

ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Burwood

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Gaudete Sunday

Sunday 14 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 Third Sunday in Advent, also known as *Gaudete Sunday* (Sunday of Joy).

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

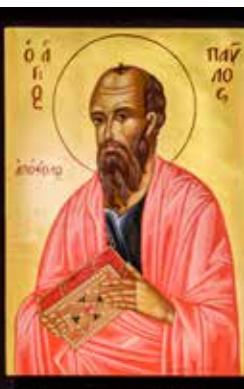
Please take this order of service home.



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.

This booklet © 2025 St Paul's Anglican Church, Burwood. All rights reserved.

Cover Photo: St Paul's Rose Cope (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:

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.'

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 candles of Hope and Peace. Today we light the candle of Joy as we share in the joy that came into the world in Christ Jesus.

Loving God, we are people of Joy. As we share in the Joy of Mary, the Mother of the Lord, help us to turn the sadness of others into joy, through our prayers and actions. Amen

Gradual Hymn

DUNDEE CM



Melody in *Scottish Psalter* 1615
Harmony from *Ravenscroft's Psalmes* 1621

- 1 The race that long in darkness pined
Have seen a glorious light;
The people dwell in day, who dwelt
In death's surrounding night.
- 2 His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
For evermore adored;
The Wonderful, the Counsellor,
The great and mighty Lord.
- 3 His power increasing still shall spread;
His reign no end shall know;
Justice shall guard his throne above,
And peace abound below.

John Morison (1750-98)
based on *Isaiah 9.2-7*

Remain standing for the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.*

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 11.2–11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you."

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

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

Sermon

Fr James Collins
Rector

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:

Lord, help us to build your kingdom on earth and, in your mercy:
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 using the details on page 19 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

WACHET AUF 898 898 664 88

Melody by Phillip Nicolai (1556-1608)

Harmony by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)



1 Wake, O wake! with tidings thrilling
The watchmen all the air are filling,
Arise, Jerusalem, arise!
Midnight strikes! no more delaying,
'The hour has come!' we hear them saying.
Where are ye all, ye virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes in sight,
Raise high your torches bright!
Alleluya!
The wedding song
Swells loud and strong:
Go forth and join the festal throng.

2 Sion hears the watchmen shouting,
 Her heart leaps up with joy undoubting,
 She stands and waits with eager eyes;
 See her Friend from heaven descending,
 Adorned with truth and grace unending!
 Her light burns clear, her star doth rise.
 Now come, thou precious Crown,
 Lord Jesu, God's own Son!
 Hosanna!
 Let us prepare
 To follow there,
 Where in thy supper we may share.
 3 Every soul in thee rejoices;
 From men and from angelic voices
 Be glory given to thee alone!
 Now the gates of pearl receive us,
 Thy presence never more shall leave us,
 We stand with Angels round thy throne.
 Earth cannot give below
 The bliss thou dost bestow.
 Alleluya!
 Grant us to raise
 To length of days,
 The triumph-chorus of thy praise.

Phillip Nicolai (1556-1608)
 Tr. F C Burkitt (1864-1935)

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

LITTLE CORNARD 66 66 88

Martin Shaw (1875-1958)



1 Hills of the North, rejoice,

 Echoing songs arise,

 Hail with united voice

 Him who made earth and skies:

 He comes in righteousness and love,

 He brings salvation from above.

2 Isles of the Southern seas,

 Sing to the listening earth,

 Carry on every breeze

 Hope of a world's new birth:

 In Christ shall all be made anew,

 His word is sure, his promise true.

3 Lands of the East, arise,

 He is your brightest morn,

 Greet him with joyous eyes,

 Praise shall his path adorn:

 The God whom you have longed to

 know

 In Christ draws near, and calls you

 now.

5 Shout, as you journey on,

 Songs be in every mouth,

 Lo, from the North they come,

 From East and West and South:

 In Jesus all shall find their rest,

 In him the sons of earth be blest.

Editors, based on C.E. Oakley (1832-65)

Please SIT for the notices.

Postlude

Chorale Prelude on 'Dundee' Set 1 No. 1

C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)

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.

✠



THE EPISTLE

The Advent to Epiphany edition of The Epistle, the quarterly publication of St Paul's Anglican Church, Burwood, is now available.

Cost: \$10.00

All proceeds go to support the Parish Pantry.

Available at the back of the church or at the trading table in the hall.



Parish Notices

Carol Service

Our annual Carol Service is today at 5:00pm. Come along and experience a beautiful collection of hymns and carols for the Advent and Christmas seasons. There will be refreshments in the hall following the service.

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.

Advent Lunch

Thank you very much to everyone who either sold tickets, helped 'Deck the Hall', set up, clear and clean up afterwards, wash tablecloths and all the other things that had to be done. The day went very well and everyone appeared to enjoy the fellowship and was happy to sit on and chat! We made a profit of \$524 which included some sale of the remaining food. A successful day!

Christmas Raffle Tickets

Tickets are still available at \$2 each or 3 for \$5. It will be drawn after the Carol Service this evening. Many lovely prizes available. Tickets can be obtained after both services this morning.

Friday Services

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

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.

A message from Pam Priest

Thank you all so much for your love and support over the past few months. I will be thinking of you and wishing you all God's blessings for Christmas and the year to come.

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 Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil.

In our Parish cycle of prayer we pray for the homeless, addicted, destitute, and all who suffer anxiety or fear.

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, Andrew McCulloch, 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 especially Frances Robinson and Jeanette Helen Stephenson and those whose year's mind occurs at this time:

Alison Powell, Joan Stirling Coucher, Yvonne Patricia Prince, Colin Clyde Frakes, Clement Harold Randal Laurence, George Harvey, Raymond Poulton.

✠ 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 21 December – Fourth Sunday in Advent

OT: Isaiah 7.10–16
NT: Romans 1.1–7

Psalm: 80.1–7, 17–19
Gospel: Matthew 1.18–25



CHRISTMAS @ ST PAUL'S 2025

CAROL SERVICE
5:00pm Sunday 14 December

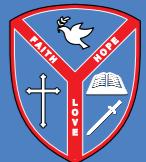
CHRISTMAS EVE
Wednesday 24 December
9:30pm Choral Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY
Thursday 25 December
9:00am Choral Eucharist

Fr James Collins OAM
Rector



HOLY INNOCENTS
Sunday 28 December 2025
9:00am Sung Eucharist



FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY
Sunday 4 January 2026
9:00am Sung Eucharist





BAPTISM OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Sunday 11 January 2026

9:00am Sung Eucharist



CONVERSION OF PAUL – Sunday 25 January 2026

8:00am Said Eucharist *with hymns*

10:00am Choral Eucharist

Setting: **Missa Brevis G.P. da Palestrina**

Motet: **Give us the wings of faith Ernest Bullock**



Offertory

Budget to end of November: \$212,400 – Receipts: \$189,616

Collection and other donations

Offertory: \$4,267.01

Parish Pantry: \$1,961.50

Wardens Appeal: \$47,900

Advent Lunch: \$464.00

TOTAL GIVING: \$54,592.51

Thank you for your generous doantion.

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:

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