

*Please pray for:*

**International Community and Church in:** Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden

**The Anglican Communion:** The Church of England

**Churches in Australia:** Congregational Federation of Australia

**Anglican Church of Australia:** Diocese of Gippsland

**The Diocese:** Gungahlin, Burgmann Anglican School, Gungahlin, St Simon's, Kaleen -Giralang- Lawson, St Paul's Ginninderra, St Barnabas' Charnwood.

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

**St Margaret's:** Rev'd Chris Lockley and his wife Madeleine, the church Elders and Ross Walker Lodge.

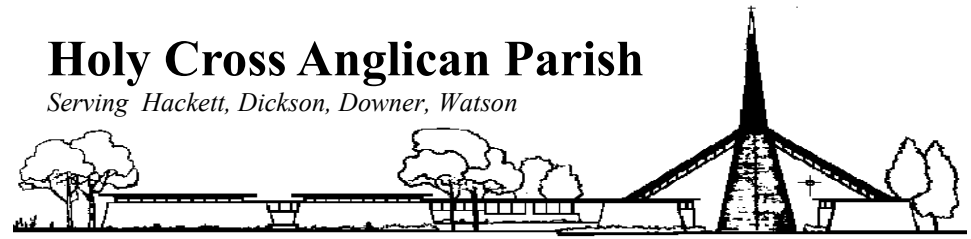
**From the Parish Directory:** Jamie Isbister, Ruth Das, Liam and Kiran, Theresa Jokisch, Tony and Sue Jordan, Dorothy Judd, Christine Ledger and Geoff Alves.

**People for Prayer:** Hugh and Natalie Collis, June Weston, Caity Cameron, John and Fay Nevile and Susan Joy, Jo Woodruff, John Marriott.

**Give thanks for the life of:** Patricia Armstrong (12.3.14), Marie Humphries (14.3.01), Richard Clarke (15.3.06), Ted Arblaster (16.3.94), Lachlan Brown (17.3.00), Raymond Schwinghammer (17.3.00), John Mya (18.3.14)

# Holy Cross Anglican Parish

*Serving Hackett, Dickson, Downer, Watson*



## Fourth Sunday in Lent

11th March 2018

### *The Rector Writes*

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to welcome you to Holy Cross on this Fourth Sunday in Lent, also called Refreshment Sunday. On behalf of all of us, I thank Iris Forrest for providing the Simnel Cake. May our worship this morning lead us more deeply into the awareness of God's presence in our lives as light and love.

In the gospel passage today, John uses the image of light and darkness. We cannot live in both simultaneously, and we cannot avoid the question that either we will love the darkness and therefore avoid the light, or we will choose to live in the light and leave the darkness behind. Lent is a time to reflect on where we are living. In the book of Numbers the same kind of question is put in terms of death and life. The Hebrew people complain about being in the desert because there is little food and water, and they don't like the food God has provided. A plague of snakes attacks them and they ask for forgiveness. God instructs Moses to make a bronze snake and put it on a pole so that anyone who is bitten can look at the bronze snake and be healed. The people have to face what poisons them and turn to God for life. We too need to face what poisons us and turn to God. The writer of the letter to the Ephesians reminds his readers and us that God saves us through Christ, as an act of grace that we do not earn. It is like moving from death to life. And in this new life God enables us to do good works, to choose love and kindness, because this is the Christ-shaped life. Lent is a time to deepen our experience of God and pray for a more Christ-shaped life.

I hope you will be able to come to the planning session on Tuesday 13th March at 5.30pm in the annex. It is an opportunity to share ideas for the future of the parish, and set our directions for the year. Please pray that we may together hear God's voice and have God's wisdom as we make decisions.

May God bless you richly this week.

*Erica*

### Sunday 18th March

**Minister of the Word**

Adrian Wright

**Readings and Readers**

Jeremiah 31.31-34      Mike Merlino

Psalms 119.9-16

Hebrews 5.5-14      Kirsten Merlino

John 12.20-33

**Welcoming**

Kirsten Merlino

**Intercessor**

Kirsty Baker

**Chalice**

Richard Johnstone

**Organist**

Grace Mya

**Door**

Damian Burns

Anke Burns

**Sunday School**

Trish Stoddart

**Morning Tea**

Doreen Htun

Michael Htun

**Counting**

Kirsten Merlino

Dorothy Mackenzie

**Cleaning**

Doreen Htun

Michael Htun

**Flowers**

Lent—no flowers

**Holy Cross Office:** Lynda Dyer

Thursday, 1.30pm - 3.00pm

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[www.holycrosshackett.org.au](http://www.holycrosshackett.org.au)

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

## Help Needed

After Erica's retirement help is needed in preparing some aspects of Sunday worship.

- Lynda in the office prepares the pewsheets and liturgy sheet. Someone is needed to add information, check and format both sheets and give them to Grace Mya who prints them on Saturday afternoons.
- The Scripture readings as set out in the Lectionary need to be prepared for use at worship. This is cut-and-paste job from internet Bible resources.

If you can help please speak to Erica.

## Learning about Palestine Wednesday, 14th March 7.00pm

You are invited to learn more about the Palestinian situation from Ahmed Abadla, a Palestinian from Gaza and currently a PhD student at ANU, and Ros Harper, a member of City Uniting and secretary of the Palestine Israel Ecumenical Network. Ros will talk about Ecumenical Accompaniment. Ahmed will speak about the situation of his family in Gaza. Please come and join us. We meet in the church.



**Ecumenical  
Accompaniment  
Programme  
in Palestine  
and Israel**

## St John's Care

Sometimes, you can feel so overwhelmed with the amount of need and the complexities that our clients face, you ask, "Where do I start?" But when a client returns with a teary smile and thanks you for the support, you know you have made a difference.

Last week, a woman came in desperate need. She had nowhere to turn and didn't know where to start. She explained that she was homeless with two girls. We sent through urgent referrals to OneLink (Homeless Services Gateway) and Domestic Violence Crisis Service and spent time listening to her story. She is from Pakistan and escaped the Taliban. She arrived in Australia via a humanitarian process. Once here, she found herself in a violent domestic relationship and had to flee for her safety and that of her children. She said that she has worked for the UN and has a Master's Degree in Economics as well as a Social Science Degree.

On Tuesday, she came back with the biggest smile and an abundance of gratitude. Onelink had been able to house her and she had connected with other services for help. She said that SJC had been there to support and assist her to navigate the system. With secure and safe housing and community networks she and her daughters will now thrive and go on to make a great contribution to their new country.

The month has just started and SJC has supported and assisted about 85 people with food, finance, moral support and has also provided people with advocacy and information to assist them in improving their current situations.

Wish list: One litre full cream long life milk, honey, cooking oil, flour, small fruit lunchbox snacks.

*Sarah Murdoch A/Executive Officer*

## 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>Tuckerbox</i>	2.00 pm	Saturday

### Lent Group

**Today 11 am**

We meet in the rectory and continue our discussion of Rowan William's *Go with Us*.

### Rosters are now being prepared for April and May.

If you are unavailable for any Sundays during this period would you please let Sue or Tony Jordan know. Phone 6247 7563.

### Planning Evening

**Tuesday, 13th March 5.30pm**

The Parish Council is holding this Planning Evening for the whole parish, and strongly encourages you to come along. Please join us in the church annex. Come with ideas for the parish for the year ahead.

### Tuckerbox Board

**Thursday 15th March 5.30 pm**

We meet in the home of Sue Jordan.

## Beyond the Parish

### Stations of the Cross Exhibition 3rd-15th March 10am – 4pm.

In the Chapel of the ACC&C, Barton. The exhibition is free and all are welcome.

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## Beyond this Week

### In the Parish

#### Parish Council

**Monday 19th March 5.30 - 7 pm**

Members of the Parish Council are asked please to note this date.

#### Socially Crafty

**Wednesday 21st March 1 - 3 pm**

Join with Tuckerbox to share fellowship and craft. Gold coin donation.

## Beyond the Parish

### Palm Sunday Rally for Refugees 25th March 1 pm

Please support refugees and asylum seekers by attending the Palm Sunday rally in Garema Place to appeal for a more humane and compassionate policy.

### Canberra Choral Society

**Saturday, 24th March 7 pm**

St Matthew Passion, in German, at St Christopher's Cathedral by a choir of 120.

Tickets \$40-60 at <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=356110&>