



Persistence as progress

Often at this time of year we imagine progress as some kind of change. 2023 will be the year of this new understanding, that new skill, some other developed capability. This year I will finally... you fill in the blank.

Christians are called to continued growth in holiness and spiritual maturity, but undergirding it is a different type of progress. A temporal one. This progress may be thought of as a day after day persistence in faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

I've been thinking about this in simple terms. Perhaps a good goal for 2023, would each day to not let your heart be hardened towards God? To keep alive your faith in him, and be open to hearing his word which will grow and develop you?

Hebrews 4 warns us to not drop away, to keep going and enter God's final and full rest in heaven. The daily task is to maintain a faithful heart and stance towards God and his word, so Psalm 95 is quoted:

*"Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts." (Hebrews 4:7)*

Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience. (Hebrews 4:11)

Having a living and active faith in Jesus each day through this year is a worthy goal for 2023. Hold onto him, who has promised great things, and will bring them about for us if we continue on in faith.

- Sam Pursell

Church News

Holidays are here!

We're delighted that you could join us today during this time of holidays.

If you're taking some time off with family and friends then be sure to give thanks to God for the joy (and sometimes challenges) of relationships, as we hope for Heaven!

Children & Youth programs

During school holidays, our normal children's and youth programs take a break until February.

Colouring sheets will be available for children at our services.

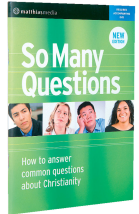


5pm Service

Our regular 5pm service will be taking a break, and will resume from **Sunday, 29th January 2023**.

We will have an *informal Bible-study gathering* each Sunday from **1st to 22nd January 2023 at 5pm**.

We will be working through a workbook, '**So Many Questions**' which looks at knowing what to say in response to many common questions about Christianity.



Kyngdon family visit

We are delighted that **Roger and Amanda Kyngdon and their children**, our BCA mission partners are visiting next Sunday. Roger will be preaching on the topic '*The Pastors Heart*' from 1 Thessalonians 1, and will also provide an update about BCA and Newman.

Make sure you say hello or introduce yourself if you haven't met them before!

Birthdays

6th Barrie Hadley

Anniversaries

Financial Update

(YTD 29th December 2022)

Income \$172,950

Expenses \$179,338

Difference **-\$6,388**

The people who are serving us

9.30am	1st Jan
Welcomer:	K & R Eton
Bible Reader:	P Moore
Prayer Leader:	H Mills
Morning Tea:	C Bonnici/G Taylor
MT Clean Up:	P Taylor

8th Jan
G Kyngdon/P Moore
R Hannam
D Orange
M Klasson/B Mayhew
P Pratt

Saturday Cleaning: D & J Orange/J Evans

Saturday Mowing: P Pratt/R Siles

How to be happy

Psalm 112

Sam Pursell • 1st January 2023

1. Know God's big story (Ps. 111)
2. Imitate God in your little story (Ps. 112)
3. Rejoice in what is to come (Matt. 5:1-12)

Next Sunday...

'The Pastor's Heart' • Roger Kyngdon • Readings: 1 Thessalonians 1

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 Bible study group

Our midweek Bible study 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.

Weekly prayer meeting

Saturday, 7:30am (online via Zoom)

A time to share, to encourage, and to pray for one another. Come join us and experience and power of prayer!

Contact Geoff Kyngdon for details.

Scan for the online 'Contact Us' form



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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

The World

Peace in Ukraine and forgiveness amid the carnage.

All leaders, may they lead wisely with justice.

Energy and food security during a harsh Winter.

Those suffering from starvation in so many places.

Our World

Our leaders at all levels.

May our Christian leaders stand up and speak out when needed.

Our rural communities and the Christians that live there.

Our Ministries

Thank God for sustaining us in 2022.

Continued planning for 2023 for vision and overall support.

Refreshment during the end of year break.

All our families, young and old.

Our People

Those in special need.

Our devotions for purpose and dedication.

For those who are struggling with various issues, exacerbated by the time of the year.

People in need

Olga & John Covetz, Dave & Jan Crook, Auriel & Barrie Hadley, Robert & Raija Hannam, Pauline Kirby, Joy Meyer, Allan Quinn, Merv & Nola Sercombe, Mary Straughan, Chris & John Wilson.

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

Archbishop of Sydney, Kanishka Raffel.

Bishop of Wollongong, Peter Hayward.

Children and Youth Ministry

Refuge, our youth group.

Adult Ministry

Bible Study groups.

Local Evangelism

Outreach to people in all families in our communities.

Special Needs

Mental illness and dementia sufferers.

Mobile Community Pantry

The Volunteer team and all those who shop each fortnight.

Give thanks for the generous community support.