

ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Burwood

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Sunday 7 December 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 Second 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

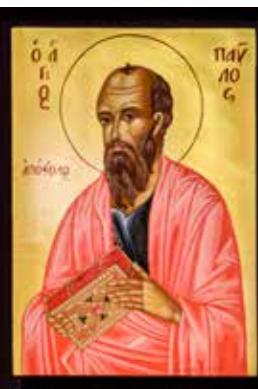
Please take this order of service home.

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: St Paul's High Altar frontal (detail)

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

ADVENT 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.

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:

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.

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 Lighting of the Wreath

We relight the candle of Hope. Today we light the candle of Peace and look for the coming of the one who brings peace and goodwill to all people on earth.

Loving God, we are people of peace. Make us instruments of your peace and reconciliation in our divided world. Amen.

Merciful God, who sent your messenger John the Baptist to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed his warning and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

God of all peoples, whose servant John came baptising and calling for repentance: help us to hear his voice of judgement, that we may also rejoice in his word of promise, and be found pure and blameless in that glorious Day when Christ comes to rule the earth as Prince of Peace; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Please sit for the readings and psalm.

First Reading: Isaiah 11.1–10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 72.1–7, 18–21

*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 Give the king your judgement, O God: (pause)
and your righteousness to the son of a king,
- 2 That he may judge your people rightly: (pause)
and the poor of the land with equity.
- 3 Let the mountains be laden with peace because of his righteousness: (pause)
and the hills also with prosperity for his people.
- 4 May he give justice to the poor among the people: (pause)
and rescue the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor.
- 5 May he live while the sun endures: (pause)
and while the moon gives light, throughout all generations.
- 6 May he come down like rain upon the new mown fields: (pause)
and as showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall righteousness flourish: (pause)
and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Let his name live for ever: (pause)
and endure as long as the sun.
- 19 Let all peoples use his name in blessing: (pause)
and all nations call him blessed.
- 20 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel: (pause)
who alone does great wonders.
- 21 Blessed be his glorious name for ever: (pause)
and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, Amen.

Second Reading: Romans 15.4–13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written,

'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; and again,

'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.'

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please STAND for the gradual hymn.

Gradual Hymn

LUTHER'S HYMN (NUN FREUT EUCH) 87 87 887

Latin form of melody
in *Geistliche Lieder* (1533)



- 1 Lo, in the wilderness a voice
'Make straight the way' is crying:
When men are turning from the light,
And hope and love seem dying,
The prophet comes to make us clean:
'There standeth one you have not seen,
Whose voice you are denying.'
- 2 God give us grace to hearken now
To those who come to warn us,
Give sight and strength, that we may kill
The vices that have torn us,
Lest love professed should disappear
In creeds of hate, contempt, and fear,
That crush and overturn us.
- 3 When from the vineyard cruel men
Cast out the heavenly powers
And Christendom denies its Lord,
The world in ruin cowers.
Now come, O God, in thy great might!
Unchanged, unchanging is thy right,
Unswayed thy justice towers.

Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)

Remain standing for the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

*Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.*

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 3.1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

For the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Ms Rosemary King
Lay Minister

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:

God of all hopefulness:

Hear our prayer.

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 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

VENI EMMANUEL 88 88 88

melody 'adapted from a French Missal'
by Thomas Helmore (1811-90)



1 O COME, O come, Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive Israel,
That into exile drear is gone
Far from the face of God's dear Son.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high!
Who madest all in earth and sky,
Creating man from dust and clay:
To us reveal salvation's way.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

5 O come, O come, Adonai,
Who in thy glorious majesty
From Sinai's mountain clothed with awe
Gavest thy folk the elder law.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Cologne 1710, based on the ancient Advent Antiphons
Tr. T.A. Lacey (1853-1931) and Editors

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 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.

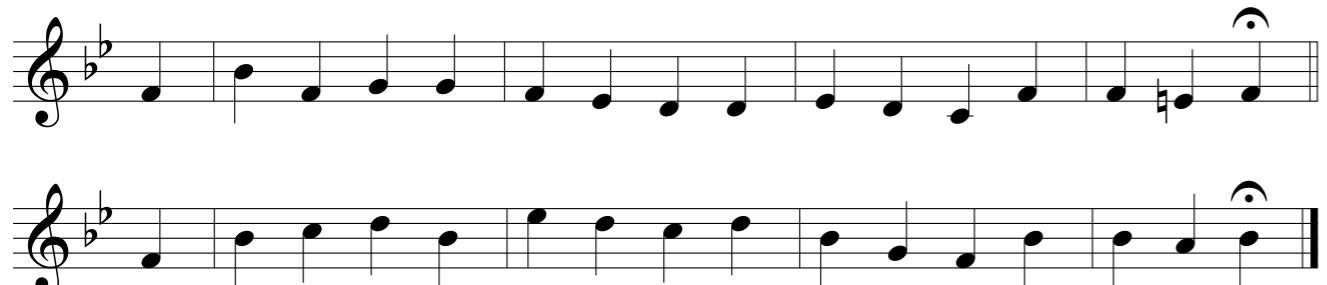
† **In the name of Christ, Amen.**

Remain standing for the final hymn.

Final Hymn

WINCHESTER NEW LM

Adapted from a chorale in
Musicalisches Hand-Buch Hamburg 1690



1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come then and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings from the King of kings.

- 2 Then cleansed be every Christian breast,
And furnished for so great a guest!
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace our souls must fade,
And wither like a flower decayed.
- 4 Stretch forth thine hand to heal our sore,
And make us rise, to fall no more;
Once more upon thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine.
- 5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom, with the Father, we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.

Charles Coffin (1676-1749)
Tr. John Chandler (1808-76)

Please SIT for the notices.

Postlude

Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottes-Sohn (from *Orgelbüchlein*) BWV 601

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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.



CHRISTMAS @ ST PAUL'S 2025

Sunday 14 December 5:00pm Carol Service

CHRISTMAS EVE Wednesday 24 December 9:30pm Choral Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY Thursday 25 December 9:00am Choral Eucharist

Fr James Collins OAM Rector

Parish Notices

The Epistle

The latest edition of The Epistle, Advent to Epiphany 2025/26, is available today after all services. All proceeds from the sale of the magazine go to support the work of the Parish Pantry. Please support this important ministry for St Paul's – why not purchase an extra copy to give to a friend.



THE EPISTLE

The Advent to Epiphany edition of The Epistle is now available.

Cost: \$10.00

All proceeds go to support the Parish Pantry.



Friday Services

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

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.

Busy Bee

We will be polishing the brass, communion vessels, dusting, cleaning and gardening on **Saturday 20 December** at 10:00am. Please come along with your polishing cloth and help to make St Paul's look beautiful for Christmas.

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 Church of Bangladesh.

In our Parish cycle of prayer we give thanks for our Head Server and Sacristan, Brian, and all the Servers at the Altar.

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:

June Harding, Audrey Keown, Tamine Maatouk, June Mansell, Vincent Rodrigues, William Fawbert, Ivan Edworthy, Jordan Hayes, John St George, Elizabeth Thacker and Phyllis Lockwood.

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

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.

Next Week's Readings

Sunday 14 December – Third Sunday in Advent

OT: Isaiah 35.1–10
NT: James 5.7–10

Psalm: Song of Mary
Gospel: Matthew 11.2–11

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:

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

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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