



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Burwood

Welcome to worship

Sunday 22nd of December 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8.00am Said Eucharist with hymns
- 10.00am Choral Eucharist with St Paul's Choir
- 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

- ~ **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

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

Year C

The First Reading
The Psalm

The Epistle
The Gospel

Bible Readings for next Sunday

1 Samuel 2.18-20,26
 Ps 148

 Colossians 3.12-17
 Luke 2.41-52

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 \$110.00.

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

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:

judealaurence@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 break and 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

Parish Pantry is now closed

Parish Pantry would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a blessed New Year 2025! We will reopen on Tuesday 7th January 2025. Thank you for all your support throughout 2024!

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.



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH Burwood

The Wardens Appeal

December 2024

Dear Parishioners,

The Wardens wish to take this opportunity to thank you sincerely for your generous giving during 2024.

As you may be aware, representatives of the Diocese will examine our financial records to determine if our offertories and fundraising are enough to support a priest before giving us the right to choose a rector to follow Fr James. We are happy to inform you that we have done well in this regard in 2024, raising the amount required. Of course, we will need to do the same next year and in 2026.

Unfortunately, we have not received quite enough income from all sources to pay all our expenses and make a surplus before the end of the year. This, in spite of leasing the upper floor of the hall to a dance school at a very good rent. We have also been careful with all expenditure and looked for ways, such as government grants and other fundraising, to increase our income. Just recently, we have suffered an unexpected setback because the dividing fence between our hall and our neighbours in St Paul's Close has collapsed and must be replaced as soon as possible.

The Wardens, therefore, must ask those of you who are able, to consider contributing extra money in the weeks left this year. Even a little extra each week or a one-off general donation would be very helpful in achieving a small surplus or at least breaking even before 31st December. Donations can be placed in the collection bags during any service or paid directly into our bank o

Acc. Name:	St Paul's Anglican Church
BSB:	032-062
Acc.:	250 028

Thank you for your continued support of all our wonderful ministries at St Paul's.

With best wishes for blessings at Christmas and for a Happy New Year.

Your Wardens,

Jane, Pam and Elizabeth

Congratulations to the newly weds Emerson and Maria!

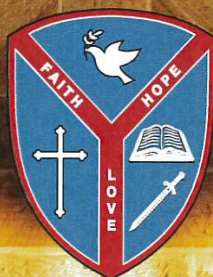
Last Sunday 15th of December, Fr Michael officiated at the wedding of Emerson and Maria at the 10am Service followed by a morning reception in the hall.

Maria and Emerson wading down the aisle



Maria and Emerson morning reception in the hall





CHRISTMAS @ ST PAUL'S 2024

CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday 24 December
9:30pm Choral Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday 25 December
9:00am Choral Eucharist

Fr James Collins OAM
Rector

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 is 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 4 C – Sunday 22 December 2024

Micah 5.2-5a; *The Song of Zechariah* (APBA p. 31); Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.29-45 [46-55]

Micah speaks of the paradox of Bethlehem, one of the least, being the birthplace of a great one who will rule over Israel. Those who knew only the insignificance of Bethlehem but who had forgotten this prophecy would criticise Jesus for his origins. The paradox remains for us, that out of smallness can come greatness.

~ We pray that our senses are open to see God's greatness even in the small and seemingly insignificant.

~ Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Melanesia.

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:

13th December 2024 – 18th December 2024

≈ Offertory: \$4,284.52
≈ Parish Pantry: \$ 565.00
≈ Wardens Appeal: \$11,000.00

TOTAL OF GIVING: \$15,849.52

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 22nd December - Fourth Sunday of Advent

[CELEBRANT] As Mary prepared for the birth of her son Jesus, let us lift up your Church and the world in prayer, as we prepare for his coming.

Imbue with your grace your church universal, especially the world-wide Anglican communion and all in authority. We remember before you The Church of the Province of Uganda, its clergy and people and pray for an increase in women and men offering for Holy Orders throughout the world. Bless Fr James and the ministry team of our parish, our servers, musicians and bellringers as they prepare for our Christmas worship. We remember the churches of the Middle East, especially in Jerusalem and Bethlehem, may they be free to celebrate the birth of your Son in peace.

Come, O Jesus: **Come, O Lord.**

You chose Mary to be the mother of our Lord: we give thanks for her humility and pray that you will give us grace to follow her example of trust and obedience.

Come, O Jesus: **Come, O Lord.**

Earthly peace eludes your people. Move through our broken world with your spirit of peace and concord and bring the peace that so many crave. Give world leaders a greater resolve to establish cease-fires in all areas of conflict and provide humanitarian assistance.

Come, O Jesus: **Come, O Lord.**

Your love for us is boundless, but we fail to ensure that all people share your gifts equitably. Help us to do all we can in our own community to address this. We give thanks for the work of our Parish Pantry volunteers and pray for those who come for assistance. Bless those who are homeless, remembering that our Lord and his family, also had no place to stay and were forced to flee as refugees. Make us compassionate and generous

Come, O Jesus: **Come, O Lord.**

Bless all who are in need at this time: the lonely, the homeless, those who mourn, the sick and those nearing the end of their earthly life. Bring your healing power to those for whom we have been asked to pray and all who care for them: Monsignor Kerry Bayada, 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, Syd Farrow, Sylvia, Anne Wardle, Bill Whittle, Bob Woods, others known to us and those who have no one to pray for them. May they know your love in their lives.

Come, O Jesus: **Come, O Lord.**

We give you thanks for your faithful people of every age in whom you have been pleased to dwell, the recently departed and those who have their year's mind at this time; Karina Venteman, Rosina Raisbeck, Harry Salisbury, Audrey Darke, Trevor Curtis, Ivia Walker and others known to us. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon them.

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 4 PRAYER

Forgive us and renew us, gracious Savior. God has reached into the darkness of our lives to give us hope for living a new life. Accept the gift of God's grace today and be transformed. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

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

- ≈ Wednesday 25th December - The Birth of Our Lord
- ≈ Thursday 26th December - Stephen, Deacon and First Martyr
- ≈ Friday 27th December - John, Apostle and Evangelist
- ≈ Saturday 28th December - Holy Innocents

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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