



St. John's Anglican Church Albany Consecrated 1848.

Sunday 1st February 2026
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany



Sentence of the Day

'Now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.'

1 Corinthians 13.14

Collect

Righteous God, you confound the world's wisdom by giving your blessing to the lowly and pure in heart: give us such a hunger and thirst for justice and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the promise of your kingdom, which has been revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer of the Week

O Lord, you have taught us that all your doings without love are worth nothing: send your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you; Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake. Amen

Today's Readings

1st Reading Micah 6.1-8

²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,
²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,
²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;

²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are,

²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

³⁰ He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

³¹ in order that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'

Gospel Reading Matthew 5.1-12

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³ 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.'

1st Reading Micah 6.1-8

1 Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

2 Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,

and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,

and he will contend with Israel.

3 'O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

4 For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;

and I sent before you Moses,

Aaron, and Miriam.

5 O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,

what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.'

6 'With what shall I come before the Lord,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,
with calves a year old?

7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,

with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

8 He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1.18-31

18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

19 For it is written,
'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

20 Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

The Psalm for today is Psalm 15

- ¹ Lord, who may abide in your tabernacle:
or who may dwell upon your holy hill?
- ² Whoever leads an uncorrupt life
and does the thing which is right:
who speaks the truth from the heart,
and has not slandered with the tongue;
- ³ Who has done no evil to a friend:
nor vented abuse against a neighbour;
- ⁴ In whose eyes the worthless have no honour:
but who makes much of those that fear the Lord;
- ⁵ Whoever has sworn to a neighbour:
and will not go back on that oath;
- ⁶ Who has not put money to usury:
nor taken a bribe against the innocent.
- ⁷ Whoever does these things:
shall never be overthrown.

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading *Isaiah 58.1-9 a*

2nd Reading *1 Corinthians 2.1-13*

Gospel Reading *Matthew 5.13-20*

P704

P158

P 4

HYMNS – EUCHARIST SETTING DUDMAN TIS 756

	8am	9.30am
Introit		125
Gradual	448	448
Offertory	547	547
Recessional	216	216

We respectfully acknowledge the Menang Noongar people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we worship and minister, and pay respect to elders past and present.

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS - All are welcome at the Lord's table. Baptised, communicant members of all Christian denominations, are very welcome to receive Holy Communion and any person welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. If you are unable to come to the altar rail and wish to receive the Sacrament in your pew, please speak to a sides person.

Hello Dear Friends

I hope you've had a good week.

We find ourselves at the beginning of a new month and we prepare to begin our Lenten Journey together. Ash Wednesday is 18th February.

Our sentence for the Fourth Sunday After Epiphany gives us a wonderful promise and feeling of knowing and seeing God face to face. We pray for a hunger and thirst for justice.

We read from Micah (Micah was raised up to support Isaiah, and to confirm his predictions, while he invited to repentance, both by threatened judgments and promised mercies) - today he talks of God's controversy with Israel and what God requires. The psalmist talks of the way to heaven - and says if we would all be happy or blessed, we must be holy - the psalmist encourages all to walk in that way. We continue hearing Paul's Epistle to the Corinthians - he is discussing the difference between Jews and Greeks, humility and the doctrine of a crucified saviour.

Matthew gives us the account of Jesus teaching the Beatitudes - so poignant in these current times!

Jesus began to prepare his disciples for ministry, by teaching them the beatitudes, Matthew's account of the sermon of the mount. But it's worth noting that some translations of the Bible let us down a bit here, they say: "Happy are those ...". Because Jesus isn't simply saying to us, that if we model our lives along the lines of the beatitudes, we'll find happiness! He's saying much more than that. A more accurate translation says: "Blessed are those ..." because that's more to the point that our Lord is making. * What he is saying to them is: if those who claim to be Christians, model their lives along the lines of the beatitudes: then they will be richly blessed by God, now: and they will share intimately with the Father at every stage of their journey through life, and that in itself, will bring rewards in heaven.

So, what are the qualities of life that are expressed in the beatitudes that we should try to emulate in our lives: in order that you and I might exercise more effective ministries? * Well firstly Jesus said:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit", i.e. blessed are those who humble themselves before God, and put their faith and trust in him, rather than trying to do everything in their own strength, "for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven".

"Blessed are those who mourn", i.e. blessed are those who grieve over the state of the world today, and are prepared to acknowledge that they have contributed towards this, by their own sinfulness, "for they shall be comforted".

"Blessed are the meek", the meek are those who realise their limitations and are prepared to depend upon God for all their needs, "for they shall inherit the earth".

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness", i.e. those who strive for wholeness in their lives, and are prepared to change and grow into it, as Jesus leads them, "for they shall be satisfied".

"Blessed are the merciful", those who have a sense of compassion and mercy towards those who are less fortunate than themselves: those who are quite prepared to go without, for the sake of someone else, "for they shall obtain mercy".

"Blessed are the pure in heart", those who have repented of their sins, and have received God's forgiveness, "for they shall see God".

"Blessed are the peacemakers", those who share God's work of bringing peace to the world and reconciliation amongst his people, "for they shall be called sons of God".

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake", i.e. those who suffer for doing what is right: when those around them just want to do their own thing regardless of the consequences, "for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven".

"Blessed are you, when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad for your reward will be great in heaven". *

Now I don't know about you, but I personally find our Lord's instructions in the beatitudes to be both encouraging, but at the same time

challenging. Because I know, that in many areas I'm on the right track: but if I'm honest, I have to admit that there are also areas where I need to change and grow. And that means that I need to be more open to allow the Lord to continue to work in my life, to bring me to that point of wholeness, where I will know that I am fully

blessed, and right with God. * Then I know that my ministry, and yours: will become far more effective, and the Lord will bless all that we do in his name. Blessings,

Karen.

Prayers for:

The Anglican Church of Australia -

Primate - Bishop - Mark Short, General Secretary Anne Hywood, The General Synod and the Standing Committee.

The Parish of Albany - St. John the Evangelist, Priest in Charge - Revd. Canon Karen Cave, Retired Clergy - Revd. Helen Barnard, Revd. John Abraham and wife Anne, Revd. Michael Lloyd (Deacon) and wife Margaret.

Please pray for:

- * The Ministry to the Seafarers.
- * The Ministry to the Regional Prison.
- * The Ministry of Emergency Relief, Op Shop and Soup Kitchen.
- * Young families and Sunday School.
- * Ability to invite friends.
- * The Ministry to Police Chaplaincy.
- * The Ministry to RSL.
- * The Ministry to Amana living.

Diocesan Ministry - Ministry in nursing homes: Residential care and the elderly.

For the World:

- * For all who serve in Federal, State and Local Government.
- * For Community Child Care and Respite Centres and their Staff.
- * For increased funding for medical

research and services.

Anglican Church of Kenya - Diocese of Kapsabet.

Diocesan Bishop - The Rt. Rev'd Dr. Paul Korir, wife Selline and children Emmanuel and Sammy.

Diocesan Administrative Secretary - Ven. Bethuel Cheruiyot and wife Elizabeth.

Other Diocesan Staff - Mr. Paul Melly (Diocesan Driver), Mrs Jacklyne Too (Bishop's Secretary), Ms. Dianna Chepngeno (Diocesan Secretary attached to Bishop's Office), Mr. Erick Bett and Mr David Too (Office Assistants), Ms. Neddy Jepleting (Secretary attached to Mothers' Union Dept.), Mrs. Gladys Kemboi (Diocesan Accountant) and Mr. Isaac Talam (Diocesan Accountants Clerk).

Please pray for:

- * The major projects in our diocese especially the ongoing construction of the ACK Kapsabet Plaza.
- * The Bishop that the Lord will bestow him with wisdom, strength, and courage to steward the diocese towards fulfilling its mission mandate in 2026.
- * Christians in the diocese that they may give generously for the Lord's work.

Mothers Union Monthly Prayer

We give thanks to you, Lord for our membership in the global Mothers' Union.

May we be blessed with a sense of connection and belonging.

May we accept the call in the power of the Holy Spirit to grow in faith.

May we be empowered in all that we do and say to help others.

May we bloom where you plant us, O Lord. Amen.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Martha's Soup Kitchen - Monday 12pm-1pm.

Communications Committee Meeting -

Tuesday 3rd Feb at 4pm via Zoom.

Women's Fellowship Meeting - Fri. Feb. 6th in the D/W Hall at 9.30am. Topic is 2026 Programme Planning.

February Parish Council Reports due to Parish Administrator by 5pm Wed., 11th Feb. via email please.

Finance Committee Meeting - Thurs. 12th February at 10am via Zoom

A Memorial Service to give thanks for the life of Marie Ham will be held at St John's on Thursday 5th February at 12pm. This will be followed by interment of her ashes in the Memorial Garden.

Emergency Relief - Hi everyone Thanks for your previous donations which we very much appreciated. We urgently require the following items:

- * 1 litre full cream long life milk.
- * 1kg plain or self-raising flour.
- * 1kg white rice.

Thank you and best wishes from the ER team.

Ministry opportunities - The Church cleaning team and Op Shop are looking for extra volunteers to join them. Please contact our Op Shop Manager, Wardens or Revd. Karen.

Church Watch is now up and running again on Fridays from 11am-2pm. If anyone is interested in assisting with this ministry please speak to Revd. Karen.

PEACE OF MIND

Regardless of age, an enduring power of attorney (EPA) , an enduring power of guardianship (EPG) and an advanced health directive (AHD) can be accessed at <https://www.wa.gov.au/service/justice/civil-law/enduring-power-of-attorney> and are recommended to be in place to provide peace of mind to our families. Do

you have a will?

AND FUNERALS - Information to assist you make your wishes known re funeral arrangements can be accessed via the Parish Office. The completed information is for your family and/or support persons to ensure your wishes are carried out.

Prayer Chain - A parish prayer chain has been re-established. If you have prayer requests **please contact Revd. Karen (0434 702 343)**, who will communicate with other members of the team. Prayer requests will not be discussed by prayer chain members and will be kept in confidence. If you wish for prayers to continue for more than one week, please contact Rev. Karen again. The importance and power of prayer is intrinsic in our faith.

Prayer is an act of worship that glorifies God and reinforces our need for God.

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7(NRSV).

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER.

A contemplative prayer service is held in the Lady Chapel every Tuesday of the month at 11am. The format is flexible, but follows The Rhythm of Life: Celtic Daily Prayer by David Adam and includes a time of silent prayer, up to 20 minutes for regulars. The service is chosen as a result of discussion about matters on the hearts of those attending, and the contemplation based on a mantra taken from the psalm. The service takes less than an hour usually, and it is followed for those who wish to stay, by the regular Tuesday 12.30 Eucharist. The books are supplied, and contemplative time can be modified for those new to this form of prayer. You are most welcome to come and try a new experience! Cherry O'Donnell.

Upcoming Cruise Ship Visits:

-The Seven Seas Explorer (approx. passenger capacity of 1360) is due to dock in Albany from 7am-4pm on Wednesday, 4 February. — - The Silver Moon (approx. passenger capacity of 596) is due to dock in Albany from 8am-6pm on Wednesday, 11 February.
- The Azamara Pursuit (approx. passenger capacity of 704) is due to dock in Albany from 6.30am-2.30pm on Friday, 13 February.

We wish all a very happy visit to Albany and safe sailing. There will be markets in St. John's Hall.

2026 Lectionaries are still available from the Office for \$12.50.

Direct Giving via Electronic Banking

- Thanks again to those who are

Planning for our Annual Meeting of Parishioners 2026

Our AMP will be held on Sunday 22nd February 2026. In order to prepare for this please find detailed the timeline of events.

Forms are now available in the Parish Office and at the back of Church for you to register as a voting parishioner. You will not need to register again if you did so last year. Registration will be available until end of January. (a list of those already registered is available with the registration forms).

From 9th December 2025 until 24th January 2026, nomination forms for elections to an office in the parish will be available. The following positions will be elected:

Parish Councillor x 6.

Please hand these completed forms to Revd. Karen.

Voting will take place on 15th February 2026 and 22nd February 2026 and end before the AMP.

All Ministry reports should be completed and send to Parish Office before 9th January 2026.

Please pray for those called to serve as Parish Councillors.

Thank you and Blessings.

Revd. Karen.

continuing to support the church in one form or another. Could I please ask that those that are electronically transferring money to the church follow the following instructions.

Ordinary Direct giving - quote the word "Donation" in the reference section and deposit into Anglican Community Fund.

**BSB: 706-001
Acc: 3000 3081**

Mission giving should be deposited into the Parish Holding Account using the word "Mission" as a reference.

**Banking details are:
BSB: 706-001
Acc: 3000 8763**

This month's Mission of the Month is Anglican Board of Mission (ABM)



The information below has been sourced from the ABM website, for more in depth detail please go to <https://www.abmission.org>. They are active in many countries and the work they do is truly inspiring.

Anglican Board of Mission is the national mission agency for the Anglican Church. It is the channel through which Australian Anglicans participate in mission, both here and overseas. Anglicans in Development is wholly-owned by ABM, and operates ABM's Sustainable Communities program, working with church partners to deliver grassroots, community-driven development, and disaster preparedness and response. We want to see people everywhere experience the wholeness of life God offers in Jesus Christ, and to this end we support our partners as they participate in God's mission.

Services at St John's.

We have implemented live streaming of services on Facebook - If you use Facebook please "like" the following pages Anglican Parish of Albany and Anglican Parish Albany Service Stream for live services or recordings. We will also put a link on the website www.anglicanchurchalbany.org.au so you can watch the recordings.

Normal Worship times:

Sunday 8:00am	Sung Eucharist with Hymns
Sunday 9.30am	Live streamed sung Eucharist with Hymns
Sunday 7.00pm	Live Streamed Compline
Tuesday 12.30 pm	Eucharist
Monday - Friday	Morning and Evening Prayer live streamed at 8am and 5pm.

The next Order of St Luke Healing Service will be held on Thursday 12th of February at 9.30am in the Lady Chapel.

CONTACT DETAILS

Priest-in-Charge: Reverend Canon Karen Cave - Mob: 0434 702 343

Email: priest@anglicanchurchalbany.org.au

Safe Church email - safechurch@anglicanchurchalbany.org.au

Wardens:

Email: wardens@anglicanchurchalbany.org.au

Mike Taylor: Mob: 0417 967 368

John Blake: Mob: 0438 761 950, (H) 9844 4587

Georgie Walker: Mob: 0428 425 293

Parish Office:

Parish Administrator: admin@anglicanchurchalbany.org.au

Rachel Matthews – 9841 5015

Parish Office Volunteer: Amy Mengler.

Office Hours – Mon - Thurs 9am to 12pm and Fri 9am –5pm.

Op Shop:

Mob: 0474 265 500

Manager - Ann Robinson

Trading Hrs are 10am-2pm Mon-Fri.

Director of Professional Standards:

Ms Davina Goldthorpe - Ph: 9425 7203. Email: safeministry@perth.anglican.org

Mandatory Reporting Service:

Ph: 1800 708 704. Website: www.mandatoryreporting.dcp.wa.gov.au

Please check out our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages at Anglican Parish of Albany and encourage your friends to follow us.