



## ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN COMMUNITY, MANLY Christmas and New Year 2025/2026

# ST PAUL'S NEWS

JESUS CHRIST | SPIRITUALITY | COMMUNION | TRADITION



## Wishing You a Gentle and Holy Christmas

### 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



- Big Band Blowing for Jesus
- Crafty Crafters
- Christmas is a Season!
- Breathing and resting
- 2026 around the corner

*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

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# Community Matters

## Blowing Up a Storm at the Big Band Carols with Bayside Brass



### Bayside Brass, E M Tooth and St Paul's came together to make lots of joyful noise.

Hearts were as warm as the day as residents and staff of E M Tooth, folk from St Paul's and their families and friends gathered in the chapel to join in making joyful music unto the Lord last Sunday.

It was a return visit for Musical Director Damian and some of the tooters and blowers but what was great was so many young, newer members joining us. Damian is very proud of the rise in popularity of the band and growth in membership of the Bayside Brass.

Big thank you to Elizabeth from the lifestyle team for dragging her very willing mum along and for bringing her radiant positive energy as she does in everything. The E M Tooth staff were amazing as always in bringing the resident community together and putting on a fab feast of refreshments.

A big thanks to our own Mark Austin who as well as all he does with us is treasurer of Bayside Brass and our amiable organiser. Some scurrilous wag suggested that Mark was a founding member of the band a hundred or so years ago but the beauty of his blast in the bass section lays to rest that lie.

We've included our poem that was shared with the Christmas Story to tell the story of wonder and love.





### Our Poem: The Christmas Angel

Every Christmas I sit on top of the tree  
Spreading love to all the family  
When we celebrate our Saviour's birth  
At this special time which is filled with mirth

I remember the time in Bethlehem  
When a place to stay became a problem  
So Christ was born in a meagre stable  
Proving God's love is fact not a fable

A host of us Angels sang from on high  
And the Christmas Star shone bright in the sky  
We summoned the shepherds to come and pray  
And to celebrate this wonderful day

The Star guided Kings from far away lands  
To the place where Jesus's manger stands  
He came to Earth to atone for our sin  
And open Heaven so all can come in

He wants his people to spread peace and love  
And to pray for guidance from God above  
So let's cherish the Blessings that we share  
And submit ourselves to God's tender care





## Every Blessing for the Christmas Season!

All of us at St Paul's wish all of you all the Hope, Joy, Love and Peace you can muster in this holy season of Christmas.

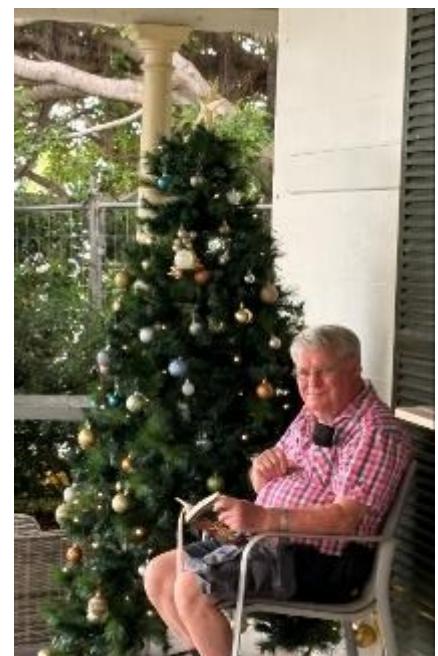
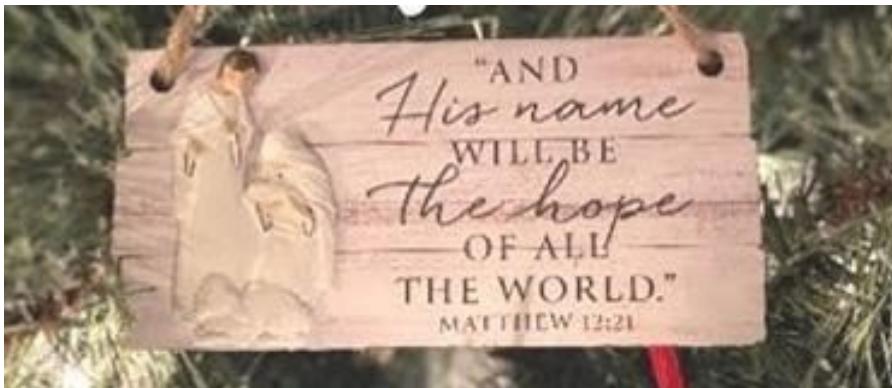


That means keeping your festive on right up to the Feast of the Epiphany which we will celebrate with the Magi and our friend Rev Shan on Sunday the 4th of January. So unlike Rev Andrew's mum who insisted the tree leave the lounge on Boxing Day... well the Radiata Pine did give her asthma a good going... you can maintain the lights and tinsel and still be liturgically correct. Hard core Christmas types claim you can party on until the feast of the Presentation of Jesus... Candlemass... right into February!

This year the story telling is from Matthew which means that Br Nathan will get to share his perspectives on the Feast of the Holy Innocents this Sunday. Its actually a fairly appalling story of how threatened Herod and those with power really are by the birth of Jesus and the embodiment of love that challenges greed and fear... but a story that is as relevant today as it ever was.

Reaching out in loving service is the core of who we are. Our cover pic tells the story of the generosity of heart and hands as our Giving Tree grows. What a beautiful response in preparing Personal Care Packs to be distributed to Baysiders doing it tough. A simple, practical and welcome gesture of support through Pete's Pantry. There are still tags on the tree and packs can be brought in right into the middle of January when we will take them to the Pantry when it reopens.

Rev Andrew is off on leave until the 10th of January and of course that means preparations for handing over the reigns on his last day with us on the 1st of Feb. But until then... and beyond obviously...





## Christmas Blessings Beyond the Walls

Our worship is always enriched by those who aren't with us... oops... that doesn't sound right!! What we mean is we are blessed with the presence of folk who aren't able to join us in person. Each Sunday a whole lot of souls join us via Zoom. If you see techy folk trying to unobtrusively glide over to the computer desk its often a glitch in the Zoom... nothing that doesn't get skilfully solved pretty quickly.

So we wave and gesticulate when we can and rejoice in the blessing of our folk that join us from home.

**Pictured here is the lovely Bev Giles who joins us most weeks with the help of her family from Janoah Gardens.**

## Crafty Vicar Inspires Crafty Ladies' Crafting

Sandra Davis reports that the amazing skills and talents of Rev Andrew's knitting fingers... including those on Kay's hands... has inspired craft groups all over the Bayside and arguably beyond if only we can find any concrete evidence.

Some of you may remember the tasteful way in which a pretty simple bit of knitting that may or may not have been planned to be a blanket became a nifty wine bottle cover that was eagerly bid for at our recent Thanksgiving Auction. Well, Sandra took the idea to her regular craft group and the results were graciously modelled by longtime parish friend Gloria Wilson.

*"Gloria is holding the first of the three wine bottle covers made by Lindall and myself at our CapellaBay craft group. Your idea of a knitted cover is a great one and received a good welcome at the home. The second and third covers we completed during the last fortnight. We are very pleased with them and thank YOU for giving us the idea. Lindall is 96 years old and an excellent knitter."*

**Let's be clear that there is no truth to the rumour that Sandra has set up a sweat shop of the elderly who now make vinkylskåpa sold at our local Scandinavian Big Box Shop... No truth at all!!!**



### Scripture Readings: Christmas Day

Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97;  
Titus 3:4-8a; Luke 2:1-20

### 28th December: Holy Innocents

Jeremiah 31:5-20; Psalm 124;  
1 John 1:5-2:2; Matthew 2:13-18

### 4th January: Epiphany of Our Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7,10-14;  
Ephesians 3: 1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

### 11th January: The Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29;  
Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

## What's On

### Every week

**Monday 10.30am** EM Tooth Prayer and Praise

**Tuesday 9.30am** Bible Reflection/discussion @ the Chapel

*Recommences 13th January*

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

*Recommences with a Community Dinner on 28th January*

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

### Coming up in December

24th Christmas Eve 5pm

25th Christmas Day 9.30 am

28th Holy Innocents Br Nathan presiding

**28th-Dec—10th Jan Rev Andrew on Leave**

### Coming up in January

4th Feast of the Epiphany Rev Shan presiding

10th Cursillo meets TBC

11th Baptism of Jesus Rev Andrew presiding

14th E M Tooth Resident's Service 2pm @ the Chapel

15th Tatters and Chatters @ Wynnum Library 10am

20th MU Gathering at St Peter's Wynnum

## A Prayer for the Christmas Season

"When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and princes are home,  
when the shepherds are back with the  
flocks,  
then the work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
to heal those broken in spirit,  
to feed the hungry,  
to release the oppressed,  
to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among all peoples,  
to make a little music with the heart.  
And to radiate the Light of Christ,  
every day, in every way,  
in all that we do and in all that we say.  
Then the work of Christmas begins."  
Howard Thurman

### For your prayers:

#### 25 December Christmas Day

- ◆ The Diocese of Sapele – The Church of Nigeria
- ◆ The Diocese of The Northern Territory
- ◆ The Parish of Dalby
- ◆ Anglicare SQ Kirami Residential Aged Care – Hervey Bay
- ◆ All Anglican Schools Business Managers/Bursars and Senior Leaders
- ◆ Liturgical Assistants

#### 28 December Holy Innocents

- ◆ The Anglican Church of Canada
- ◆ The Parish of East Redland
- ◆ Anglicare SQ Home and Community, North Region (Townsville)
- ◆ St Paul's Music Ministry

#### 4 January Epiphany

- ◆ The Church of the Province of Central Africa
- ◆ The Diocese of Ballarat
- ◆ The Parish of Gold Coast North
- ◆ Woodford Correctional Centre
- ◆ Canterbury College, Waterford
- ◆ Bayside Schools and Colleges

#### 11 January Baptism of Jesus

- ◆ Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America
- ◆ The Diocese of Gippsland
- ◆ The Parish of Hamilton
- ◆ Sudanese & South Sudanese Congregations in Anglican Church Southern QLD (ACSQ)
- ◆ Goodna Anglican Welfare Ministries
- ◆ St Hilda's School, Southport
- ◆ E M Tooth Pastoral Care Ministry

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

**For Peace and Light in darkness.**



### 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