


Anglicare Prayer Diary 2025



Anglicare



Rejoice always, pray continually,
give thanks in all
circumstances; for this is God's
will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

What a great blessing it is to be able to
devote ourselves to prayer. It is a true
privilege to bring our joys, anxieties
and thankfulness to our loving
Heavenly Father.

Thank you for praying with us.

Our Mission
Serving people in need,
enriching lives,
sharing the love of Jesus.



DAY 01

Anglicare's continuing journey to reconciliation

First Nations people experience ongoing and residual trauma from events that have been enforced upon them through historic Government policy within Australia. This includes racism, discrimination, loss of land and language and separation from families. Inspired by the gospel of Jesus Christ, Anglicare commits each day to work alongside Australia's resilient First Nations people.

Give thanks

- For God's eternal love for all people groups and nations.
- For all First Nations staff within Anglicare.
- For those within our organisation actively engaged in reviewing and shaping the ways to advance reconciliation.
- For Anglicare staff who work alongside First Nations people and communities.

Please pray

- That all Australians will show love, dignity, respect and care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- That we will be able to recruit more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff members so we can effectively serve their communities.
- For Anglicare's ongoing commitment to closing the gap for Aboriginal people in the areas of health, access to services, family displacement, separation and incarceration of Aboriginal people.



Sophie's Story



Sophie*, a resident at a residential aged care home, had been attending Christian activities organised by Anglicare Chaplain, Ali for several months. Yet whenever Sophie was asked what she thought of the Bible and Jesus, all she would say was, "It's interesting."

It wasn't until one week, when Sophie and Ali had time alone, that Sophie started to open up. After reading a Bible passage together, Sophie shared her questions about God. They were personal and painful questions about suffering, the future and heaven.

Ali realised that God had been at work all this time, slowly softening Sophie's heart and opening her eyes. And in God's perfect timing, he created a moment for Sophie to voice her deepest questions in a safe place.

*Name has been changed to protect identity.

DAY 02

People in residential care homes

Moving into residential care can feel overwhelming for residents and their families. It involves adapting to a new home and meeting new people. Anglicare takes the time to understand the individual needs of each person and to create a safe and welcoming community, where residents are loved and cared for and faith can flourish.

Give thanks

- For the dedicated staff and volunteers working in Anglicare residential care homes.
- For the many chapel services and Bible studies held across residential care homes and the opportunity the chaplains and pastoral carers have to encourage residents in their faith.
- For God's incredible faithfulness in providing salvation to people of all ages, in the gospel of Jesus.

Please pray

- That God will raise up new volunteers to assist the chaplains and pastoral carers in caring spiritually for people living in residential care.
- For the ability to care for residents who are increasingly frail and living with dementia.
- For opportunities across the organisation to deepen skills in palliative care, dementia care and mental health in older people.



DAY 03

Retirement living residents

Retirement is a time of transition for many people, often providing opportunities to explore new interests, connect with others and serve in your church and community in different ways. Anglicare Retirement Villages provide a unique opportunity for people to come together to build relationships and be a part of a caring community, experiencing life to the full!

Give thanks

- For our residents, each uniquely made in God's image.
- For Christian residents who encourage and look out for their neighbours with a desire to point them to Jesus.

Please pray

- That the Anglicare staff who work in retirement living will be able to identify individuals who are feeling isolated and support them to find joy in their community.
- For ongoing opportunities to share Jesus' love, grace and mercy with those who don't yet know him.
- That residents who follow Jesus continue to be amazed by his love. And for more opportunities to share the gospel.



DAY 04

Vulnerable children

Every week, Anglicare receives more than 100 requests to provide a safe home for a child in crisis. Every child deserves a safe home, but many children are growing up in families experiencing poverty, homelessness, domestic violence, mental ill-health and addiction. Anglicare works with families to prevent them from slipping into crisis and finds safe places for children through foster care and adoption.

Give thanks

- To God, our Heavenly Father for our secure place in his eternal family.
- For the foster carers who lovingly welcome vulnerable children into their homes and create an environment of safety and belonging.
- For the Foster Circle – those in church, school and community, who support foster carers, foster children and their families.

Please pray

- For more safe and suitable short-term placements for children so they don't have to move around.
- For children who have been separated from their parents and possibly even their siblings. Pray that they may be reunited soon.
- For resources and finances required to continue the important work we are committed to.
- For sustenance of our case managers who juggle the demands of carers, children, birth families and the state.

Noah's Story

Your gift can help a young person get the support they need to thrive in life.

How to give. Scan the QR code to donate or call 13 26 22



DAY 05

Disadvantaged young people

Noah* was 18 years old and had just finished his HSC when he met Anglicare Youth Services. He had recently migrated from the Philippines and was keen to do an apprenticeship and find work. Noah was unfamiliar with Australian systems so he was referred to our Reconnect program for support.

Noah was anxious about receiving support and was soon discouraged when his Reconnect worker discovered that his options for apprenticeships and working were restricted due to the type of visa that he was on. While Noah's visa issues were being resolved, his Reconnect worker assisted him to obtain work experience and linked him to Group Training Organisations, Apprenticeship Network Provider and TAFE NSW.

Noah's Reconnect worker also linked his family to Anglicare's Food and Financial Assistance program for further support while the family dealt with a significant relationship breakdown between Noah's parents.

Noah eventually received his Australian citizenship and due to his Reconnect worker's support he was immediately able to be employed as an Apprentice Automotive Refinisher and connected with an Apprenticeship Network Provider who are helping Noah with his TAFE enrolment.

On closing his case with Reconnect, Noah expressed that things in his life were going well now and that he was very thankful for all the support that he received.

*Name has been changed to protect identity.

For many young people, adolescence is a tumultuous and difficult time. Conflict with family members can lead to serious consequences, including homelessness. That's why Anglicare offers a range of services to help young people re-establish important relationships and make choices that support them to thrive and have hope for a bright future.

Give thanks

- For safe and creative ways to work alongside young people in challenging times.
- For the opportunities to support families through parenting courses and mediation.
- That young people are able to find practical hope for their future through Anglicare's services and eternal hope in Jesus.

Please pray

- For opportunities for staff to show they are trustworthy, genuine and Christ-like with young people we meet.
- For God's blessing on our counselling and case management programs and the groups we deliver.
- That young people involved in Anglicare services will see ongoing improvements in their health and wellbeing and their relationships with their families.



DAY 06

Take Love

Take Love is Anglicare's youth and young adult initiative all about providing practical ways for young people to partner with us and engage in life-changing work. Take Love aims to equip and empower individuals, youth groups and schools to be proactive in their love for others, because of their love of Jesus. Within Anglicare, Take Love seeks to create pathways for volunteering and advocacy, and resources for understanding big issues – all through a Biblical lens. Together we can serve each other and action what God has put on our hearts.

Give thanks

- For the Take Love team in their ongoing pursuit of exciting new opportunities, within the scope of greatest priorities.
- For the schools and youth groups who faithfully partner with us.
- For the opportunities young people have to get involved with and be a part of their broader communities.

Please pray

- That we will faithfully equip and engage the next generation of Anglicare supporters, volunteers, and employees.
- That within Anglicare, different parts of the organisation will seek to partner with us in creating more engaging opportunities for young people.
- That more and more young people partner with us to take the love of Jesus to our community.



DAY 07

Refugees and asylum seekers

People living in the community who are refugees and asylum seekers often struggle to adjust and may not easily reach out for help. In partnership with churches, Anglicare seeks to recruit volunteers to assist with our companionship and mentoring program. Anglicare looks for ways to reach out to refugees and asylum seekers, providing specialised mental health support and helping them to begin to feel at home.

Give thanks

- For a skilled team of dedicated individuals who are committed to providing Christ-like care to refugees and asylum seekers in our communities.
- That the mental health of many clients has improved through our programs.
- For the many church communities and servant-hearted volunteers who partner with Anglicare to welcome and work alongside migrants and refugees.

Please pray

- For all migrant and refugees who have recently arrived in Australia, that they will settle into their new homes and be easily connected in community and relationship.
- For continuing partnership with church communities and volunteers to assist with our companionship and mentoring program.



DAY 08

Families starting over

If you only had a moment to pack a bag and flee your home, what would you take with you? Many of the families in our SHIFT program have had to make this choice – escaping domestic violence or other dangerous situations at home means packing your things and leaving at a moment's notice. Anglicare offers support and accommodation to migrants and refugees and survivors of domestic violence – families starting over.

Give thanks

- For the case managers who work with the families in the SHIFT program.
- For local churches who continue to support families and give them a loving place to belong.
- For the ability to provide housing and support for 20 families at this time and for the opportunity to show Christ's love to others in practical ways.

Please pray

- That in a high-cost housing market, affordable rental opportunities will be found for families.
- That we can help these families secure long-term housing accommodation.
- That these families would have their hope restored and that Anglicare staff and church partners will have opportunities to be salt and light to the families in the SHIFT program.

Join Us in Making a Difference

Would you consider partnering with us?

Make a
Donation today!

Any donation – no matter how big or small can make a difference in the life of someone who is struggling. Together, we can bring hope to those in need.

Scan the QR code, or call us on 13 26 22.



Our regular givers are called **Care Partners!**

Their contributions allow us to walk side-by-side people to see their lives transformed.

Find out more on how to become a Care Partner by calling us on 13 26 22 or scan the QR code.

Another way to donate is to leave a gift in your will - find out more on page 36.





DAY 09

People in prisons

One of the beautiful things about the gospel is that it is for everyone. Anglicare Justice Chaplains minister to people in prisons and law enforcement staff. Each day they demonstrate the transformative love of Jesus through one-to-one conversations, Bible studies, prayer and chapel services. What an amazing privilege to share the love of Jesus in these hard places.

Give thanks

- For Jesus who is the bread of life for everyone.
- For the team of chaplains and volunteers who can listen, love and offer hope to people who often feel hopeless and unseen.
- For the staff who work in prisons, juvenile justice centres, the Rural Fire Service and the Police force.

Please pray

- That the Holy Spirit will guide our conversations and conduct in institutions requiring extra sensitivity and discernment.
- That Christ-like compassion would transform the hearts of inmates and staff as they meet Jesus.
- For grace and wisdom during the thousands of hours of interactions with ever-changing prison populations.



Bridget's Story



Bridget*, one of our Anglicare Mental Health Chaplains, was setting up for her usual group meeting at the hospital. Usually, around ten patients showed up, but this time there was just one. She decided to focus on Psalm 13.

She read, "How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me? Look on me and answer, Lord my God, Give light to my eyes."

The patient abruptly stopped her and said, "This is my life! How do you know this? Are you sure this is the Bible?"

Bridget reassured him that it was the Bible and that the author of the Psalm was much like us. She finished the reading and gave the man a Bible, followed by a simple explanation of the gospel. She told him how he could receive Jesus and gave him contacts for local churches when he was discharged.

*Name has been changed to protect identity.

DAY 10

People in hospital

How would you cope if doctors handed you or a loved one a terrible diagnosis? What do you lean on when you watch a loved one in pain? Anglicare chaplains provide pastoral care to the thousands of patients and families navigating difficult times in hospital. They also support hospital staff who are frequently under immense pressure themselves. They value your prayers.

Give thanks

- For our 24 Anglicare hospital chaplains and the many volunteer chaplains caring for patients and staff in public and private hospitals.
- For the sure and steadfast hope in Jesus that they can share with others.

Please pray

- For opportunities to make a difference even when patients and staff are there for only a short time.
- For continued freedom to openly share the gospel of Jesus with others, according to their willingness to listen.
- That chaplains will have sufficient resources to serve people in their time of need.



Your donation can provide emergency food and financial support to a family living in despair.

Scan the QR code to donate or call **13 26 22**



DAY 11

Hope amid disaster

We are no strangers to disaster in Australia. Bushfires, storms and floods turn lives upside down when they hit. Anglicare Disaster Recovery volunteers have been bringing light and hope during these dark times for over 26 years. Ready to go at a moment's notice, they are trained to provide practical help during emergencies and be Jesus' hands and feet to people in communities at risk.

Give thanks

- For our amazing team of committed, experienced and compassionate volunteers who continue to serve faithfully and diligently.
- For opportunities to partner with churches in providing disaster relief and practical care to their local communities at times of increased risk and vulnerability.

Please pray

- For solace and healing for people traumatised by disasters of the past few years, with fears of new emergencies in the near future.
- For the emotional wellbeing of our volunteers who often go from disaster to disaster with little time to rest and recharge.
- For God to raise up new team leaders to build teams and coordinate volunteers in remote areas.



Inej's Story



When Inej* started falling behind in her rent, she felt the walls closing in. She was at the end of her tether...struggling to cope after losing her job and seeing her rent increase 20% in one year.

So when Anglicare's Food and Financial Assistance case worker listened to her story with care and understanding, Inej knew she could trust them to help.

After looking at her finances together, they came up with a budget. It allowed Inej to prioritise what was important to her and even save some money towards bigger bills. Inej was also relieved to receive help with her rental arrears. That

meant she wouldn't have extra debt to catch up on so she could get started using her new budget right away. Inej's case worker even offered to put her in touch with an employment support program to help her secure more stable work again.

A few weeks later, Inej saw her case worker again. She had worked hard to follow her budget and managed to pay her next rent instalment in full! And for the first time in months, an enormous weight was lifted.

Inej could breathe again.

It's amazing what a little help and loving compassion can achieve!

*Name has been changed to protect identity.

DAY 12

People seeking food and financial help

It can sometimes be tough to make your money stretch as far as it needs to. Imagine struggling to put food on the table for your family or to pay for the basic necessities of everyday life, like rent, medicine or school uniforms. This is the reality for many Australians each day. Anglicare provides practical assistance in the form of food, bill assistance, budgeting and planning, no interest loans and more.

Give thanks

- For our faithful staff, who work tirelessly, that they can continue to provide a creative, warm and welcoming offer of Christian hospitality as a demonstration of Jesus' love.
- For the generous food and financial resources made possible by donors, churches, communities and government. These ensure Anglicare has access to high quality food and foods to provide to clients.

Please pray

- For wisdom to support and empower people and families in the community who are struggling due to the increased and difficult costs of living, especially rent.
- That we will be able to partner with more Anglican churches to help reach more communities and support those in greatest need.
- For wise management of our budget and staff capacity to ensure that we can provide a meaningful and sustainable service to the community.



DAY 13

Seniors in the community

Many Australians remain living at home in their older years. Maintaining relationships and feeling supported, connected and cared about is key to health and wellbeing. Anglicare's Community Aged Pastoral Care team visit homes and make phone calls to build relationships, provide pastoral care and ensure no one feels alone.

Give thanks

- For our staff who give so much of themselves to serve others, value people and enrich lives.
- For the opportunities God has given the team to make meaningful connections with their families.

Please pray

- That God will provide – the needs are great, but resources are limited.
- That those who feel isolated, lonely and invisible will know they are seen, treasured and loved.
- That our team will continue to love with the kindness, patience and mercy of Jesus.



Janice's Story



Janice* checked the time. 12:15pm. Ling, the pastoral care worker, would be arriving soon.

Her eyes stared at the wedding photo on the shelf. It had been 54 years since that day – she still remembered it so clearly. Janice felt a familiar pain in her chest and looked away – 54 years and it was still too soon to say goodbye.

They'd overcome many things together in their marriage, but they had not won this battle. Cancer had taken him in the end.

Now, Janice was struggling financially; worrying every waking hour about her children.

A knock at the door and in walks Ling.

Ling placed the box on the table – a food hamper this substantial would surely help ease her financial burden. Then Ling handed her a "Living with Loss" booklet.

The practical gift moved Janice. She opened her heart. She poured her sadness out to her compassionate friend, before pouring it out to God. And it helped, somehow.

In times of great sorrow, our God is with us. He longs to hear our prayers and remind us of his great love. He tells us to have hope, for one day we will see him face-to-face. One day he will wipe away our tears.

*Name has been changed to protect identity.

DAY
14

Anglicare At Home

Home is where families gather and where we often feel most comfortable. But in older age, everyone's needs are different and living at home can often be challenging. Anglicare's at home care team supports independence with personalised services to ensure older people can live at home for as long as possible.

Give thanks

- For our wonderful staff who give so much of themselves to serve others, value people and enrich lives.
- For the privilege we have to support older people to live independently at home and the opportunities to empower these people and their carers to achieve this goal.

Please pray

- For the recruitment of dedicated, servant-hearted people to come and work at Anglicare and make a difference in people's lives.
- That a steady workforce will allow us to deliver a continuity of care.
- For God's guidance and wisdom in decision making as we prepare to meet the growing needs of an ageing population.

DAY 15

Mental wellbeing for older people

Mental and emotional wellbeing are critically important to everyone. That's why Anglicare provides dedicated mental health therapies for older people living in residential care homes. This gives residents the opportunity to talk through the challenges of life without stigma, fear or shame and receive the help they need. Our mental health practitioners also build the insights and capacity of residential care home staff to better support the mental wellbeing of their residents.

Give thanks

- To the Father and God of compassion, who comforts us in our troubles so we can comfort others.
- That our Emotional Wellbeing for Older Persons service has made a positive impact on over 1,000 clients and has seen improvement in their emotional wellbeing.
- That this service has also made a positive impact to residents and staff in around 300 residential care homes across Sydney.
- For our new Mental Health Resource Hub, that it will be a positive resource for churches to better support people experiencing mental and emotional challenges in their church communities.
- That Anglicare has received additional Government funding to expand the reach of services to now also include residential care homes across Western Sydney.

Your gift can help provide financial or emotional support for those who are struggling.

Scan the QR code to donate or call 13 26 22



Please pray

- That those feeling isolated or lonely in residential care homes will discover new hope.
- That the busyness of working in residential care won't prevent staff being able to have the time to engage residents in meaningful ways.
- That our team will be able to sensitively uncover the internal and external factors in each person's life to support them in their challenges.
- For our new "Supporting Recovery" program, that this will be a practical support for victim-survivors of family, domestic and sexual violence across south-western Sydney.
- That God willing, Anglicare will receive additional Government funding for the further growth of our services.



Your Legacy matters

For many of our supporters, leaving a gift in their Will is the most significant gift they will give in their lifetime. Whether big or small - any size of gift can make a difference!

Leaving a gift in your Will doesn't require you to determine an actual gift size right now. You can choose an amount, or you can decide on a percentage or leave a residual gift.

To leave a gift in your Will, please make your gift out to:

Anglican Community Services (ABN 39 922 848 563) operating as Anglicare Sydney.

Please let us know so we can thank you and include you in special program updates and events.

Contact 13 26 22 or email donations@anglicare.org.au



Notes

Series of horizontal dotted lines for taking notes.



DAY 16

Seniors at risk of homelessness

Imagine facing homelessness as an older person. The risk of homelessness can come at any stage of life. For older Australians, the rising costs of living combined with retirement and relying on Government pensions can have devastating consequences. Anglicare Housing supports men and women over 55 with safe and secure accommodation and connections.

Give thanks

- For the safety the residents feel, receiving safe and long-term, secure accommodation, as part of a community.
- For the opportunity to provide care and support to others and make a positive difference in people's lives.

Please pray

- That our team will be able to show compassion and empathy to those who need more than just shelter in their lives.
- For continuing focus on building community and having a Christ-centred approach.
- That additional funding will allow Anglicare to help even more vulnerable seniors in need of a home.



DAY 17

People living with dementia

When you're living with dementia, what were once simple tasks may take you longer and you may not always remember what you need to do or where you need to be. Naturally, this can be scary, frustrating and concerning for you, your family and friends. Thankfully, Anglicare provides tailored care to help, support and educate those living with dementia.

Give thanks

- To our faithful God who hears the prayers of his people, even when they can no longer speak out loud.
- That we are learning more about dementia all the time and that God understands it completely.
- For Anglicare's dedicated team of dementia specialists, clinicians, chaplains, lifestyle and care workers who serve people living with dementia and their families.

Please pray

- For opportunities to share the good news of Jesus with residents and clients living with dementia.
- For strength, patience and reassurance for family carers of people living with dementia.



DAY 18

Healing through counselling and mediation

We all face challenges and there are times when the burden is very heavy, and we can't go on alone. Having someone to support you through these difficult seasons makes all the difference. Anglicare's counsellors and mediators meet people at their point of need. They use their knowledge and understanding and listen without judgement. This support can make a big difference.

Give thanks

- For the wisdom and genuine care that staff provide to those who have, or are currently, experiencing serious harm or conflict in their lives.
- For the opportunity that Anglicare staff have, to show the love and compassion of Jesus.
- That our staff can be the hands and feet of Jesus in the community.

Please pray

- For resources and mission aligned staff to meet the increasing needs of those who experience domestic and family violence, grief and loss, mental ill-health, and housing insecurity.
- That we can grow our workplace wellbeing and counselling work in schools and in partner organisations.
- That God will sustain and renew the strength of our teams, that they will soar on wings like eagles; run and not grow weary, walk and not be faint. (See Isaiah 40:31).

DAY 19

Responding to domestic violence

Where do you go when a home isn't safe? What do you do if someone tells you that they are being abused? These are hard questions. In Australia, the reality is that one in four women and one in thirteen men experience domestic violence. Domestic violence is also the leading cause of homelessness for women. Those who have experienced domestic violence can suffer negative impacts on all aspects of health and wellbeing. Recovery requires psychological and spiritual support, as well as physical safety.

Give thanks

- For Anglicare's commitment to continue improving our response to domestic violence.
- For the women and children who have been given support as they escape domestic violence.
- For the establishment of our new service to support victim-survivors of domestic and family violence called "Supporting Recovery."
- For a committed team of therapists dedicated to working to support victim-survivors in their recovery journey.

Please pray

- That those experiencing domestic violence will find safety and support.
- That those who commit violence will repent of their behaviour and abusive choices.
- That churches will be safe places for those who have experienced abuse.
- That together with churches, we can train people to recognise and respond to abuse and support survivors.
- That "Supporting Recovery" will have a positive impact on the people who access the service, and assist victim-survivors in their recovery journey.



DAY 20

More than an Op Shop

Over 800,000 people visit our Op Shops each year. People are looking for affordable and pre-loved clothing and some are in need of much more. Anglicare Op Shops are so much more than just retail experiences. They are a welcoming space of respect and a safe, local community hub. Those who need help will always be heard and can be referred to our broader services.

Give thanks

- For the individuals and local churches and schools who partner with us and donate pre-loved clothing and accessories to sell through the Op Shops.
- For our faithful Op Shop staff and the many ways they impact and enrich the community each day.
- For the many volunteers who choose to serve in Op Shops and practically apply their talents and passions.

Please pray

- That more people will volunteer and see the opportunity to connect with their communities in a meaningful way.
- That we will adequately be prepared to serve those who come to us with material, emotional and spiritual needs.
- That our staff and volunteers will be ready to listen to those who walk through our door and that we will have abundant opportunities to share the love of Jesus with many people.

The Community Pantry



Donate to help keep our Mobile Community Pantry vans on the road, reaching isolated communities with affordable groceries.

Scan the QR code to donate or call 13 26 22.



If you had to choose between paying the rent or buying food or medicine for your family, what would you choose?

Many Australians have to make impossible decisions like this every day. Anglicare's Community Pantry provides low-cost groceries to help stretch the budget further, which can make a world of difference!

Give thanks

- For the 60 churches who partner with us to provide low-cost groceries to over 2300 shoppers and customers every month.
- That offering food assistance often leads to opportunities to build relationships with people and have conversations with them about the Lord Jesus.

Please pray

- For good planning and logistics to deliver a rapidly-growing service across Greater Sydney and beyond.
- For cultural understanding and creativity to offer the right pantry stocks in the diverse communities we serve.
- That all our Community Pantry church partners will have increasing opportunities to build on the relationships made with the people accessing this vital and practical service.



DAY 22

Our generous volunteers

Did you know that Anglicare has over 1,300 volunteers? That's one fifth of our workforce and we couldn't do it without them. Anglicare volunteers are essential in providing vital assistance to staff and providing extra support in their communities. Every week they go above and beyond in showing the love and compassion of Jesus.

Give thanks

- For each volunteer who generously donates their time to work wholeheartedly and purposefully for Anglicare's mission and for the amazing impact they have.
- That Anglicare staff are blessed, encouraged and greatly assisted by the support of our volunteers each day.

Please pray

- That God will raise up many new volunteers to continue serving alongside Anglicare and in their communities.
- For the wise and careful, ongoing recruitment of new volunteers and good training and orientation programs.
- That new avenues will open up for volunteers, allowing us to serve more people and communities.



DAY 23

Anglicare church partners

Anglicare seeks to work side by side with the local church. By listening to and working in partnership with churches, Anglicare can make a positive difference in the lives of a greater number of people. Likewise, by partnering with Anglicare the church can be better equipped and resourced to take the love of Jesus to their local community.

Give thanks

- That through partnering together, we can better proclaim the love of Jesus.
- For the many stories that highlight that in partnership, Anglicare, churches and schools are better equipped to be Christ's hands and feet in the community.
- For all of our volunteers and the people who generously partner with Anglicare to donate funding, food, clothing and their time.

Please pray

- For more opportunities to creatively and graciously partner with churches and schools and that existing relationships would deepen.
- That our community care projects will be the foundation for other initiatives as churches care for their communities.
- That together, our partnerships bless the mission and ministry of local churches and schools.



DAY 24

Pastoral care courses and workshops

We are made for relationships with God and one another. Knowing what to say and how to be present with people during tough times is vital in caring for others. Anglicare offers pastoral care training for people who want to build strong relationships and be Jesus' hands and feet to the community, effectively and lovingly serving others. Our courses and workshops teach essential skills, from listening well to having hard conversations about loss, based on biblical truths.

Give thanks

- For the personal growth that participants achieve through our courses and workshops.
- That those who eagerly attend the training can walk away with new knowledge and practical skills.
- For the team of educators who train Christians in pastoral care ministry and the opportunities to assist people to love well.

Please pray

- For each participant in the course, that they will learn to use their pastoral care skills and gifts to serve people with the transforming love of Jesus.
- For the team of educators delivering the courses and workshops.
- That those who go through the courses and workshops will help grow the capacity of church communities to care for others through the love of Jesus.

DAY 25

English classes and cross-cultural services

Some students arrive at an Everyday English class having lived through great trauma. They may not have any literacy skills, even in their first language, while others are in Australia to study at university. Some students are here short-term, caring for their grandchildren, while others have lived here for decades but still cannot have an extended conversation in English. What all these people have in common is a desire to improve their English and to feel more connected with others in the community. Most Everyday English volunteers don't have formal qualifications in this area, but they do want to share the love of Jesus, providing opportunities for building friendships, skills and confidence in English.

Give thanks

- That English classes are connecting churches with multicultural communities, providing opportunities for relationship-building and sharing the good news of Jesus with students week by week.
- For the many students who are keenly reading the Bible at home or with others, and for those who have taken a Bible with them when they returned to their home country.

Donate to help those from different cultural backgrounds find the support they need to live their best lives.

Scan the QR code to donate or call 13 26 22.



Please pray

- For the Lord to raise up more volunteers, especially those who are younger and can serve long-term in this ministry.
- That groups will be well promoted, enabling many to join the classes and conversation groups.
- That students will grow in their English knowledge and confidence to speak and read.
- That English class students will hear and understand the good news Jesus brings, be welcomed into church and turn to Christ.



DAY 26

Family life skills

Our Family and Life Skills Education team seeks to work side by side with churches, schools and other organisations to equip people with knowledge and skills to live wisely and live well. They offer evidenced-based courses, workshops and resources to improve family life, relationships, mental health, wellbeing and daily living. They cover the full span of life stages from childhood through to late adulthood.

Give thanks

- For the program's growth and for the scope and flexibility of the team to creatively meet the needs of churches and organisations.
- For good relationships that continue to be built with churches, schools and other community organisations across the Sydney Diocese and beyond.
- For the stories we receive confirming the positive impact our courses and seminars have on the daily lives and wellbeing of people and families.

Please pray

- That the skills and lessons learned will be carried into the everyday lives of people to bring long-term change, through the work of Christ's Spirit.
- For good health and ongoing energy for the whole team.
- That the team will be well prepared for the broad range of people they work with across different socio-economic, geographical, cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds.



Community's Story



This year at Arista, (Anglicare's Affordable Housing in Mount Druitt) Melanie Taylor, Community Chaplain, started "Chaplain Chat".

Residents are invited to join her each week to chat about life's big issues and what the Bible has to say about these issues. The discussion varies each week from a pre-planned topic to faith-based conversation cards that the residents can ask - the floor always being open to any questions they may have.

"I regularly have 5-8 residents come to the group, most

of whom have not had any contact with the church, or any engagement with the Bible since they were children," said Melanie.

"Meeting in the common room means that people pop in and hear the discussion and then decide to join in.

"I really enjoy when people see me around and say they have questions for the next chat, or I get messages like, 'Great chat today, Chaplain'."

Above: Melanie Taylor, Community Chaplain with a group of residents.

DAY 27

Community Care programs

Many churches are aware of deep needs or ways they want to serve Jesus in their communities but don't have the support or resources to do so. Anglicare's Community Care Program provides churches with a way to receive tax-deductible donations for their community projects.

Give thanks

- For churches looking to reach out to their communities through new ideas and projects.
- That Anglicare can support churches through the provision of resources.
- For the nine projects, including two in the Armidale Diocese (Lightning Ridge & Coledale Frontyard Church).

Please pray

- For wisdom for church leaders as they undertake and roll out new initiatives.
- That the new projects launched will allow churches to serve their communities and show the love of Jesus more effectively.
- For lives to be transformed as people encounter the love of God.
- That more new projects will be launched in partnership with churches.



John's Story



John* lives in a remote town with a population of 100 people, eight hours north of Sydney. Desperate for some financial assistance after an injury that stopped him working, he accessed Anglicare's online Food and Financial Assistance. His case worker, Leanne, was able to provide emergency assistance with food and fuel.

During the process of talking with his case worker, it became clear that he was experiencing some depression because of his injury. John was referred to mental health support worker, Donna for support. Visiting John was a long drive for Donna - driving through the bush - and required a packed lunch, as there were no shops nearby.

John said Anglicare helped him survive. Anglicare was his only source of income. He felt heard and the burden of emotional distress was reduced because of the care Donna and Leanne showed.

John now feels well enough to offer support to his own family members who are going through a difficult time.

*Name has been changed to protect identity.

Regional areas

DAY 28

Anglicare is privileged to serve people in regional NSW, including New England North West, the Central West, South Coast and Shoalhaven, encompassing many major regional centres and far-flung remote communities. Our caring staff working in their local region provide a broad range of mental health, counselling, aged care, pastoral care, food and financial support to those who need them.

Give thanks

- For the many opportunities to serve people throughout regional NSW.
- For the capable and enthusiastic team of leaders and staff who care deeply for their community.

Please pray

- That God would raise up faithful Christian staff to serve people across regional NSW and have a positive impact on individuals and communities in need.

- For continued energy, strength and unity as our regional teams are geographically distant from one another and frequently travel hundreds of kilometres.
- That vital aged care, housing, domestic and family violence support services and much-needed food and financial assistance will become firmly established.
- For the recent expansion of Anglicare into Central West NSW, for clear direction, for increased sources and opportunities for funding and skilled Christian staff.



DAY 29

Vital research

Anglicare seeks to love people through wise advocacy using evidence-based research, to be a voice for those who often have no voice. We listen to our clients in order to learn and understand their experience, then amplify what they have to say. This advocacy allows their stories to be heard by media, the wider community as well as our State and Federal Governments.

Give thanks

- For the skills and expertise of our Social Policy and Research Unit (SPRU).
- That our research supports strategic and operational decision-making across the organisation.
- For our partnership with the National Church Life Survey, Diocese of Sydney, Anglicare Australia and university researchers on various projects and the opportunities we have for missional research to inform loving community outreach.

Please pray

- That our research and advocacy will lead to improved services for disadvantaged people and communities.
- For wisdom and strategic thinking under sometimes stressful and tight tender-writing deadlines.
- That Government leaders will have compassionate hearts to better understand the challenges and importance of addressing issues of disadvantage in our community.



DAY 30

The Gospel in the workplace

The Good News of Jesus is at the heart of who we are – and we want to share it with everyone! At Anglicare we strive to equip Christians to grow in their service of the Lord Jesus. We also want to create opportunities for those who don't yet know Jesus to consider Christ for themselves.

Give thanks

- For all our staff who live our Vision, Mission and Values each day.
- That God's love will be shown and shared through Anglicare's work.
- For the ongoing creative opportunities to share Christ-honouring conversations and stories about why we care like Jesus.

Please pray

- For our "Growing Deeper" courses, resources and various growth opportunities that support a deeper understanding of our purpose and the faith journey of staff, clients and residents.
- That people who don't yet know Jesus personally, will encounter him and the hope of the Gospel through our staff and services.



DAY 31

Praying for our staff

Anglicare works across the Sydney, Armidale and Bathurst Diocese, with more than 5,000 staff and over 1,300 volunteers in over 130 locations. Clear and servant-hearted leadership, under God is so important. Your prayers for our staff and leaders are so valuable.

Give thanks

- For all Anglicare's staff and volunteers, for their commitment to work purposefully towards our vision to see Jesus Christ honoured, lives enriched and communities strengthened.
- For our leadership team, who put the gifts and experience God has given them into practice each day.
- For our Board, CEO and Executive, who set our direction and carefully steward Anglicare's resources.

Please pray

- That our staff will thrive in their roles and experience doing the best work of their lives.
- For guidance, wisdom and courage for all our leaders.
- That we will continue to put the people we serve at the heart of what we do and together walk side by side.
- For God to provide gifted Christian women and men to join us and help carry out our mission - serving people in need, enriching lives, and sharing the love of Jesus.

Notes

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