ST PAUL'S NEWS

JESUS CHRIST | SPIRITUALITY | COMMUNION | TRADITION

WELCOME

At St Paul's "we love because God first loved us" (1 Jn. 4:19). We believe in the inherent goodness of all people - that the divine dwells at the heart of all living things. We believe the whole world is sacred and so we seek to celebrate God's presence among us with joy.

As such, we are committed to the spiritual growth and wellbeing of all who seek a place to belong. St Paul's is an inclusive church, welcoming all and offering equal opportunities for those seeking an authentic spiritual community.

Fr Daniel Hobbs - Parish Priest

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Pastoral Message

While 2022 was a better year than a couple of notable predecessors, it still was not a walk in the park! We have been dealing with the remnants of a global pandemic, political tensions, war in Ukraine, natural disasters and difficult economic factors, including inflation and soaring prices, that have affected everyone.

Locally, we have been navigating our transition from 99 Ernest Street to our new home in the Lota House Chapel. This was always going to be a significant process with legal, bureaucratic, institutional and emotional tracks to be navigated. It was not necessarily always facilitated as well as it could have been by the institutions involved.

Personally, we are immensely thankful for the courage and selflessness of our parish community. As we faced challenges along the way, very few of our own making, the wonderful support of our entire congregation, with clear vision and strength, was present every step of the way. Throughout the year, we have held various events designed to pastorally farewell our old home and celebrate our ties with the school as they took ownership of the site.



January Readings & Services

Sunday Holy Communion 8.30am Sunday Lota House 10.30am Tuesday Morning Prayer 8.30am

Sunday 1st - Epiphany

Isaiah 60.1-6 Ps. 72.1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3.1-12 Matthew 2.1-12

Sunday 8th - The Lord's Baptism

Isaiah 42.1-9 Ps. 29 Acts 10.34-43 Matthew 3.13-17

Sunday 15th - Epiphany 2

Isaiah 49.1-7 Ps. 40.1-14 1 Corinthians 1.1-9 John 1.29-42

Sunday 22nd - Epiphany 3

Isaiah 9.1-4 Ps. 27.1-10 1 Corinthians 1.10-18 Matthew 4.12-25

Sunday 29th - Epiphany 4 (AGM)

Micah 6.1-8 Ps. 15 1 Corinthians 1.18-31 Matthew 5.1-12 News that the church building was to be embraced, as part of the ongoing design of the site as a new performance space, was so welcome and thanks mainly to Fr. Daniel and Principal Clayton's hard work and insights into how to navigate difficult bureaucracies. The concert given by over 100 Manly State School students was a fitting tribute to our ongoing relationship and really felt like an unofficial "handover".

At the same time, a number of our wonderful ministries have already transitioned to Lota House and been enthusiastically accepted by local residents. Tatters & Chatters and the new music ministry already have strong followings and attendance at our Christmas Lessons & Carols Service was a great indication of how the space will feel when filled every Sunday.

Chatting with many of our congregation over the past few weeks, we get the impression that there is now a preference for finalising our move sooner rather than later. We personally feel that the majority of our farewells are now behind us, as is a lot of the hardest work, and look forward to an exciting future for St Paul's at Lota House Chapel as we move and start growing the ministries we identified in our Mission Action Plan.

Pace e bene, Rob & Jen Parish Wardens

January Ministry & Notices

19th Tatters & Chatters Craft Group 9.30am Lota House 23rd School Year Begins 26th Australia Day 29th Parish Annual General Meeting (AGM)

For Our Prayers

Please hold in your prayers: David, Elaine, Michael C, Gloria, Graham, Michael N, Gerald, Annie, Marie, Eddie, Barry, Joan, Shirley G, Glen, Shirley & Gordon, Greg, Yvette and Monique and families, Lacey, Yvonne, Gayle & Lowie, Harline, David and Jody, Kay, Roxzan and family.

Support our ministry

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