# 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

#### Contacts

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# **Pastoral Message**

Will you encourage and enable those committed to your care to fulfil their ministry and mission in the world? I will, by God's grace.

I have long felt that our word is all we really have in this world. To be honest, trustworthy, authentic - to say what you mean and mean what you say. When you make a promise, you keep it. A vow is lifelong, despite the challenges it may bring. If you happen to find yourself in a position of leadership, the way you lead, treat people, make decisions and generally conduct yourself must reflect a genuine, deep integrity - a transparency and compassion. The content of one's character will always outweigh the authority of one's office.

When on the day of my ordination I was asked if I would "encourage and enable" the humans in my care and I responded "I will, by God's grace", I meant it. The goal, the vision, the purpose, would always be to equip the saints for ministry and to do so in faith, hope and love.

I have sought throughout my tenure at St Paul's to do nothing more than to honour my ordination vows to love, serve and equip the people of God in this place. This has come with many challenges, far too many really, but Christ has been and remains my anchor, my strength, the one who I seek to imitate.



# April Readings & Services

Sunday Holy Communion 9.30am Tuesday Morning Prayer 8.30am

#### Sunday 2nd - Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50.4-9a Ps. 31.9-18 Philippians 2.5-11 Matthew 27.11-54

#### Sunday 9th - Easter Day

Acts 10.34-43 Hymn to the Risen Christ Colossians 3.1-4 Matthew 28.1-10

#### Sunday 16th - Easter 2

Acts 2.14a, 22-32 Ps. 16 1 Peter 1.1-12 John 20.19-31

#### Sunday 23rd - Easter 3

Acts 2.14a, 36-41 Ps. 116.1-4, 11-18 1 Peter 1.13-25 Luke 24.13-35

#### Sunday 30th - Easter 4

Acts 2.42-47 Ps. 23 1 Peter 2.1-10 Luke 10.1-10 As Christ emptied himself (Phill. 2:7) in the service of others for the glory of God, so I have sought at all times to put you first. When to do so was not popular, and in fact frowned upon, it became clear just how much parishioners need self-sacrificing, servant leadership in today's church.

In the early days, I had to earn your trust (as all leaders must nothing should be expected nor demanded). Then, together, we pursued an unorthodox vision of faith community, a vision counter to inherited wisdom yet authentically consistent with the ministry of Jesus. His singular focus on God and God's people, his willingness to challenge, his deep commitment to die for God in the faith and knowledge that death would not have the last word. We have sought genuinely to focus entirely on God and each other and with tremendous courage and faithfulness voluntarily approached our cross in the faith and knowledge that God was, is and will forever be the source of new life. To lead with you, to care for you, to be one alongside you in pursuit of this vision has been an eternal blessing.

My final prayer now is that I have indeed, by God's grace, encouraged and enabled the humans in my care to fulfil their ministry and mission in the world. St Paul's has risen! Alleluia!

Yours always, Daniel+

# **April Ministry & Notices**

2nd Ministry Team Meeting (TBC) 8th Cursillo 10.30am 20th Tatters and Chatters Craft Group 9.30am No Mothers Union in April as it is ANZAC Day

# **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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