

Jesus Christ, our rock and our salvation

"What is the difference between a stone and a rock?" I wondered, as I recently read this in Romans 9:30-33:

> *What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith but the people of Israel, who pursued the law as the way of righteousness, have not attained their goal. Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone.*
>
> *As it is written:*
>
> > *"See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes people to stumble*
> > *and a rock that makes them fall,*
> > *and the one who believes in him will never be put to shame."*

The answer to my question is that a rock is an aggregate of minerals – large, solid and in the ground, whereas a stone is a smaller, detached piece – weathered away, or shaped by humans. The apostle Paul's point however, quoting Isaiah 8:14, is that people can trip over both of them! Whether stumbling or standing, this geological imagery illustrates two approaches to the law and Christ.

The first is to think we can become good and righteous enough for God through observing the law. Do the works, you get God's reward. Therefore, Jesus Christ is not needed, and is rejected. But this misses God's entry into the world as saviour, and means stumbling and falling at this critical juncture.

The second approach is that the law of God highlights our past failures and future inability to fully return to God and his ways. Christ is gladly received as the answer to our problem, the saviour and restorer, and is clung to by faith. For Christians, whether Jewish or from another nation, he is not a stumbling stone, but the righteous solid rock upon which we will not be shamed before God and his judgement. On him, his teaching and with the indwelling Holy Spirit, we are conformed into his righteous image, trusting in him throughout our life. So as stone or rock, stand on Christ by faith and you will not stumble, fall, nor ever be put to shame!

- Sam Pursell

Church News

Funeral Service for Tania Young

The funeral service for Tania Young will be held at our church on **Friday 13th November at 11:00am**.

All who knew Tania are welcome to attend as we gather to give thanks for her life and support Dianne and her family at this time.

Ladies Craft Afternoon

Saturday 14th November, 2pm to 4pm.

Join us for a fun and creative afternoon at the church.

Afternoon tea provided.

Pot Luck Lunch

We are gathering together for a Pot Luck Lunch on **Sunday 15th November** after our morning service.

Please sign up to bring a plate of food to share.

Southern Cross Magazine

The latest issue of Southern Cross is available online at magazine.sydneyanglicans.net or you can pick up a copy at the welcoming desk.

Birthdays

14th Merv Sercombe

Anniversaries

Give Electronically

BANK DETAILS

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

Serving Roster

Saturday	*Sunday*	**8th November**	**15th November**
14th November			
Cleaning:	**Welcomer:**	R Stanojevic	D & J Orange
J & M Klasson/B Clark	**Bible Reader:**	J Stavert	D Crook
Mowing:	**Prayer Leader:**	V O'Regan	G Kyngdon
P Pratt/D Slocombe	**Morning Tea:**	B Mayhew/J Mills	R Hannam/M Klasson
	MT Clean Up:	P Pratt	J Mills
	Kids Church:	D Slocombe/J Evans	D Slocombe/B Firley

The Ten Commandments

Commandment 4: Remember the Sabbath

Exodus 20:8-11

Sam Pursell • 8th November 2026

1. Sabbath: Rest and Worship (Ex. 20:8-11, Deut. 5:12-15)

2. Jesus Christ and the Sabbath (Luke 4:16-21, Matt. 10:28-29, Heb. 4:10-11)

3. Christians and the Sabbath (Col. 2:16-17; Ps. 23:1-3)

Next Sunday…

'Honour your father and mother' • Sam Pursell • **Readings:** Exodus 20:1-12 & Ephesians 6:1-4

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

Our People

Dianne Young and family, and all who are grieving.

Those facing illness, financial pressure, housing difficulties or other challenges.

Ongoing care and practical support for those in need.

Those in ongoing need: Lenore Amour, 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, Allan Quinn, Merv & Nola Sercombe, Cynthea Smith, Eileen Stokes and John Wilson.

Our Church & Mission

Finishing the year well across our ministries and reaching the lost with the hope of Jesus.

Planning for 2027, including youth ministry, new helpers, SRE and Bible studies.

Our mission partners and those serving in rural and remote communities.

Our World

Give thanks for recent rain, community safety, religious freedom and our health system.

Rising cost-of-living and housing pressures across Australia.

Peace and stability in the Middle East, Ukraine, Europe and Africa, and support for communities affectedby conflict.

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.

Evangelise

That we would share the goods 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

John Wilson

Matthew & Katherin Woolley

Dianne Young

Ida Achatz

Zac & Carol Adams

Send Prayer requests to our Prayer Coordinator, Geoff Kyngdon on either 0417 044 565 or geoff.kyngdon@oakflatsanglican.com.