



St Paul's Cathedral, Sale / Wayput

St Alban's Kilmany, St Anne's Golden Beach & St Mark's Loch Sport

*We acknowledge the Gunaikurnai people as the original custodians of this region.
All churches of the parish stand on the lands of the Gunaikurnai people.*

Dean: The Very Reverend Keren Terpstra 0438 220 878

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YouTube: St Paul's Cathedral Sale

Cathedral Parish Vision: *People of Christian faith –* **22nd December 2024**
Encouraging connection between the Divine and the everyday. **4th Sunday of Advent**

Sentence of Scripture

Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord. *Luke 1.45*

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, you have visited your people
and redeemed us in your Son:
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of
your word, and move us by your Spirit to bless
your wonderful works.

We ask this through him whose coming is
certain, whose Day draws near,
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and
reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Prayer for the year of Hope 2025

God of hope,
you fill those who trust in you
with peace and joy:
give us the gift of your Spirit
so that we may overflow
with the hope we have in Jesus,
shine with his presence,
and share the good news
with others.

Amen

Holy Communion Services at St Paul's:

Sundays - 8.00am and 10.00am **Wednesdays - 10.00am** in the Lady Chapel

Sunday Evenings 3rd Sunday of the month @ 5pm **Contemplative Service**

Morning Prayer 9am on Fridays

Outcentre Services:

St Anne's Golden Beach 10.30am 1st Sunday & 3rd Sunday of the month

St Alban's Kilmany 2.00pm 3rd Sunday of the month (Not in December or January)

St Mark's Loch Sport *Services only at Easter and Christmas*

Zoom Links: Evening Prayer: **Daily at 5.30pm - 6.00pm**

Meeting ID: 879 3927 8803 Passcode: Prayer

Meditation:

Weekdays: silent Christian Meditation, 8.15am-8.45am

Meeting ID: 809 497 711 Passcode: 600361

Associate Priest/Hospital Chaplain: Rev'd Heather Toms 0400 512 217

mhtoms@westnet.com.au

Honorary Deacon Rev'd Kate Campbell 0402514829 khcampbell55@gmail.com

Our parish is committed to ensuring our centres of worship and outreach are safe places for all, especially children and vulnerable people.

We have a duty of care to protect all who participate in the life of the church from abuse. We have zero tolerance for abuse of any kind.

If you are concerned about your own or somebody else's safety, or have witnessed behaviour that makes you feel uncomfortable you can contact the Deputy Director of Professional Standards in the Gippsland Diocese, Julie Reilly Mobile: 0456 572 589 Email: julie@kooyoora.org.au You may also like to talk to the Dean or the Lay Canons, or if this is a really serious matter, go directly to the police, and then to the above.

Cathedral Prayer Chain Requests

Please contact Trish Broadbear 0418 104 840

The prayer chain is for anyone in need of prayer

Please pray for our supported student Moses Baiduduga at Newton College PNG.

A Reading from the Prophet Micah

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

If the Assyrians come into our land
and tread upon our soil,
we will raise against them seven shepherds
and eight installed as rulers. *Micah 5.2-5a*

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Song of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:

my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

Who has looked with favour on his lowly servant:

from this day all generations will call me blessed.

The Almighty has done great things for me:

and holy is his name.

God has mercy on those who fear him:

from generation to generation.

The Lord has shown strength with his arm:

and scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones:

and lifting up the lowly.

God has filled the hungry with good things:

and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel:

to remember the promise of mercy,

The promise made to our forebears:

to Abraham and his children for ever.

A Reading from The Letter to the Hebrews

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,

but a body you have prepared for me;

in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings

you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God”

(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).’

When he said above, ‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings’ (these are offered according to the law),

then he added, ‘See, I have come to do your will.’ He abolishes the first in order to establish the second.

And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. *Hebrews 10.5-10*

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, ‘Blessed are you among women, and

blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.' *Luke 1.39-45*
For the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**



Advent 4 Biblical Reflection – *from the Christmas Bowl resources*
Our primary hope and joy as Christians comes from the fact that Jesus Christ gave himself for us. Jesus liberates us from our sin and makes us holy (Hebrews 10:10). In him we find security and peace (Micah 5: 4 & 5). Like Mary, we learn that God has looked with favour upon us

(Luke 1:48).

As Christians, we know that we do not need to spend our lives trying to earn a reward from God. God does not need sacrifices and offerings from us. They give him no pleasure (Hebrews 10:6). God's love has been fully extended towards us with all creation and for all time. Jesus assures of this.

Our lives change when we glimpse the breadth of God's love for us. We discover that we are no longer lowly but blessed. Our hearts and souls fill with joy. We offer praise with our lips and with our lives.

One of the experiences of being loved is the desire to share that love with others. We want the best for them. Christians devote themselves to works of justice, mercy, and care not for reward but to serve. This work is an expression of love.

The same is true for the choices Christians make about their money. They give generously to make a positive difference in the world. Many people have chosen the Christmas Bowl for 75 years as their way of demonstrating God's love for refugees and people in need at Christmas.

Today, we are invited to celebrate God's love for us in Jesus.

To look forward to living more fully in him and to find ways of expressing our joy in that love wherever we may be. *Dr Peter Stuart*

Dean's Desk

It's been a week of contrasts, in some way embodying the themes of Advent which are a mix of looking forward and looking backward. In Advent we look back, ironically anticipating the birth of the Christ-child, while we look forward to his coming again in glory.

A HUGE thank you to everyone who made last Sunday's Lessons and Carols such a beautiful event, particularly to Jessica and Caroline, our vocal scholars, and their mum Claire, who brought such wonderful music to us, and to Marion who played the organ for us. Thank you to everyone who read or led a prayer, and to those who helped to set things up for the service as well as Nancy and the catering team. I think it was the best Lessons and Carols yet in my time!

On Thursday we had the last Bishop in Council meeting for the year, held this year in the hall surrounded by book fair preparations, and using the new tv which is a wonderful asset. There were some significant issues we were dealing with, and it was something of a relief to retire to Bishops court for some drinks and nibbles.

Christine and others are putting in a great deal of effort to get the book fair ready; if you've got an hour to spare, please drop by to help!

Friday saw two funerals at the cathedral: one for Bob Sheehan, son of Merle who was a key person at Loch Sport and whose funeral was the day I started in the parish; and one for Stan Bruhn. Thank you, everyone who came to support Robyn and family. One of the things I'm sometimes conscious of at funerals is that most of us only know one another by snapshot: at a funeral we hear more about the different dimensions that make up someone's life. Stan had a long and active ministry as a lay reader, member of synod, member of chapter, member of Bishop in Council, and much more. We commend both him and Bob into God's keeping, and pray for angels to surround their loved ones, especially at this time.

I hope you can stay after the morning service when we'll be having a **congregational chat**. Bring along your ideas and questions - it'll be an opportunity to air any concerns and propose suggestions.

Today (Sunday) at 5pm we will be holding a Blue Christmas service for others who may be grieving or finding this time of year difficult. I'll be playing the harp - it'll be a lovely, gentle opportunity to reflect, remember, and know the presence and comfort of the God who loves us.

I'm conscious that many folk will be away this week over Christmas, spending time with friends and family. I pray that wherever you'll be and whatever you'll be doing, it will be joyous and full of the peace that only the presence of God-with-us brings, the peace that passes all understanding.

From myself and the lay canons, a Happy and Holy Christmas to everyone.

Keren

Wednesday Services in the Lady Chapel have concluded for the year and will recommence on Wednesday 5 February 2025.

NEXT Sunday until the end of January, there will be one morning service at **9am**.

Thank you to all who have been getting the cathedral ready for the Christmas services, and Book Fair. Brenda, Cathy S Jan B cleaned the brass, Julie and Lyn prepared flowers, Rob S, Rob T, Peter M and Grant W cut the lawns and Julie M and Christine attacked the weeds (they reciprocated!).

Bookfair Update:

Christine prayed for helpers and Robbo, Wendy (welcome back!) and Jan D turned up, Helen H, Liz and Kathy continued to sort, and Rob S patiently did whatever Christine needed, even way past his meal times!

From Boxing day, we need to do an incredible amount of work to complete the set up, books are still coming in by the loads, and even with 6 extra tables, it still will be challenge to put it all out, in time. We even have to repurpose the storeroom and back entry! Please pray for wisdom, patience and strength for Christine and team.

If anyone could spare any Christmas leftovers, from Boxing day, the workers would love to be fed, they work longer and harder when meals are provided! See Christine who also needs 'plain meat and veg' this week please.

The **raffle** is going to be 'choose your own' gift vouchers again, so donations towards these help raise more funds. We need \$300 more.

ABM Appeal

Help Bring Hope and Opportunity to Children in Sri Lanka and Australia

The angel's message to the shepherds on that first Christmas Eve was one of peace, reconciliation and hope.

Two of ABM AID's partners, the Diocese of Colombo in Sri Lanka and Gawura in Sydney, are working towards that same peace, reconciliation and hope by providing education to disadvantaged children in Sri Lanka and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in Sydney. Envelopes available at church, or donate on line.



75 years of the Christmas Bowl

For 75 years, caring Australians have been giving hope to people forced to flee their homes due to conflict and disasters, through the Christmas Bowl. This powerful tradition has changed the lives of thousands of people who have been displaced around the world – empowering them to rebuild their lives.



Support the Christmas Bowl Appeal.

QR code links to the Cathedral's specific page, or take an envelope and place in the offering bag.

Gigantic Enormous Supersized Biggest ever Book Fair !

**9am to 4pm Sundays from 10.30am
January 1st – 21st**

Internet Bank Transfer: Cathedral's ministry and mission
BSB 013-795 Account no: 4962-98866 Ref: Offering etc.

Sunday Bulletin / Web/ Facebook contact:

Christine Morris OAM 0438 595 056 cmorris@wideband.net.au

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Call to Worship (Christmas Bowl resources)

My soul magnifies the Lord:

My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

God's mercy is on those who see him with awe:

In this and all generations.

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

In this Advent season we have been lighting candles with the hope of seeing the Lord and preparing for Christmas.

Our hearts are filled with expectation that God will show great love for us.

God of light: **Come to us.** God of joy: **Come to us.** God of hope: **Come to us.**

God of love: **Come to us.**

God, faithful and true, make us eager with expectation, as we look for the fulfilment of Your promise in Jesus our Saviour. Hear this prayer for Your love's sake. **Amen.**

SENDING OUT

God is good. **All the time.** All the time. **God is Good.**

God is love. **For ever and ever.** For ever and ever. **God is love.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

While shepherds watched
their phones by night
All seated at the bar,
An angel texted
them to say
Look up and
See the star!



RIP Michael Leunig

Christmas 2024

St Paul's Anglican Cathedral, Sale

Sunday 22nd Dec 5pm Blue Christmas service

CHRISTMAS EVE @ St Pauls

5.00pm An informal Family Worship Service
Suitable for all aged children and grownups!

11.00pm @ St Paul's Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY @ St Pauls

9.00am @ St Paul's Holy Communion

Regular SUNDAY services @ St Pauls

29th December & all January 9.00am only

Out centres:

Christmas **Eve**: St Alban's Kilmany 8pm

Christmas **Day**: St Anne's Golden Beach 11am



"You have heard that it was said 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your father in heaven."