



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN COMMUNITY, MANLY  
16th February 2025

# 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.

Rev Andrew Cooper - Parish Priest

## Contacts

### PARISH PRIEST

Rev Andrew Cooper  
0447 409 188

[priest@stpaulsmanly.org](mailto:priest@stpaulsmanly.org)

### PEOPLE'S WARDEN

Dr Jennifer Crisp  
0423 782 646

### PRIEST'S WARDEN

Mr Rob Wilson  
0414 270 006

Parish Mobile 0491 062 877

[office@stpaulsmanly.org](mailto:office@stpaulsmanly.org)

[www.stpaulsmanly.org](http://www.stpaulsmanly.org)



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Quandamooka people and their elders past, present and emerging. We honour the connection the traditional custodians have with this land.



- A week goes by in pictures
- St Valentine's Day Thoughts
- Lent and Easter Time
- Moving meetings!

## Anglicare Connections Continue



### Priest's Warden Rob Wilson and Synod Representative and parish councillor Stephen Hall with Dr Stephen Harrison

Stephen is the Director of Mission, Research and Advocacy at Anglicare Southern Queensland a real friend of St Paul's. Stephen has degrees in science, theology, education, community welfare and a Doctorate in ministry from CSU. He has a passion for missiology and ecclesiology, with 25 years' experience with parishes, schools and commissions in the Anglican Church Southern Queensland.

He joined Rob, Stephen and Fr Andrew on the veranda at Lota House to experience the realities of the Development momentum and a routine connect with us to check how the Memorandum of Understanding with Anglicare SQ is working for us. Some solid conversation and positive relationship building indeed.

We were able to share some of the feedback from our review last year and some of the creative ways the parish is working around the building challenges.

*St Paul's Anglican Community, Manly gathers for worship every Sunday at 9.30am in the Chapel, Lota House 162 Oceana Terrace, Lota. We welcome you!*

# Community Matters

## Some thoughts on St Valentine's Day!

Before cards, before long-stemmed roses, before heart-shaped boxes of chocolates— there was St. Valentine. Actually, there may have been two.

The history's pretty murky, and includes legends about an early Christian priest (or was it a bishop?) martyred for (perhaps?) surreptitiously helping Christians to wed. So uncertain are the details, in fact, that in 1969 the Catholic Church officially discontinued liturgical veneration of St. Valentine, though he's still on the list of recognized saints.

But the holiday lives on. It turns out Chaucer, of all people, may be the reason why: the late-medieval poet penned "Parliament of Fowles" sometime around 1375, including a link — embellished by more than a little poetic license — between courtly love and St. Valentine's feast day. February 14, Chaucer wrote, is the day birds come together to find a mate: "For this was sent on Seynt Valentyne's day / Whan every foul cometh ther to choose his mate." A lovely day indeed — and as the poem's fame spread, so did the day's association with affection, both avian and human.

But however fanciful these various legends may be, there's a deeper wisdom beneath the whimsy. For centuries in Christian thought, the most prestigious book in the Bible, the "graduate school" of Christian spirituality, wasn't Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, or the Book of Genesis, or the Psalms. It was the Song of Songs, an ancient — and pretty racy! — romantic poem about love in a world fraught with danger. Over the centuries, the poem was interpreted as an unsurpassed figurative portrait of the love between God and God's people.

Not that God's love for us is sexual, exactly; rather, the idea is that the intensity, intimacy, and delight of sexual love can be a kind of window, a sacramental glimpse, an experiential parable for understanding God's affection. Divine love is tender and kind, immersive and ecstatic, full of longing and delight. It's vulnerable, beautiful, gentle, and strong.

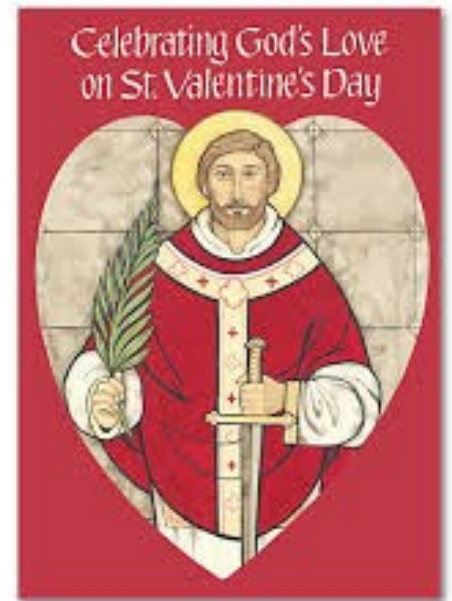
No doubt St. Valentine would approve :)

So this Valentine's Day, think of all the love in your life — the love you feel and the love you witness; the love you remember and the love you long for; even the love among the birds of the air! — as a sacramental glimpse, an experiential parable of God's care for all creation. And if you're especially perceptive (or especially mischievous), you can glimpse divine love even in places as ordinary as a sweet little greeting card, an arrangement of flowers, or a flavor map embossed on a heart-shaped lid.

If we have eyes to see and ears to hear, the truth about God's love is that it's all around us, the Song of all songs, the Symphony of all symphonies, echoing everywhere.

Happy Valentine's Day!

<https://www.saltproject.org/progressive-christian-blog/2019/2/13/a-brief-theology-of-valentines-day>



## Snap shots of a week at St Paul's

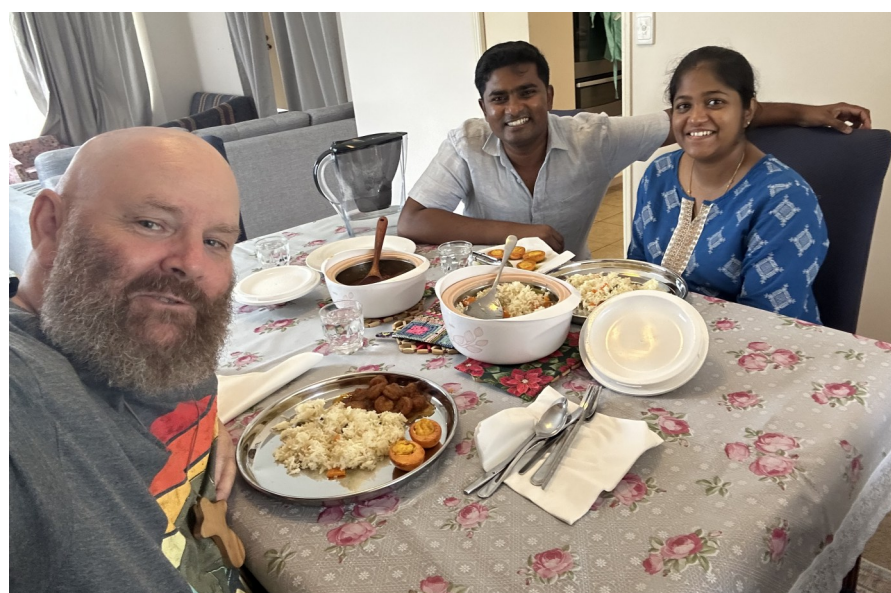
February seems to be the opposite to fairly drawn out January. Its racing away at pace with Fr Andrew engaged with lots of connecting events, planning meeting and lovely pastoral visits. Pictured below are just some of the great things. Ailsa Gill holds a certificate of thanks from the team at St Peter's acknowledging our participation in the great TREEriffic event last year... three trees decorated by St Paul's folk!

Fr Andrew had a great catch up with EM Tooth's Coordinator of Spiritual and Pastoral Care Deb Stengert and Lifestyle Coordinator Elizabeth Hansen. They shared some of the parish calendar and some of the ways we can work together to bring alive the hope and joy of Jesus with residents and their families. Watch this space for upcoming events.

Lyn Smith sends her good news that her hip surgery has been as good as she hopes and is now in the Rehab Unit getting stronger as she prepares to come home hopefully in the next week. She's holding one of the candles we blessed and sent home at our Candlemas service the other week.

"It was a planning meeting I promise you" says Fr Andrew as he enjoys a tasty home cooked Indian meal with Fr Sam and his wife Minnie. Sam and Minnie are grateful for the support of St Peter's as they live and grow far away from their own families. Fr Andrew is very grateful for the collaboration and ministry support!

These are just some of the activities of our small but mighty community.... We haven't even mentioned Parish Council!! Lots of stuff to report at the AGM this Sunday too!





## Services

### **Ash Wednesday 5th March**

9.30am Eucharist and Distribution of Ashes @ The Chapel

7pm Holy Communion and Distribution of Ashes @ St Peter's

### **Palm Sunday 13th April**

9.30am Eucharist and Blessing of the Palms

### **Chrism Mass @ St John's Cathedral**

Time TBC

### **Maunder Thursday 17th April**

9.30 am Eucharist @ the Chapel

7pm Agape Meal and Eucharist @ Wilson Home

7pm @ St Peter's Eucharist and foot washing

### **Good Friday 18th April**

9.30am Solemn Commemoration of the Passion @ The Chapel

3pm Prayer by the Bay TBC

### **Easter Sunday 20th April**

5.30am Dawn Service by the Bay TBC

9.30am Easter Eucharist

### **Anzac Day April 25th**

4.15 am Dawn Service @ War Memorial, Carlton Terrace Manly

8.30 Midmorning Service @ War Memorial, Carlton Terrace Manly

10.30am E M Tooth Service

## Reflection and Study Opportunities

### **Tuesday Morning Lent Reflection and Discussion**

9.30 am every Tuesday excluding March 25<sup>th</sup> (MU Lent Quiet Morning)

Venue TBC

### **Tuesday Evening Lent Reflection and Discussion**

March 11, 18,24, April 1st

7pm via Zoom

### **Wednesday Morning Lent Study**

St Peter's Wynnum

Eucharist 10am followed by Hope25 study and Discussion

### **Lent Quiet afternoon**

Saturday 29th March

1.30 – 5.30 Venue TBC

**MU Service,  
Commissioning of Office Bearers  
and meeting  
Tuesday 25th February 2025  
St Peter's Wynnum.**



ANGLICAN  
MOTHERS UNION  
AUSTRALIA

Due to the challenges of the construction at Lota House, Manly Wynnum MU has decided to meet at St Peter's Wynnum for the next few months. There is plenty of accessible parking and the ladies will gather in the airconditioned comfort of the St Peter's Chapel for their service and meeting. Please bring something to share for morning Tea and the usual coffee and tea will be available. Thank you to the Wynnum members and Fr Sam for helping to organise this temporary move. Lifts and assistance available if needed.

## **Tatters and Chatters**

**Business as usual in the Parlour for Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February from 9.30**  
**For crafty chatters and those who just love the chat!**  
**Coffee, tea and your little something to share as always.**



## **BUT WE ARE ON THE MOVE!!**

**From Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Tatters and Chatters will have a new place and time.**  
**Wynnum Library Meeting Room from 2pm -4pm**

This temporary move is in response to the challenges of the midweek construction around Lota House, but has some positive possibilities in taking our presence out into the community. The same social connection, chat, craft and fellowship but with easy parking underneath the library and of course easy to pop down to the supermarket for an iced donut or two!

**Chat to Bev and Robyn for more details**

### Scripture Readings:

Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1;  
1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26

### Next Week

Genesis 45:3-11,15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40;  
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38

### For your prayers:

- ◆ The Church of Bangladesh
- ◆ The Diocese of Newcastle
- ◆ The Parish of Torres Strait Islander Parish
- ◆ CMS
- ◆ The Glennie School, Toowoomba
- ◆ **Yvonne, Coralie, Richard, Ann, Bruce, Judi, Brad, J and J, Chloe and Family, Doreen, Shirley, Maggie, Lyn, Ron, Val**

### A Beatitudes Prayer

Dear Lord,

Make me poor in spirit,  
so I can receive the kingdom of heaven.

When I mourn,  
help me find comfort.

Make me meek,  
so that I may inherit the land.

Help me to hunger and thirst  
for righteousness, so I may be satisfied.

Make me merciful,  
so I may obtain your mercy.

Make me pure of heart,  
so I may see you.

Help me to make peace,  
so I may be called your child.

When I am persecuted for righteousness'  
sake, show me your kingdom.

Amen

## What's On

### This week

**Monday 9.30** EM Tooth Worship Service, Activities Room

**Tuesday 9.30** MU Service and meeting @ St Peter's

**Wednesday 8am** Fr A @ Pete's Pantry

**Wednesday 7pm** Men's Ministry, Wynnum

**Thursday 9.30** Tatters and Chatters in the Parlour

**Thursday 12pm** Deanery Meeting @ Holland Park

**Friday 10am** Bishop John catch up with Fr Andrew

**Sunday 9.30** Parish Eucharist, Lota House Chapel

### Coming up

**March 1st** Car Boot Sale @ Carina

**March 4th** Shrove Tuesday

**March 5th** Ash Wednesday

**March 6th** Tatters and Chatters 2pm-4pm @ Wynnum Library


**March 7th** WWDP St Josephs Hemmant

Please let Fr Andrew know of any upcoming events.

please join us for

# Yvonne Dorothy Chown's

100<sup>th</sup>



## Birthday

CELEBRATION

Saturday March 1<sup>st</sup> 2025  
12 noon NSW time  
8 Echo Lane  
Casuarina NSW 2487

RSVP to Janet 0415 883 412 by February 15<sup>th</sup>  
Parking for approximately 50 cars at  
northern end of Echo Lane 1-2 minute walk



## THIS SUNDAY!

St Paul's Anglican Church  
Annual General Meeting  
Sunday 16th February  
Following the 9.30 service



### Support our Ministry

Bank: Anglican Financial Services  
Account: Manly Anglican Parish  
BSB: 704-901 Account #:00000690  
Reference: 'offering'

[www.stpaulsmanly.org](http://www.stpaulsmanly.org)

Parish of Manly

**Anglican**  
Church Southern Queensland