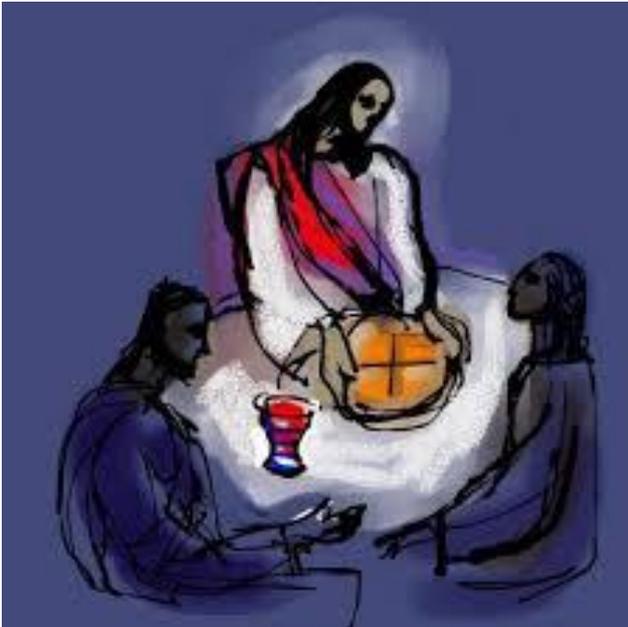




THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, GORDON

FOR THE DAYS BEFORE AND AFTER
14 JUNE 2020
THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY



Jesus said,
"I am the living bread.
This is the bread
which came down from Heaven;
not as your fathers did eat manna
and are dead.
He that eateth of this bread
shall live forever.
Whoso eateth my flesh
and drinketh my blood
hath eternal life
and I will raise him up at the last day."

John 6: 51, 58, 54

WE WORSHIP SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:30AM—

either by
WATCHING FATHER ERNEST CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST,
LIVE-STREAMED ON FACEBOOK

or
READING THE ORDER OF SERVICE AT HOME,
received by e-mail or mail.

Our services, although recorded and available for viewing later,
are actually LIVE on Sunday mornings.

**SEE PAGES 2 THROUGH 4 FOR INFORMATION REGARDING
THE RESUMPTION OF IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES.**



"Like" and follow
St. John's, Gordon
on Facebook.

Scan this QR code
to go to
the church website.



COVID-19 UPDATE

9 June 2020

As was alluded to in the last update, it is the Acting Rector and Churchwardens' intent to recommence an in-person service on 21 June at 8:00AM. However, we have also formed the view that we will continue with the on-line 9:30AM service as well and in the current format.

The 8:00AM service will be an abridged BCP service without congregational singing or responses as per the Public Health Orders and Archbishop's instructions. In addition, due to the Health Order under which it will operate, we will unfortunately need to have the following protocols strictly in place and adhered to. We have been told that the NSW Police will be conducting spot checks and any non-compliance risks seeing all NSW church services closed down again.

- 1) A maximum of 50 attendees plus a sanctuary party of 3 may be present at each in-person service. Attendance will be by application and subsequent invitation.
- 2) **Parishioners/attendees must apply to attend the service either by e-mail or by phone prior to COB Wednesday in the week prior to the service and make declarations at the time of application as follows:**
 - a. Name, telephone number and address/e-mail
 - b. They are not suffering any symptoms of cold or flu
 - c. They do not have a compromised immune system
 - d. They are not vulnerable by way of chronic disease
 - e. Have not been in contact with any person who has at the time or subsequently tested positive to COVID-19 in the prior 14 days
 - f. **If they are over 70 they acknowledge that the Churchwardens recommend that they DO NOT attend (in accordance with public health recommendations) but that they still wish to attend despite that recommendation**
 - g. Invitations to attend will be at the discretion of the Churchwardens and Acting Rector
 - h. Uninvited persons will not be admitted.

3) On arrival

- a. The declarations will be re-confirmed on entry to the service
- b. Their name and contact details will be confirmed by the sidespersons on the roll
- c. Temperature may be taken prior to entry using a forehead thermometer on arrival and entry will be refused for any person with a temperature over 37.5 °C.
- d. No nametags to be handled or used by attendees (sidespersons may wear one for identification)
- e. It is a condition of entry that attendees agree to act in accordance with the directions of the sidespersons in regards to seating or non-admission.

4) The Service

- a. The sanctuary party will consist of 1 priest, 1 server, 1 organist
- b. Based on the survival of virus particles on wood and paper, orders of service will be photocopied and placed on the available pew seats 3-4 days prior to the service by suitably protected office staff
- c. A QR code will be displayed in the narthex to allow attendees to download the abridged order of service and avoid using the printed copies in the pews if they prefer
- d. The church will be cleaned and sanitised by the cleaners on the Friday prior to each service
- e. Hand sanitiser will be used by each attendee from the dispenser at the door prior to entry
- f. Parishioners may only sit in the seats indicated by signage—using every second pew with alternating 3 and 2 per pew (staggered seating) so that no person is sitting/standing directly behind the person immediately in front of them
- g. 1.5 metres minimum distance will be observed at all times, both within the pews and whilst queuing to receive the host
- h. There will be no procession
- i. A 1.5 metre distance will be maintained between the priest and the congregation at all times
- j. The priest and server will be masked and gloved during the handling and consecration of the sacraments
- k. **There will be no singing or verbal responses from the congregation throughout the service (to minimise aerosol droplets). The BCP order of service will be amended to remove all congregational responses or other verbalisation.**

- l. All music will be from the organ alone
- m. The host only will be distributed at the chancel steps using tongs and with the priest wearing gloves and a mask
- n. All attendees must remain 1.5 metres apart during queueing to receive the host
- o. There will be no offertory collection at the service. Parishioners are requested to continue to make their offertory on-line or by direct debit or directly into the St John's account at any bank.
- p. At the conclusion of the service, ensure that whilst exiting the church 1.5 metres separation is maintained at all times, including any discussions outside the church after the service
- q. **All attendees must take any orders of service in their pews with them for disposal. It is important these are not left in the pews or in the narthex after the service**
- r. Anyone who subsequently tests positive for COVID-19 must advise the church office immediately.

The Parish Council will be reconvening (by Zoom) on Monday, 15 June to discuss the return to in-person services and the sidespersons will also have a Zoom meeting to co-ordinate the logistics of these requirements.

[The Annual Vestry Meeting](#)

In the last update we advised you of the options that the diocese had offered for completing the governance requirements of the AVM. Since then, a number of parishioners have contacted the Churchwardens to voice their preferences for a Zoom meeting despite its practical difficulties. The Parish Council will discuss this issue next Monday. However, with the speed of change in the Health Orders as regards meetings and gatherings it may well be that by July larger meetings will be permitted (within the allowed criteria for area person in the hall). Therefore, in line with the options from the diocese but excluding the "delegation to PC" option, the Churchwardens will be putting forward three suggestions to the Parish Council next Monday.

- 1) A Zoom meeting conducted on-line
- 2) An in-person meeting, but this will need to be carried out under the rules of the Public Health Order in place at the time
- 3) A combination of 1) and 2).

The reports prepared for the abandoned meeting will be updated as appropriate and presented two weeks prior to the AVM date. Because of the probable use of Zoom, reports will be primarily taken as read, with the exception of the Acting Rector's, financial and Churchwardens' report, which will be summarised by the Acting Rector, Treasurer and Rector's Warden. Protocols for use of Zoom for any permitted questions will be discussed and issued after the Parish Council meeting if that option is decided upon.

Offertory and Cash Flow

The Treasurer has reported that the finances remain stable based on the Job-keeper payments from the government. However, as stated previously, we remain very financially dependent on parishioners maintaining offertory at current levels where possible and we should all join the Churchwardens in being greatly appreciative of those who have been able to maintain or increase their financial support during this difficult time.

If you are not already using our direct debit system, we encourage you to transfer your weekly offertory to the St John's account, which is listed on the back page of the pew bulletin.

The Nominators

As previously advised, the selection process for a new Rector was suspended by the Archbishop until October due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on services and in-person meetings. However, your nominators have remained active by phone and Zoom and have interviewed, considered and are currently considering a significant number of candidates. As you can imagine, it must be a careful process under God's guidance and the nominators ask for your continued prayers for God to bring us our next Rector to carry us forward into the 2020s.

Finally ...

Thank you all for your perseverance and support as we navigate through these completely uncharted and unpredictable times. All of the Churchwardens and the Acting Rector have appreciated and have been very encouraged by the

many supportive comments and e-mails, as well as the ongoing participation in the services and Bible studies.

Please keep Bishop Michael and his surgeons in your prayers as he goes into surgery for a new hip as I (Chris Russell) write this—and note that his Bible discussion group on the Book of Revelation will recommence on Thursday, 25 June.

We will keep you updated as the Public Health Orders and corresponding instructions from the diocese change and be assured that the Churchwardens are continuously monitoring the situation to ensure that we maintain our community contact and services within what the regulations and prudent management allow.

If there is anything the parish can help you with, we have the support infrastructure in place thanks to our staff and the supporting volunteers. All you have to do is let Father Ernest, the church office or any of the Churchwardens know.

The Churchwardens

Chris Russell AM
JK Seo

--- C A L E N D A R ---

8:00AM in-person service resumes Sunday, 21 June—
within parameters set by the government and church authorities
and by invitation only

Sundays, 9:30AM, Eucharist live-streamed via Facebook to continue

No Lectio Bible Study this week
while Bishop Michael recovers from hip replacement surgery,
anticipated resumption date is Thursday, 25 June.

Next Evensong Sunday, 12 July, 4:00PM, live-streamed via Facebook

B I B L E R E A D I N G S

Sunday, 14 June Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16 Psalm 147:12-15, 19-20 John 6:51-58

Monday, 15 June 1 Kings 21:1-16 Psalm 5:2-7 Matthew 5:38-42

Tuesday, 16 June 1 Kings 21:17-29 Psalm 51:3-6, 11, 16 Matthew 5:43-48

Wednesday, 17 June 2 Kings 2:1, 6-14 Psalm 31:20-21, 24 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday, 18 June Sirach 48:1-14 Psalm 97:1-7 Matthew 6:7-15

Friday, 19 June Deuteronomy 7:6-11 Psalm 103:1-4, 6-8, 10 1 John 4:7-16
Matthew 11:25-30

Saturday, 20 June 2 Chronicles 24:17-25 Psalm 89:4-5, 29-34 Luke 2:41-51

Sunday, 21 June Jeremiah 20:10-13 Psalm 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 Romans 5:12-15
Matthew 10:26-33

Monday, 22 June 2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15, 18 Psalm 60:3-5, 12-13 Matthew 7:1-5

Tuesday, 23 June 2 Kings 19:9-11, 14-21, 31-36 Psalm 48:2-4, 10-11 Matthew 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday, 24 June **Nativity of St John the Baptist** Isaiah 49:1-6 Psalm 139:1-3, 13-15
Acts 13:22-26 Luke 1:57-66, 80

Thursday, 25 June 2 Kings 24:8-17 Psalm 79:1-5, 8-9 Matthew 7:21-29

Friday, 26 June 2 Kings 25:1-12 Psalm 137:1-6 Matthew 8:1-4

Saturday, 27 June Lamentations 2:2, 10-14, 18-19 Psalm 74:1-7, 20-21 Matthew 8:5-17

Readings are from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, usccb.org/bible/readings.

It is possible to have the daily readings e-mailed to you.

Note that the readings arrive around 8:00PM Sydney time.



Congratulations to our parishioner
JENETTA HELEN RUSSELL OAM,
recognised and honoured in
The Queen's Birthday 2020 Honours
"for service to the community, and to business".

The church is looking for a **VOLUNTEER** to take responsibility for the physical **INTERMENT OF ASHES IN OUR COLUMBARIUM**. This task may be done whenever it is convenient for the volunteer, only once or twice a month. John McLean has handled this important ministry for many years, and before that the late Keith Smith. John now asks that someone else take it on. Meg McDonald in the church office takes care of the interactions with the families of the deceased, the paperwork and record keeping. Please contact Meg to discuss this important job.

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

is an effort to have **names on our prayer list prayed for every day of the week.**
Can you commit to spending **ten minutes a week in prayer,**
at a **recurring day and time of your choosing,**
praying for those on our prayer list
and perhaps three points on the intercessions page?
E-mail pastoralcarestjohnsgordon@gmail.com
or telephone the church office to advise your chosen day and time.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH DIRECTORY

754 Pacific Highway (P.O. Box 295) Gordon NSW 2072
Telephone 9498 2744



Website www.stjohnsgordon.org.au
Facebook www.facebook.com/stjohnsgordon
and www.facebook.com/musicatstjohnsgordon

Church office hours — Meg Mondays and Thursdays, Cynthia Wednesdays

Interim Rector	Rev'd Ernest Chau	Mobile 0414 549 082 rector@stjohnsgordon.org.au
Honorary Assistant	The Ven Rob Sutherland CSC	0406 767 757, revrob@ozemail.com.au
Parish Missioner	Rt Rev'd Dr Michael Hough	anathoth.hough@gmail.com
Director of Music	Dr Brett McKern	0408 303 225, music@stjohnsgordon.org.au
Asst Dir of Music	Nicola Chau	
People's Warden	JK Seo	good2bfree@gmail.com
Rector's Warden	Chris Russell AM	chris@crussell.com.au
Warden, Treasurer	James Winter	james.winter@au.gt.com
Parish Council	Dr Janet Long, Parish Council Secretary	parishcouncil@stjohnsgordon.org.au
Pastoral Care	Cynthia Keithly	pastoralcarestjohnsgordon@gmail.com
Pastoral Chaplain	Jennifer Lum	jennifer.lum@bigpond.com
Safe Ministry	Jan McLachlan	janmclachlan@bigpond.com , 0408 641 037
Parish Administrator	Meg McDonald	office@stjohnsgordon.org.au
Pew Bulletin Editor	Cynthia Keithly	sjgpewbulletin@gmail.com
Organ Replacement Project	Dennis Wood	0414 462 201, musicassociation@stjohnsgordon.org.au

Westpac Bank Account Name: St Johns Church Gordon / BSB: 032083 / A/C: 810231

Our **OP SHOP** is closed until further notice.

The **ANGLICARE** bins in our parking area are being emptied regularly.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL, HORNSBY is accepting donations

at their back gate daily from 9:00AM to 3:30PM.

The **SALVATION ARMY, GORDON** has a donation pick-up service,
telephone 9498 4290.

The Op Shop is grateful for your past and future support.