



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN COMMUNITY, MANLY  
**SUNDAY 14th September 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

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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.



- Season of creation continues
- Jen's Cursillo Ministry
- Communion and Community
- Welcome to Stephen of Anglicare

## The Glory of God's Creation



A celebration of the gift of Nick? Well maybe, as he is indeed a gift, but a moment of praise caught during our Season of Creation Stare at the Sea reflection time last Sunday. We were enlivened by a brisk wind, inspired by the setting sun and the incoming tide and captivated by the joy of families and friends gathered at the end of a busy Father's Day. Lota Foreshore Park provided lots to notice on a sunny Sunday afternoon in early spring.

As we paused to look and listen, the diversity of God's hand at work in the natural world and in His people became apparent. Our Season of Creation reflections aren't always about the silence and setting apart. This time it was about being present in the midst of people and hearing the voice of God in the chatter of life.

**Join us a this week as we Gaze at the Garden at Bethania Street Community Garden, Lota. Details inside.**

**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



**Jen Crisp writes: On 22-24 August the Anglican Cursillo movement of the Diocese of Brisbane held a two day weekend at the Luther Heights Conference Centre, a beautiful beachside location in Coolum.**

The leader for the weekend was Ann Martin Victor (of Waterloo Bay Parish) and I had the honour to be a Proctor for this Cursillo weekend #83. We had a big team of 21 volunteers including four priests as Spiritual Advisors, four Proctors and all the table leaders, who attended training over several months in the lead up to the weekend. In case you are wondering, the proctors assist the leader, organise things in the background for the weekend to make sure everything runs smoothly for the IT, the talks, organising rooms etc and keeping everyone to schedule. We had made changes to the usual schedule this year, by cutting the weekend down from three to two days, so it was a bit of adjusting on the fly, but overall, it went very smoothly.



Three of the four proctors serving at Cursillo Weekend #83, L-R: Gay Clark, Rob Clark, Jen, plus Lay Director Ann Martin Victor.



We had 20 participants in addition to the team, from all over the Diocese. They were supported by sponsors from their parishes who provided transport to and from the venue. Others, like Nick worked in the background to organise the peripheral things (like fetching extra spring water and wine when we ran out on the weekend!)

The Cursillo weekend itself was a wonderful uplifting experience. The Holy Spirit was an active participant, and many participants (including the team!) experienced spiritual growth. It is a joy to watch the real transformation in people that can come from doing a Cursillo weekend. As intended by the program, many people are inspired by what they learn and go on to greater Christian leadership in their local environments. Some people, over the years, have even been called to the priesthood through their attendance at Cursillo.



Cursillistas at the closing celebration of Weekend #83 in the Coolum Uniting Church.

This Cursillo weekend was a very joyful time, and the singing and worship was especially invigorating. Making a joyful noise for the Lord is a hallmark of Cursillo, and definitely something that I love about it.

Of course, after the weekend, I was pretty exhausted from running around keeping things running smoothly, but spiritually revitalised.

**Every blessing to all involved!!!**



## Anglicare Sunday 14th September

This week we celebrate Anglicare Sunday and welcome Stephen Harrison, AnglicareSQ Director of Mission Research & Advocacy to share some of the work of Anglicare in the diocese.



Stephen says: *Our story began over 150 years ago, with the pioneering spirit of five women who founded the Female and Infants Refuge in Ann Street, Brisbane. From those humble beginnings, our commitment to our community extends today to one in thirty Queenslanders. We provide essential services to support individuals and communities focusing on aged care, out of home care, mental health, homelessness and family support. We are proud to be part of the Anglican Church Southern Queensland as we live out our values of love, care, hope and humility.*



Southern Queensland

We look forward to sharing story and prayer with you, Stephen.

## Communion and Community and a Decent Cuppa.

A delight to gather with friends as we celebrated Communion especially for the residents at E M Tooth this week. A joy to have Peta, E M Tooth Coordinator of Spiritual and Pastoral Care and Elizabeth from the Lifestyle team with us alongside keen residents with lovely prayer points to share.

We welcome everyone, Anglicans and more, as we celebrated the timeless words of the Anglican communion service with song and prayer. The hymn *"Praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice"* was a firm favourite and apt on the feast day of the Birth of Mary, Mother of Jesus.

We have been gathering on the 2nd Wednesday of each month but new this time was a cuppa, biscuit and fellowship lovingly provided by Ailsa from MU, aided by Kay frocking up as LA for the first time for a while. She did good!

**See you next month!**



## Queensland Churches Environmental Network (QCEN) has developed a Season of Creation Daily Devotional.

QCEN sought contributions from a wide range of people, from different denominations and backgrounds, from all over Australia. The variety gives the devotions an incredible depth. At the same time, although each devotion is different, they all manage to portray a sense of awe at the wonder of creation. The devotions remind the reader of the interconnectedness of creation, of the peace we can feel when being in nature, and the beauty that is all around us.

**Here's a sample: Day 7** *For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God. (Rom 8:19)*  
Read Romans 8:18-22

**Reflect:** I and some of my family have been blessed to be able to watch the turtles return to their special beach, Mon Repos near Bundaberg. This is the destination every year for the females who come to lay their eggs. These are the huge Loggerhead turtles. Their species is endangered. The mother makes her way, seemingly painfully, up the beach to a spot where she digs her nest. This is where she lays her eggs. The process takes some time. The look in the turtle's eye seems to be sadness and tiredness. It seems as if her whole being is groaning in this process of ensuring creation and the continuance of her kind. Once finished, the mother flaps sand onto the eggs and makes her way back to the water. When she reaches the water her movements are no longer labored, they are graceful as she swims back out to sea. The hatchlings some time later will make that same journey. It is a dangerous journey because of birds, but they must do it. They are quicker. They rush to the water where new predators await. But they must do it. We too must wait, like the mother. Be patient. Do what we must do. Know that our freedom will come with Christ. Our natural place will be with Him. We will face the dangers and toils of a hostile world but we will come through. We are blessed by the grace of God who has given us the gift of Christ. There is our deeper water. There is our place.



**Pray:** God of all our dreaming, come take us in Your arms. Lead us onward to the deeper parts of ourselves. Bring us closer to the deeper heart of Your love, Safe and calm through Jesus the Christ. Amen

*The Rev'd Canon Bruce Boase is Co-chair of the Diocesan Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group. Canon Boase is an Aboriginal of the Wakka Wakka Clan, and his special interest is reconciling Christianity with ancient Aboriginal Culture.*

The Devotional can be downloaded at the Queensland Churches Together website  
<https://qct.org.au/images/QCEN/SoCDevotionsScreenVersion.pdf>



## St Francis' Day Blessing of the Animals The Chapel @ Lota House Sunday 7th October 9.30 am

A special event to give thanks and bless all our animal friends.  
Furry, feathered, scaly and wriggly. No animal too large or small, too  
boisterous or too shy to bless. You can bring a photo or favourite stuffed animal if you prefer.



**PEACE  
WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2025







# PEACE WITH CREATION

## SEASON OF CREATION 2025

**Our hope:** Creation will find peace when justice is restored. There is still hope and an expectation for a peaceful Earth. Isaiah 32:14-18.

**7th September Pause at the Sea**  
Lota Foreshore Park, The Esplanade, Lota

**14th September Gaze at the Garden**  
Bethania Street Community Garden, Lota

**21st September Pause in the Park**  
Torrens Crescent Park, Margaret Crescent, Wakerley

**28th September Be in the Bush**  
Melaleuca Environment Park, Clifton Street, Manly West  
**4.30 pm — 6pm**

Short creation centred reflections and prayer followed by something refreshing and nibbles. Bring your refreshments, a folding chair and appropriate clothing. Contact Fr Andrew [priest@stpaulsmanly.org](mailto:priest@stpaulsmanly.org)

*The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together.*

## More stuff to engage with community and God's love at St Paul's

### BCA Boxes: Due at the end of September

We will be collecting them and giving thanks for the work of God in rural and remote communities. Cash donations are always welcome if you don't have a box.



### Your prayers and support are vital!

**The BCA Team writes:** Prayer is such a vital part of your support for BCA.

Greg Harris gave supporters the challenge to pray each day while they make their morning coffee or tea. He asked that we pray to the Lord for more workers for his harvest field with BCA. God has answered your prayers in amazing ways over the past year. We have welcomed six new Field Staff since the start of 2025, and today we welcome four more plus new Nomads Coordinators.

### Please pray for:

Former BCA Indigenous Theological Bursary Student, **Lonny Bendessi** is now serving as Field Staff with the Aboriginal Berean Community Church. Here he will receive practical ministry training amongst First Nations People. Lonny will combine his work with completing his associate degree at the Bible College of South Australia.

"First and foremost I would like to give thanks & praise to God for His calling on my life," says Lonny. "I would ask BCA supporters to please pray for my studies; that God will give me wisdom & understanding and uphold me as I seek to do His will."



**David & Margy Williams** have commenced serving in the Anglican Parish of West Coast Tasmania, which includes the townships of Queenstown and Strahan. They have a passion to encourage the faithful to be more like Jesus, and to see people come to know him.

"We hope to make a contribution by being faithful to Christ and sharing his truth and love with the local churches and community on the West Coast of Tasmania," says David. "I aim to teach God's word clearly and faithfully, engage with current secular challenges and equip the saints to love one another and engage with the world."

[www.bushchurchaid.com.au](http://www.bushchurchaid.com.au)



### Scripture Readings: This Week

Jeremiah 4;11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14  
1 Timothy 1; Luke 15:1-10

### Next week:

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9;  
1 Timothy 3:14-4:6; Luke 16:1-13

### For your prayers:

- ♦ The Anglican Church of South America
  - ♦ Ministry with the Torres Strait Island People of Australia – Rose Elu
  - ♦ The Parish of Kilcoy
  - ♦ FSG (Family Support Group)
  - ♦ St Margaret's Anglican Girls School, Ascot
- Yvonne, Coralie, Richard, Ann, Bruce, Judi, Brad, J and J, Chloe and Family, Shirley, Maggie, Val, Vivien, Zoe, Ben, Ali Bev, Desley, Daryl, Michael, Peter, Jean, Marilyne, Georgia

### Prayer for Anglicare

Compassionate God,  
on this Anglicare Sunday,  
we give thanks  
for Anglicare Southern Queensland.  
Bless their ministry with wisdom, resilience,  
and an unwavering commitment.  
Inspire them to bring healing  
and hope to the vulnerable.  
Strengthen us to support and uplift them in  
their mission. We pray in the name of the  
one who went to the least, the lost and the  
lonely, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

## What's On

### Every week

**Monday 10.30am** EM Tooth Prayer and Praise  
**Tuesday 9.30am** Bible Reflection/discussion @ the Chapel  
**Wednesday 7pm** Men's Ministry, Wynnum  
**Sunday 9.30** Parish Eucharist @ Lota House Chapel

### Coming up in September

14th Anglicare Sunday with Stephen Harrison  
14th Parish Council 11am-1pm  
14th Gaze at the Garden, Bethania Street Community Garden  
18th Tatters and Chatters @ Wynnum 2pm  
21st Pause in the Park, Torrens Crescent Park, Wakerley  
23rd MU Eucharist and Meeting 9.30am  
28th Be in the Bush, Melaleuca Environment Park, 4.30pm

### Coming up in October

2nd Tatters and Chatters @ Wynnum 2pm  
4<sup>th</sup> Car Boot Sale  
5th St Francis Day Blessing of the Animals

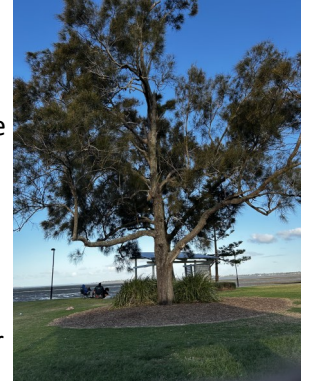
Let Rev Andrew know of any upcoming community events

## The Vicar's Voice

**You CAN see the both the wood AND the trees!!!**

Season of Creation feeds my soul and I'm glad we are a faith community that embraces this liturgical time of year. Our gathering rite, statement of faith and preface echo the Creation themes present visually in our decorations in the chapel. We are part of a world-wide, big picture ecumenical wave of prayer over these weeks!

Last Sunday at Lota Fore-shore during our Stare at the Sea reflection time I was struck by the bigness and the minuteness of our created world. I sat smack in front of this glorious she-oak and listened to the breeze whistle through the needle like leaves as it towered over me.



After a bit I began to focus on the detail... the gnarled rough texture of the bark and the ghostly remnants of branches that have gone but left an impression on the bark. Ants scurry over it, birds fly in and out and the blowing made patterns of light and shade. I even convinced myself that the streamers of toilet paper trapped in it were gossamer threads of prayer rather than evidence of fecklessness!

*What might you notice if you slow down to look and listen this week? What attitude adjustment could come from pausing to ponder and stare at a tree?*

Every Blessing

Andrew



### 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