



St. John's Anglican Church Albany Consecrated 1848.

**Sunday 23rd August 2026
Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost**



Sentence of the Day

**Martha said, 'Yes, Lord,
I believe that you are
the Messiah, the Son of
God, the one coming
into the world.'**

John 11.27

Collect

**O God, fount of all wisdom,
in the humble witness of the
apostle Peter you have
shown the foundation of our
faith:**

**give us the light of your
Spirit, that, recognising in
Jesus of Nazareth the Son
of the living God, we may be
living stones for the
building up of your holy
Church;
through 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

**Creator God, you have
made us for yourself,
and our hearts are
restless until they find
their rest in you:
teach us to offer
ourselves to your
service, that here we
may have your peace,
and in the world to
come may see you
face to face;
through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.**

Today's Readings

1st Reading Exodus 1.8-2.10

¹ ⁸ Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹ He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰ Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.' ¹¹ Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³ The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴ and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. ¹⁵ The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶ 'When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.' ¹⁷ But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. ¹⁸ So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, 'Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?' ¹⁹ The midwives said to Pharaoh, 'Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.' ²⁰ So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. ²¹ And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²² Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, 'Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.' ² ¹ Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ² The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. ³ When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. ⁵ The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶ When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. ⁷ Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' ⁸ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.'

So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰ When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

2nd Reading Romans 12.1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Gospel Reading Matthew 16.13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴ And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵ He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Psalm for today is Psalm 124

- ¹ If the Lord had not been on our side,
now may Israel say:
if the Lord had not been on our side,
when our enemies rose against us,
² Then they would have swallowed us alive:
when their anger was kindled against us.
³ Then the waters would have overwhelmed us,
and the torrent gone over us:
the raging waters would have gone clean over us.
⁴ But praised be the Lord:
who has not given us as a prey to their teeth.
⁵ We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler:
the snare is broken, and we have gone free.
⁶ Our help is in the name of the Lord:
who has made heaven and earth.

Next Sunday's Readings

<i>1st Reading</i>	<i>Exodus 3.1-15</i>	<i>P51</i>
<i>2nd Reading</i>	<i>Romans 12.9-21</i>	<i>P154</i>
<i>Gospel Reading</i>	<i>Matthew 16.21-28</i>	<i>P17</i>

HYMNS – EUCHARIST SETTING DUDMAN TIS 756

	8am	9:30am
Introit		100
Gradual	650	650
Offertory	154	154
Recessional	571	571

**Children's Church is
available at our 9:30am
service. This week's
Children's Talk is 'Back to
School'.**

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.

Hello Dear Friends

I pray you have had a good week. It's hard to believe that we are in the last week of August already and I'm so looking forward to Spring.

We are at the 13th Sunday after Pentecost!!!! Our sentence has Martha saying Yes!!! you are the Messiah! we pray to be living stones. We read the beginning of Exodus, learning that the children of Israel were increasing in numbers so greatly despite their oppression, that Pharaoh takes horrid action, killing all male babies. Moses, however, is saved! Our psalm talks of thankfulness, and Paul instructs the Romans to dedicate themselves to the Lord and be humble and use their spiritual gifts faithfully.

Today, we reach a high point in Matthew's Gospel. This particular account is told in all four Gospels, but Matthew alone has the portion that connects Peter's confession of Jesus as Messiah with the church. Peter's position as the leader of the Twelve is shown in many details of the Gospels. For instance, he is presented as the spokesman of the Twelve, and whenever the twelve apostles are listed his name is always first.

Yet the Gospels do not spare Peter but clearly show the high and low points in his life. No doubt the lowest point was when he denied Jesus. The incident related in today's Gospel (his great profession of faith in Jesus) was almost certainly his finest moment.

Jesus might have tempered this moment with a touch of reality, in case Peter got a swelled head, but he didn't. Instead, he praised and blessed Peter and promised to bestow responsibility and authority on him.

There was a solid, even rocklike side to Peter's character. He was always the one to come forward. It's obvious that he had leadership qualities, which Jesus recognised.

But there was another side to his character, a weaker and darker side, of which he was not yet aware. But he would find out about it in time. And it would prove to be a very humbling and bitter experience for him when he did. As we all know, it's important that those in positions of leadership be aware of their weaknesses. People who act as if they are infallible make a lot of mistakes and can hurt a lot of people.

It's important to remember that the Peter who said: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God", was the same Peter who later said, "I do not know this man". If it was a different Peter, that would explain everything. But it was the exact same Peter. We might be inclined to say, 'Ah, but the first Peter was the true or real Peter'. But this would be a mistake. There was only one Peter.

What does this tell us? That there was division within Peter, just as there is division within each of us. Just as Peter was capable of being courageous at one moment and cowardly at another, so are we.

Each of us has high and low moments. We must not let our low moments get us down, and we must draw encouragement from our high moments. While we must not forget our weak side, we must try to act out of our strong side. The Lord smiles on us in our good moments and upholds us in our low moments.

The low moments of others should not cause us to put them down or write them off. Their good moments should help us to see their potential, and to affirm and encourage them. In general, we are eager to voice our criticisms, but reluctant to give a single word of encouragement, and in this way we bar every road to improvement.

A remark I read somewhere: "I used to find the worst thing about others and tear them down. Now I try to find something good to say about them and thus build them up". In considering what people are not, we overlook what they are. Better to appreciate what a person has than brood over what he or she hasn't.

Peter had his faults, and those faults were very obvious. But so too were his strengths: his generosity, his enthusiasm, his leadership. Jesus saw that in spite of everything; his heart was sound.

As we try to seek the good in everyone, and to reveal it and bring it out, as Jesus did in the case of Peter, let's not forget to do the same for ourselves.

Blessings

Karen

Prayers for:

The Diocese of Tasmania- Bishop - Richard Condie, Vicar General - Carolyn McGinn, clergy and people.

The Parish of Pinjarra/Waroona – St. Francis of Assisi (Pinjarra), St Mark's (Waroona), St. Mary's (Coolup), St. Mark's (Dwellingup), Priest-in-Charge - Revd. William Thomas and wife Sue.

Please pray for:

- * Guidance in our building program.
- * People who are experienced in writing grants.
- * That the Lord will bring us 40 new members under 40 years of age.
- * Stronger relationships between all denominations in our region.

Diocesan Ministry – Mission to Seafarers - Chaplains, Very Revd. Darryl Cotton (Bunbury), Revd. Canon Karen Cave (Albany) and Part - Time Chaplain, Revd. Gaelan Baguil (Bunbury).

For the World: -

- * For the Seafarers of the world who are separated from families and loved ones.
- * All involved in the fishing industry.
- * For improved relationships and communication between neighbouring Nations.
- * That God continues to work through his people to bring the love of Jesus to many through scripture classes.

Prayers for:

Anglican Church of Kenya - Diocese of Kapsabet.

ACK Bishop Muge College - Manager - Revd. Esbon Sang and wife Everline.

St. Philip's Kamatarqui Parish - Parish Priest - Revd. Moek Ruth and husband Elphas.

Please pray for:

- * All staff working at ACK Bishop Muge college.
- * More churches to experience the beauty and power of united prayer.
- * God's favour for the new parish of Kamatarqui Parish.

Diocesan Ministry - Pray for the accomplishment of Bishop's vision on the sustainability of the Diocese.

Mothers Union Monthly Prayer

Lord in this quiet month of August, help us to be still, to rest from our busyness, reflect on Your goodness, rejoice in Your faithfulness, and replenish our hearts with Your peace. As we remember Mary Sumner, we thank You for her vision and love. May her example inspire us to walk in faith, speak with courage, and serve with joy. Amen

The Mission of The Month for August is Tearfund.

tearfund

Tearfund Australia was founded in 1971 when the then president of the Australian Evangelical Alliance (AEA) put \$10 on the table to start an emergency relief fund at a board meeting. The purpose of the newly founded group was "To meet two human needs: one for spiritual direction and assurance, the other for physical help – food, medicine, shelter and clothing. Practical aid in the context of God's love in the Lord Jesus."

In 1998, and with the blessing of the Evangelical Alliance, TEAR Australia was incorporated as a legally independent agency and at the same time reshaped the acronym to the byline "Transform, Empower, Advocate."

On the 1st of October 2020 the name was changed back to Tearfund, to align more closely with other Tearfund Agencies in the UK, US, Canada, Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France, New Zealand and Ireland.

Tearfund vision "is for a just and compassionate world in which all people have the opportunity to achieve their God-given potential."

Today Tearfund work in partnerships with locally-based Christian agencies around the world and in Australia who are seeking to make biblically-shaped responses to poverty and injustice. They prioritise supporting partners who work alongside people most impacted by poverty and marginalisation. They are focused on the root causes of poverty, and committed to long-term transformation. They believe in community-led development initiatives.

To read about the work Tearfund Australia are doing worldwide, partnering with Christians from near and far in some of the world's most difficult places, visit the website at [Tearfund Australia | Christian Charity Fighting Injustice](https://tearfund.org.au)

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)

NOTICES

Upcoming Meetings and Events

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

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

Ladies Fellowship Meeting - Fri., Sept 4th. 9.30am start at Sylvia Griffith's home. Topic is "The Best Holiday I can Remember". Phone: 98412958 for more detail.

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!

Bishop Ian's Laying up of Staff 29th August 2026 St Boniface Cathedral Bunbury. Live Stream Link:

https://www.youtube.com/live/9y7SSCHISeo?si=cFsiFRHRxGUC_puV

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Living Generously is a stewardship program that the Bishop has asked parishes to take part in September this year.

In the Albany parish we will be participating in The Bible Studies led by Canon Karen and Jenny Taylor on **Thursdays** scheduled as below

10th September 3 pm - Dorothy Wood Hall

17th September 3 pm - Dorothy Wood Hall

24th September 3 pm - Lady Chapel

Throughout this time, we will be focusing on the blessings we have in the world and the blessings we can be to others.

A sign up sheet is available at the rear of church

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 congregation I will also be looking for several committee members to help with the organisation. Thanking you all in advance. Mike Taylor 0417967368.

On line training for OpShop, ER and Marta's volunteers

The Diocese has arranged two online training sessions through Peninsula on **Managing Difficult Client Interactions**. We are conscious that several staff/volunteers have had difficult interactions in the past few months alone. Peninsula are the Diocese HR/WHS management consultant services and they will be providing these tailored and insightful training sessions.

This training will be particularly valuable for employees and volunteers who regularly engage face-to-face with members of the public, including those involved in:

- Op Shops
- Emergency Relief Services
- Community kitchens

Parish and community outreach activities

While the training is especially relevant for these roles, all staff and volunteers across the Diocese are welcome to attend. As places are limited, *early registration* is encouraged.

Training Dates

Session 1

- Monday 7 September
- 10.00am - 12.00pm

Online (2 hours)

Session 2

- Thursday 8 October
- 3.00pm - 5.00pm

Online (2 hours)

Learning Outcomes

Participants will learn to:

- Define what constitutes a difficult interaction.
- Identify the difference between a difficult customer and a customer complaint.
- Understand why difficult interactions need to be managed appropriately and the potential consequences when they are not.
- Recognise the signs of an escalating situation.
- Apply practical de-escalation techniques.

Use theoretical frameworks in real-life workplace and volunteer situations.

If you are unable to access the on line training, you are welcome to join Revd. Karen in the Dorothy Wood Hall for a group session. Please let Revd. Karen know if you wish to join her.

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.

Juniper Request for Volunteers - The manager of the Chaplaincy Team at Juniper Aged Care, David van Leen, is reaching out as the Chaplaincy Team are seeking volunteers for an exciting new project.

Juniper is working with NeuronsVR to offer residents an exciting new way to experience the world, supporting wellbeing, connection and quality of life. Using virtual reality headsets, residents can explore tropical jungles, underwater worlds, famous landmarks and familiar places, all without leaving their residential home. Each experience is designed to support memory, orientation, emotional wellbeing, meaningful engagement and spiritual wellbeing.

They are looking for volunteers to help their Chaplaincy team deliver these special sessions across Juniper residential homes.

Locations: Perth (north and south of the river), Albany

Days: Monday to Friday, flexible times based on availability

Starting: Late August.

How volunteers can help: Setting up equipment, escorting residents to and from the activity, helping run the activity, recording data, cleaning equipment. (Training provided). If you or are Interested please contact David van Leen, Manager Pastoral and Spiritual Care, 0434 077 511, david.vanleen@juniper.org.au

St John's Shoe Box Update - August 2026

Dear Parishioners,

We are now getting close to the Blessing Day of this year's Shoebox Project. On **Sunday August 23rd, (both services)**, Reverend Karen will carry out the Blessing of this years' shoeboxes, just before we despatch them on their long journeys to other parts of the world. Since this year the processes are a little ahead of previous years, and the order of dispatch is slightly different, we need to have our box contribution on their way up to Perth by the beginning of September. Our small team of helpers will be packing the congregation boxes very soon and **all other individual congregation boxes will need to be handed in, either at Church or in the Church office by Friday 21st August, so that they can be included in the Blessing Service.**

I am delighted to say that everything is progressing really well and contributions of both goods and funding are well and truly up in volume from our usual contributions. On behalf of the Samaritans Purse Organisation Operation Christmas Child, I wish to thank all for the tremendous participation in this most worthwhile project.

Hopefully, our boxes will bring much joy and God's love to many children and their families. 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 10th of September 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.