

The reorienting work of worship

Worship of God changes us. God is worthy of our honour, praise and thanksgiving because of who he is (Revelation 4:11) and what Jesus has done for us (Revelation 5:12), yet also the very act of doing these things does something to us. However, it depends on our current attitude. If we are self-assured and confident, worshipping God humbles us. Yet if we are feeling bruised and beaten up by life, these acts strengthen us. James writes:

Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower. (James 1:9-10)

Perhaps you are full of self-loathing, or your life feels like a struggle or failure? Worship means remembering your high position in Christ before God the Father. He gives us all we need, and fortifies the weary. He brings resurrection life, now and in the world to come. Perhaps you are self-assured and your ego is over inflated? Worship means remembering God is the ultimate creator, and that salvation is not from yourself but Christ. He brings lasting life and success, beyond the grave, which you cannot manufacture yourself.

Whatever we think about ourself, whatever we might be going through, worshipping God reorients us back to God and redirects our vision to the one we truly need. The Lord God made you, he knows you, he loves you – so live every day for him, sing to him, praise him.

*“You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being.” (Revelation 4:11)*

*“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honour and glory and praise!” (Revelation 5:12)*

- Sam Pursell

WELCOME TO CHURCH • SUNDAY 17TH MAY 2026

Church News

Note of thanks

Thank you to our beautiful church family for the incredible love, prayers, meals, messages, and support shown to my family and me following the passing of my Dad, Laurie.

Your kindness and care have meant so much during this difficult time. We are deeply grateful for the way you have surrounded us with God's love and continued prayers. — Val O'Regan

Packing up on Sundays

After morning tea each Sunday, we'd appreciate some help packing up the chairs ready for Pilates and other mid-week activities.

Thank you for helping care for and share our space well!

Southern Cross Magazine

The latest issue of Southern Cross is available [online](#) or you can pick up a copy at the welcoming desk.

Birthdays

19th Ann Stavert
20th Abigail Kyngdon (*Mission Partner*)
23rd Erin Hick
Roger Kyngdon (*Mission Partner*)
Nola Sercombe

Bishop Hayward's Retirement & Farewell

Peter Hayward will officially conclude his ministry as Bishop of Wollongong on 29th August. We thank God for his faithful service and continue to pray for Peter and Julie in this next season.

A regional farewell and thanksgiving evening will be held at Dapto Anglican on **Monday 24th August at 7pm**. Everyone is welcome - please let Sam know if you plan to attend.

If you would like to contribute a message/photo for a farewell book (needed by the end of July) or make a financial contribution toward a farewell gift, please speak to Sam or Val.

Mission Partner Update

The latest update from **Shoalhaven Aboriginal Community Church (ShACC)** is available on welcoming desk.

Anniversaries

22nd Dave & Jan Crook
David & Jenny Orange

Serving Roster

Saturday

23rd May

Cleaning:

J & M Klasson

Mowing:

N/A

Sunday

Welcomer:

Bible Reader:

Prayer Leader:

Morning Tea:

MT Clean Up:

Kids Church:

17th May

D & J Orange

A Bentink

J Stavert

R Eton/J Mills

P Pratt

V O'Regan

24th May

A Kerr/J Stavert

D Young

TBC

R Hannam/M Klasson

R Eton

V O'Regan

Genesis 25-35

God promises blessing

Genesis 28:10-22

Sam Pursell • 17th May 2026

1. A crazy dream (v. 10-15)
2. The gate of heaven & house of God (v. 16-19)
3. Fellowship fighting (Hebrews 12:14-16)

Next Sunday...

'Treat out of trickery' • Sam Pursell • **Readings:** Genesis 29:1-30 & Genesis 29:31-30:24

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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Phone: 4256 6464 **Email:** office@oakflatsanglican.com

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

Wardens: Dave Crook - 0404 337 502; Geoff Kyngdon - 0417 044 565;
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

Our People

Those grieving, including John Covetz, Valerie's family; and Carmen's family. Cynthea Smith's recovery; Lily Kovacevic (palliative care). Families under cost-of-living, housing, and mental health pressures; strength for pastoral care teams.

People in need: Bronwyn Clark, John Covetz, David & Jan Crook, Jeanette Dunkeld, Kevin & Ruth Eton, Barrie & Auriel Hadley, Robert & Raija Hannam, Pauline Kirby, Lili Kovacevic, Graeme & Marianne Krout, Pam Moore & family, Debbie Paget, Merv & Nola Sercombe, Cynthea Smith, Eileen Stokes, Allan Quinn, John Wilson.

Our Ministries

SRE, Playmakers, Community Pantry, Pilates & Praise ministries. Children's ministry on Sundays; strength for Susan and helpers. Friday children & youth ministries and all who serve during the week.

Our Nation

Federal Budget 2026; integrity, justice, and wise leadership. Rural, mining, FIFO workers, emergency services, police, and chaplains. Homelessness, employment, and those seeking work.

Our World

Peace for Iran, Ukraine, and other conflict zones. World leadership: UN, EU, NATO, US, UK, France, Germany. Humanitarian needs in Gaza & Lebanon.

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.

Evangelize

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

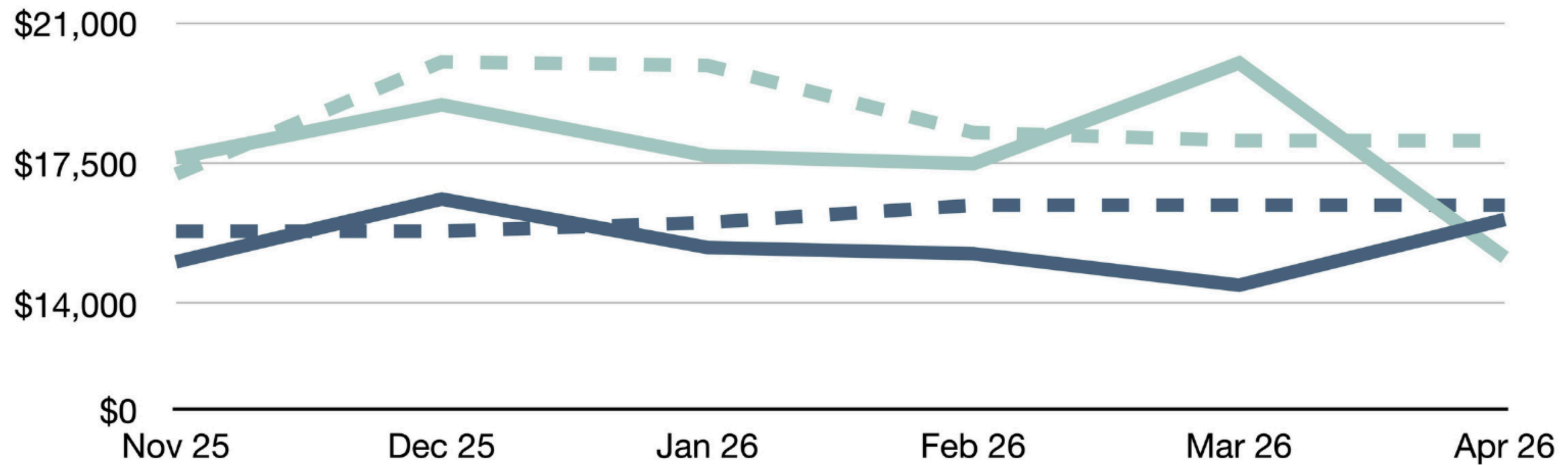
That we would raise up workers for the gospel harvest.

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

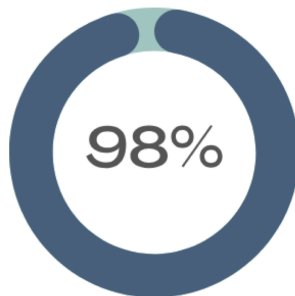
Church members

Olga Stoilykovic
Eileen Stokes
Mary Straughan
Peter & Glenda Taylor
Robyn Thomas

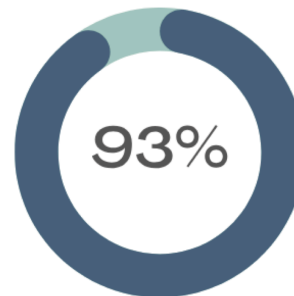
Finance Update (to the end of April 2026)



— Actual Giving — Actual Expenses
- - Budget Giving - - Budget Expenses



April Giving
We fell behind the budget by \$354



Giving Year to date
We are behind the budget by \$4,609

Give Electronically

Name: Oak Flats Anglican
BSB: 633 000

Account: 164 385 841