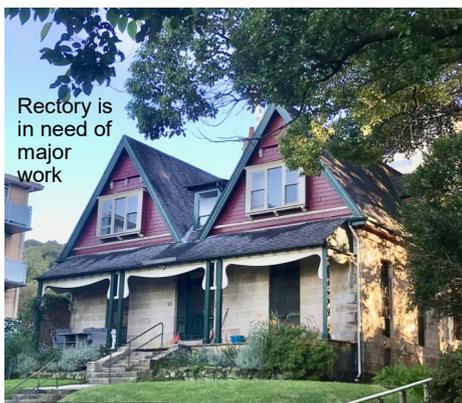




Shiny new church gables - but rectory a priority



Rectory is in need of major work



Gables on both sides of the church, slates and timber were replaced, plus channels and guttering

After three years, we have passed the mid-point of our \$500,000 five-year rejuvenation fund-raising target. In May we completed the slate re-roofing of the North gables. Over the next seven months, we will undertake repairs to the interior and exterior stonework of the church and repairs to the church hall.

All up, these three projects will require expenditure in 2022 of \$114,000 funds raised from grants and generous contributions from our congregation.

However, the rejuvenation fund will

reduce to around \$70,000 once these three projects are completed.

There is substantially more rejuvenation work to do, particularly in the rectory. The rectory has sustained rain-water damage to ceiling, walls, carpet and flooring near the front entrance, hopefully covered by insurance.

Beyond this, sustained heavy rain and water run-off has revealed the need for possible repairs/replacement of the rectory roof, for additional damp-proofing, for replacement of some downpipes/guttering, and for improved drainage under the rectory itself. There may also be a need to replace some floor-covering.

Quotes are being sought for these projects and the rejuvenation committee, over the next few months, will consider overall rejuvenation priorities and phasing.

We clearly need to continue and increase our fund-raising efforts so that our church, rectory, hall and grounds are in good shape, going forward - Rod Pearse, Rector's Warden

To donate to the Rejuvenation Fund, via EFT, enterBSB: 633000 Acct. 168439784

June Diary

Sat 4 Parish Council Planning Day

Sun 5 10am Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sun 12 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Wed 15 7am Parish Council

Sun 19th 10am Family Fun Service
Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sun 26th 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Join a Bible Study Group. Contact Di Nicolios.

Monday nights (fortnightly) (Contact Keith & Anne Mason)

Monday nights: (Contact Geoff Kells)

Tuesday nights: (contact Lachlan)

Wednesday nights: (contact Jurgen and Diane Joester)

Thursday mornings: (contact Di Nicolios)

Sunday afternoons: Youth Bible Study.
(contact Chris Tompkins)

Buzz from the Bay

Celebrating our Bible Study Groups

To celebrate and be thankful for the restoration of our fellowship in our small groups, Geoff and Ann Kells have invited members of groups and spouses, to a Wine and Cheese Evening at their home on the 6th June. It will be a rich time of Christian fellowship and an evening of great enjoyment. Thank you to the Kells for their generosity.



News from mission partner Erin

Please pray for our CMS mission partner Erin who is working in East Asia, in the field of occupational therapy and social work, in an orphanage setting. Erin has been experiencing many ups and downs in recent months. Teammates have been away for long periods because of Covid lockdowns. Erin continues to study for her Masters in Social work. She rejoices in the Lord's blessing as she continues to improve the lives of orphans and those with disabilities.

Winter Teaching Series

This year's series will be held on Saturday 2nd July 10am-2pm and includes a BBQ lunch together.

Dr Paul Barnett will be presenting the two-part series titled "Listen to Jesus" based on Mark's gospel and springing from the Father's word, 'This is my beloved Son. Listen to him'. Paul is hoping that this Saturday series will encourage people to return to face-to-face fellowship, and be used as an opportunity to invite friends, family, neighbours, and colleagues to an easily accessible event at our church.

Rest is a blessing from the Lord. For six days work is to be done, but the seventh day is a day of sabbath rest, holy to the Lord (Exodus 31:15). This rest is not just an opportunity to be rejuvenated but to submit ourselves into His care, to hand ourselves over to Him, to let go of our own efforts, to trust in him, enjoy his good creation and relationships and to be re-created in body, mind and spirit. This weekly resting ritual reminds us of what awaits us in the heavenly realms. Hebrews 4 reminds us in verses 9 and 10: "There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his."

May you find your rest now and forever in Him.

Lachlan Edwards—Senior Minister

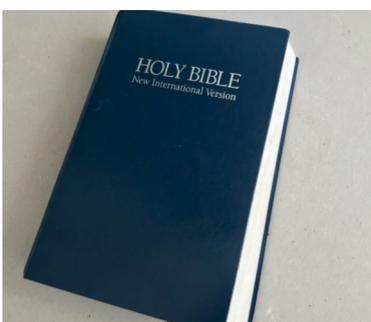
Reconnecting with church



Raffel says that people had been looking for a sense of meaning and community during the pandemic. - Picture with acknowledgement to Christian Radio Station Hope 103.2

Sydney's Anglican archbishop **Kanishka Raffel** says the pandemic has led many people who had drifted away from religious practice to reconnect with the church as they search for meaning and a sense of community after two isolating and anxious years. In an interview with the Sydney Morning Herald, Raffel said "People have found it wonderfully strengthening and encouraging to gather together again. Many had developed a spiritual connection for the first time during the pandemic."

At the local level, our Senior Minister, **Lachlan Edwards** says he has been encouraged by the many visitors on Easter Sunday, which was virtually full house, something that had not happened in recent years. On worshipping in person, he said: "The body works best when all the members are connected. Our live-streaming provides a limited connection, but now it's time (and safe) to reconnect in person, to come back to church. There is no substitute for face-to-face fellowship."



The 'Word of God' sermon series

Is the bible actually God's words? Who wrote the bible? Is the bible all true? Does the bible contradict itself? Is the bible still relevant today? Is the bible all we really need? Who chose what was included in the Bible? Why is Jesus called 'the word of God'? The answers to these questions and more in our next sermon series beginning on 10 July. A great series to invite your friends to!



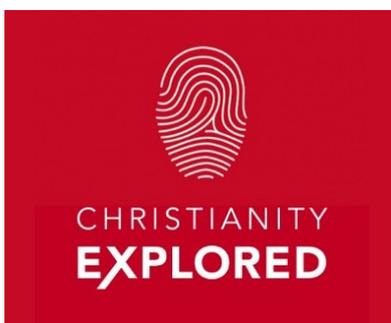
During March and April, parents and children met Chris for the first time

Family Fun Service

Chris Tompkins, our student Children and Youth Minister, is arranging a number of Family Fun Services throughout the year as special kids' events. Many families find it difficult to get to church every week, but in speaking with these parents many have said they could commit to coming for special events through the year. These Family Fun Services will include a live kids' spot in church, kids' activities and games outside the church and a special morning tea afterwards. The next Family Fun Service will be at 10am Sunday 19th June.

Life: what's it all about?

Lachlan would like to hear from you if you are interested in this world-class course. Christianity Explored is a seven week small group program exploring the big questions of life and getting to know the basics of Christianity. We go through Mark's Gospel, to find out more of the person and the heart of the Christian faith-Jesus Christ. The course, held in the Rectory, is supported by a number of videos, featuring the outstanding Rico Tice. Call or text Lachlan on 0437 150 100.



July Diary

Sat 2 11-2 Winter Teaching Series

Sun 3 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sun 10 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Sun 17 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Wed 20 7am Parish Council

Sun 24 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Sun 31 10am Prayer and Praise
5pm The Gathering

Buzz from the Bay

Anglicare Winter Appeal

This year we will be collecting financial donations to assist Anglicare in caring for the needy during winter. Throughout the month of June there will be a tap-to-donate machine in the church where you can make easy donations to the Winter Appeal via your credit card.



Andrew Eden baptism

On Sunday 8th May, Andrew Eden, little brother of Bella, was baptised by Lachlan in the company of their parents Ben and Anna Eden and grandparents. The Edens were two of the early members of the Gathering. May God continue to protect and bless this family.

Thank you for Godly service

Conrad Chang has been a servant-hearted member of the Gathering. He has led services, led prayer and led Bible studies. Now Conrad has bought his own home in Schofields in NW Sydney. We pray for God's blessing on Conrad as he joins his new church family and thank him for his time with us.

Contacts

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News from The Gathering

**The Gathering invites all Christ Church members to spread the word about our friendly & inclusive 5pm service. On the 1st Sunday of the month a hosted dinner is prepared by a member. On the 3rd Sunday, we host Mission Plate Dinners, where each brings a share meal and donates money to our mission partners.

*Late Sunday afternoon prayer meeting held once a month at the back of the church. Pray it is a time of encouragement.

*Give thanks to God for the devoted service of Chris Gilbert who has recently been doing double duty, giving sermons both morning and evening.