

St. John's

Anglican Church Albany Consecrated 1848.

Sunday, 10th August 2025 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



Sentence of the Day

'Watch and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.'

Matthew 24.42, 44

Collect

Kindle in our hearts. Father, the same faith that impelled Abraham to set out from his home and to live as a pilgrim in a foreign land. As we, like him, look for the city that none but you can design and build, keep us watchful for your Son's coming, that we may be found faithful stewards of all that you have entrusted to us. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of the Week
Grant to us, Lord, we beseech you, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Today's Readings

1st Reading Isaiah 1.1, 1.10-20

¹ The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom!

Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?

says the Lord;

I have had enough of burnt-offerings of rams

and the fat of fed beasts;

I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more;

¹³ bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation—

I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.

14 Your new moons and your appointed festivals

my soul hates;

they have become a burden to me,

I am weary of bearing them.

When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen:

your hands are full of blood.

¹⁶ Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean:

remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes;

cease to do evil,

¹⁷ learn to do good;

seek justice,

rescue the oppressed,

defend the orphan, plead for the widow.

18 Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord:

though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow;

though they are red like crimson,

they shall become like wool.

¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land;

but if you refuse and rebel,
you shall be devoured by the sword;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

2nd Reading Hebrews 11.1-3, 11.8-16

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. 8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11 By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.' 13 All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Gospel Reading Luke 12.32-40

³² 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the

kingdom. 33 Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do

wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. 35 'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; 36 be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those

slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. 39 'But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. 40 You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected

The Psalm for today is Psalm 50, Verses 1-8 and 23-24

The Lord our God, the Mighty One, has spoken:

and summoned the earth. from the rising of the sun to its setting in the west.

From Zion, perfect in beauty:

God has shone out in glory. ³ Our God is coming, he will not keep silent:

before him is devouring fire, and tempest whirls about him.

⁴ He calls to the heavens above: and to the earth, so he may judge his people.

'Gather to me my faithful ones: those who by sacrifice made a covenant with me.'

⁶ The heavens shall proclaim his righteousness:

for God himself is judge. ⁷ 'Listen my people, and I will speak:

O Israel, I am God your God.

and I will give my testimony. 8 'It is not for your sacrifices that I reprove you:

for your burnt-offerings are always before me.

²³ 'O consider this, you who forget God:

lest I tear you in pieces, and there be no one to save you. ²⁴ 'He honours me who brings sacrifice of thanksgiving:

and to him who keeps to my way

I will show the salvation of God.'

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading Isaiah 5.1-7 2nd Reading Hebrews 11.29-12.2 Gospel Reading Luke 12.49-59

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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.



HYMNS – EUCHARIST SETTING DUDMAN		
<u>TIS 756</u>		
	8am	9.30am
Introit		596
Gradual	546	546
Offertory	585	585
Recessional	456	456

Children's Church is available at our 9:30am service. This week's Children's Talk is "Treasures in Heaven?



Hello Dear Friends

I pray you have had a good week.

This week our sentence talks of the power, strength and intensity of the word of God and we pray collectively for perseverance and focus, looking to Jesus, to be more Christ-like.

Isaiah gives us a beautiful piece of writing - a love song which describes the state and conduct of the Jewish nation. It catches us out, however as the failure of that "vineyard" is described. The Psalmist issues a plea for the light of divine favour. The psalm hints at the church being represented by a vine needing support but spreading and fruitful. It talks of times of prosperity and failure and ends with a prayer for mercy.

The author of Hebrew continues from last week, looking at the nature and power of faith as described by even more Old Testament believers. He talks of the better state held by believers under the gospel - following the example of Jesus and he gives an exhortation to be constant and persevere looking to Jesus.

Our Gospel is challenging. Watchfulness is enforced and a warning to be reconciled to God. It is topical and poignant in our present day world wide situation.

Jesus was a transparently very good person. We would have expected then that he would have been universally loved. Yet he stirred up so much hatred that he ended up being crucified. How could that happen? It happened because Jesus as well as being our Lord and Saviour: was a prophet, a religious prophet, and a prophet is always persona non grata to the powers-that-be. Most prophets are persecuted and some killed.

Jeremiah is a good example. He was called to be a prophet from an early age. He lived out his vocation during a time of great turmoil, which saw the defeat of Israel and the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple. He was the conscience f his country at that time. He loved his people dearly and never lost faith in the power of God to save them. Yet he was accused of being a troublemaker, and lived with constant threats to his life.

Prophets are 'troublemakers' – in the best sense of that term. They are charged to be Peacemakers, not peacekeepers!!!! There is no greater disturber of the peace than the person who preaches justice and truth. Take Martin Luther King. He was a man of peace. Yet by calling for an end to discrimination against black people, he created more turmoil in America than anyone else of his generation. Then there's the Russian scientist, Andrei Sakharov. He too was branded a 'troublemaker' by the communist authorities when he called for an end to the persecution of dissidents and to the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Sometimes what we call peace is not really peace at all. Any peace that is not founded on justice is phoney peace. The late Archbishop Helder Camara of Brazil described it as resembling moonlight over a swamp. Jesus came to bring peace, but not that kind of

peace. Just as there is a phoney peace, there is also a phoney unity – one which tolerates discrimination and inequality.

When the South African writer Laurens van der Post was released from a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp and returned to freedom, he was shocked almost as much by the brutalities of peace, as he had been by those of war. And it has often been said that when soldiers came back to civilian life they were appalled by the callous, often totally unscrupulous way in which people treated each other. By providing them with an opportunity to serve a cause greater than any egotistical pursuit of themselves: war had brought out the best in them.

How abnormal is much of what is accepted as normal today. For instance, the inequalities in society: the gap between helpless poverty and insolent wealth. We get so used to all this that it ceases to shock us. We accept it as normal. Hence, we need someone to jolt us out of the sleep of lethargy and indifference.

Jesus says he came to kindle a fire upon the earth. It's only an image, a metaphor that he's using. But it's a powerful one. Fire is not something one can remain indifferent to. It's not a weak, pale, lifeless thing. Fire warms and comforts. But it also burns up what is useless, and refines what is impure.

The Gospel message today is fire: it is the leaven of the world. We, the followers of

Jesus, are called to tend the prophetic fires, which call for justice and equality for all today. Our challenge is to be a people who speak out against injustice in what ever shape it takes, and not to be passive bystanders within our Communities.

Blessings

Karen



Prayers for:

<u>The Diocese of Gippsland</u> - Bishop Richard Treloar, clergy and people. <u>The Parish of Collie</u> - Priest-in-Charge -Revd. Mavis Tyler (Administrator) and husband Phil.

Please pray for :

- ◆Clear vision for outreach within the local community.
- ♦ Unity within the parish.
- ♦ Ongoing growth in individual and corporate prayer life and relationship with Christ.
- ◆Those who work in the mines and the power stations.
- ◆More gainful employment in Collie, especially for the unskilled.
- ◆The weekly Bible Study Group and the development of new weekly group
- ♦ Our Op Shop, for all who volunteer and for all who shop there.

<u>Diocesan Ministry</u> - The Northern Harvest Deanery - Revd. Canon James Tabor (Area Dean).

For the world:

- ♦ Those who suffer from dementia and brain injuries, as well as their Carers.
- ♦ For all Judges, Magistrates and those who serve in the legal system.
- ♦That God may give us patience as we face challenges in this life so that we may not easily lose hope.

Anglican Church of Kenya - Diocese of Kapsabet.

Emmanuel Kapng'etuny Parish - Parish Priest - Ven. George Tenai, wife Tecla.

<u>St. Stephen's Tulwo Parish</u> - Parish Priest - Revd. Julius Kirwa and wife Joan.

Please pray:

- ♦ All those who are serving in institutions of learning at various levels that God may use them to disseminate relevant and right knowledge .
- ◆Those who are unemployed within our congregations that they may find peace in God as they await their prayers to be answered.

<u>Diocesan Ministry</u> - For Christians in the new parishes within our diocese that they may be grounded in the Word of God and that they may prosper and grow holistically.

Mothers Union Monthly Prayer

Loving Lord, we give you thanks for the vision of our founder as we celebrate her special day this month. Prayer is the foundation of Mothers' Union and we pray for confidence and

faithfulness to build on Mary Sumner's

legacy and all that has been achieved so far. As we support one another through prayer, may we touch many lives for God through our prayers, our words and our actions. Amen.



We give thanks to God today for Hope25. Right across our country from the north to south, from the east to the west, Anglicans have been proclaiming the hope we have in Jesus. People have been bold in giving invitations courageous in sharing their stories, and faithful in speaking about hope. Many people have heard about Jesus. and have taken steps towards faith.

We praise God for the many who have heard of our hope.

for those who we have welcomed into our churches

and for those who have believed in Jesus. We ask God to continue to bless our church as we live in hope.

The Mission of The Month for August is 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 in Africa, Asia, the Pacific

and with Australia's First People, 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





Mandurah Branch invite you to the AMUA Bunbury Diocesan



2025 Country Rally & Annual Meeting

Thursday 16th October 2025

Christ's Church Anglican Church, Cnr Sholl St & Pinjarra Road, Mandurah

9.15am - 9.45am Morning Tea

10.00am Eucharist
Celebrant Bishop Ian Coutts

followed by the Annual Meeting

Luncheon at

RAAFA ESTATE MEADOW SPRINGS 41 Portrush Parade, Mandurah

Cost \$30 each

GUEST SPEAKER

Mrs Tracey Gray

Principal, Frederick Irwin Anglican School



RSVP with numbers & payment by Friday 3 October Payment to: Anglican Parish of Mandurah BSB: 706 001 ACC: 30003262 Ref: "Branch" MUCR

Numbers by Email: churchoffice@anglicanchurchmandurah.org.au
PO Box 203, Mandurah, WA 6210

Box 203, Mandurah, WA 6210 Phone 9535 6152

PLEASE ADVISE BY EMAIL OF ANY SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Notices Gatherings and Meetings

REMINDER - THERE IS NO CHOIR PRACTICE ON THE 14TH

Martha's Soup Kitchen - Mon 12pm-

Finance Committee Meeting - Thurs... 14th Aug at 10am via Zoom.

Parish Council Meeting -Tues., 19th Aug. at 5pm in D/W Hall. Reports due to Parish Administrator by 5pm Wed., 13th Aug.

Victory in South Pacific Service - St John's at 5.30pm Thursday, 14th August.

Vietnam Veterans Service at the Albany Forts on Sunday 17th August at 2pm

Parish First Aid Training: Wednesday 20th August 2025: The Parish supports parishioners regularly gaining First Aid training. Over three years ago 8 members from the parish undertook First Aid training as a group at St Johns Ambulance Centre.

There is now a need for an update. Parishioners are invited to join as a group in a one-day training session on essential first Aid. It is of course valuable for the whole Parish but also for us personally! The proposed date is Wednesday 20th August 2025 at the St Johns Ambulance

Centre on Middleton Rd. The special discounted cost for us is \$135 per person (\$200 pp on website). Please contact Revd Karen, the Wardens or the Parish Administrator Rachael if available to join us. We note it is an expense so also contact Revd Karen or the Wardens if you are seeking support on the registration fees. John Blake

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 and,
- * 1kg white rice.

Thank you and best wishes from the ER

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 anvone is interested in assisting with this ministry please speak to Revd. Karen.

SPECIAL REQUEST FOR FETE - If you have any small seedling pots, (140 mm) could you please drop them into the



SAVE THE DATE - FETE NOTICE, SATURDAY

This years annual church fete will be held on Saturday October 18th in the Wardens Court as it was very successful in that area last year. It would be really appreciated if you could start your jams, pickles, cakes, growing plants and any other ideas for the stalls. October will soon come around. Thank you all in advance. Mike Taylor



Direct Giving via Electronic Banking -

Thanks again to those who are continuing to support the church in one form or are electronically transferring money to the church follow the following instructions.

Ordinary Direct giving - quote the word "Donation" in the reference section and Yours sincerely Ethel Halliday- St John's 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

St John's **Christmas Shoebox** Appeal - Update July - 2025 Dear Parishioners.

Shoebox Packing Day is now getting closer.

We are well on the way already with a number of boxes already completed by parishioners and another 70 being organised with purchases and gifts already made and contributed. We still hope to send at 100 boxes this year. However, we may still need some small contributions towards the postage. I am currently considering having the main packing day in the hall on Saturday morning the 23rd of August, so that anyone who is interested in coming to view what we put in the boxes, can have the opportunity to observe the process. You will not be expected to do any packing, just to view how the boxes are completed.

If you are interested and wish to come along on this day, just let me know soon

as we need to know whether it will be a suitable arrangement.

Reverend Karen will be blessing the boxes another. Could I please ask that those that at both morning services on Sunday, 24th August, before they are delivered to the Albany centre for shipping to Perth For any information I can be contacted on Mob: 0409447960 or Home on: 98447961 Operation Christmas Child co-ordinator.

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.

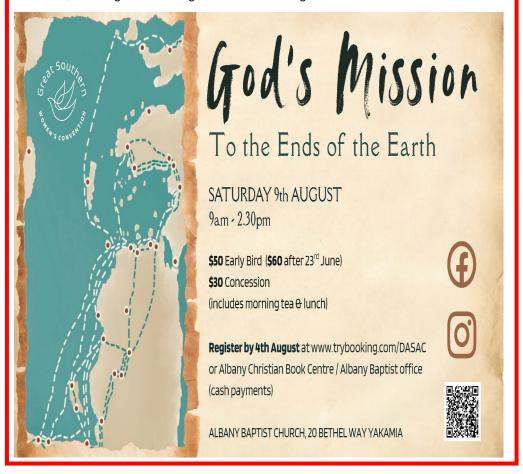
Prayer Chain - A parish prayer chain has been re-established. If you have prayer requests please contact Revd Karen (0434 702 343), who will communicate with other members of the team. Prayer requests will not be discussed by prayer chain members and will be kept in confidence. If you wish for prayers 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.

The **Great Southern Women's Convention 2025** will be held on **Saturday 9**th **August 2025**. This year's theme is "God's Mission: To the Ends of the Earth", with Amy Stopher (Providence City) sharing from the book of Acts.

Great Southern Women's Convention is an encouraging time of exploring the truth of God's word through Bible teaching, responding to Him and considering how we can live for Jesus. Since its inception, the conference has been such an uplifting day, with women from various denominations and towns across the beautiful Great Southern, meeting to encourage and be encouraged in their Christian faith.



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 14th 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:

Parish Administrator: admin@anglicanchurchalbany.org.au

Rachel Matthews – 9841 5015

Parish Office Volunteer: Kate Britton.

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.