

ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH Burwood

ADVENT SUNDAY

Sunday 30 November 2025

8:00AM SAID EUCHARIST

Welcome to St Paul's

We warmly welcome you and are glad that you have come to worship God with us today on the First Sunday in Advent.

Whether you are visiting for a short while, have moved here and are joining our Parish, or are returning to your faith, I welcome you to St Paul's Anglican Church, Burwood.

This historic church, dedicated to St Paul the Apostle & Martyr, was designed by the Australian colonial architect Edmund Blacket. It had its foundation stone laid on 29 July 1871 and the first service was held in the church on Saturday 27 April 1872. Since its earliest days St Paul's has maintained a fine reputation for liturgy and music in the Tractarian tradition.

We are very glad that you are here and we look forward to getting to know you. Refreshments (tea/coffee), when served, are available in the Parish Hall immediately following the service. The hall can be found by turning left when leaving the church.

May God richly bless you!

Peace,
Fr James Collins OAM
Rector

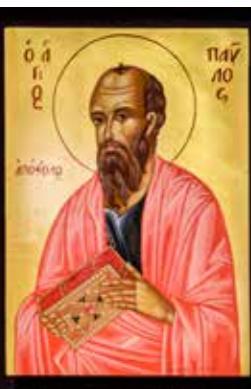
Please take this order of service home.



Are you a new parishioner or do you need to update your details?

Use this QR code to update your details in our parish database and ensure you are kept up-to-date with everything going on at St Paul's Burwood.

Alternatively, you can contact the parish office by phone: (02) 9747 4327 or email: info@stpaulsburwood.org.au



The texts and prayers are taken from *A Prayer Book for Australia* © 1995, The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation.

Hymn texts are taken from *The New English Hymnal* © 1996, The English Hymnal Company Ltd.

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Cover Photo (detail) Photography by Desmond Chu.

Icon (left): Icon of St Paul in the Chapel of Our Lady.

ADVENT SUNDAY WREATH LITURGY

The Advent wreath in the church is a traditional way of counting down to Christmas. It has 3 purple candles, one rose pink and a white candle in the centre to remind us of Jesus, the light of the world. We use purple because it is the colour of penitence and forgiveness but it is also the colour of royalty in this season of waiting for the coming of the King. The Advent wreath is always a circle to represent God's unending love for us and is made of evergreen leaves to represent eternal life. The rose pink candle is a blending of the white of the joy to come at Christmas and the purple (in some traditions, red) of the other candles.

This year, as we prepare to celebrate the coming of our Lord, we acknowledge that many parts of our world are at war, that the innocent suffer and the leaders of the nations seem helpless to bring about peace. In response to this we will include a prayer for peace in our Advent Wreath Liturgy each week.

Please STAND as the bell is rung and the sanctuary party processes to the chancel.

Greeting

The priest greets the congregation.

✠ Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The priest continues with the opening sentence:

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.

Let us pray:

Almighty God,

**to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:**

cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,

**that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing of the Wreath

As we journey towards the celebration of our Lord's birth, this advent wreath reminds us of God's unending love for us and the promise of eternal life when Christ comes again in glory.

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ. He is Emmanuel, the hope of all peoples; he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us; he is the Saviour of every nation.

O God, let your blessing come upon our community gathered here before you. Bless us ⁺ and this our advent wreath. May the light that shines forth from it illumine our way as we journey towards Christmas; may the light that shines forth from it illumine our lives as we wait in hope for the birth of the Christ-child. We ask this through Christ who is the Light of the World.

Amen.

Today we light the candle of Hope and listen to the voice of the one who brings hope into our darkened world.

Loving God, we are people of hope. Help us to hear your gentle call to us during the busy preparations for Christmas. As we open our hearts to you may we also make room for others so that they too can know the hope you bring. Amen.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, ruler of all, in whose kingdom peace and righteousness abound; have mercy on our broken and divided world, especially on the people of Israel and Palestine, Ukraine and Russia and other areas of conflict. Shed abroad your peace in the hearts of all people and banish from them the spirit that makes for war, that all may live in peace according to your laws, through him for whom we wait, the Prince of peace. **Amen.**

Kyrie

The congregation repeats each petition after the priest.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Collect

The priest says the collect of the day.

Faithful God, whose promises stand unshaken through all generations: renew us in hope, that we may be awake and alert watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our Judge and Saviour, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Please SIT for the readings and psalm.

First Reading: Isaiah 2.1–5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the

highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 122

The verses are said alternately between the reader and the congregation. Please observe a short break at the colon in the middle of each verse.

- 1 I was glad when they said to me: (pause)
'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'
- 2 And now our feet are standing: (pause)
within your gates, O Jerusalem;
- 3 Jerusalem which is built as a city: (pause)
where the pilgrims gather in unity.
- 4 There the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord: (pause)
as he commanded Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
- 5 There are set thrones of judgement: (pause)
the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: (pause)
may those who love you prosper.
- 7 Peace be within your walls: (pause)
and prosperity in your palaces.
- 8 For the sake of my kindred and companions: (pause)
I will pray that peace be with you.
- 9 For the sake of the house of the Lord our God: (pause)
I will seek for your good.

Second Reading: Romans 13.9–14

The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you

to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please STAND for the gradual hymn.

Gradual Hymn

FRANCONIA SM

W. H. Havergal (1793-1870)

- 1 The advent of our God
With eager prayers we greet,
And singing haste upon the road
His glorious gift to meet.
- 2 The everlasting Son
Scorns not the Virgin's womb,
That we from bondage may be won
He bears a bondsman's doom.
- 3 Daughter of Sion, rise
To meet thy lowly King;
Let not thy stubborn heart despise
The peace he comes to bring.

Remain standing for the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

*Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.*

Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

✠ A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 24.36-44

'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

For the Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Ms Natalie McDonald

Lay Assistant

Please STAND for the Creed.

Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, ✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please KNEEL for the prayers.

Prayers of the Faithful

The following response is used:

Come O Jesus: Come O Lord.

At the end of the prayers, the following is recited:

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 selection of Scripture sentences may be used, concluding with the Prayer of Approach:

We do not presume
to come to your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.

But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that we may evermore dwell in him
and he in us. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

The priest introduces the confession.

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart.

(Silence may be kept)

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.

Father, forgive us.

Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The priest pronounces the Absolution.

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:

✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins,

strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The greeting of peace is exchanged through a silent bow towards those seated around you.

Please remain standing to sing the offertory hymn.

An offertory is taken for the work of the parish. This can be done in cash via the collection plate, direct debit using the details on page 15 or by scanning the QR code to make your offering directly from your mobile phone.

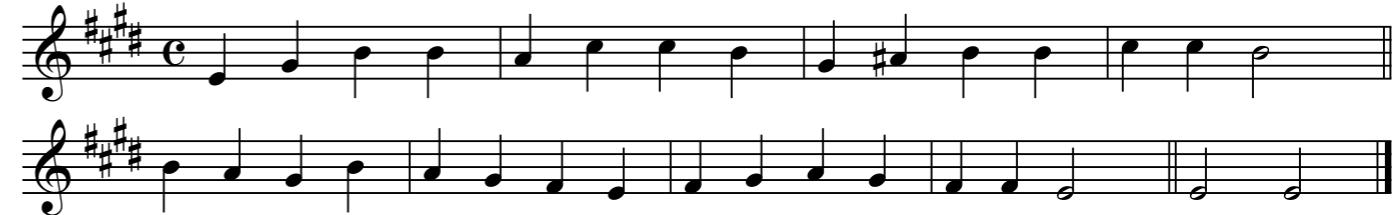
There is also a donation point at the West Door where you can tap your card.



Offertory Hymn

MERTON 87 87

W.H. Monk (1823-89)



1 Hark! a herald voice is calling:
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!'

2 Startled at the solemn warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

3 Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heaven;
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all to be forgiven;

4 So when next he comes in glory,
And earth's final hour draws near,
May he then as our defender
On the clouds of heaven appear.

5 Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
To the Father and the Son,
With the co-eternal Spirit,
While unending ages run. Amen.

The Preparation

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The priest continues with the Prayer of Thanksgiving.

Sanctus & Benedictus

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

✠ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel. The priest continues with the Prayer of Consecration.

Memorial Acclamation

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: *or* Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

✠ Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of
the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

✠ Blessing and honour and glory and power,
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever,
Amen.

The breaking of the bread

The priest breaks the bread and says the following:

[We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.]
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

Agnus Dei

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Invitation to Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word
and I shall be healed.**

Communion

Communion is distributed along the full length of the communion rail.

Please form a single line on the Organ side of the nave and return on the Pulpit side.

At the end of the distribution of communion, all STAND for the post-communion prayer.

Post-Communion Prayer

The priest says the following seasonal prayer:

God for whom we wait, we thank you that you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. As we joyfully await your Son, keep us ever watchful that we may be ready to stand before him on the day of his coming.

**Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

Blessing

The priest says this seasonal Blessing:

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

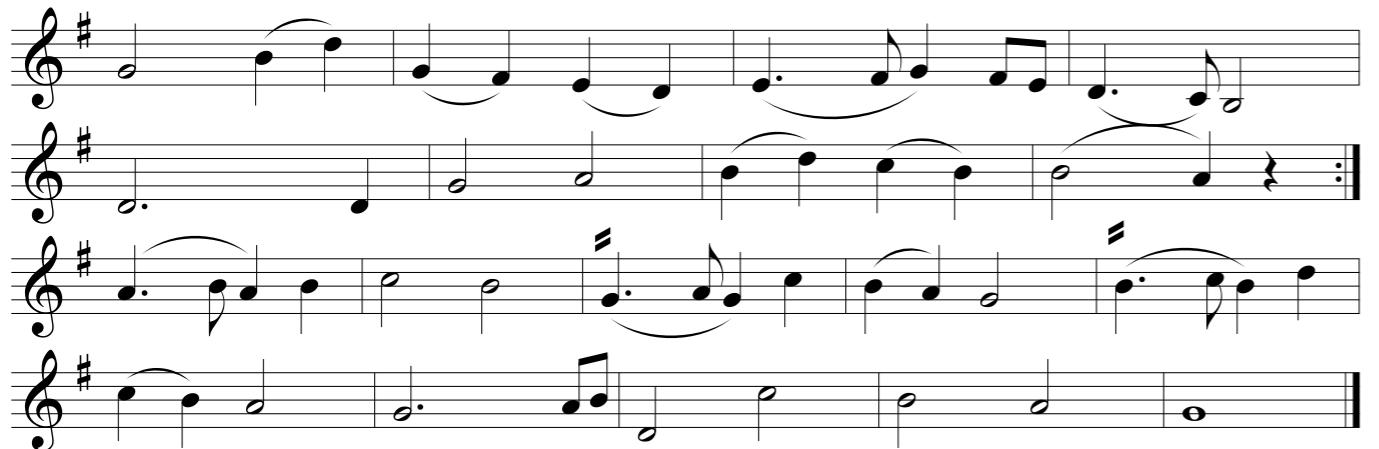
✠ In the name of Christ, Amen.

Remain standing for the final hymn.

Final Hymn

HELMLEY 87 87 47

Melody noted by T. Olivers (1725-99)
Included in Wesley's Select Hymns 1765



1 Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending,
Swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluya!
God appears, on earth to reign.

2 Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing
Shall the true Messiah see.

3 Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers:
With what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

4 Yea, Amen! let all adore thee,
High on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory:
Claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly!
Alleluya! Come, Lord, come!

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Please sit for the notices.

Postlude

Trio on the Chorale *Vom himmel hoch*

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

To maintain the prayerfulness of the liturgy, it is requested that there be no applause at the end of the organ postlude. Please be mindful of those who wish to stay, listen or pray.



Next Week's Readings

Sunday 7 December – Second Sunday in Advent

OT: Isaiah 11.1–10

NT: Romans 15.4–13

Psalm: 72.1–7, 18–21

Gospel: Matthew 3.1–12

Parish Notices

A message from the Rector

I wish to advise that my last Service in the Parish will be on Easter Day – **5 April 2026**. I feel this is a good time to conclude my up-front ministry in the Parish as we celebrate Christ's resurrection and the hope that this brings.

There will be an official farewell on the evening on **Friday 17 April**.

As has been confirmed with Bishop Michael Stead, Fr Mark will become Locum Tenens after Easter and Acting Rector from 1 November (after my official retirement on 31 October).

I pray that the interregnum will be short and that a suitable Priest will be found who will love everyone wholeheartedly and honour our beautiful Tractarian tradition here at St Paul's.

Our Organist

Bailey Yeates, has been appointed as the Organ Scholar at St James' Church King Street and will be leaving his position as our Parish Organist on the Feast of the Conversion of Paul (Sunday 25 January 2026). A farewell will be held in the parish hall following the Choral Eucharist on this day.

Advent Lunch

Limited tickets are still available for the Advent Lunch on **Sunday 7 December** at 12 noon. Cost: \$35 for Adults and \$10 for children under 14. See Pam Brock.

Evensong at St Andrew's Cathedral

The Choir of St Paul's has been invited to sing Choral Evensong at St Andrew's Cathedral on **Thursday 11 December** at 5:15pm. All are welcome to attend this service.

Friday Services

Evening Prayer and Holy Communion will take place every Friday in Advent, beginning at 5:40pm. Please enter through the Belltower porch.

Summer Service Schedule

Wednesday Mid-week Eucharist: The final mid-week Eucharist for the year will be on Wednesday 24 December and will resume on Wednesday 4 February 2026.

Friday Services: The final Friday Evening Prayer & Holy Communion for the year will be on Friday 19 December and will resume on Friday 30 January 2026.

Sunday Services: From Christmas Day until Sunday 18 January 2026 (inclusive), there will be one combined Sunday service at 9:00am, followed by refreshments in the hall.

The regular schedule of 8:00am and 10:00am will resume on **Sunday 25 January 2026** when we will celebrate the Feast of the Conversion of Paul.

Parish Prayer List

In the Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for the Anglican Church of Australia.

In our Parish cycle of prayer we give thanks for all who seek reconciliation with God through the sacraments of the Church.

We bring before God those in our community who need the reassurance of your loving care for them. We pray particularly for:

Barry Brandy, Leonie Cable, Tiffany Cheng, Deb Edmeades, Dela Gibson, Elaine Gow, John, Kate, Elizabeth Morris, Pam Priest, Geoff Riccord, Sam, Elizabeth Scott, Ajun and Paul Sibun, Steve, Bob Woods, Joyce Bannister, Belinda, Dale Berry, John Burns, Betty Daniels, Debbie, Elsie Dunnam, Margery and Peter Foss, Merle Gorman, Malcolm Green, Jean Greenwood, Gwen Hackett, Meg Harley, Alec Harris, Barbara Hawkins, Christine Johnson, Terry Kelly, Helen Kingsley, Larry Howley, Clyde Livingstone, Terry and Betsy McKay, Melissa Moore, Sally Palmer, Winnie Pang, Yolande Phillips, Michelle Phillips, Mark Roberts, Peter Sorensen, Barbara Stone, Sylvia, Anne Wardle, David Wheatley, Bill Whittle, and others known to us.

We pray for their carers, medical staff and families.

We give thanks for the lives of the recently departed and those whose year's mind occurs at this time:

Alan Sample, Silvio Demilio, Cecil Stephens, Peter Walter, David Raines, Ernest Whittaker, Desmond Jackson, Doug Moran, Dorothy McKenzie, Elsie Miller, Elena Di Liovanni and Tony Schoer.

✠ May they rest in peace and rise with Christ in glory.



Offertory

Budget to end of October: \$191,400 – Receipts: \$158,717
Collection and other donations

Offertory: \$2,927.68

Parish Pantry: \$515.00

Wardens Appeal: \$17,500.00
TOTAL GIVING: \$20,942.68

Support us @ St Paul's



Use this QR code to make a payment via PayPal directly from your mobile phone.

General Offertory / Donation Account

Account Name: St Paul's Anglican Church
BSB: 032-062 Acc: 818 285

Parish Pantry Account

Account Name: Parish Pantry
BSB: 032-062 Acc: 812 238

National Trust Account

Account Name: National Trust of Australia (NSW) St Paul's Anglican Church Burwood
BSB: 032-044 Acc: 742 926
donations over \$2 are tax-deductible

Donations & 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 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. Mark can be contacted via the parish office – (02) 9747 4327

JOIN US @ ST PAUL'S

HOLY COMMUNION

Sundays throughout the year:

8:00am Said Eucharist – *with hymns*

10:00am Choral Eucharist – *with the Choir of St Paul's*

Wednesdays:

10:30am Eucharist

Fridays: *last Friday of the month*

5:40pm Evening Prayer

6:00pm Eucharist

Seasonal Services:

6:00pm Choral Eucharist – *with the Choir of St Paul's*

Special services are held during the year to mark Feast Days and other days of seasonal significance. These are advertised in the pew bulletin and on our website.

CHORAL EVENSONG

Sundays as advertised:

5:00pm Choral Evensong – *with the Choir of St Paul's*

For further information please visit our website: stpaulsburwood.org.au



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, BURWOOD

205-207 Burwood Road Burwood NSW 2134

info@stpaulsburwood.org.au | (02) 9747 4327

Rector
Senior Assistant Priest
Honorary Priest
Lay Minister
Director of Music
Organist
Sacristan
Lay Assistant

Fr James Collins OAM
Fr Michael Deasey OAM FRSCM
Fr Mark Battison
Ms Rosemary King
Mr David Russell
Mr Bailey Yeates
Br Brian Luhr OGS OAM
Ms Natalie McDonald