



Peace in our time (in the church)

In the Book of Common Prayer (1662), there is a prayer in the service of evening prayer that goes like this:

"Give us peace in our time, O Lord. Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God." (BCP p. 24)

It is a prayer for peace in the world. Which is sorely needed, and worth praying for. But at the present moment, I wonder whether we need to pray for more peace, closer to home. *Peace in our churches.*

In my time at least, it feels like churches have never been so divided as at the present. Of course, there are more-than-normal circumstantial and personal reasons why people have been separated and cannot always meet together. What I mean is a spirit of division that is in many churches. Of course, politics, vaccines, masks, mandates and the debate around them must not off limits to talk about at church, but it seems a divisive spirit out in the community pours back into the churches.

What should we desire? We want the spirit of unity, peace and love isn't just found in churches, but it overflows outwards into the surrounding communities. Paul writes to the Colossian church:

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Colossians 3:15-17)

As we meet together this year, let's not have a false 'peace in our time' (look up Neville Chamberlain's usage of the term), but true peace from Christ, as we reconnect with each other, commit to each other, and do the hard work of loving each other this year. In that, may we also be a light to the world.

- Sam Pursell

WELCOME TO CHURCH • SUNDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2022

Church News

Ladies' Dinner

The first Ladies' Dinners for 2022 will be held this **Tuesday 15th February** (please note the date change).

6.30pm in the church, cost \$10. Please register [online](#) or contact the office.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

To kick off the year, we will be hosting a Men's Prayer Breakfast on **Saturday 19th February** at the church at **8am**.

RSVP [online](#) or contact the office.

National Church Life Survey (NCLS)

Next **Sunday, 20th February** we will be conducting the National Church Life Survey (NCLS). We will have paper surveys for those in attendance as well as online options.

The purpose of the NCLS is to help churches to be more vital and effective. Through the survey our churchgoers will be able to give their thoughts, opinions and experiences of church life. The survey provides valuable feedback that enables leaders at local, regional and national levels to evaluate and plan for the future. Our church's contribution will form an important part of the national snapshot of the whole Australian Church. For more information visit 2021ncls.org.au.

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Financial Update

(YTD 10 February 2022)

Income \$15,693

Expenses \$20,504

Difference **-\$4,811**

The people who are serving us

9.30am Service	13th Feb	20th Feb	5pm Service	13th Feb	20th Feb
Welcomer:	J Mills	R Slocombe	Welcomer:	M Peters	A Peters
Bible Reader:	A Browne	K Dobbie	Bible Reader:	M Peters	E Hick
Prayer Leader:	R Hannam	D Young	Prayer Leader:	A Peters	V O'Regan
Kids' Program:	D & J Orange	R Hannam/ V O'Regan	Afternoon Tea:	R Slocombe	TBC
Morning Tea:	R Hannam/ B Mayhew	J Orange/ C Smith	Meal Clean Up:	D Slocombe	D Rainey
Meal Clean Up:	P Pratt	D Orange			

Cleaning Saturday: D & R Slocombe

Mowing Saturday: J Klasson/A Peters

Luke's Gospel
Jesus' authority and mission
Luke 4:31-44
Sam Pursell • 13th February 2022

1. Jesus' authority over impure spirits (31-37)
2. Jesus' authority over sickness (38-39)
3. Jesus' priority of preaching (40-44)

Next Sunday...

'Jesus calls his disciples' • Luke 5:1-11 • Sam Pursell

Information about our Church

Your kids are welcome

Children are welcome to stay with you during church. Kids church starts roughly 15 mins into the 9:30am service (during school terms).

You may also take your child to the Cry Room at the rear of the church to watch us live on a TV.

Check out our bookstall

View our quality selection of Christian books for sale at the bookstall located at the rear of the church.

Join a small group

Our midweek small groups are great for connecting with others. To join a group, contact the office.

We are filming church

(9:30am service only)

For those unable to attend, we are streaming and recording video at live.oakflatsanglican.com.

You may be filmed.

Kids and Youth programs

In school terms, we offer a range of midweek programs for toddlers, children and youth.

COVID Safety Practices

A reminder that:

- Wearing masks is mandatory indoors.
- **QR code check-in** remains mandatory at church.
- There is no limit to numbers on site.
- Doors and windows will be open to maximise ventilation.
- Maintain physical distancing of 1.5m where possible.
- Hand sanitiser is still easily accessible.
- **Please stay home if you are unwell, even if your symptoms are mild.**

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Website: oakflatsanglican.com **Livestream:** live.oakflatsanglican.com

Elvanto member website: oakflatsanglican.elvanto.com.au

Minister: Rev Sam Pursell - 0417 711 314 - sam.pursell@oakflatsanglican.com

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

Office Hours: Mon & Fri: 9am-5pm

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

Pastoral Care: Rhonda Slocombe - 0400 679 703 - rhonda.slocombe@oakflatsanglican.com

Prayer Coordinator: Geoff Kyngdon - 0417 044 565 - geoff.kyngdon@oakflatsanglican.com

Safe Ministry Representative: Harley Mills - 0409 562 932 - harley.mills@oakflatsanglican.com

GIVE ELECTRONICALLY - BANK DETAILS

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

Prayers

CURRENT PRAYERS

People in need

Bob & Margaret Abrahams, Marlene Arthur, Jean Beetles, Olga & John Covetz, Dave & Jan Crook, Sherida & Gary Findell, Auriel & Barrie Hadley, Rajja & Robert Hannam, Joy Meyer, Pam Moore, Charlie October, Paduch family, Allan Quinn, Merv Sercombe, Sue Simpson, Sandra & Hanno Stanojevic, Mary Straughan, Betty Uren, Greg & Sue Vickery, Chris & John Wilson.

School Scripture preparations

Pray for the discussions with the local schools as we get things ready to launch in the next few weeks.

Pray for the children and youth to respond well to the gospel and for more workers to be raised up.

COVID-19

Thank God for our frontline workers keeping us safe during this time.

Pray for health & safety and be conscious of our freedom as restrictions change, that we would act in a way that keep all safe, especially those more vulnerable.

Religious Freedom Bill

Pray for all those who are feeling hurt, vulnerable and marginalised from the discussion around this Bill and recent events.

With the Bill being 'indefinitely shelved', continue to pray for freedom of religion and protection from discrimination, and especially for schools

World tensions

Pray for the tension between Russia and Ukraine to be resolved helpfully and peacefully.

REGULAR PRAYERS (CYCLE 2 OF 4)

Government

The Prime Minister and our federal politicians.

World Focus

The continent of Europe. The persecuted church.

Mission Partners

Matthew Meek, ministry to overseas university students with AFES in Wollongong and beyond.

Shord and Ann van Donge, training and serving in cross-cultural ministry.

Organisations We Support

Evangelism and New Churches and the director, Phil Wheeler, and the fruit of our regular gifts to purchase new church land.

Word Ministry Training

Youthworks College.

Staff and Senior Leadership

Valerie O'Regan (Parish Administrator).

Children and Youth Ministry

Kids' Club.

Adult Ministry

Men's and Women's ministry.

Local Evangelism

Local Anglican Parishes.

Special Needs

Those serving in the defence forces, including chaplains.

Other Regular Matters

Former members of our church currently in Word ministry roles.