



THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF  
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, GORDON  
FOR THE DAYS BEFORE AND AFTER  
23 AUGUST 2020  
THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY



**REST IN PEACE,  
BROTHER NED GERBER OSB CPA CGMA**

See Pages 2 and 3 for tributes and a prayer.

**WORSHIP DURING CORONAVIRUS**

**SUNDAY 8:00AM EUCHARIST, in-person**

Telephone or e-mail the church office before Wednesday 5:00PM  
for a reservation and to make health declarations  
you will confirm upon arrival.  
Face masks are now required.

The **SUNDAY 9:30AM EUCHARIST, live-streamed on Facebook,**  
may also be watched at a later time.

Next **EVENSONG** 13 September, 4:00PM, live-streamed on Facebook.

The **THURSDAY 10:00AM SERVICE** remains in recess.



“Like” and follow  
St. John’s, Gordon  
on Facebook.

Scan this QR code  
to go to  
the church website.





From Bishop Keith Dalby:

It is with sadness I write about my friend and colleague, and former member of Gordon parish, **BROTHER NED GERBER**. On Sunday night it appears he had a medical episode which resulted in him falling down the stairs at home, and as a result never regained consciousness.

Brother Ned came to the parish many years ago and immediately became a great fixture in his cassock. His passion for the Gospel was evident, and his larger than life personality endeared him certainly to me, but to others also. He was passionate about telling the story of God and our part in God's plan. He started an evening service in the Upper Room with help from others in his Community of Benedictines, Christ the King from Newtown in Sydney. Each service concluded with a meal and once a month we would have Holy Communion. What I really liked about Ned is that he did not sugar coat some aspects of the biblical story. Areas that others would be more inclined to avoid he would dive right in and make sure it was explained. This was done with different measures of success and capability, but there was no denying that Ned was determined to bring the Whole Counsel of God to our parish. For that I am always grateful. Some years ago he made the decision to relocate to the Cathedral, and so they have for some time had the benefits of his unique ministry.

In recent years Ned suffered with cancer, but he had successfully had this treated and was looking forward to continuing his work as a CPA as well as the continued Gospel work. I am very saddened to hear of his passing. Funeral arrangements are not known yet, but the office will let you know when they come to light. Due to COVID restrictions I will not be able to attend as I would have to self isolate on my return to South Australia for two weeks. Please keep the Benedictine Christ the King Community in your prayers, Ned's brother who is in Chicago and will undoubtedly be unable to attend the funeral either. Rest eternal grant unto Ned, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.

Father Clive used to celebrate Eucharist for Brother Ned's Sunday afternoon group and kept in touch with him and the Forward in Faith organisation. "He achieved so much and had such a personable manner, and so dedicated and caring in his ministry. Rest in peace."

John Joester describes Brother Ned as “probably, theologically, the wisest person Dianne and I have met ... he knew the Bible inside and out ... no person was too high or too low for him ... he lived for Jesus.”

The Keithlys are thankful for the Thanksgivings Brother Ned joined them for turkey.

Essy Gandhi has written this prayer:

Our Heavenly Father

We, your children, come to you with our hearts breaking at the loss of our dear friend and brother.

We thank you for your goodness in bringing Brother Ned into our lives, for the joy he has in you, a joy that was overflowing and contagious, for his wise ways in teaching us to love and trust you more.

We thank you for the many times he has walked beside us, encouraging and enabling us to stand firm in God’s promises and faithfulness. We thank you for the wonderful ways he showed us how to love one another, to serve you with our whole being, and be obedient to you even when situations are difficult.

Lord, we do not know how to bear this sudden departure of our beloved brother and friend and we cling to you; be merciful to us and by your grace, may we allow you to comfort us.

We ask this through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

From Father Rob: Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into your master’s rest.

## COVID-19 UPDATE

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19 August 2020

In his weekly letter to the Churchwardens and Rectors this week—Archbishop Glenn expressed his gratitude for the way the diocesan churches have “stepped up” and established effective and well implemented safety plans. A check of the NSW Records by the diocese for the insurers showed that all 277 parishes in the diocese had registered their plans and are compliant. In many cases these plans had excluded in-person services but in the case of St John’s—your willingness to work with the Churchwardens as we manage the regulations and our plan has seen us able to maintain this service each Sunday. The Archbishop advised that the NSW Minister for Health had contacted him on Monday to investigate the mandating of masks at services—but with many churches, including St John’s, voluntarily requiring masks at all services along with their other processes, this was seen as an unnecessary further regulation. However, it is critical that we don’t weary of the vigilance in keeping this COVID scourge at bay whilst still maintaining an operational society. NSW has avoided a Victorian style lockdown so far and all the groups like the St John’s community of faith have collectively played a major role in that.

The Churchwardens are continually reviewing the plan for its relevance and safety to ensure that safety is never compromised, but at the same time any “bureaucracy” is kept to a necessary minimum. With that in mind, some further tweaking has occurred this week to cover errors and omissions in the pre-registration process that inevitably occur. However, the essence of our plan remains intact in the interests of streamlining your arrival process and participation whilst maintaining the due-diligence of cross checking each attendee for any possible exposure and even then minimising the risk of that occurring. If you would like to read the details of our protocols— it is posted in the narthex or you can ask the office to e-mail you a copy.

The essence of our COVID Safety Plan has remained constant:

**\* Please ensure you have no symptoms of a throat tickle, running nose, cough or a temperature over 37.5° C.** If you do—please don’t attend. We have a nurse in the sidesperson team if you have any questions or doubts and she has

the final decision as to whether you attend or not from a health perspective. However, if in doubt—please join our on-line service at 9:30AM on our Facebook page from your home.

**\* Please bring your own mask with you and wear it before you enter the church and leave it on until you are back in your car.** We have a limited supply if you are unable to procure one, but we are trying to preserve those for the sanctuary team and sidespersons.

**\* It is also critical to avoid mingling and socialising in the narthex** to minimise the risk of any contact to sidespersons or each other in a confined area.

**\* Please also pre-register with the office if you would like to attend.** We now have a process in place if parishioners forget—but please avoid having to use it by letting the office know by **Wednesday 5:00PM each week.**

### Finally ...

The Churchwardens prayerfully request on behalf of all of us that each of you continue to maintain your financial support for the parish. The Treasurer will be releasing a budget update incorporating the recent extension of the JobKeeper programme in the weekly update over the next few weeks. However, our budget is dependent on the continued offertory receipts from all of us and we encourage you to continue with your financial commitment.

**In thanking us all, the Archbishop concluded his letter this week as follows:**

“I am grateful to God for your love and care for your people in these extraordinary days and I encourage you to continue to do so ‘more and more’ (a phrase echoed in the Bishop’s Confirmation prayer), as the Apostle Paul likewise encouraged the church at Thessalonica:

*Now concerning your love for one another, we have no need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, for that indeed is what you are doing throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more. (1 Thessalonians 4:9-10)”*

**The Churchwardens** Chris Russell AM JK Seo James Winter

# B I B L E   R E A D I N G S

**Sunday, 23 August** Isaiah 22:19-23 Psalm 138:1-3, 6, 8 Romans 11:33-36  
Matthew 16:13-20

**Monday, 24 August St Bartholomew** Revelation 21:9-14 Psalm 145:10-13, 17-18  
John 1:45-51

**Tuesday, 25 August** 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3, 14-17 Psalm 96:10-13 Matthew 23:23-26

**Wednesday, 26 August** 2 Thessalonians 3:6-10, 16-18 Psalm 128:1-2, 4-5  
Matthew 23:27-32

**Thursday, 27 August** 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 Psalm 145:2-7 Matthew 24:42-51

**Friday, 28 August** 1 Corinthians 1:17-25 Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 Matthew 25:1-13

**Saturday, 29 August** 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 Psalm 33:12-13, 18-21 Mark 6:17-29

**Sunday, 30 August** Jeremiah 20:7-9 Psalm 63:2-6, 8-9 Romans 12:1-2 Matthew 16:21-27

**Monday, 31 August** 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 Psalm 119:97-102 Luke 4:16-30

**Tuesday, 1 September** 1 Corinthians 2:10-16 Psalm 145:9-14 Luke 4:31-37

**Wednesday, 2 September** 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 Psalm 33:12-15, 20-21 Luke 4:38-44

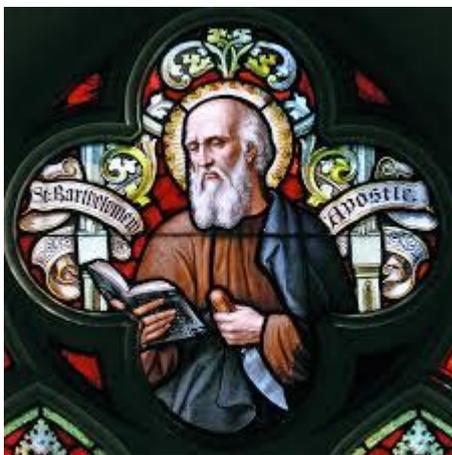
**Thursday, 3 September** 1 Corinthians 3:18-23 Psalm 24:1-6 Luke 5:1-11

**Friday, 4 September** 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 Psalm 37:3-6, 27-28, 39-40 Luke 5:33-39

**Saturday, 5 September** 1 Corinthians 4:6-15 Psalm 145:17-21 Luke 6:1-5

Readings are from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.  
Occasionally, Bible passages other than Psalms are used as responsorial Psalms.

You may **SEEK AND READ** the readings —  
in English or Spanish— at [usccb.org/bible/readings](http://usccb.org/bible/readings).  
You may **RECEIVE AND READ** them, e-mailed to you,  
arriving around 8:00PM Sydney time.  
You may **LISTEN** to the readings on the podcast.  
Many days there is a reflection video to **WATCH**.



**Collect for St Bartholomew the Apostle**  
O ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD,  
who didst give to thine Apostle Bartholomew  
grace truly to believe and to preach thy Word;  
Grant, we beseech thee, unto thy Church, to love  
that Word which he believed, and both to preach  
and receive the same; through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. Amen

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

**Sundays 8:00AM in-person Eucharist**

**Sunday 9:30AM Eucharist**, live-streamed via Facebook

**Bishop Michael's Lectio Bible Study, Thursdays at 7:30PM via Zoom**

**Next Evensong Sunday, 13 September at 4:00PM**, live-streamed via Facebook

Our sympathies to Judy Knox and family on the death of **DAVID KNOX**, who passed away 12 August at the age of 84. His funeral was held at St Swithun's.

Father Ernest, the Churchwardens and Parish Councillors send their thanks to everyone who participated in the **ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING** in July. **MINUTES** from the AVM and from the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS** Council meetings from June and July are now available through the church office. Contact Meg McDonald if you wish to receive copies of any of the minutes. They can be e-mailed or sent through the regular post if you prefer.



### **KEYS TO ST JOHN'S BUILDINGS**

From Meg McDonald: The **records** of who has what keys for the many doors into St John's **seem to be quite out of date.**

I am asking everyone to please check your keyring, pockets, purse and/or drawers for any key that may be for St John's.

All St John's keys have "S 517" engraved on them. There will also be a second identifier of one to three letters and a one or two digit number, i.e., "SMK 82" or "K 10" which may be on either side.

**If you do have a key**, please let me know this along with the second identifier.

**If you no longer need the key**, please let me know that and we'll figure out an easy way for you to return it.

*For example, the key on the left is a Small Master Key and the key on the right is Number 32.*

# A GLOBAL PRAYER DURING CORONAVIRUS

from [sydneyanglicans.net/covid19prayers](http://sydneyanglicans.net/covid19prayers)

Dear Heavenly Father,

You are the God of all compassion and comfort. We thank you that you listen to our prayers. We pray today for our world, our nation, our city and our church as the Coronavirus spreads. Please bring help to all our communities according to their needs. Heal those afflicted and strengthen all who have the responsibility for care. In your mercy, please provide a cure and give wisdom to those seeking to develop a vaccine for this condition.

We pray, too, for ourselves. Enable us to walk by faith. Help us to be careful and wise in taking whatever precautions are necessary to limit and contain the spread of this virus.

Strengthen us to remain calm while vigilant; responsible citizens seeking the welfare of others above ourselves.

At times of uncertainty and anxiety, help our world to look to security in your Son, Jesus Christ and give courage to Christians as we point others to the One in whom there is always hope, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH DIRECTORY



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Website [www.stjohnsgordon.org.au](http://www.stjohnsgordon.org.au)

Facebook [www.facebook.com/stjohnsgordon](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnsgordon)  
and [www.facebook.com/musicatstjohnsgordon](http://www.facebook.com/musicatstjohnsgordon)

**Meg in the church office Mondays and Thursdays, Cynthia Wednesdays or Thursdays**

Interim Rector	<b>Rev'd Ernest Chau</b>	Mobile 0414 549 082 <a href="mailto:rector@stjohnsgordon.org.au">rector@stjohnsgordon.org.au</a>
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Organ Replacement Project	<b>Dennis Wood</b>	0414 462 201, <a href="mailto:musicassociation@stjohnsgordon.org.au">musicassociation@stjohnsgordon.org.au</a>

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

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

No donations at this time, please, as no sales are scheduled.

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

**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.