to those on email (to reduce printing costs) and some hard copies are available this morning. You are also encouraged to complete nomination papers for the positions of Churchwarden and Parish Councillor today.

In the wake of the AEM, the following meetings will be held:

Wardens and Presiding Member meeting on Monday 16th February at 4.30 pm in the Rectory.

Joint Executive meeting on Monday 16th February at 5.30 pm in the small hall.

Parish Council meeting on Friday 20th February at 5.30pm in the small hall. If there are any matters you want discussed at Council please speak to a member.

Shrove Tuesday

Tuesday, 17th February

We celebrate Shrove Tuesday with dessert pancakes served in the Rectory at 7.00pm. Please put your name on the list and join us. \$5 donation.