



St. John's Anglican Church Albany Consecrated 1848.

**Sunday 19th July 2026
Eighth Sunday After Pentecost**



Sentence of the Day

**'You, O Lord, are a God
merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and
abounding in steadfast
love and faithfulness.'**

Psalm 86.15

Collect

**Saving God, in Jesus
Christ you opened for
us a new and living way
into your presence:
give us pure hearts and
constant wills to
worship you in spirit
and in truth;
through Jesus Christ
our Lord, who lives and
reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Prayer of the Week

**O God, you alone can
order our unruly wills
and affections:
teach us to love what
you command, and to
desire what you
promise, that, among
the changes and
chances of this world,
our hearts may surely
there be fixed where
true joys are to be
found;
through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.**

Today's Readings

1st Reading Genesis 28.10-19a

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. ¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' ¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' ¹⁷ And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.' ¹⁸ So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

2nd Reading Romans 8.12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — ¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God. ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it,

in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Gospel Reading Matthew 13.24-30; 13.36-43

²⁴ He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" ²⁸ He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" ²⁹ But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." ³¹ ³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' ³⁷ He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

The Psalm for today is Psalm 139, Verses 1-11 and 23-24

¹ O Lord, you have searched me out and known me:
you know when I sit or when I stand,
you comprehend my thoughts long before.
² You discern my path and the places where I rest:
you are acquainted with all my ways.
³ For there is not a word on my tongue:
but you, Lord, know it altogether.
⁴ You have encompassed me behind and before:
and have laid your hand upon me.
⁵ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me:
so high that I cannot endure it.
⁶ Where shall I go from your spirit:
or where shall I flee from your presence?
⁷ If I ascend into heaven you are there:
if I make my bed in the grave you are there also.

⁸ If I spread out my wings towards the morning:
or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
⁹ Even there your hand shall lead me:
and your right hand shall hold me.
¹⁰ If I say 'Surely the darkness will cover me:
and the night will enclose me',
¹¹ The darkness is no darkness with you,
but the night is as clear as the day:
the darkness and the light are both alike.
²³ Search me out, O God, and know my heart:
put me to the proof and know my thoughts.
²⁴ Look well lest there be any way of wickedness in me:
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

Next Sunday's Readings

<i>1st Reading</i>	<i>Genesis 29.15-28</i>	<i>P26</i>
<i>2nd Reading</i>	<i>Romans 8.26-39</i>	<i>P150</i>
<i>Gospel Reading</i>	<i>Matthew 13.44-58</i>	<i>P14</i>

HYMNS – EUCHARIST SETTING DUDMAN

TIS 756

	8am	9:30am
Introit		560
Gradual	130	130
Offertory	133	133
Recessional	209	209

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.

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.

Children's Church is available at our 9:30am service. This week's Children's Talk is 'Weeds in the Garden.'

Hello Dear Friends

I pray your week has gone well.

Our rich readings for today again give us promises and challenges - In Genesis we learn of the providence of God and are told that "God will not leave us". Our Roman's reading reinforces that, "if the spirit is in us, Christ is in us. Our Psalm tells us that God knows all things, is ever-present and describes the psalmist's hatred of sin and desire to be led aright which leads us to the challenge of our Gospel - we are to look at our sins and the way we conduct our lives and then make a decision about how we bear fruit!!!

Jesus gave us wonderful teaching about how God wants us to live our lives. And to do this he used Parables and again this week he gives us a full explanation. Last week we looked at the Parable of the Sower, and we saw how the four different types of soil represented the four possible different responses to Jesus' words. Today's parable of wheat and weeds begins where last week's parable left off - with the good crop growing in the good soil.

In today's parable, Jesus is speaking about people who want to be disciples, the seed has taken root in the good soil. Jesus' words have taken root in the hearts of disciples – and the seed starts to flourish.

Evil, however, isn't content to let Christians grow in peace and quiet - it is out to disrupt us and so sows a weed. But not just any weed – it was darnel - darnel resembles wheat-like grass and is a weed in whose grains lives a poisonous fungus and grows exclusively in grain fields in the Middle East. It is a poisonous plant related to wheat, and which is virtually indistinguishable from it until the ears form.

To sow darnel among wheat as an act of revenge was punishable in Roman Law – so this parable probably depicts a real-life situation."

We have a tendency to divide people into two categories: saints and sinners. However, this division is quite unacceptable really. People are not so easily categorised. Human beings are complex, and we find things that are at odds with one another coexisting in the same human being.

Many people were inspired by the story of Oskar Schindler, the German industrialist, who saved over a thousand Polish Jews from the concentration camps. One of the people he saved said of him, 'He was our father, our mother, our only hope. He never let us down'. Yet many who saw the film Schindler's List were surprised, if not quite put off, by his vices. He was a man endowed

with all the human vices. Hence, for some, he constitutes something of a moral puzzle.

Schindler certainly was no saint. In fact, he was riddled with contradictions. Unfaithful to his wife, he certainly knew how to enjoy the so-called good life – cigars, drink, women ... He was a Catholic, but in name only. He was also a member of the Nazi party, and his avowed aim was to end the war with 'two trucks of money'. He exploited the Jews as a source of cheap labour.

But there was another and better side to him, and in spite of his lapses, he always returned to that better side. There was a basic goodness about him. As the war went on, he became appalled at the horrors of 'the final solution'. At considerable personal risk (he was twice arrested by the Nazis), he protected his workers from the death camps, thereby showing that he was undoubtedly a courageous man.

But Schindler was no angel. He was a mere human being, an essentially good human being, even though his goodness was seriously flawed. We wonder what he might have achieved had he not been so divided. And the Nazis, for all the horrific things they did, weren't totally evil either. They were not devils incarnate. They too were human beings, who at that time acted inhumanely.

Some people don't seem to have any understanding of the divided nature of each human being – of the coexistence in every person of good and evil, strength and weakness, loyalty and betrayal ... As soon as they discover a weakness in someone, they write the person off. Their hero must be perfect. As soon as a flaw or a crack appears, they lose faith in them.

But things are not that simple. Human beings are complex – and that includes each of us. We are an extraordinary mixture of good and bad. Moreover, the roots of good are so entwined with the roots of evil that one can't be pulled up without pulling up the other.

We must learn to be patient and lenient towards ourselves in the first place. We must acknowledge the dark side of the weeds: repenting of our sins: but confident, that with God's help: the good will finally triumph. It is through struggle that we grow, provided we don't throw in the towel.

By concentrating on people's vices, we become blind to their virtues. At times we are too eager to voice our criticisms, but reluctant to give a single word of encouragement, and in this way, we bar every road to improvement. Therefore, let us not condemn others. Rather, let us seek the good in everyone, reveal it and encourage it.

And we must then be tolerant towards others. Even though we see only part of a person's life we tend to rush to judgement. We are too quick to classify people, and once we have classified them as evil, for them there is no redemption. Only God has the right and the knowledge to judge, yet God is patient and tolerant.

By concentrating on people's voices, we become blind to their virtues. At times we are too eager to voice our criticisms, but reluctant to give a single word of encouragement, and in this way, we bar every road to improvement. Therefore, let us not condemn others. Rather, let us seek the good in everyone, reveal it and encourage it.

The scriptures assure us that we will all be judged: not by a single act, or stage in our lives, but by our whole life. That is why judgement can't come until the end. Anyone can make a mistake, or go off the rails: but by the grace of God, we can also redeem ourselves. We must always remember that it's from our flawed nature that God make saints?

Blessings

Karen

Prayers for:

The Diocese of Riverina - Bishop Donald Kirk, clergy and people.

The Parish of Lake Grace - St Anne's (Lake Grace), St. Francis' (Newdegate), St Stephen's (Lake Biddy), supported by clergy of the Stirling Deanery and Revd. Vicki Webb.

Please pray for:

*Safety for farmers and gratitude for the care and generosity of rural communities.

*Support for parishioners worshipping at St Anne's as well as the residents and the sick at the Lake Grace hospital and for the wonderful caring staff.

*Comfort for those families mourning the loss of loved ones.

Diocesan Ministry: Healing Ministry - Order of St. Luke, Chaplain - Very Revd. Darryl Cotton.

For the World: -

*Those who work as Customs Officers or in the area of border patrol.

*Those who serve in under developed nations to help enhance their quality of life.

*All members of the Surf Life Savers organisation.

*All services and events to bring glory to God.

Prayers for:

Anglican Church of Kenya - Diocese of Kapsabet.

St Andrew's Chebilat Parish - Parish

Priest - Revd. Emmanuel Lemeito and wife Caroline.

St Andrew's Kurgung Parish - Parish

Priest - Revd. Naomi Rutto and husband Josphat.

Please pray for:

*That God would bless our County, the Governor, the Members of the County Assembly, Members of the National Assembly, the Senator that all may work in unity for the betterment of the people of this County.

*That each would have the heart to give generously to missions and to minister to the poor and those in need.

Diocesan Ministry - That God blesses the entire program of our diocese.

Mission of The Month for July is Albany Women's Centre

Albany Women's Centre offers women, with or without children, affected by family and domestic violence a safe refuge and support services.

Services provided at the centre include:

- Safe, secure crisis accommodation
- Case management support.
- Outreach services
- Support Groups.
- Community Education

You can find plenty of information regarding family and domestic violence and how to get assistance at their website [Albany Womens Centre - Centre For Women's Safety and Wellbeing](http://AlbanyWomensCentre.org.au)

Some statistics taken from the Albany Womens Centre Website:

1. One in six women in Australia have experienced physical or sexual violence by a current or previous partner since the age of 15.
2. One in four women in Australia have experience emotional abuse by a current or previous partner since the age of 15.

At St Johns we provide much needed toiletry packs to these women in need. This service was initiated by the Ladies Guild and has continued on after the cessation of this group. Your donations will go towards assisting with making sure we are able to continue this service.

Contact details for the Albany Women's Centre are 9845 6000 or awc@anglicare.org.au. The centre services a 50km radius, covering the towns of Mountt Barker, Denmark and Albany. Boys up to the age of 15 and girls up to the age of 18 are accepted.

Mothers Union Monthly Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of faith that we have received from you. Please help us to know more deeply for ourselves the transforming power of the Gospel in our own lives. As we draw encouragement from your gracious gift to us, give us a greater desire to share the Good News with the people we meet, so that they, too, may find hope and may know for themselves the riches of your love. Through your Holy Spirit, may our words and actions bear witness to your presence, through Christ our Lord. Amen

Re: NOMINATIONS FOR OUR NEXT BISHOP

The nomination period has now finished.

The Nomination Committee will consider all the names that have been sent in, check the person's eligibility and ascertain their willingness to be considered for the position.

In due course the Committee will make a short list of no less than three and no more than six names for consideration at the Election Synod.¹

Details of the Election Synod will be issued soon. All current members of Synod will be asked to attend. Please note that the election Synod is a closed Synod, so non-members will not be able to attend. The deliberations of this Synod remain confidential.

Individuals and Parishes are encouraged to pray for God's blessing and guidance during this time of discernment. I encourage you to use the following prayer:

*Eternal God, shepherd and guide,
in your mercy give your church in this Diocese a shepherd after your own heart who
will walk in your ways,
and with loving care watch over your people.
Give us a leader of vision and a teacher of your truth.
So may your Church be built up and your name
glorified;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(APBA 1995, p211, #35)

The Great Southern Women's Convention is a special day of gathering together to explore the truth of God's Word through Bible teaching, respond to Him in worship, and encourage one another in living for Jesus.

Saturday 22 August 2026 is only a few months away and registrations are open! Tickets can be purchased online through <https://www.trybooking.com/DLNJY> or directly from Albany Christian Book Centre or Albany Baptist office (exact cash payments only).

Standard tickets - \$60
Student/Health Care Card tickets - \$35

For further updates and GSWC news, please follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) — and feel free to like, follow, and share our posts to help spread the word!

Your sisters in Christ,

The Great Southern Women's Convention Committee



The Unexpected Jesus

SATURDAY 22ND AUGUST
9AM - 2.30PM

ALBANY BAPTIST CHURCH
20 BETHEL WAY, YAKAMIA

REGISTER AT



www.trybooking.com/DLNJY

\$50 Early bird (until 5th July)
\$60 Standard
\$35 Concession
(includes morning tea & lunch)

Cash payments
Albany Christian Book Centre or
Albany Baptist Office

Questions?
gswconvention@gmail.com

 @gs_womensconvention
 @greatsouthernwomensconvention

NOTICES

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Prepare for Worship Meeting - Monday 4pm in the D/W Hall.

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

Parish Council Meeting - Tues., 21st July at 5.30 pm in D/W Hall or via Zoom. .

Communications Committee Meeting - Tues. 4th August at 4am via Zoom.

Thursday at 3 - It's not too late to join us as we look at the context and meaning of the miracles of Jesus. Each session examines one miracle in depth. Some great conversations and learning have occurred – come along!

RESCHEDULED: Bishop Ian's visit to the Parish - Bishop Ian will now be visiting the parish on **Sunday 16th August** and will be attending both the 8am and 9.30am services.

Thank you - Thank you to Reverend Karen and Parishioners who have sent floral arrangements, cards and phone calls and to those who attended the funeral service for our daughter and sister Cathryne. It has been appreciated by the family.

Bicentennial Fete Update and Reminder - Thank you everyone one that has started making jams, pickles, and preserves for our annual fete. We have also received a donation of some really lovely soft toys. Our fete this year as part of the Albany Bicentennial Celebrations will be held on Saturday October 24th, one day before St Johns 178th birthday. Please start putting plant cuttings in pots as we may be a little short this year. This is a special request from Margaret Benn. I will be stepping down as coordinator this year after 12 years in the role. Pippa Milne has agreed to assist me this year with several "younger members" of St John's cogregation I will also be looking for several committee members to help with the organisation. Thanking you all in advance. Mike Taylor 0417967368.

2026 Lectionaries - 1 left. Available from the office for \$12.50.

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

- * Egg cartons
- * 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 Fridays from 11am-2pm. If anyone is interested in assisting with this ministry please speak to Revd. Karen or one of our Wardens

St John's Shoe Box Update July 2026

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to thank all the people who were able to attend the WA General Manager's Shoe Box Meeting on Thursday 18th of June. Unfortunately owing to a rather distressing accident the week before this meeting, I have been out of action now for a few weeks. However, things are progressing slowly and I have been able to keep abreast of what has been happening to our 2026 Shoebox Project.

I am delighted to say that everything is progressing really well and contributions of both goods and funding are well and truly up to our usual standard.

Our General Manager, AJ Joubert, was very happy with the WA contributions and efforts made in 2025. Millions of shoebox gifts were distributed throughout the world and Samaritans Purse Organisation wish to thank all for the tremendous participation in this most worthwhile project.

New information on the changes, that are taking place this year, owing to shipping and distribution changes, will mean that our boxes will have to be in Perth by the end of September. So we will have our blessing day sometime about Mid-August. This will depend on The Reverend Karen's commitments and available times, but I will ensure this date is circulated in plenty of time.

Before that date, we will have a packing day in the church hall on a day still to be decided, and it is looking like we will surpass our last years total. Once again thank you all for the time, effort and contributions already made.

Yours Sincerely - Ethel Halliday – St John's OCC representative.

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 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 usually takes less than an hour. 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.

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.

Containers for Change

We are now registered with the "Containers for Change" scheme. Our Member Number is C11770281. Would you kindly consider donating your refunds to St John's?

Direct Giving via Electronic Banking - Thanks again to those who are 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

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 13th of August 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:

admin@anglicanchurchalbany.org.au

Rachel Matthews – 9841 5015

Parish Office Volunteer: Amy Mengler and Kate Britton.

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

Op Shop:

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.