



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Burwood

Welcome to worship

Sunday 15th of December 2024

Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday

- 8.00am Said Eucharist with hymns
- 10.00am Choral Eucharist with St Paul's Choir
- 5.00pm Carol Service
- 10.30am Midweek Communion in the Chapel of Our Lord's Passion on Wednesdays
- 5.30pm The Office of Evening Prayer every Friday
- 6.00pm Holy Communion every Friday

WELCOME TO ST PAUL'S. We are glad that you have come to worship God with us today. If you are a visitor from another parish, or worshipping with us for the first time, please introduce yourself to our Rector, Fr James Collins or to anyone wearing a name badge.

IMPORTANT DATES

- ≈ **Today, Sunday 15th December at 5pm - Carol Service**
- ≈ **Tuesday 24th Dec at 9.30pm - Christmas Eve Choral Eucharist**
- ≈ **Wednesday 25th Dec at 9.00am - Christmas Day Eucharist**



Bible Readings at today's Eucharist

Zephaniah 3.14-20
 A Song of Isaiah
 APBA p.391
 Philippians 4.4-7
 Luke 3.7-18

Year C

The First Reading
The Psalm
The Epistle
The Gospel

Bible Readings for next Sunday

Micah 5.2-5a
 A Song of Mary
 APBA p.31 or p. 425
 Hebrews 10.5-10
 Luke 1.39-45 (46-55)

Acknowledgement of the Wangal people of the Eora Nation

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land upon which we meet, the Wangal People of the Eora Nation, and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging; and we pray that God will unite us all in the knowledge of his Son, in whom all things were created, in heaven and on earth.

We are glad that you have found us!

We affirm that through God's redeeming love for all, we are one in Christ. We respect the inherent and valuable contributions each member makes to the Body of Christ. We celebrate our diversity and recognize the sacred worth and dignity of all persons of any age, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race, ethnic origin, economic reality, family status, sexual orientation, diverse ability, or social status. We believe that through Christ we are being included and welcomed by God and one another. As we journey towards inclusion, we proclaim this welcome to all God's people, especially to those who have known the pain of exclusion and discrimination within the church, affirming that no one is excluded or condemned. We invite all persons to journey with us as we discover the call of God on our lives through the ministries of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Burwood. To that end, St. Paul's Anglican Church commits to the welcome and inclusion of all persons as children of God and declares itself to be a welcoming community of faith.

News from St Paul's ...



Trading Table



The Trading Table takings on Sunday was \$89.90.

We look forward to serving you with our butters, chutneys/pickles and marmalades.

Books \$2 each, near new \$3

DVD's \$1 & CD's available at \$1 each

We also have several pairs white Platform Six brand sports shoes available for \$10 a pair. Sizes 41,42,44, 46. Come and check them out!

Thank you for your support.

Pam Brock

Christmas Raffle

Tickets are now available for \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

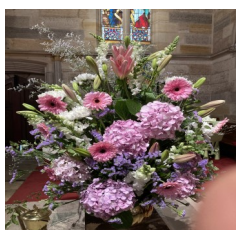
It will be drawn today after the Carol service.

Parish Prayer List

At St Paul's, we pray by name for people who have either asked for our prayers or for whom someone else has made a request. This list is updated every 3 months or when we receive a new request. Some names are on our list on a long-term basis while others reflect a more immediate need and are short term.

We will only be reading the names on the short-term list in the services but the whole list will still be included in the printed prayers for parishioners to use throughout the week. The full list of names will be read in our midweek service.

Names can be added to or removed from the lists at any time.



Flowers as a Memorial

Decorating our church with flowers is one way to remember a loved one or in thanksgiving for a special event. If you would like to give flowers in memory of a loved one, or as an offering of thanksgiving please contact Judith Laurence the week prior to the date at: judealaurance@gmail.com or on 0438041726 and contact Caroline in the parish office at: office@stpaulsbuwood.org.au to arrange the wording of the memorial notice in the pew bulletin.

Morning Tea Donations

The Credit Card Machine which was in the kitchen is no longer available. Please bring coins as a donation for morning tea.

Torches are available for sale

St Paul's torches are available again at \$3 each or 2 for \$5.



Name Badges

Don't forget to wear your name badge so that new comers can get to know you.

If you are a new parishioner and need a name badge, please fill out the form at the back of the church. Thank you.

The Advent Book Discussion Group on Zoom: The First Christmas

Advent Discussion Book: The First Christmas, What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus's Birth by Borg and Crossan. The authors show how history has biased our reading of the nativity story as it appears in the Gospels of Matthew or Luke. They ask 'What do these stories mean from the perspective of the 1st and 21st centuries?' They show that the Christmas story, read in its original context is far richer and more challenging than people imagine.

The Zoom meeting is now on each Tuesday night at 7pm until the 17th December when will have a break for 3 weeks. We will resume meetings on Tuesday 14th January. The zoom sessions will take around 1 hour.

Leading the group: Natalie McDonald

Obtaining the book: The book is available from [Amazon](#) or download it on Kindle. Delivery may take time so don't delay.

For further Information: Contact Phillip Seale, Mob: 0405 198420, Email: phillip@pscontracting.com.au

Polishing brass and Communion vessels, dusting, cleaning, and gardening

We will have a busy bee at the Church on Saturday the 21st of December at 10.00a.m.

Please come along and help to make St. Paul's look beautiful for Christmas.

Please bring some soft rags with you.

Thank you.

Christmas/ January Services times

Our Christmas Eve Service ('Midnight Mass') will be on Tuesday 24th of December at 9.30 p.m. and our Christmas Day Service will be on Wednesday 25th of December at 9.00 a.m.



After Christmas there will be just the one Service on Sundays in January at 9.00 a.m. with refreshments available after the Service. This will be the pattern until the Choir returns on Sunday 26th of January when we will revert to our 8.00 a.m. Said Eucharist and the Choral Eucharist to start at 10:00am in lieu of 9.30am.

There will be NO Wednesday Services or Friday Services until Wednesday 29th of January 2025 and Friday 31st of January 2025 when the services will be resumed.



Congratulations to the newly weds!

Today at 10am Service, Fr Michael Deasey will be officiating at the wedding of Emerson Alexis Delgado Mólina and Maria Fernanda Cañizales Sequeda.

We pray God's blessing upon Emerson and Maria and we wish them a happy and joyful life together.

Quote for the week...

"In the silence of a midwinter dusk, there is a sound so faint that for all you can tell it may be only the sound of the silence itself. You hold your breath to listen. You are aware of the beating of your heart. The extraordinary thing that is about to happen is matched only by the extraordinary moment just before it happens. Advent is the name of that moment."

- Frederick Buechner (1926-2022)

An American author, Presbyterian minister, preacher, and theologian.

Christmas and the pantry throughout 2024

We have been overwhelmed with peoples' generosity this Christmas. What started out as looking like a lean and very sparse Christmas has turned out very well. This is all thanks to you. We want to thank everyone who helped from the little tiny tots from Woodstock Childcare Centre who walked over with their gifts, Zaina, Athy and Lorena from Blooms Pharmacy in the Plaza, also Woolworths in the Plaza and also in Westfields. Jason Yat Sen Li and his team of volunteers, Strathfield Professional Women's Assoc., gifts from the Mayor's Christmas Appeal, The Chapel, CP10 and Burwood Baptist Community church, Burwood RSL the VIEW club, the Library and the Brighton. Thank you too to the Community members, all the Pantry volunteers and of course to all our parishioners.

We wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a blessed New Year 2025

Close: Thursday 19th December

Reopen: Tuesday 7th January

The Season of Advent and Christmas Day 2024 - By Barry Brandy

And the Angels said to the shepherds “Look I bring you good news of a great joy, a joy to be shared by all people” - Luke 21-10

All through this season my mind has been upon St Pauls Church Burwood. A church that I have always referred to as the majestic house of God, militant upon the earth and triumphant in Heaven.

Here at St Paul’s, we have been preparing for this day through the season of Advent. We have focused our attention each Sunday on the Advent wreath which you see on the top step of the Chancel. On each of the four Sundays of advent, we light a candle as a symbol of our preparation.

The first candle we light as a symbol of ourselves and all Christian people in the world, waiting expectantly for the coming of Christ, when he shall come again to judge us.

The second candle we light for the prophets of the Old Testament who spoke to us on the coming of Christ in the world.

The third candle we light for John the Baptist, who in his short ministry announced the appearance of Christ the saviour of the world “Behold the lamb of God” he said of Jesus.

Today we will light another candle for Mary, who as a maiden bore the Christ child and nurtured him in an inn in Bethlehem. This time it will be a tall white candle in the centre of the wreath.

A fifth candle will be in honour of Jesus Christ whose birth we celebrate today.

The last verse of an advent carol says “and Christ is in the centre for this is his birthday. With the shining lights of Christmas singing, he has come today.”

This day, 25th of December, the Christian church has devised for the birthday of Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, the saviour of the world.

In 355 AD we took over the old Roman feast of Saturnalia and Christianised it. Whereas the Romans celebrated demise of Winter season and the advent of the new sun with all its regeneration of warmth and turning of life in creation, the Christian Church said to the world, we now worship not the son of creation but the birth of the son of God, the saviour and redeemer of the world, and the hope that Christ brings to all people of the world.

For many people in the world today, this will not be a happy Christmas. I remind you of all the women and children who have been abused and some have resulted

in death. People who find the circumstances of their life cause great pain and grief, unhappiness, and a sense of hopelessness. In case we think life is better in other parts of the world, think of all the countries savaged by war, civil war, poverty, hunger, and children in captivity.

What do we expect from the heart of Christians? I suggest we should grasp the message of hope that Christmas brings. Today, start with your family, your neighbours and your friends and this society in which we live and let that extend to those countries that are suffering.

We will light a fifth candle in the wreath this time for Jesus Christ who has come to give light to the world.

Come to St Paul's on the 25th of December to worship him, the Saviour of the world.

Advent
A Poem by *Jessica Powers*

I live my Advent in the womb of Mary
And on one night when a great star swings free
From its high mooring and walks down the sky
To be the dot above the Christus i,
I shall be born of her by blessed grace.
I wait in Mary-darkness, faith's walled place,
With hope's expectance of nativity.
I knew for long she carried me and fed me,
Guarded and loved me, though I could not see,
But only now, with inward jubilee,
I come upon earth's most amazing knowledge:
Someone is hidden in this dark with me.



A Prayer for Peace In the Middle East

O God of peace, you have established Jerusalem as the Lord's House and a place of peace, and you have called on all who live there to love you and prosper. Instill in her inhabitants - Jews, Christians and Muslims - a hunger for justice and dignity and a resolve to end the distrust that culminates in violence.



St Paul's Church Archive Search

The archives at St Paul's are very comprehensive and we are regularly asked for baptism, wedding and funeral searches. This can be very time consuming.

We have decided to have a search fee for this information. It will be \$50 per simple search and \$100 per complex search. The fees will include a copy of documents if available.

Used Stamps

We collect used stamps for Anglican Board of Mission. These are a good source of fund raising for ABM.

Please leave a 2cm margin around them if possible.

Pew
Reflections
REFLECTIONS
BGM

Advent 3 C – Sunday 15 December 2024

Zephaniah 3.14-20; *A Song of Isaiah* (APBA p. 391); Philip-
pians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18

Although prophets often have words of judgement or even condemnation, they also reassure by reminding us of God's overall purposes of love and goodness. Those who have unjustly suffered rejection or disaster will be restored. Past wrongs will be set to right, and we can again rejoice.

~ We pray that God's love and goodness may once again be known to those who have unjustly suffered.

~ Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy

Text: Brother Christopher John SSF © Anglican Board of Mission, 2024

ABM Anglican Board of Mission - Australia
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

***For General & Offertory Donations**

**Please use the following account
details:**

**Account Name: St Pauls Anglican
Church**

**BSB: 032 062
Account #: 250028**

***For Parish Pantry & For Community Choir Donations**

**Please use this account
details:**

**Account Name: Parish Pantry
BSB: 032 062
Account #: 812238**

Please clearly mark whether it is for the
Parish Pantry or the Community Choir.

Donations and Bequests

"I bequeath the sum of \$ to the Rector
and Wardens of the Anglican parish of
St Paul's Burwood, to be used at their
absolute discretion for the charitable or
other beneficial purposes of the parish."

Wills

Mark Squire (an 8:00am service
parishioner) is a solicitor experienced in
drafting Wills. While he does not wish to
have any commercial association with the
church and/or its members, he has made an
offer to assist, at no cost, senior
parishioners and community members who
wish to make donations to the parish in their
Wills. Mark can be contacted on
msquire@vindenlawyers.com.au or
0416022150 by anyone in this category who
wishes to pursue the matter. Mark is
concerned to ensure that any senior who
wants to help our wonderful parish this way
is not deterred by the potential cost of so
doing.

Offertory -

Collection given at St Paul's and other
donations:

5th December 2024 – 12th December 2024

≈ Offertory:	\$ 3,364.68
≈ Parish Pantry:	\$ 535.00
≈ Consort 8 Donation:	\$ 800.00

TOTAL OF GIVING: \$ 4,699.68

Thank you for responding to God's
generous love.



Donations with Tax Deductibility - National Trust Account

If you would like to make a donation to the
Parish for the upkeep and maintenance of the
Heritage building it can be done through the
National Trust.

Cheques can be made out to:

National Trust of Australia (NSW) St Paul's
Anglican Church Burwood

Or

Direct Credit to the above name with bank
account details: Westpac

BSB: 032-044

Account number: 742 926

Branch: 275 George Street Sydney NSW

Please contact Pam for more details or place a
donation in an envelope and label with Na-
tional Trust donation and include your name
for your receipt and an address to post it to.
Thank you.

INTERCESSIONS

Sunday 15th December - Third Sunday of Advent

[PRESIDER] O God, for whom we wait and long, we bring to you our prayers for your world and for your church.

Promise of righteousness, come.

Feed the hungry, shelter the homeless and hear the cries of all who plead for justice.

Come, O God for whom we wait, and in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Promise of freedom, come.

Bring good news of release to the oppressed, free those in chains of misery and despair.

Come, O God for whom we wait, and in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Promise of peace, come.

Heal ancient feuds and hatreds and deliver your people from the horrors of war.

Come, O God for whom we wait, and in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Promise of forgiveness, come.

Look with mercy on our wrongdoings and help us to turn from our evil ways.

Come, O God for whom we wait, and in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Promise of love, come.

Hold in your tender embrace all who are lonely, friendless, forgotten, rejected.

Come, O God for whom we wait, and in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Promise of hope, come.

Let us see that the time of your coming is near and keep us watchful for your return.

Come, O God for whom we wait, and in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Promise of comfort, come.

Bring the balm of your presence to all who know pain, sickness, anguish, sorrow, or grief. We name before you those for whom we have been asked to pray: Belinda, Pam Brock, James Budin, Florence, David, Merle Gorman, Graham Griffiths, Gwen Hackett, Lily, Clyde Livingstone, Yolande Phillips, Pam Priest, Fr Ron Silarsah, Tammy, King Charles, Catherine, Princess of Wales, Joyce

Bannister, Barry Brandy, Dale Berry, John Burns, Betty Daniels, Deb Edmeades, Debbie, Elsie Dunnam, Kerryanne Graham, Malcolm Green, Barbara Hawkins, Karen, Enid Kell, Terry Kelly, Helen Kingsley, Terry and Betsy McKay, Melissa Moore, Sally Palmer, Winnie Pang, Michelle Phillips, Robert, John Sorensen, Peter Sorensen, Sylvia, Anne Wardle, Bill Whittle, Bob Woods, others known to us and those who have no one to pray for them.

Come, O God for whom we wait, and in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Promise of glory, come.


Draw your saints, in this world and the next, into the light of your eternal presence, as we remember those whose year's mind occurs at this time: Alison Powell, Joan Coucher, Yvonne Prince, Colin Frakes, Clement Laurence, George Harvey, Raymond Poulton and Morna Stopani.

Come, O God for whom we wait, and in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

PAUSE FOR SILENT PRAYER

[PRESIDER] Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



**A
PRAYER
FOR
ADVENT**

ADVENT 3 PRAYER

O God, As we faithfully await the birth of your son, Jesus, Let us be glad and rejoice. In our families and our schools and in our lives, Help us to share the joy of Christ's love with others. Amen.

The Week Ahead...

The midweek communion is held at the Chapel of Our Lord's Passion every Wednesday at 10.30am.

Commemorations noted in the Lectionary this week

≈ Saturday 21st December - Thomas, Apostle and Martyr

CONTACT US

St PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH



Rector Fr James Collins OAM
rector@stpaulsburwood.org.au

Senior Assistant Priest Fr Michael Deasey OAM

Honorary Priests Fr Mark Battison
Fr Jim Pettigrew

Lay Minister Ms Rosemary King

Director of Music Mr David Russell

Parish Organist Mr Bailey Yeates

Lay Assistant Ms Natalie McDonald

Sacristan Mr Brian Luhr OAM OGS

Rector's Warden Dr Jane Carrick – 0418 399 664

Peoples' Wardens Mrs Pam Brock OAM - 9747 3619
Mrs Elizabeth Griffiths - 8033 3113

Captain of the Bell Tower Mrs Pam Brock OAM

Office Secretary Mrs Caroline Badra (9.30am –2.30pm Tues- Frid)
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