



**Oak Flats  
Anglican**

*Real Hope • Real Jesus*

## LIFE'S TRIALS AND CHALLENGES

Former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser made famous the phrase: “*Life was not meant to be easy*”. The context was political debate no doubt centering on taxes and charges. Christians hardly needed to be reminded of this truth which has applied since The Fall in Genesis 3.

Living in a fallen world is never easy and it can be a constant pain. Sin and temptations abound and being a believer does not guarantee a trouble-free existence, in fact the reverse can apply and does for many many Christians especially in the persecuted Church.

James writes about Christian trials and temptations and offering excellent advice and warnings. Ch 1 V2-3 says: “*Consider it all joy, my brethren when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.*” Trials allowed by God to refine us. V12 then adds “*Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial...*”

James also writes about seeking Godly wisdom in life's journey. In V13 he offers the warning: “*Let no one say when he is tempted 'I am being tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and he Himself does not tempt anyone.*”

Making distinctions between the two aspects of Christian living can be a challenge itself but James' line is clear.

Proverbs 16:20 reads “*He who gives attention to the word will find good. And blessed is who trusts in the Lord.*”

CH Spurgeon says on the matter of Wisdom “*Lord, walk with me in the garden this evening and teach me the wisdom of faith.*”

Life is rarely easy, but it can still be joyous when we live close to the Lord.

**- Geoff Kyngdon**

**WELCOME TO CHURCH • SUNDAY 23RD MAY 2021**

# Prayers

## CURRENT PRAYERS

### Church people who are unwell

Bob Abrahams, Margaret Abrahams, Marlene Arthur, Jean Beetles, Olga Covetz, Jan Crook, Peter Evans, Raija 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.

### Youth Camp

Pray for the upcoming youth camp this Friday 28th May to Sunday 30th May. Pray that this will be a wonderful time of fellowship and growth for the young people of Refuge. Pray for Sam as he prepares the talks, and for the leaders as they finalise preparations, and for safety while away.

### Recently unwell or hospitalised

Pray that the God of all comfort bring those facing health issues relief from pain, comfort, patience as they heal and a return to good health in His perfect time.

### COVID-19

Pray that people will be sensible especially as people receive the vaccine. Give thanks that cases are decreasing not just in NSW, but also Australia wide.

Continue to pray for India as they suffer through the recent COVID spike.

Pray that the vaccines will be safe and able to be distributed easily and made available for all.

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## REGULAR PRAYERS (CYCLE 4 OF 4)

### Government:

Our Mayor and those serving in local government.

### World Focus:

North and South America.

The persecuted church.

### Mission Partners:

Roger and Amanda Kyngdon, working with BCA in Newman, WA.

### Organisations We Support:

Anglicare Chaplains working in Anglicare Villages, Hospitals and Prisons.

Mission to Seafarers.

### Word Ministry Training:

Mary Andrew's College and Sydney Missionary & Bible College (SMBC).

### Diocesan Leadership:

Our Archbishop and our Bishop.

### Children's and Youth Ministry:

Refuge, our youth group.

### Adult Ministries:

Bible Study groups.

### Local Evangelism:

Outreach to people in young families in our suburb.

### Special Needs:

Those suffering with mental illness and dementia.

### Mobile Community Pantry:

Give thanks for the volunteers and the community impact of this ministry.

# Judges 2: The downward spiral

## Judges 2:6-3:6

### Sam Pursell • 23rd May 2021

1. Half-hearted disciple making (6-10)
2. The downward spiral of sin (11-19)
3. Testing in the promised land (20-3:6)

## ***Next Sunday...***

'Othniel, Ehud, Shagmar' • Judges 3:7-31 • 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:**

**23rd May**

J Mills

R Eton

J Mills

D & J Orange

C Bonnici/M Klasson

R Hannam

P & C Pratt

**30th May**

J Klasson

K Eton

H Mills

R Hannam/V O'Regan

A Hadley/C Pratt

B Hadley

J & M Klasson

5pm Service

**Welcomer:**

**Bible Reader:**

**Prayer Leader:**

**Afternoon Tea:**

**Meal Clean Up:**

**COVID Cleaning:**

**23rd May**

D Rainey

J Hoffer

H Mills

C Pratt

P Pratt

J Hoffer/D Rainey

**30th May**

J Harrington

D Rainey

M Peters

H Mills

J Hoffer

D & J Orange

**Cleaning Saturday:**

J & M Klasson/B Clark

**Mowing Saturday:**

N/A

# Church News

## 5PM SERVICE UPDATE

Please join us **from 4.30pm** for a light afternoon tea and drink before our evening service.

## ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY'S CONSECRATION & INAUGURATION

If you wish to view Kanishka's service this **Friday 28th May, 2021 at 7.00pm**, the livestream link is:

<https://youtu.be/VXz7lmgG5Sg>.

Please keep praying for Kanishka; for wisdom, strength, humility and gospel clarity and courage.

## LADIES' CRAFT AFTERNOON

The ladies are coming together for a fun afternoon at the church this **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

**June 5, 9:30am-12:30pm** at Dapto Anglican. Andrew Heard will be speaking from God's word and there will be singing, praying and eating together. Tickets are available via [gongmensday.org](http://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

23rd Erin Hick  
Roger Kyngdon (Mission Partner)  
Nola Sercombe  
26th Jan Crook

## OUR ANNIVERSARIES

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**Elvanto member website:** [oakflatsanglican.elvanto.com.au](http://oakflatsanglican.elvanto.com.au)

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**Minister:** Rev Sam Pursell **M:** 0417 711 314 **E:** [sam.pursell@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto:sam.pursell@oakflatsanglican.com)

**Parish Administrator:** Miss Valerie O'Regan **M:** 0408 271 189 **E:** [val.oregan@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto: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](mailto:harley.mills@oakflatsanglican.com)

**Pastoral Care:** Rhonda Slocombe **M:** 0400 679 703 **E:** [rhonda.slocombe@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto:rhonda.slocombe@oakflatsanglican.com)

## GIVE ELECTRONICALLY - BANK DETAILS

**Name:** Oak Flats Anglican

**BSB:** 633 000

**Account:** 164 385 841