



## Surviving a Stressed and Pressure-Cooker World

The year has barely begun, yet the pressure is on, not helped by events in the Middle East, the threat of higher inflation leading to cost-of-living increases, and interest rate increases that often hit those least able to bear them.

After a few weeks of 2026, what should we do and where should we turn for encouragement and support? Panicking and giving up on life are not options, nor is believing all we learn from the media. God has not left us alone, and never will. Even in our darkest moments of concern, as pressures mount, He remains our hope and the Light of the World.

In early April we celebrate another Easter. Leading to His arrest and crucifixion, Jesus faced enormous pressures. In His humanity He knew what lay ahead. In Luke 22:39 we read of His Garden of Gethsemane experience. He drew aside and prayed those heartfelt words in v42: *"...yet not My will, but Yours be done."* (NASB). He may have been truly God, but He knew what it was like to live in a pressured, sinful world.

He prayed and trusted His Father. We must follow His example and live out the famous hymn line: "Trust and obey, for there is no other way."

St Paul faced enormous pressures. Initially in persecuting early Christians, then after his conversion as he preached and defended the Gospel, through to his final imprisonment and martyrdom in Rome. In Philippians 4:11 he speaks about his tough times, encouraging us in v13: *"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."* (NASB).

Tempted to give up? Do not. Keep praying and trusting. God will never give up on you.

- Geoff Kyngdon

WELCOME TO CHURCH • SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

# Church News

## AGM & Pot luck lunch

Our AGM is **today at 11am** in the church. Please join us for lunch afterwards.

## 2026 Member Directory

Printed copies of the Church Member Directory are now available.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to check and update their details.

## Church Office Hours

Please note the updated office hours:

Monday: 9:30am–5:00pm

Friday: 9:30am–3:30pm.

## Kids Club & Youth BBQ

We're planning a family BBQ for Kids Club & Youth on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March** and would love some extra help. If you're able to assist on the night, let Sam know!

## 1<sup>st</sup> March Sermon Audio

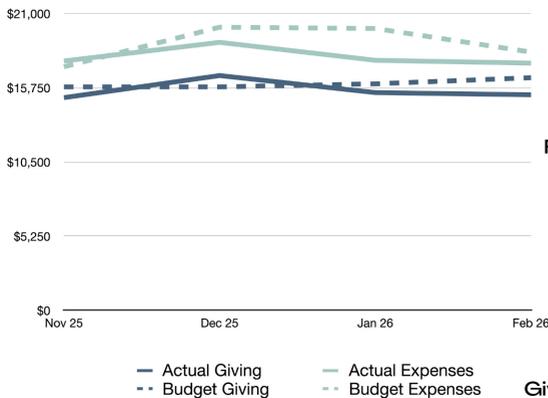
The sermon from Sunday 1st March is now available on our website.

As it wasn't finished during the service, Sam has kindly re-recorded it so you can listen to the full message.

## BCA Boxes due

Please return your **Bush Church Aid (BCA)** coin box for counting.

## Finance Update (to 28 February 2026)



### February Giving

We fell behind the budget by \$1,208



### Giving Year to date

We are behind the budget by \$2,261

## Birthdays

19<sup>th</sup> Brian Dixon  
21<sup>st</sup> Matias Lovell  
(Mission Partner)

## Give Electronically

### BANK DETAILS

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

## Serving Roster

**Saturday**

**21<sup>st</sup> March**

**Cleaning:**

J & M Klasson

**Mowing:**

N/A

**Sunday**

**Welcomer:**

**Bible Reader:**

**Prayer Leader:**

**Morning Tea:**

**MT Clean Up:**

**Kids Church:**

**15<sup>th</sup> March**

D & Slocombe

B Irwin

V O'Regan

J & A Stavert

J Mills

M Peters

**22<sup>nd</sup> March**

A & M Peters

M Peters

H Mills

M Klasson & R Slocombe

D Slocombe

J Evans

*Luke's Gospel*

# **Jesus seeks and saves the lost**

**Luke 19:1-10**

**Sam Pursell • 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

1. Desperately seeking Jesus (v. 1-4)
2. A transformed man (v. 5-8)
3. Jesus seeks and saves the lost (v. 9-10)

***Next Sunday...***

*'The saved who serve'* • Sam Pursell • Readings: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 & Luke 19:11-27

# 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:** Monday: 9:30am-5pm & Friday: 9:30am-3:30pm

**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

### World Conflicts

The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, including Iran and Israel.

Aid for the injured, displaced and grieving families.

Wisdom and responsibility among global leaders and bodies. Decisions that pursue justice and peace.

### Australia

Economic pressures, fuel supply and rising costs.

Those in rural and regional communities feeling strain.

Government to act with wisdom and care for the vulnerable.

### Church Life

**Parish AGM:** People willing to serve in the year ahead. Unity, encouragement and good fellowship.

Pastoral care opportunities and community connections.

Encouraging and supporting one another in Christ.

**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 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

Sabah Al Qass Ounan

Lenore & Joe Armour

Alex Bentink & Priyani Forrester

Carmen Bonnici

Ashleigh & Jake, Willow, Theo & Sebastian Browne