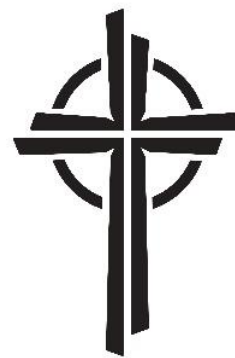


St Alban's Monthly Newsletter

SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER 2026



Sunday at St Alban's

8.00am Eucharist

@ 10.00am

Also available by zoom

EPIC Indonesian Congregation

(Old Sunday School Room)

Pastor Kian Holik

Chinese Congregation

(Lower Hall)

The Reverend Simon Pei

Sunday School in The Loft

(above the Main Hall)

Youth Bible Study

Combined Church Fellowship with morning tea in the main hall after services

SEPTEMBER SERVICES

Season of Creation 1 September to 4 October

**Saturday 5 September – ABM Eucharist for the Commemoration of the
New Guinea Martyrs** (*Liturgical Colour Red*)

11am Eucharist

Preacher: The Reverend Dr Erica Mathieson; Rector presiding.

**Sunday 6 September – Martyrs of New Guinea and Fifteenth Sunday after
Pentecost** (*Liturgical Colour Red*)

8am Eucharist with Hymns / 10am Choral Eucharist

Preacher: The Reverend Phil Lui

Sunday 13 September – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost (*Liturgical Colour
Green*)

8am Eucharist with Hymns / 10am Sung Eucharist

Preacher: Lachlan Shead

Sunday 20 September – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

8am Eucharist with Hymns / 10am Choral Eucharist

Preacher: Assistant Minister Bill Walton

Sunday 27 September – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8am Eucharist with Hymns / 10am Sung Eucharist

Preacher: The Reverend Phil Lui

OCTOBER SERVICES

Sunday 4 October – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8am Eucharist with Hymns / 10am Choral Eucharist

Preacher: The Reverend Paul Weaver

Daylight Saving commences on 4 October

Sunday 11 October – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

8am Eucharist with Hymns / 10am Sung Eucharist

Preacher: The Reverend Phil Lui

6pm Taize Service – *The Reverend Paul Weaver*

Sunday 18 October – Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

8am Eucharist with Hymns / 10am Choral Eucharist

Sunday 25 October – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

8am Eucharist with Hymns / 10am Sung Eucharist

Preacher: Assistant Minister Bill Walton

What's on at St Alban's during September and October

Wednesday 2, 9, 16 and 23 September, 14, 21 and 28 October

Everyday English Classes at 10am – *no classes during school holidays.*

Every Thursday

9.30am Reading, Reflection and Prayers for Healing by Zoom (*not on 1 and 8 October*)

10.30am Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

Thursday 3 September and 1 October

12noon **RLT Women's Discussion Group** will be held at Margaret Pearson's home on 3/9 and Judi Martin's home on 1/10. New members are very welcome. Enquiries to Christine on 0418 241 372.

Thursday 10 and 24 September, 8 and 22 October

Bible Study at North Epping. Enquiries to Ted on 0431 663 853.

Every Friday during school term

7.30pm to 9pm - **Mandarin Bible Study** led by Simon Pei held in the Seminar Room. All welcome.

Tuesday 8 September and 13 October

MU will be attending the MU Area Day on 8/9 at St Stephen's Normanhurst commencing at 10am.

MU meeting for a bible study at 1.30pm on 13/10 in the Seminar Room led by Glenda McSorley. All welcome.

Thursdays 17 September and 15 October

6.30pm **Men's BBQ Group** will be held in The Old Sunday School Room (behind the Parish Office). All men are very welcome.

Saturdays 26 September and 24 October

9.30am Garden Maintenance. Extra hands, of all ages, are always helpful. Enquiries: Gill McLennan 0411 957 270.

11am-1pm Indonesian Prayer Meeting in Seminar Room.

(EPIC) every fourth Saturday of the month a **prayer group** meeting held in the Seminar Room from 11am to 1pm focusing on events happening in the world.

Sundays 27 September and 25 October

Newcomers Lunch from 12noon. Please RSVP to Phil on 0413 396 435 if you would like to attend.

Dates for 6pm Taizé Services during 2026 are: October 11 and November 8

TAIZE SERVICE

A service of prayer and worship in the style of the ecumenical community of Taize. This service, 40-45 minutes in length, is based around the singing of simple reflective Christian chants, together with Bible readings, prayer, and a time of reflective silence. It has been found by many people to be a refreshing and gentle style of worship, and a helpful contrast to our traditional Anglican services.

All parishioners and other interested people are invited to join us on Sunday 11 October for our next Taize service.. You are invited to stay for tea or coffee afterwards.

Youth at Saint Alban's

On 28 August, the youth at St Alban's were excited to join with a bunch of other youth groups in our local Ryde/Epping region for Encounter 26. It was an event where our youth and their friends came together for a night of fun, food, and a clear message about the life and hope found in Jesus. We loved gathering with youth from other churches in the area and seeing many peers who are excited to learn and to know Jesus.

Please pray that our youth will be encouraged and grow in their faith from this event (and beyond), and for any friends who came along to understand the great news of Jesus.

If you want to know more about our Youth program talk to Assistant Minister Bill Walton.

Ecumenical Service for The Season of Creation

Wednesday 2 September 2026 11am

You are invited to join our fellow Epping Christians in celebrating The Season of Creation, at Our Lady Help of Christians, Oxford Street, Epping at 11am. Bringing together parishioners and friends of the congregations of the Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford; Epping Uniting Church; West Epping Uniting Church; and the Anglican Parish of Epping. The service will be followed by a simple shared meal with our fellow Christians. A contribution to the cost of the meal would be appreciated. Parking in the underground carpark of OLHC is available.

Commemorative Service for the Martyrs of Papua New Guinea

Saturday 5 September 2026 at 11am

The Anglican Board of Mission Sydney Committee invites you to a Choral Eucharist to mark the 84th Anniversary of the Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, to be held at **Saint Alban's**, the service will be followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. Presider: The Reverend Phil Lui; Preacher: The Reverend Dr Erica Mathieson



Please join with members of parishes across Sydney and ABM supporters as we host this service and lunch. The Martyrs were clergy, teachers, and medical staff serving as missionaries who were killed as they attempted to stay with the people they had been serving as the war came to New Guinea. The story of the New Guinea Martyrs is a living witness to faith, courage and the call for peace. Here at St Alban's we feel a close association as two of the Martyrs were parishioners here for a time; we honour them in our Martyrs' Chapel, and in a window on the northern wall, and more recently in the acceptance of a 'Reconciliation Necklace' - the story of which is told in the Chapel.

During or after the Service you will be able to contribute to the Martyrs Gift 2026, honouring the memory of the Martyrs through the Martyrs Gift – supporting education, strong leadership and brighter futures for our neighbours in Papua New Guinea.



Season of Creation

From 1 September to 4 October each year, Christians around the world are invited to pray, worship and act for God's creation during the Season of Creation.



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Immersion in Living Water
EZEKIEL 47:9, 12

This year's theme, "Living Water", reminds us of God's life-giving presence and our shared calling to care for the earth and all who depend on it. Inspired by Ezekiel's vision of the river that brings healing wherever it flows, we're invited to immerse ourselves in God's renewing work and become streams of hope in our communities.

Synod of the Diocese of Sydney

The Synod is the annual gathering of representatives of the churches of the Diocese with the Archbishop. The Synod meets to consider matters affecting the order and good government of the Diocese. It has been doing so since 1866!

At present there are 800 members of the Synod. The membership is broadly divided into two "houses", being clergy and laity. A new Synod is elected every three years. Usually clergy and laity vote on matters together, but there is provision for clergy and laity to vote separately, in order to establish agreement of "both houses" to a matter.

Synod in 2026 will meet on Monday 14, Tuesday 15, Wednesday 16, Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 September 2026.

Our Synod representatives are our Rector, and two lay members of the parish - Doris Awad and Gillian Taylor, who will attend sessions when they are able.

Pray for the Archbishop, clergy, and lay representatives gathering for the 54th Synod. Ask God to grant them wisdom, patience, and clear discernment as they discuss motions, governance, and the future direction of the diocese.

Thoughts and Prayers for Reflection for September 2026 is now available and is produced within the parish with a thought and prayer for each day of the month, as well as weekly prayers. The October prayers will be available at the end of September.

The Parish Magazine

The current edition of the The Parish Magazine, August - October, is available in the porch and on the parish website <https://www.eppinganglicans.org.au/>

The Parish Magazine records recent events in the parish, gives details of parish activities and publishes articles of general interest and articles which set out opinions on a range of matters the subject of discussion within the Anglican Church community. The Editor, Julie Evans encourages articles for the magazine. The deadline for contributions to the next edition is 2 October 2026. julie.evans@ihug.com.au

Memorial Garden

The Memorial Garden at St Alban's was established in 1981 as a sacred place of remembrance for members of our Parish community whose ashes have been scattered there. It continues to hold deep significance for many in our community.

Following a wider Diocesan review of graveyards, columbaria and memorial gardens, we have been advised that no further interment of ashes is to take place in the garden. This review is intended to ensure that all such places comply with current state government legislation, including the registration of historic and existing sites.

The Rector and Wardens are very mindful of the pastoral sensitivities surrounding this change, particularly for families who have loved ones remembered in the garden. We recognise that there are a small number of people in the Parish who are surviving spouses of those whose ashes have been interred there. The Diocese has granted discretion for a limited number of further interments in the case of surviving spouses and in exceptional circumstances. Those surviving spouses have been contacted individually to explain the change and the discretion that has been approved.

The garden will continue to be honoured and cared for as a memorial garden, and the register of those interred there will continue to be maintained.

If you have any concerns or questions about this decision, please speak with the Rector or one of the Wardens.

For Your Prayers

Parishes in our Mission Area

Beecroft, St John the Evangelist; Eastwood, St Philip; Gladesville, Christ Church; Macquarie, St George and St Dunstan; North Epping, All Saints; Ryde, St Anne; Soul Revival; West Ryde, St Columb; North Ryde, St John; Bridge, Trinity Chapel

Ecumenical Churches in our Area

Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford; Uniting Church Parishes of Epping and West Epping; Epping Presbyterian Church; and Epping Baptist Church.

Pray for our whole Parish

- Pray for our Rector Phil in his leadership of our Parish; and give thanks for God's goodness to us as we pray for each of our congregations and their leaders - Pastor Kian (Indonesian congregation) and The Reverend Simon (Chinese congregation).

- Pray for our Assistant Minister, Bill; our Student Ministers Doris, Gloria, Aimee and David - giving thanks for their commitment, and asking for God to guide them in their studies.

- Give thanks, and pray for our Parish Administrator Denise, pray that she will have a safe and enjoyable period of leave and travels - may she return refreshed; give thanks for those who are undertaking some of her roles during her absence.

- Pray for all those who minister and worship with us, and all who enhance our worship: our Music Director Chris and the organists and choir; our Zoom operators; our duty parishioners; our flower arrangers and our readers and intercessors and the linen launderers. Give thanks for the Sacristans, Servers and Assistants.

- Pray for guidance and vision for our Wardens and Parish Council as they seek to enable and manage the growth of the parish, and address all the issues related to the maintenance and use of our buildings.

- Ask God to help us each to see how our talents, resources and time may be used to his glory. May we all be guided and inspired to 'gather, grow and go' together.

- Pray for our Mission of the Month: Church Missionary Society (September), Rough Edges (October).

- Pray for all those in the parish, and known to us, who are ill or hurting in body, mind or spirit. Pray for God's healing touch to restore strength, and bring peace to anxious minds. Pray for God's mercy and compassion to surround them and all who care for them.

Pray for EPIC (Indonesian Congregation)

- Thank you so much for your prayers for EPIC camp at the end of July in Leura.
- Praise God for those who used to be international students and now are permanently residing in Australia who organise and lead the camp.
- Praise God that we went through several chapters in the book of Acts where we see how God was working in his people's movement for the expansion of his kingdom.
- Praise God for a lovely and generous Christian couple who owns the house in the mountain and let us use it for the weekend.
- We prayed for 1 returnee going back to West Papua, 3 to Kupang, and 1 to Surabaya. Please join us in praying that they all can find a returnee community and church that can help them continue to grow in Christ.
- Pray for those in the areas affected by the recent earthquakes in parts of Indonesia.

Pray for our World: We pray for places affected by natural disasters, particularly earthquakes, fires and drought. We lift up all those affected at this time – we pray for comfort for the grieving, healing to the injured, and shelter to those who have lost their homes. Guide and protect the rescue workers, and grant strength and hope for the rebuilding of communities.

In this Season of Creation we pray: Holy God, we gather as part of your community of all creation, thirsty for your grace. We give thanks for the gift of water, the veins of our common home. We are grateful for the local waters that nourish our homelands and our fellow creatures. Yet, we confess that we have

treated this gift as a mere commodity. Lord of all Life, you promised that wherever the river flows, everything shall live. Stir in us a calling to care for the waters — to protect the watershed, defend the rights of water, and honour the dignity of the thirsty. May your Word be a spring within us, gushing forth for the healing of the nations. May God our Father sustain us in the desert. May Christ our Lord who is Living Water refresh us for the work of restoration. And may the Holy Spirit carry us on currents of grace until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.

Pray for peace in our world: Gracious God, Creator of all life, we pray for leaders of countries to find diplomatic solutions that will bring harmony between nations, and for wars, conflicts and oppression to end. Guide leaders towards fair and wise decisions, calming the anger and fear. We pray for your continued grace and goodness to overflow in this world so that people can live alongside one another respectfully, allowing for mutual flourishing, and justice for all. Let hope and harmony replace hatred in every nation. Amen.

Anniversary of Death (September): Edna Swihart; Michael Wallis; Jean Carruthers; Frances Oliver; Brian Hoare; Terence Haupn; Keith Smith; Wilfred Rushton; Frank Bennett; Peter Fox; Chuck Conors; Hilde Woodman; Helen Brayner 1/9; Lionel Barrett 3/9; Ralph Fraser 3/9; Phyllis Newland 4/9; Kathleen Cox 5/9; Geoff Darling 5/9; Paul David 5/9; Ken McLeod 7/9; Jade Rushton 7/9; Helen Elliott 7/9; Thomas Nyholm 9/9; Geoffrey Bryant 9/9; Ivo Kershaw 10/9; Sydney Jarvis 10/9; Marion Mathieson 10/9; Eileen Taylor 11/9; Leonard Colling 12/9; Amelia Hooper 12/9; Irene Warton 12/9; Olive Munn 12/9; Philip Blake 12/9; William Rook 13/9; Frederick Collett 13/9; Fred Carson 14/9; Ron Richardson 15/9; Pamela Sunnocks 17/9; Peter Greene 18/9; Francis Whittington 19/9; Helen McIntyre 20/9; Beryl Atkinson 20/9; Aiden Warner 21/9; John Colling 22/9; Joan Bellamy 22/9; Ann Couch 23/9; Victor Lisle 23/9; Carnie Parsons 24/9; John Couch 24/9; Scott Ekert 24/9; Veronica Couch 24/9; Chevron Joseph 24/9; Shaun Joseph 24/9; Iris Fatcher 25/9; Ronald Burgess 26/9; David Phillips 26/9; Ana Chelladurai 26/9; Dorothea Graham 27/9; Noelle Brinsden 28/9; Charles Farrar 28/9; Elva King 28/9; Bill Gough 29/9

Anniversary of Death (October): Grace Harms; Ralph Esau; Albert Thiele 1/10; John Jewell 1/10; Ruth Jurd 1/10; Gertrude Haywood 3/10; David Parsons 4/10; Edward Field 6/10; Dorothy Lambert 6/10; Norma Sawyer 7/10; Norman Woolven 7/10; Gordon Smith 8/10; Evelyn King-Mason 9/10; John Sherlock 10/10; Bernice Peverell 10/10; Norman Hayes 10/10; Grace March 10/10; Shirley Osborne 10/10; Allan Nyholm 11/10; Elaine Rawling 11/10; Mary Armitage 17/10; Myrtle Jansz 17/10; Tony Gumbley 18/10; Ches Sanderson 20/10; Eric Sharpe 20/10; Jay Pitcher 21/10; Ethel Simpson 21/10; Jean Down 21/10; Beatrice Taylor 22/10; Margaret Smith 22/10; Doris Gibbons 22/10; Carlisle Passe de Silva 23/10; Maurice Simmons 24/10; Graham Sawyer 25/10; Clive Harcourt-Norton 25/10; Barry Rook 26/10; Jean Muir 26/10; Tony Hunt 27/10; Spencer Bough 27/10; Dorothy Lee 28/10; Zoe McWhite 28/10; Pat Scully 31/10

Organ Recital – Sunday 27 September, 12:00 Noon

Please join us at St Alban's for a special midday organ recital!

Four exceptionally talented young organists - Isabel Li, Enoch Pan, Christine Pan, and Rory Martinic (students of Chris Czerwinski) - will be performing their official competition programs. This concert serves as their final "warm-up" showcase before the Sydney Organ Competition on 5 October. The demanding program features masterpieces by Bach, Vivaldi, Buxtehude, Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Boëllmann, Alain, Duruflé, and Wesley.

Admission is free, and all are welcome to attend and support these brilliant musicians!

Mission of the Month in September Church Missionary Society

The mission of the Church Missionary Society (CMS) is to reach 'gospel-poor' peoples for Christ, to equip Christians as leaders in the church and the world, and to engage churches in **cross-cultural mission**. Currently CMS partners with over 80 organisations in gospel ministry in almost 50 countries. Hundreds of churches in Australia are engaged in cross-cultural mission through CMS.

On Saturday 6 June, Saint Alban's hosted the recommissioning of CMS missionary **Julie** to return to South East Asia for her second term. Pastor Kian Holik (EPIC) in his sermon very much encouraged Julie and her six supporting churches, represented by about sixty people at the service.

As Julie states, serving in South East Asia while 'stepping into another culture has shown me the power of God's loving presence. *I have seen it in the lives of new friends, as God draws many to depend upon him and the grace that he offers.*' For further insights into Julie's mission, please refer to cms.org.au/missionaries/jusn/#. At the same website you can sign up for Julie's monthly newsletter to receive stories, photos and prayer points. Supporters are very welcome to reply to her newsletter - replies go to a secure email address. You can also **financially support Julie** directly at this website.

For further information about the work of CMS, please refer to the display on the narthex board or visit website cms.org.au/. There are a few ways for you to **financially assist CMS** generally in their cross-cultural mission. Either use the 'Beyond the Parish' side of your weekly offertory (please write 'CMS' next to the stamped date) or use a plain envelope marked 'CMS'. Alternatively, transfer funds electronically to the St Alban's account - please use tag 'CMS'.



Mission of the Month in October Banksia Women and Rough Edges Saint John's Darlinghurst



Saint John's Anglican Church, Darlinghurst is in a strategic location to reach out with innovative ministries to the people of East Sydney. **Saint John's Community Services (SJCS)**, a registered charity, was commenced in 1996 by Saint John's as an outreach program for homeless people coming through the doors of their drop-in centre Rough Edges.

SJCS offers *Help, Home and Hope* to those suffering from the trauma of homelessness, domestic violence and exclusion. Initially synonymous with Rough Edges, SJCS also operates Banksia Women and a social justice education program, Urban Insight. For further details, please refer to <https://www.sjcs.org.au/>

Banksia Women

Banksia Women is a not-for-profit organisation established in 2019 by SJCS. It supports women who have experienced domestic and family violence or abuse, in their recovery by providing community, connection and long-term support. The program provides evidence-based health and wellbeing programs, and legal services which support and empower women so they can rebuild their lives. Further details and donate at www.banksiawomen.org.au

Rough Edges

Rough Edges has been a community hub, cafe and drop-in centre since 1996. Recently revitalised, it offers a friendly welcome, a hearty meal, connection and a safe place to unwind to those experiencing homelessness. Today Rough Edges is open Monday to Thursday 7.30pm – 9pm. Further details and donate at <https://www.roughedges.org.au/>

There are a few ways you can make a **general donation** to Saint John's Community Services. Either use the 'Beyond the Parish' side of your weekly offertory (please write 'SJCS' next to the stamped date) or use a plain envelope marked 'SJCS'. Alternatively, transfer funds electronically to the Saint Alban's account - please use tag 'SJCS', or donate funds directly at <https://www.sjcs.org.au/donate>



ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION

The ABM Auxiliary invites all parishioners to a Lunch in aid of The Anglican Church of Melanesia to be held at Christ Church Saint Laurence, 505 Pitt St, City (opposite Murrays Coach Office) on Tuesday 27 October at 11am.

Guest Speaker is Mr Rod Ravenscroft, recently returned from an ABM Pilgrimage to the Philippines.

Cost is by donation to support ABMs programs in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu building stronger, healthier and more climate-resilient communities for generations to come. The ABM Auxiliary will appreciate your support for this project.

RSVP Monday 19 October to Jane Bryant 0432 258 737 or 9894 0439.

Garden Maintenance – Volunteers Needed!

Our church garden maintenance is held **every 4th Saturday of the month**.

We are looking for **more volunteers** to help keep our church grounds beautiful, clean, and welcoming. No special gardening experience is required - just a willing heart and a helping hand!

If you can spare some time, please come along and join us. Every helping hand makes a difference!

 **When:** Every 4th Saturday of the month

 **What:** Garden maintenance and general grounds care

 **Volunteers:** More helpers are warmly welcomed!

Thank you for supporting the care of our church grounds. We look forward to seeing you there!

Hospital Visiting Supplies

On behalf of the St Alban's Mothers Union Members, thank you for the parishioners who have assisted with sewing up, and knitting small bears, beanies and booties and donating baby bibs and socks to give to the new mothers we visit. The hospitals visited are Royal North Shore, Norwest Private and The San.

It would be useful for more supplies of the above items.

The size range for the socks is newborn 0 to 3 months age or up to 6 months age. Bibs can be bigger. If anyone can assist with knitting booties (up to 6 months of age) it would be appreciated too.

Many thanks in advance.



Zoom details for Sunday 10am Service

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82516182389?pwd=VGpWNXRMcFilyXVWeVB3N0pzQnpSUT09>

Passcode 389867 if required. Dialling in: 8015 6011. Meeting ID: 825 1618 2389 followed by # (and another # - there isn't a participants number).

Please keep your computer or phone on "mute" during the service. To mute/unmute your phone, press *6. Please stay on line for a time of fellowship.

Please consider paying your offertory directly into the church account.

The details are:-

St Alban's Account
BSB No: 032 081 / A/c: 000024

Please indicate which service you attend.

Offerings for EPIC Indonesian congregation, please specify EPIC in the reference.

Offerings for the Chinese congregation, please specify 'Chinese' in the reference.

If you wish give to the Mission of the Month or any other specific cause (eg Assistant Minister/Student Minister Fund), please indicate it on your direct transfer.

During the blessing of the gifts of the people, we are including the offertory made to the Parish by direct transfer; handed in to the office, and the offertory made using the EFTPOS Terminal at the back of the church.

PARISH STAFF

Rector: The Reverend Philip Lui 0413 396 435 - phil@eppinganglicans.org.au

Assistant Minister (part-time): Bill Walton – bill@eppinganglicans.org.au

Honorary Senior Associate The Reverend Paul Weaver 0408 285 776
paul@eppinganglicans.org.au

Parish Administrator: Denise Pigot 98763362 - office@eppinganglicans.org.au
(On leave 12 September to 24 October 2026)

Music Director: Chris Czerwinski 0452 557 695
krzysztof_czerwinski@yahoo.com

Student Ministers: Doris Awad - doris.awad@student.moore.edu.au
and Gloria Walton

Student Ministers and Children's Ministry Workers: Aimee and David Wong

Indonesian Congregation (EPIC) Pastor: Kian Holik
kian@eppinganglicans.org.au

Chinese Congregation Pastor: Simon Pei - simon@eppinganglicans.org.au

Caretaker: Kari Hewitt 0402 119 004 – karihewitt94@gmail.com

Parish Office - 3 Pembroke Street Epping 2121 (PO Box 79 Epping 1710)
9876 3362 - www.eppinganglicans.org.au