



## Christians: Saints, sufferers and sinners

When discipling adults and children to follow Jesus, it can be a challenge to keep a rounded idea of what a Christian is like – be it of ourselves, or in relating to others in the church. One helpful way to approach this is to remember, and hold in balance, that Christians are saints, sufferers and sinners (as noted by author Michael Emlet).

**Saints** – every Christian is considered holy and righteous before God, through Jesus Christ. By trusting in Jesus as Lord and God, they have been restored to God and are cleared of the record of their sins. Unlike what the Roman Catholic church teaches, every Christian is a saint, a holy one, through faith in Jesus Christ. This is even if they are acting in ways that God has called them to change from. For instance, see 1 Corinthians 1:2. It is a disastrous church yet Paul calls them 'sanctified' and 'holy people/saints.'

**Sufferers** – in this lifetime, being a Christian does not prevent suffering. We will still age, decay, and are prone to accidents, mental health struggles and various conditions. We have hope through it all, trusting in God's restored creation to come, but nevertheless life can be very hard. Similarly, we may be excluded or persecuted for being a Christian. In this we follow Jesus' example, who suffered even as he trusted his Father. Some Christians are even martyred as witnesses for their faith.

**Sinners** – upon becoming a Christian, a person may experience a dramatic change in behaviour and speech, but they will still sin in various ways. It can be a surprise when some people who initially seems so 'saintly' are also sinners. But Jesus is the only truly righteous one, and even the best of people needs his salvation. Yet a Christian is a forgiven sinner in identity and status before God, who also is being transformed in their actions and words over time. The process of speaking up about sin, forgiving and bearing with one another matures us in practicing love and becoming more like Jesus.

- Sam Pursell

# Church News

## Sam on leave

Sam is heading to the UK for a friend's wedding and will be away from **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September**.

Susan and the kids will still be around while he's away.

The church office will be open as usual, and if anything comes up, our Wardens - Andy Peters, Ed Stanojevic, and Geoff Kyngdon (available by phone or email) - are always happy to help.

Please be praying for safe travels for Sam.

## Upcoming Guest Preachers

While Sam is away, we're looking forward to welcoming some guest preachers:

- 14<sup>th</sup> September – Grahame Scarratt
- 21<sup>st</sup> September – Trevor Ackman
- 28<sup>th</sup> September – Jodie McNeill

Please be praying for each of them as they prepare to open God's word with us.

## Ladies Dinner

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September** is our next Ladies Dinner. We meet at our church and start at 6.30pm.

Dinner is \$10 - please RSVP to attend or to bring a plate of food on the sign up sheet.

## Church Spring Cleaning

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September @ 9am**

Come for as long as you can, even if it's just for an hour or two.

Contact Harley for more information.

## Pot Luck Lunch

We are gathering together for a Pot Luck Lunch on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September** after our morning service.

Please sign up to bring a plate of food to share.

## Term 4 Rosters

A reminder to let Val know if you will be unavailable during the period of **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September through to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December**.

## BCA Boxes due

If you've been collecting coins for Bush Church Aid (BCA) please return them for counting.

## Give Electronically

### BANK DETAILS

**Name:** Oak Flats Anglican

**BSB:** 633 000

**Account:** 164 385 841

### Serving Roster

<i>Saturday</i> <b>13<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<i>Sunday</i>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> September</b>
<b>Cleaning:</b> P & C Pratt/R Hannam	<b>Welcomer:</b>	H Mills/P Moore	J & M Klasson
<b>Mowing:</b> N/A	<b>Bible Reader:</b>	J Stavert	P Moore
	<b>Prayer Leader:</b>	D Young	P Pratt
	<b>Morning Tea:</b>	P Forrester/B Irwin	R Hannam/J Orange
	<b>MT Clean Up:</b>	C Bonnici	D Orange
	<b>Kids Church:</b>	R Hannam	B Firley

*Authentic Ministry: Power in Weakness*

# **Wholehearted ministry**

**2 Corinthians 6:3-13**

**Sam Pursell • 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

1. Servants of God and people (v. 3)
2. In hardships (v. 4-5)
3. In holiness (v. 6-7)
4. In the tensions of ministry (v. 8-10)
5. In one-sided love (v. 11-13)

***Next Sunday...***

*'A Tale of Two Cities'* • Grahame Scarratt • Readings: Zechariah 8:1-8, 20-23 & Acts 10:1-48

# 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 service (during school terms).

## 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

For those unable to attend, we are streaming and recording video at [live.oakflatsanglican.com](http://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](http://oakflatsanglican.com) **Livestream:** [live.oakflatsanglican.com](http://live.oakflatsanglican.com)

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

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

**Parish Administrator:** Valerie O'Regan - 0408 271 189 - [val.oregan@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto:val.oregan@oakflatsanglican.com)

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

**Wardens:** Geoff Kyngdon - 0417 044 565;

Andy Peters - 0414 799 001; Ed Stanojevic - 0405 970 434

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

**Prayer Coordinator:** Geoff Kyngdon - 0417 044 565 - [geoff.kyngdon@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto:geoff.kyngdon@oakflatsanglican.com)

**Safe Ministry Representative:** Harley Mills - 0409 562 932 - [harley.mills@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto:harley.mills@oakflatsanglican.com)

# Prayers

## CURRENT PRAYERS

### Church life

Bible Study groups & ladies dinner.

Give thanks for the encouragement of meeting around His Word.

That God would be at work through all our ministries to draw people to Jesus.

**Away from Oak Flats:** Geoff Kyngdon, Sam Pursell, David & Rhonda Slocombe.

**Those in ongoing need:** Bronwyn Clark, John & Olga Covetz, Kevin & Ruth Eton, Barrie & Auriel Hadley, Robert & Raija Hannam, Pauline Kirby, Graeme & Marianne Krout, Pam Moore & family, David Paduch, Debbie Paget, Resh Prasad, Merv & Nola Sercombe, Ann Stavert, Eileen Stokes, Allan Quinn, Glenda & Peter Taylor, Robyn Thomas, Helen Wagemans, John Wilson.

### Community

Scripture in schools (Oak Flats Public, Balarang Public, Oak Flats High).

Emergency services: Police, Ambulance, SES, Fire Brigade.

Indigenous communities, the poor, the sick, and the socially disconnected.

Local government and upcoming by-elections.

### The World

Earthquake in Afghanistan.

Peace in Ukraine and the Middle East; wisdom for NATO, UN, and USA.

Food and medical aid to reach those in need.

The persecuted church and international leaders.

## REGULAR PRAYERS (Cycle 4 of 4)

### *Making Disciples of Jesus in Oak Flats*

#### Engage

That we would engage people from our community with the grace and love God has shown to us.

#### Evangellise

That we would share the good news about Jesus with all people and see conversion.

#### Establish

That we would teach people to know and obey Christ's teaching.

That we would be true friends with people in our church.

That we would love one another and support one another in life's challenges.

#### Equip

That we would raise up workers for the gospel harvest.

That we would train people to various ministry roles, giving them skills, encouragement and space to flourish.

#### Church members

Josh, Ann, Emmy & Arthur Stavert

Olga Stoilykovic

Eileen Stokes

Mary Straughan

Robert Takacs