



The gift of rest

The beginning of each year is a busy period for many of us. Regular activities and patterns of life are restarted, often with significant changes; plans are made for the year and the work is begun. Having been made in God's image, humans are designed to be workers and creators. Yet while we are image bearers of God, at the same time we must recognise we are not God. So, we do not have unlimited stores of power, strength, wisdom and endurance. We read in Psalm 127:

Unless the LORD builds the house,

the builders labor in vain.

Unless the LORD watches over the city,

the guards stand watch in vain.

In vain you rise early

and stay up late,

toiling for food to eat—

for he grants sleep to those he loves. (Psalm 127:1-2)

This does not diminish to nothing the importance of our labour and work, our concern and watching over important matters, but does put them into perspective. Ultimately God directs the course of history, world affairs, and even the success or not of our small ventures. This does not mean we throw our hands up in the air in despair, and say "It's not worth it, why should I bother!" Rather, God's sovereign guidance of our affairs means we can rest from our work. We should work diligently, and with effort, but don't need to take on the burden of micromanaging everything, for God watches and orders the world even when I cannot.

We cannot go a few days without clocking out from the world in sleep. Yet God keeps it spinning. Not only does God sustain it constantly, he works for its salvation and redemption. As Jesus said "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working" (John 5:17). Our life, words and work for Christ is never in vain, but can even have an element of rest, because it is ultimately God's work.

- Sam Pursell

Church News

Ladies Craft Afternoon

Saturday 14th March from 2pm to 4pm.

Bring along any craft or knitting that you might be working on.

Afternoon tea will be provided. No need to RSVP.

AGM - 15th March

Sunday 15th March at 11am.

A pot-luck lunch will be held afterwards - please see sign-up sheet for details.

The Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2025 have been made available via email or for collection at the welcome desk.

BCA Boxes Due

Please return your **Bush Church Aid (BCA)** coin box for counting as March is the collection month.

Directory & Photos - Final Check

This is your last chance to check or update your details. Please visit bit.ly/3AfPtYX or review the printed copy at the welcome desk.

A reminder that Val is also taking photos for the online directory (Elvanto).

Autumn Regional Prayer Diary

The latest Wollongong Regional Prayer diary is now available to [download](#).

Printed copies are also available.

Young Adults - ALIVE Evangelistic Rally

21 March | Figtree Anglican Church | 7pm

ALIVE is a one-night event exploring life, meaning, and Jesus. Everyone is welcome. Free event. Registration required - madealive.net.

Birthdays

8th Ben Kyngdon (*Mission Partner*)

12th Flynn Faulconbridge

Give Electronically

BANK DETAILS

Name: Oak Flats Anglican

BSB: 633 000

Account: 164 385 841

Serving Roster

Saturday

14th March

Cleaning:

D & J Orange/J Evans

Mowing:

P Pratt/D Slocombe

Sunday

Welcomer:

Bible Reader:

Prayer Leader:

Morning Tea:

MT Clean Up:

Kids Church:

8th March

A Bentink & P Forrester

J Mills

G Kyngdon

A Kerr/R Slocombe

H Mills

R Hannam

15th March

D & Slocombe

B Irwin

V O'Regan

J & A Stavert

J Mills

M Peters

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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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: 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

Prayers

CURRENT PRAYERS

The Persecuted Church

Christians facing opposition in Iran, Iraq, China, North Korea, Nigeria, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

That we would remember them faithfully in prayer.

SRE and the Place of Faith in Schools

Continued freedom for SRE and Christian teaching in schools.

Wisdom for governments and education leaders.

Missions on the Ground

SRE: more supporters and prayer partners.

Playmakers: energy and good connections with families.

Pantry: practical care and gospel conversations.

Bible Studies: growth in faith and fellowship.

Our Church

AGM (15th March): Thankfulness for God's work in the past year, and wisdom and unity as the church looks ahead.

One-on-one ministry and deeper community relationships.

Wisdom for pastoral care, planning and future ventures.

People in need: Carmen Bonnici, Bronwyn Clark, John & Olga Covetz, David & Jan Crook, Kevin & Ruth Eton, Barrie & Auriel Hadley, Robert & Raija Hannam, Pauline Kirby, Graeme & Marianne Krout, Pam Moore & family, Debbie Paget, O'Regan family, Merv & Nola Sercombe, Eileen Stokes, Allan Quinn, Helen Wagemans, John Wilson.

REGULAR PRAYERS (Cycle 2 of 4)

Government

King Charles.

The Prime Minister and federal politicians.

The Premier and NSW state politicians.

Our Mayor and local government.

Those serving in the defence forces, including chaplains.

The World

International leaders.

The persecuted church.

Local Community

Oak Flats Public, Balarang Public and Oak Flats High schools.

Emergency services.

Local community groups.

Indigenous communities.

The poor.

People with physical, mental illness.

People socially disconnected.

Church members

Helen Wagemans

John Wilson

Dianne Young

Tania Young

Zac & Carol Adams