



A room prepared by Jesus

After being away, it is always settling to returning home. This week, I had a moment of contentment at being back in Australia, as some pink and grey Galahs squawked while I was by the lake. Of course, prior to that, I was calmed when entering the door to our house. Throughout our lives we all move homes, whether relocating to another country, or moving to the next suburb. Yet all these return experiences point to a more significant home which we desire - our ultimate return home to God. Jesus said to his disciples:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." (John 14:1-3)

Although created to live with God, sin has estranged us from him. But through Jesus' saving death and resurrection, a way back has been made to God, and by God. This way back is not through walking a path of good deeds in life, for we cannot atone for what we have done, but through clinging onto Jesus by faith. So, Jesus also says,

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6).

Are you coming home to God, through trusting in Jesus? This is the great homecoming of all time. How wonderful it will be to experience what Jesus has been preparing for those who trust in him.

- Sam Pursell

Church News

Welcome Jodie & Mandy!

It is such a joy to welcome Jodie McNeill back with us today as our guest preacher, bringing God's word from Romans 8:18–25.

Jodie now serves as the **Global Operations Manager** for *Gafcon*, but many of us will remember his time as Senior Minister here from 2012–2018. We're also delighted to have his wife Mandy with us today.

Pot Luck Lunch

Join us as we gather on together today after our morning service for lunch. Thank you to everyone who has provided food and drinks!

Church Spring Cleaning

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped out with our church spring cleaning! Whether you brought your tools, your time, your energy, or just a willing heart, your efforts have truly blessed our church.

We're so grateful for all the hands and care that went into making our church shine - your generosity and service are deeply appreciated.

Children programs

During school holidays our normal children's programs take a break until **after Sunday 12th October**.

Activity sheets will be available for children at our Sunday service.

Birthdays

Anniversaries

2nd Stuart & Lauran Mills

Give Electronically

BANK DETAILS

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

Serving Roster

<i>Saturday</i> 4 th October	<i>Sunday</i>	28 th September	5 th October
Cleaning: J & M Klasson/B Clark	Welcomer:	R Prasad/E Stanojevic	P Moore/D Orange
Mowing: N/A	Bible Reader:	J Mills	A Stavert
	Prayer Leader:	D Young	V O'Regan
	Morning Tea:	C Bonnici/J Orange	C Bonnici/B Mayhew
	MT Clean Up:	D Orange	J Orange
	Kids Church:	N/A	N/A

Prayers

CURRENT PRAYERS

Our Church

Our visitors. Our members who we might not know so well.

All our precious children and their families.
Deeper fellowship with others.

Away from Oak Flats: Geoff Kyngdon, 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, Eileen Stokes, Allan Quinn, Robyn Thomas, Helen Wagemans, John Wilson.

Our Communities

The thousands of lost on our doorsteps.
All our schools, students, teachers and staff alike. For the school holidays.
Those who work in the businesses we visited regularly.

Our Nation

For wisdom, integrity and compassion for all leaders as they address cost-of-living pressures, housing challenges, and social division.

For healthy conversations and understanding to grow across our communities, even when we disagree.

Our World

For peace in the Middle East and Ukraine.
Wisdom for world leaders (NATO, UN, USA, UK) to pursue peace, protect the vulnerable, and deliver food and medical aid.

REGULAR PRAYERS (Cycle 3 of 4)

Church ministries

Kids Church, Kids Club, Playmakers playgroup.

Youth ministry.

School Scripture (SRE).

Bible Study groups.

Pilates & Praise.

Anglicare Community Pantry.

Women's and Men's ministry.

Ministry to seniors.

Members unable to attend church

Those house-bound or living in nursing homes including Margaret Abrahams, Olga Covetz, Lily Lyddiard, Pat Pepper, Merv Sercombe.

Staff & Senior Leadership

Our Minister Sam Pursell, his wife Susan and their kids Ed, Mary and Angela.
Valerie O'Regan (Parish Administrator).
Wardens and Parish Councillors.

Diocesan Leadership

Archbishop of Sydney, Kanishka Raffel.
Bishop of Wollongong, Peter Hayward.

Church members

Ashleigh & Jake, Willow, Theo & Sebastian Browne

Kathy Bruce

Bronwyn Clark

Wayne Clark

John & Olga Covetz

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. 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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Elvanto member website: oakflatsanglican.elvanto.com.au

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

Parish Administrator: Valerie O'Regan - 0408 271 189 - 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

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

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

Real Hope - Real Jesus

Romans 8:18-25

Jodie McNeill • 28th September 2025

What would it take to give up your faith?

S _____?

S _____?

S ____?

S _____?

_____ is a problem.

We need to know how to _____.

Present suffering is dwarfed by future _____

Suffering will come to an ____.

Suffering also affects _____

Creation is _____

Creation was _____

Creation will have _____

God's children are also _____

Future glory is our _____

Future glory is our _____

Life for the Christian is all about _____ in hope

Our hope is _____ because it's hope in Jesus

The war with evil and suffering is _____.

Jesus _____ suffering.

Jesus promises to help us when we're _____

Real Hope. Real Jesus.

Next Sunday...

'Devoted to God' • Sam Pursell • Readings: Isaiah 43:1-13 & 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1