

After leaving Sukkoth they camped at Etham on the edge of the desert. By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.

Exodus 13:20-22 (NIV)

The phrase "unprecedented times" seems irrelevant to say now. We all know we're walking in the depths of uncertainty on a daily basis. We feel it in our bones, and we are weary on a different level.

And yet, there are also some of us who are starting to dream again, envisioning what the future will hold and how we can get there. Hope and fear, anxiety and joy mingle together, and we cannot go back to what once was. We can only move forward together.

Perhaps that's how the Israelites felt as God delivered them from Egypt and led them toward the wilderness. All they had was His presence to lead them by day and by night. They had to keep going forward even when they couldn't see a way through, but God's presence was always with them — protecting them, providing for them, and redeeming them.

And the same goes for us today. When we can't imagine how we will survive the day, when we struggle to believe in hope, when everything seems lost, His steady hand guides us.

Let's trust that the God who split the Red Sea is able and willing to make a way through for us too.

- VALERIE O'REGAN

WELCOME TO CHURCH • SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2020

Prayers

CURRENT PRAYERS

Church people who are unwell

Bob Abrahams, John Angus, Marlene Arthur, Jean Beetles, Jan Crook, Ruth Eton, Raija Hannam, Robert Hannam, Erin Hick, Pauline Kirby, James Mills, Noel Monk, Charlie October, Allan Quinn, Merv Sercombe, Sue Simpson, Eileen Stokes, Mary Straughan, Betty Uren, Sue Vickery, Chris Wilson.

Peace in our time

Pray for peace, harmony and for calm as many countries continue in war and other conflicts.

Holidays

Pray that the members of our church community who are taking holidays will be refreshed and energised to serve God in the months ahead. Pray for safe travels and safety on the roads for everyone.

Children's and Youth Ministry leaders

Give thanks for our children's and youth ministry leaders and pray that they would have wisdom and love as they seek to disciple the next generation. Pray that they will have a refreshing break these holidays.

Recent illnesses

Pray for all those who have recently been hospitalised or unwell. Pray for healing and comfort for them and their families.

HSC Students

Pray for Daniel Paduch and other Year 12 students as they prepare for their final exams especially in light of COVID-19 restrictions.

COVID-19

Pray for State and Federal Governments as they continue to work through difficulties which have come about because of COVID-19. Pray for our health care workers - doctors, nurses, aged care workers, allied health workers, and those involved with testing.

REGULAR PRAYERS (CYCLE 3 OF 4)

Government:

The Premier and NSW politicians.

World Focus:

The continent of Asia.

Mission Partners:

Stewart Continuing Ministries - training leaders of the persecuted church in ministry.

Organisations We Support:

Youthworks and the Bible Society

Word Ministry Training:

Ministry Training and Development (MT&D) and the Ministry Training Strategy (MTS).

Staff and Senior Leadership:

Wardens and Parish Councillors.

Children's and Youth Ministry:

Andy's Club.

Adult Ministries:

Prime Time and Interact.

Local Evangelism:

Outreach to emergency services and community groups.

Members unable to attend church:

Those house-bound or living in nursing homes including Audrey Ford, Lily Lyddiard, Howard Slocombe, and Bruce Smith.

Local Public Schools:

Oak Flats Public, Balarang Public and Oak Flats High.

Other Regular Matters:

Our ongoing financial needs for the ministry at our church and beyond.

1 THESSALONIANS

3. Thanks and joy for faith through trials 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20 Sam Pursell • 4th October 2020

- 1. Thanks for the reception of God's word (13)
- 2. Thanks for imitation in suffering (14-16)
- 3. Glory and joy in others salvation (17-20)

Next Sunday...

'Positive reports of faith • 1 Thessalonians 3:1-13 • Sam Pursell

THE PEOPLE WHO ARE SERVING US

9.30am Service 4th October
Welcomer: J Mills P Pratt
Bible Reader: R Hannam V O'Regan
Kids' Program: N/A N/A

Morning Tea:B Mayhew/C SmithM Klasson/J MillsMeal Clean Up:C BonniciC Smith

COVID Cleaning: P & B Firley R Hannam/V O'Regan

3.30pm Service 4th October 11th October Welcomer: S Stanoievic P Taylor Bible Reader: D Rainey G Taylor Afternoon Tea: J Orange S Stanojevic Meal Clean Up: P Taylor J Wilson **COVID Cleaning:** D & J Orange P & C Pratt

Cleaning Saturday: D & J Orange/J Evans
Mowing Saturday: P Pratt/R Siles

Church News

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Please note what the confirmed hours are when Val will be in the church office:

Monday: 9am-5pm Tuesday: closed

Wednesday: 9am-5pm Thursday: 9am-12pm Friday: 9am-5pm

SOUTHERN CROSS MAGAZINE

You can download a copy of the Southern Cross magazine by heading to this page: https://

magazine.sydneyanglicans.net.

If you wish to have a printed copy, please see Val.

SUNDAY SERVICES

A reminder that:

- Numbers are limited to 60 people in the whole church building premises, but only 45 adults in main hall.
- Children and youth under 18 do not need to physically distance.
- Hand sanitiser must be used.
- Your name and number will be recorded as per Health NSW regulations.
- Wearing a face mask is recommended.
- Stay home if you have any signs of being unwell. We will sadly need to turn you away at the door if you come to church sick.
- Maintain a distance of 1.5m from other people.
- There will be no congregation singing. However you can hum along to the music.
- BYO Bible as church bibles are not available.
- No news sheet or handouts will be given.

OUR BIRTHDAYS

6th Carter Dobbie

OUR ANNIVERSARIES

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Minister: Rev Sam Pursell

M: 0417 711 314 E: sam.pursell@oakflatsanglican.com

Parish Administrator: Miss Valerie O'Regan M: 0408 271 189 E: val.oregan@oakflatsanglican.com

Office Hours: Mon. Wed. Fri: 9am-5pm; Tue: Closed; Thur: 9am-12pm

Wardens:

Dave Crook M: 0404 337 502 Geoff Kyngdon M: 0417 044 565 Phil Pratt M: 0411 328 731

Safe Ministry Representative: Harley Mills

M: 0409 562 932 E: harley.mills@oakflatsanglican.com Pastoral Care Coordinator: Rhonda Slocombe

M: 0400 679 703 E: rhonda.slocombe@oakflatsanglican.com

GIVE ELECTRONICALLY - BANK DETAILS

Name: Oak Flats Anglican BSB: 633 000 Account: 164 385 841