



Manly

ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN COMMUNITY, MANLY

SUNDAY 7th December 2025

# ST PAUL'S NEWS

JESUS CHRIST | SPIRITUALITY | COMMUNION | TRADITION

## There Are All Sorts of Angels Among Us!



### 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.

St Paul's is an inclusive church, welcoming all and offering equal opportunities for those seeking an authentic spiritual community.

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



- Angel Blessings
- Giving Tree Launch
- Pete's Pantry Christmas
- Advent at Aveo
- Bush Ministry Fund Boxes

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

#### 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)



# Community Matters

## Angel Blessings and our Advent Giving Tree



**Advent Sunday One** was all about admiring the angels among us... even the tuba playing ones.

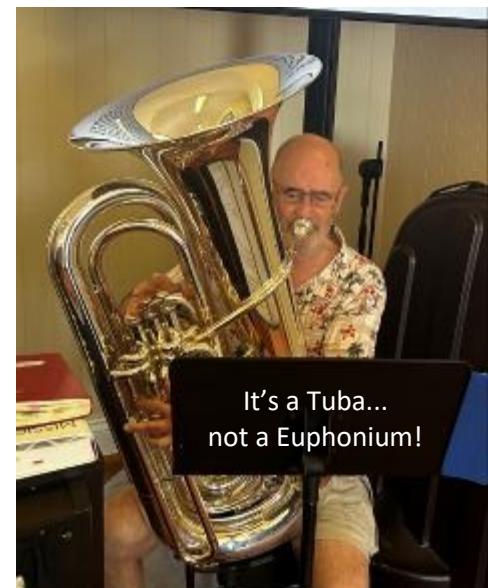
Mr Austin certainly woke us up with the resounding notes of the carol "*In the Bleak Midwinter*"... ok a wee bit out of place on a sweaty summer morning in Oz. A foretaste though of our slot at the St Peter's Carols coming up and of course the Big Band Carols in the Chapel on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

**What a delightful array of angels!!** Human of course... but the variety of angels that tell the story of hope and promise. The array of angelic figures was admired and stories shared. Most of them had a precious connection with people or prayers. We remembered festivals of angels past and then prayed a blessing over them as symbols of God's love to take home and show the way to Christmas.

**Next was the Giving Tree launch.** With small angel in hand, folk came forward to place it on the tree and take a Gift Tag with suggestions for preparing a Personal Care Pack to be given to clients at Pete's Pantry. We will collect them over the next few weeks and passed on the Pete's Pantry for distribution in January.

**The Gift Tags are still available to be taken and the Personal Care Packs prepared right up until Christmas Day. They can be dropped under the tree any day.**

**You might like to take a couple to involve family and friends in our gesture of love and care for others.**



# ADVENT BEGINS AND WE SHARE CREATIVITY AND SYMBOLS

Sandra Davis continues her series on our tapestry cushions displayed during the Season of Advent.

The second cushion for Advent appears at the altar on Sunday the 7th December. It is held by Darryl Schmidt, standing at the back of the chapel. It was worked in 2001 by the late Joy Willis and bears the name "God's Lamb".

The lamb has long been recognized as representing Jesus. His cousin, John, referred to Jesus as "The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world". John made this comment when he was at Bethany and observed his cousin approaching. The next day John repeated this reference to his cousin as "*The Lamb of God*".

The concept of lambs, sheep and shepherds permeates the Gospels. In fact, in John 10.11 we see Jesus telling a group of Pharisees : "*I am the good shepherd*". A little further on in the Gospel he repeats this statement. As he grew up in a rural town, Nazareth, in Galilee, Jesus would have been familiar with flocks of sheep and their shepherds. These have obviously made a strong impression on him.



Luke tells us that the news of Jesus' birth was announced by angels to some shepherds tending their flocks in fields outside Bethlehem in Judea. So Joy's cushion fits neatly into the story of Advent. She has the left front leg of the lamb supporting a staff capped by a simplified version of the cross, *Botonnée*.

## BUSH MINISTRY FUND COLLECTION.

Sandra also reminds us of our Support of the Bush Ministry Fund:

Saint Paul's folk have been contributing to the annual Bush Ministry Fund since 1998. We have won five awards for our outstanding contributions over the years. The five plaques are attached to the windmill trophy and its water tank. The money raised supports those priests who are stationed in the outer areas of the Brisbane Diocese.



**At present we have twelve generous people supporting this outreach.**

I plan to collect your money boxes or envelopes from 7th December this year to 21st December. If you are using an envelope, could you please label it with your name and "BMF Collection", to assist me with my files? I shall issue a receipt in due course.

**The money box on the right is the original one issued in 1998 and the one on the left is the current one, issued in 2010.**

The Bush Ministry fund was established in 1998 to provide support for struggling parishes and clergy in the Western Region of the Anglican Church in South Queensland. Its aim is to maintain a caring ministry to families living in towns and on properties in rural and remote areas of Queensland. Some of these are Bundaberg,

Charleville, Cunnamulla, Dalby and Windorah.

Money collected is used in three main ways: assistance with clergy stipend, costs of running a vehicle, replacement of vehicles when needed.



**This is a very worthy cause and all support is greatly appreciated.**

# Pete's Pantry Shares the Christmas Love



Congratulations to Rhonda, Paul and volunteers on a well organised and special lunch prepared by the RSL and served with love.



**A great day at our partner church St Peter's** as we celebrated Christmas with the clients from Pete's Pantry. The day was all about sharing the love with the folk who seek us out for a bit of help but more importantly to enjoy community and friendship.

Spirits were high as Rhonda and Paul wrangled volunteers including our local members Joan Pease and Kara Cooke who eschewed the reserved table to get among people as servant leaders.

Everyone was so grateful for the meal lovingly and generously prepared by the Wynnum Manly RSL Club and served with precision tong work by the kitchen team. Reverend Andrew got to be king of the selfies but the focus was really on the welcome and hospitality to the folk of the Bayside.

**Check our Giving Tree for ways we can continue to support those experiencing difficulty and seeking support.**



# Gaudete Sunday End of Year Brunch

**Sunday 14th December**

**After the 9.30 Service**

**Salad Rolls by Subway (GFO)**

**Wear something rose coloured**

**and bring something sweet and festive for afters to share**

**BYO beverages**

**A donation for catering appreciated**



## **CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE**

E.M. Tooth Residential Aged Care Home  
and

St Paul's Anglican Community, Manly

invite residents, staff, parishioners and family  
to Christmas Carols featuring the Bayside Brass.

**Sunday 21st December  
2pm in the Chapel**

Join us for a celebration of Christmas with sing-a-long  
carols played by the big sound of the brass band.  
A magical way to celebrate Christmas with those you love.

**Light Refreshments to follow.**



### **Christmas Wishes from Yvonne Chown**

We recently received this lovely note and  
picture.:

Hi Father Andrew,

I recently visited my dearest Auntie Yvonne who is also my Godmother. For 100 years 'young' she is doing very well. She is in good spirits but sorely misses her church family 'St Paul's' We had a lovely morning together and I have attached a photo to share in your next newsletter.

Auntie wishes all her church family, God's full blessings for Christmas and the festive season and will be with you in spirit.

**Liz Law**

#### Scripture Readings: Advent One Year A

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122;  
Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44  
**Next week: Advent Two Year A**  
Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7,18-21;  
Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

#### For your prayers:

- ◆ The Church of Bangladesh
- ◆ The Diocese of Brisbane
- ◆ The Parish of Bulimba
- ◆ Southern Queensland Correctional Centre:
- ◆ Hillbrook Anglican School, Enoggera
- ◆ Pete's Pantry Volunteers and Clients

**Yvonne, Coralie, Richard, Ann, Bruce, Judi, Brad, J, Chloe and Family, Shirley, Val, Vivien, Zoe, Ben, Desley, Michael, Peter, Jean, Carmel, Rev Sandy, Heidi, Fred, Ruby, Kay, Jane**

#### A Prayer for the Second Week of Advent

Loving God,  
as we prepare to celebrate  
the coming of Christ,  
help us to be a source of love  
and compassion in a world  
that desperately needs it.  
We pray for patience, hope,  
and courage to love as you love,  
extending kindness to all people.  
May our hearts be open to receive  
and to give love,  
reflecting your light and justice  
in our communities,  
so that all may prepare a way  
for your reign of peace.  
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 December

6th Final Carboot Sale @ Carina  
6th Parish Council Meeting @ Crisps 12pm  
6th Ecumenical Carols at St Peters 5pm  
9th Tree set up @ St Peter's  
10-16th Treerific @ St Peters  
10th E M Tooth Community Eucharist  
12th Public School Year Ends  
13th Cursillo 10.30am  
14th Parish Christmas Brunch  
16th E M Tooth Christmas Lunch  
21st Big Band Carols 2pm  
24th Christmas Eve 5pm

## Andrew, Atholl and Advent at Aveo End of 2025 Service

We celebrated the actual Saint Andrew, remembered our friend Atholl, thanked Lynn and all and enjoyed a good bit of cake at Manly Gardens. See you next year!



#### 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