



Our Heavenly Father

Today is my first Father's Day without Dad.

Four months ago, we said goodbye to him after his battle with cancer. Four months can feel like a long time, but somehow it also feels like yesterday. There are moments when I still find myself thinking, *I need to tell Dad about that* or *I'll just ask Dad*, before remembering that I can't.

I've celebrated Father's Day every year of my life, but until now I had never really stopped to think about how difficult this day might be for others. For some, Father's Day brings sadness rather than celebration - perhaps because they have lost their father, never knew their dad, have a difficult relationship with him, or long to be a father themselves.

This year, I understand that a little more. Father's Day is filled with reminders: cards and gifts in the shops, families gathering together, photos and messages celebrating dads. I am thankful for the years I had with my Dad, but there is also a very real sense of absence.

Yet, in the midst of that absence, I am reminded that I have a Father who will never leave me. The Bible describes God as our heavenly Father. He knows us, cares for us and draws near to those who are hurting. Psalm 103 says:

"As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him."

Our earthly fathers are a precious gift, but they are mortal. Our heavenly Father is eternal. His love does not end, and his presence does not disappear when someone we love is no longer with us.

So this Father's Day, I will be thankful for my Dad. I will miss him. And I will give thanks to God for being my heavenly Father - the one who remains with me in both joy and grief.

- Valerie O'Regan

Church News

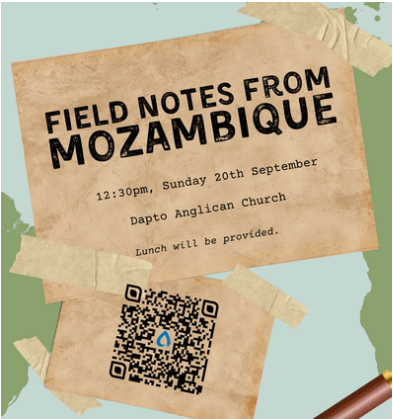
Anglican Aid: Hear from Mozambique

Sunday 20th September, 12:30pm-2:30pm.

You are warmly invited to join **Anglican Aid** at Dapto Anglican Church on Sunday, 20th September, to hear **Archbishop Vicente Msosa** from Mozambique share stories of faith and gospel hope.

Free lunch provided!

Please RSVP by Wednesday, 16th September to assist Anglican Aid with catering numbers. Scan the QR code to register.



Rosters - Term 4

A reminder to let Val know if you will be unavailable during the period of **Monday 21st September through to Sunday 13th December.**

BCA Boxes due

It's box opening time!

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



Birthdays

Anniversaries

Give Electronically

BANK DETAILS

Name: Oak Flats Anglican

BSB: 633 000

Account: 164 385 841

Serving Roster

	Sunday	6 th September	13 th September
Saturday	Welcomer:	R Eton/G Kyngdon	D & R Slocombe
12 th September	Bible Reader:	P Evans	A Stavert
Cleaning:	Prayer Leader:	J Stavert	P Pratt
D & J Orange/J Evans	Morning Tea:	B Irwin/A Kerr	R Hannam/M Klasson
Mowing:	MT Clean Up:	J Mills	D Orange
N/A	Kids Church:	M Klasson	B Firley

All for your strengthening

Sam Pursell • 6th September 2026

1. Persevering for others (v. 11-13)
2. Spending yourself for others (v. 14-18)
3. Humbled and grieved for others (v. 19-21)

'Examine yourselves' • Sam Pursell • **Readings:** Isaiah 57:15-19 & 2 Corinthians 13:1-14

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

35 Fisher Street, Oak Flats NSW 2529

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

Mission & Gospel Opportunities

Boldness to share Christ with family, friends, neighbours and colleagues.

Open doors for meaningful gospel conversations in everyday life.

Faithful support for those serving in mission, both locally and around the world.

Our Church & Leaders

Faithful pastoral care for those in need within our church family.

Wisdom for those leading our ministries and serving each week.

Synod delegates and decisions that will support gospel ministry across our Diocese.

Our World

Peace in the Middle East and Ukraine, and hope for refugees and those affected by conflict.

Christian missionaries and aid workers serving in difficult and dangerous places.

Australia's leaders, upcoming elections, and rural and remote communities.

One Another

Those facing illness, grief, financial pressure, relationship challenges and caring responsibilities.

Those in ongoing 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, Cynthia Smith, Eileen Stokes, Allan Quinn and John Wilson.

Comfort for those finding Father's Day difficult, and thankfulness for our loving Heavenly Father.

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, 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.

Archdeacon of Wollongong, Anthony Douglas.

Bishop-elect of Wollongong, Jono Squire.

Church members

Dave, Jan, Sienna & Ashkan Crook

Jenni & Matt Dawes; Flynn & Rhys

Faulconbridge

Brian Dixon

Jeanette Dunkeld

Kevin & Ruth Eton