



Why bother with New Year Celebrations???

Why has the world become fixated with New Year celebrations? The hype, the lead in, the planning, the dressing up, the falling ball in Times Square NY, let alone the partying and the fireworks, all for what lasting purpose?

The hour passes, fireworks are set off and what of any lasting consequence remains after 12.01 AM? Bad behaviour, drunkenness, crowds, and long travel times home!!! New Year resolutions often do not outlast the day then the grind and reality of life return if they ever left in the first place. New calendars are hung and that is about it.

What might a Christian view on New Year be? There is nothing intrinsically wrong in welcoming a change, it is a matter of focus. God's Word speaks of new beginnings: Creation, renewal post the Flood, Abram's call and obedience to a new life and ministry and a New Covenant with the coming of the Messiah along with a New Word for God's people.

Paul faced a new beginning on the Damascus Road and the impact of his teachings, unto God, remain a powerful influence on us. In 2 Corinthians 5:17 we read:

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come." NASB

This is the renewal the world desperately needs, and it will outlast all celebrations into Eternity with the Lord. What would you prefer a New Year for a moment or a New Life forever?

- Geoff Kyngdon

Church News

Welcome Kyngdon family

We are delighted that **Roger and Amanda Kyngdon and their children**, our BCA mission partners are visiting today.

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

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.

Office closed

The church office will be closed for two weeks and will **re-open on Monday 23rd January**.

Val will be on leave and in her absence, Sam (1st week) and our Wardens will be monitoring our church phone, emails and dealing with any issues that arise.

5pm Service

Our regular 5pm service is on break, and in place we have an *informal Bible-study gathering* each Sunday to the **22nd January at 5pm**.

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

Birthdays

10th Pauline Kirby

Pursell family on holiday

Sam, Susan and the family will be taking a much deserved break from **Sunday 15th to Friday 27th January**.

Our Wardens (Dave Crook, Andy Peters and Peter Taylor) will be the point of contact during this time.

Term 1 Rosters

It is almost time to prepare the next roster for Term 1.

In order to assist with efficient rostering and smooth carry out of duties, please advise if you will be unavailable during the period of **Monday 30th January through to Sunday 2nd April**.

If you would like to serve, or have any questions regarding the rosters, please contact Val.

Anniversaries

12th Phil & Coralie Pratt

14th David & Rhonda Slocombe

The people who are serving us

9.30am	8th Jan
Welcomer:	G Kyngdon/P Moore
Bible Reader:	R Hannam
Prayer Leader:	D Orange
Morning Tea:	M Klasson/B Mayhew
MT Clean Up:	P Pratt

15th Jan
D & J Orange
D Young
V O'Regan
C Bonnici/R Eton
K Eton

Saturday Cleaning: V O'Regan

Saturday Mowing: J Klasson

The Pastor's Heart

1 Thessalonians 1

Roger Kyngdon • 8th January 2023

Next Sunday...

'What Happened When God's People Rediscovered God's Word?' • Peter Clark

Readings: Psalm 119:73-88 & Nehemiah 8:1-12

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



35 Fisher Street (PO Box 68) Oak Flats NSW 2529

Phone: 4256 6464 **Email:** office@oakflatsanglican.com **SMS:** 0477 764 988

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 1 OF 4)

Government

Our King, The United Nations, other major governments.

World Focus

The continent of Africa.

The persecuted church.

Mission Partners

Adrian and Anita Lovell, training Christian leaders in Bolivia.

Grahame and Patty Scarratt, providing distance training for Word ministers in Latin America.

Organisations We Support

Church Missionary Society (CMS).

Word Ministry Training

Moore Theological College.

Staff and Senior Leadership

Our Minister Sam Pursell, his wife Susan and their kids Ed, Mary and Angela.

Children and Youth Ministry

Playmakers, our playgroup for toddlers.

Adult Ministry

Our ministry to seniors.

Local Evangelism

Our schools ministry - scripture (SRE).

Special Needs

Those who are poor and needy.

The growth of the gospel among our Indigenous communities.