



**Oak Flats  
Anglican**

*Real Hope • Real Jesus*

# REOPENING CHURCH

*Many are the plans in a person's heart,  
but it is the LORD'S purpose that prevails. (Proverbs 19:21)*

As the vaccination rates increase in NSW, we look forward to returning from lockdown. I know that many of us are planning when we might see family and friends again

Over the past few weeks, following consultation with the Sydney Anglican Diocese, the wardens and I have discussed the reopening of church. In the NSW governments plan, there are 3 significant points to come: 70% double vaccination, 80% double vaccination and December 1.

*We are planning on returning to church following the 80% vaccination date. This is estimated to be **Sunday October 31**, with **both 9:30am and 5pm services**.*

At 80% a number of significant changes occur. We will be able to open up to both vaccinated and unvaccinated people over 16. Children will be able to attend ministries without vaccinated parents present onsite (Kids Club, Refuge).

Prior to the 80% vaccination date on about Sunday October 31, we would need to check everyone at the door, and 'take reasonable steps to ensure that an unvaccinated adult is not on the premises,' which we don't think is a viable option.

Whenever we open, there will be both restrictions and risks. Some of us may be concerned by the restrictions, others more concerned about the risks. But it must be acknowledged that we never live our life free of either restriction or risk. In this context we plan, make decisions, respond and trust the Lord.

After opening, livestream will still be available for people if you need to stay at home because of illness, being immune compromised or other reasons.

In all this, we desire to gather together for encouragement (Hebrews 10:24-25), remain united (Colossians 3:15-17), love one another (Philippians 2:1-5), and be obedient to the government (Romans 13:1-7). Please pray for these things as we move towards reopening.

**- Sam Pursell**

**WELCOME TO CHURCH • SUNDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2021**

# Prayers

## CURRENT PRAYERS

### People in need

Bob & Margaret Abrahams, Marlene Arthur, Jean Beetles, Olga & John Covetz, Jan Crook, Peter Evans, Auriel & Barrie Hadley, Raija & Robert Hannam, Pauline Kirby, Joy Meyer, Pam Moore, Charlie October, Paduch family, Allan Quinn, Merv Sercombe, Sue Simpson, Sandra & Hanno Stanojevic, Eileen Stokes, Mary Straughan, Betty Uren, Greg & Sue Vickery, Chris & John Wilson.

### Farmers

Pray for farmers as they commence the harvest for 2021 - for safety, the best weather plus good results for Australia and beyond.

### Term 4 schooling

Pray for our young people as they return to school, for their teachers and support staff. Pray for all parents following such a long period of home-schooling. Pray for strength, energy and peace.

### NSW Government

Pray for new Premier, Dominic Perrottet and his colleagues. Give thanks for the efforts of Gladys B, especially over these last few difficult months.

### Reopening church

Pray for Sam and the Wardens as they prepare for our return to physical gatherings. Pray for wisdom and insight for all church leaders during this time.

### COVID-19

Give thanks that restrictions are being lifted. As the roadmap unfolds during the next couple of weeks, pray that all may go smoothly with common sense in abundance.

## REGULAR PRAYERS (CYCLE 4 OF 4)

### Government:

Our Mayor and those serving in local government.

### World Focus:

USA, Afghanistan, North Korea, Iran.  
Mission to Seafarers.

### Mission Partners:

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

### Word Ministry Training:

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

### Diocesan Leadership:

Our Archbishop and our Bishop.

### Church Ministry:

Refuge, our youth group.

Pray that the youth will reconnect once in-person meetings resume.

Bible Study groups.

### Local Evangelism:

Outreach to people in all families in our communities.

### Special Needs:

Mental illness and dementia sufferers.

### Mobile Community Pantry:

Pray for the Volunteer team and all those who shop each fortnight.

Give thanks for the generous community support.

# **James 9: Wait patiently for the Lord**

**James 5:7-12**

**Sam Pursell • 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

1. Jesus is coming, so be patient & don't grumble (7-9)
2. Jesus is coming, so be patient and speak truthfully (10-12)

***Next Sunday...***

**'Faith and Prayer' • James 5:13-20 • Sam Pursell**

# CHURCH NEWS

## Southern Cross Magazine

The latest issue of Southern Cross is available online at

[magazine.sydneyanglicans.net](http://magazine.sydneyanglicans.net).

## Online Pastoral Care Course

The course is ideal for people who wish to provide pastoral care support within their church community, or who may like to volunteer at a hospital or aged care facility. Running on either a Tuesday or Thursday, 9am-2pm over 5 weeks:

**Tuesdays - Oct 26, Nov 9, 16, 23, 30**

**Thursdays - Oct 21, 28, Nov 4, 11, 18**

Further details at: [Online Introductory Pastoral Care Course](#).

## Kids' church at home



Make sure you check our [YouTube channel](#) for the next video for Kid's Church and we hope the kids enjoy their latest home kit.

## Virtual morning tea

Join us on Zoom after the morning service at [bit.ly/OFAzoomMT](https://bit.ly/OFAzoomMT) for a virtual morning tea together.

## BIRTHDAYS

## ANNIVERSARIES

# FINANCIAL UPDATE

(YTD 30 September 2021)

**Income** \$148,0646

(includes Government grants worth \$8,764)

**Expenses** \$151,982

**Difference** ~~-\$3,918~~

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## GIVE ELECTRONICALLY - BANK DETAILS

**Name:** Oak Flats Anglican

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