



ARCHBISHOP KANISHKA RAFFEL

On Thursday May 6th, the Sydney Anglican Diocesan Synod elected Kanishka Raffel as the next Archbishop of Sydney.

Kanishka was born in London to Sri Lankan parents. He moved to Australia when he was 7. His conversion to Christ is as follows:

I was raised in a loving home, and my mother nurtured me in Buddhism. In my third year at university I devoted a year to studying the faith of my childhood. Subsequently, I had a conversation with a Christian friend, during which he told me that being a Christian meant he had given control of his life to Jesus. It was an answer that surprised me to say the least! He offered me Mark's Gospel and John's Gospel to read, and I accepted. The Lord saved me as I read John's gospel some weeks later. In God's kindness I saw that in response to Jesus' words and deeds, 'people were divided'. It made me consider why I was 'against' Jesus. Eventually, I realised I had no reason to oppose Jesus, and in some way that wasn't altogether clear to me, he was for me. John 6:44-45 were important. I saw that life is not an endless cycle but has a 'last day', and I was convicted that God was drawing me to his Son. So I came. (Australian Church Record, Autumn 2021, p.34)

Kanishka has ministered in Canberra and Perth, and since 2015 has been Dean of Sydney at St Andrew's Cathedral.

Following his election as Archbishop, he said to the Synod:

"I'm humbled and somewhat daunted by the responsibility given me by the Synod," "We believe that the Lord works through his people — both in making this decision and in enabling the Archbishop to fulfil his role. Like every Christian, I gladly trust in Jesus." "You have elected a weak servant... but we have a mighty Saviour"

Please uphold Kanishka in your prayers.

- **Sam Pursell**

WELCOME TO CHURCH • SUNDAY 16TH MAY 2021

Prayers

CURRENT PRAYERS

Church people who are unwell

Bob Abrahams, Marlene Arthur, Jean Beetles, Olga Covetz, Jan Crook, Peter Evans, Rajja Hannam, Robert Hannam, Erin Hick, Pauline Kirby, James Mills, Charlie October, David Paduch, Allan Quinn, Merv Sercombe, Sue Simpson, Hanno Stanojevic, Eileen Stokes, Mary Straughan, Betty Uren, Susan Vickery, Chris Wilson.

Israel-Palestine conflict

Pray for the unrest in Israel and Palestine, asking God to bring peace to a land that is deeply divided. Pray that the bloodshed in Gaza would cease, and especially at this time, pray for all those who suffer in the midst of renewed conflict and attack.

Church family

Give thanks to God for the many ways that our members care for each other. Please pray for those who are grieving, hurting or brokenhearted.

Ladies' Dinner

Give thanks for the ministry of Ladies' dinner each month. Pray for the women's ministry at Oak Flats, and for better opportunities to share God's word with friends and those connected with the church by various ministries.

India

Pray for the people of India in this time of national crisis with the second wave of COVID 19. Pray for wisdom for the leadership of India, and that the relief effort from other countries will be effective.

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 and developing the vaccines.

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, 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.

Judges 1: Half-hearted discipleship

Judges 1:1-2:5

Sam Pursell • 16th May 2021

1. Early success (1-21)
2. Increasing failure (22-36)
3. The Judge judges (2:1-5)
4. Half-hearted discipleship

Next Sunday...

'The cycle of failure' • Judges 2:6-3:6 • Sam Pursell

THE PEOPLE WHO ARE SERVING US

9.30am Service

Welcomer:

Bible Reader:

Prayer Leader:

Kids' Program:

Morning Tea:

Meal Clean Up:

COVID Cleaning:

16th May

V O'Regan

R Hannam

V O'Regan

B Firley/M Klasson

R Hannam/B Mayhew

C Bonnici

P & B Firley

23rd May

J Mills

R Eton

J Mills

D & J Orange

C Bonnici/M Klasson

R Hannam

P & C Pratt

5pm Service

Welcomer:

Bible Reader:

Prayer Leader:

Afternoon Tea:

Meal Clean Up:

COVID Cleaning:

16th May

J Hoffer

E Hick

D Orange

J Orange

D Orange

P & C Pratt

23rd May

D Rainey

J Hoffer

H Mills

C Pratt

P Pratt

J Hoffer/D Rainey

Cleaning Saturday:

D & J Orange/J Evans

Mowing Saturday:

N/A

Church News

5PM SUPPER

After our 5pm service this week, we will have a discussion about the timing of supper. Please join us or let us know your thoughts by contacting the office.

ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY'S CONSECRATION & INAUGURATION

If you wish to view the Archbishop's Consecration & Inauguration service on **Friday 28th May, 2021 at 7.00pm**, the livestream link is: <https://youtu.be/VXz7lmqG5Sg>.

LADIES' CRAFT AFTERNOON

The ladies are coming together for a fun afternoon at the church on Saturday 29th May from 2pm to 4pm. Bring along any craft or knitting that you might be working on. Afternoon tea will be provided.

Please register [online](#) or with Coralie.

GONG MEN'S DAY

Saturday 5th June, 9am to 12.30pm at Dapto Anglican for a great day of teaching and encouragement for the men of our region. Speaker: Andrew Heard.

Register at www.gongmensday.org.

COVID SAFETY PRACTICES

A reminder that:

- Numbers are limited to 120 people in the whole church building premises, but only 90 adults in main hall.
- Hand sanitiser must be used.
- Your name and number will be recorded as per Health NSW regulations.
- 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 where possible.

OUR BIRTHDAYS

16th Dave Crook

OUR ANNIVERSARIES

20th Andy & Magda Peters
22nd Dave & Jan Crook
David & Jenny Orange

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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 & Fri: 9am-5pm; Thur: 9am-12pm; Tue & Wed: Closed

Wardens: Dave Crook **M:** 0404 337 502 Andy Peters **M:** 0414 799 001 Peter Taylor **M:** 0448 190 946

Safe Ministry Representative: Harley Mills **M:** 0409 562 932 **E:** harley.mills@oakflatsanglican.com

Pastoral Care: 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