

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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Cathedral Parish Vision: *To lead the Cathedral Parish in being God's beating heart for our communities.*

8th November 2026
Defence Sunday Pent 24

Sentence from Scripture

Watch and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.
Matthew 24.42, 44

Prayer of the Day

Eternal God, you have taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand:
keep us awake and alert,
watching for your kingdom, so that when Christ, the bridegroom, comes we may go out joyfully to meet him,
and with him enter into the marriage feast that you have prepared for all who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Year of Prayer 2026

Lord, teach us to pray.
Teach us to listen to your voice and to hear your word.
Teach us to offer our hearts to you in love and to know your love. Teach us to forgive and be forgiven. Teach us to give our lives in your service and to do your will. Teach us to pray, and pray in us, Lord Jesus. 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		*No Services*

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

A Reading from the Book of Joshua

Joshua 24.1-3a, 14-25

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, 'Thus says the Lord , the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac; 'Now therefore revere the Lord , and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord . Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord , choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord .' Then the people answered, 'Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord , for he is our God.' But Joshua said to the people, 'You cannot serve the Lord , for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.' And the people said to Joshua, 'No, we will serve the Lord !' Then Joshua said to the people, 'You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord , to serve him.' And they said, 'We are witnesses.' He said, 'Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord , the God of Israel.' The people said to Joshua, 'The

Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.' So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem. Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 78.1-7
Give heed to my teaching, O my people:
incline your ears to the words of my mouth;
For I will open my mouth in a parable:
and expound the mysteries of former times.
What we have heard and known:
what our forebears have told us,
We will not hide from their children,
but declare to a generation yet to come:
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
his mighty and wonderful works.
He established a law in Jacob
and made a decree in Israel:
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach their children,
That future generations might know,
and those yet unborn:
that they in turn might teach it to their children;
So that they might put their confidence in God:
and not forget his works, but keep his commandments.

A Reading from the First letter to The Thessalonians
Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another; and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, beloved, to do so more and more, to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we directed you, so that you may behave properly towards outsiders and be dependent on no one. But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words. *1 Thessalonians 4.9-18*
Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.
'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour. *Matthew 25.1-13*
For the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Reflection
Sometimes in life we end up in a liminal space, a place of great uncertainty, a place where we are in between what was and what is yet to be. It can be a time of great stress as we wait for something - whatever that something is - to happen. All of today's readings speak from that space "in between": in the first reading there's a decision to be made which literally risks life and death; in the second reading the writer of the letter to the Thessalonians points towards an imminent time of resurrection and reunion with those who have died in "the coming of the Lord"; and the gospel reading is the classic story of the wise and foolish young women waiting for the bridegroom to arrive, a story of wisdom and choices.

I find these texts unsettling, each in their own ways. Let me focus on one: the first reading from Joshua. This story comes at the very end of Joshua's life. The people are now settled in the Promised Land, and his life is ebbing to a close. He calls them together to remind them of their duties and responsibilities, just as his predecessor Moses had done (in Deuteronomy). And he puts to them the same critical question: choose God, choose life; choose not-God, choose death.

Of course, with the Israelites in the first reading, we are supposed to shout, "We will serve the Lord!" and so choose life. The book of Joshua reached its final form in Babylon, a place of exile from the Promised Land because the people had served other gods and so "chosen death" (the framework they used to make sense of their plight).

We too stand in that liminal in-between space, and in those moments we have choices to make - to choose life, to live lives worthy of the calling we've been given,

to fill our lamps with the oil of the Spirit and keep our wicks trimmed. Let us look forward beyond the crisis point, beyond the liminal place, to the hope that awaits, because God is faithful.

Dean's Desk

Congratulations to the two new deacons ordained on Saturday, Julie Bruce and Marinus van Meerten. Please pray for them, their parish communities, and their families as they begin their ministries as ordained folk.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped to make the Ordination service happen, and to those who went out of their way to help extend hospitality to our diocesan family. Thanks to Christine and our faithful mowers and whippersnippers for getting the grounds looking lovely; to Nancy and the catering team for providing the spread; to Jan for her sacristan work setting up; to Joe and Matthew for looking after the livestream; to Kaye who served, and those who welcomed folk at the door. It really is a team effort.

Today is Defense Sunday and we welcome the Australian Military Wives Choir East Sale to our 10am service, and are thankful to Rev'd Tim for preaching with his chaplain hat on. Do pray for the ministry of chaplaincy to our Defense forces, for the faithful men and women who walk alongside those in active service on our behalf. And we also remember today, the Sunday closest to Remembrance Sunday, those who gave their lives in that service to their country, with gratitude. Please pray for our Defense force personnel, and for their families who facilitate the offering of their service.

A reminder that our Annual Meeting is on Sunday 22nd November after the 10am service over morning tea. Please get your reports to Christine no later than Wednesday as she needs to be able to print booklets for distribution next weekend.

And the day before the Annual Meeting we are joining with the Sale City Band for Hymnfest at 2pm on 21st November. Please send this out as far and as wide as you can, so we can fill the Cathedral with eager voices!

Keren

Called to Care for People and Planet Rev Heather

Over the past three weeks, a small group have shared in a journey of reflection, conversation, and hope as we explored Called to Care for People and Planet. Together we considered creation as gift, listened to the experiences of those most affected by climate change, and reflected on what faithful action might look like in our own lives and communities. Along the way, we were reminded that caring for people and caring for the earth are not separate callings but are woven together in God's vision for the flourishing of all creation.

One of the strongest themes to emerge was that meaningful change often begins with small acts of attentiveness and care. We may not solve every challenge facing

our world, nor see the full fruit of our efforts. Yet, like those who plant trees whose shade they may never sit under, we are invited to act faithfully in the season we have been given.
Perhaps the journey leaves us with a question:
What might faithful care for people, place, and planet look like in the ordinary rhythms of my daily life?
The challenge before us is not simply environmental. It is spiritual. It calls us to live more deeply into the commandment at the heart of our faith: to love God and to love our neighbour.
As the series concludes, the invitation remains. To notice. To listen. To respond. And to trust that even the smallest acts of care become part of God's ongoing work of renewal in the world.
"For we may not see the whole Promised Land, but we can walk faithfully in the direction of God's love, trusting that God will establish the work of our hands."

AGM.
If you have to write a report for the AGM, Christine needs it emailed to her by the **11th November** please, so they can be distributed on the 15th November.
AGM is on the **22nd** November at 11.20isham.
Nomination forms available **today**. Chapter members, Lay Canons, Mission Secretary, 1 Synod Rep needed. All will need to have Safe Ministry Clearance. Due back to Christine by the 15th.

November Mission of the Month: Anglicare Victoria – Christmas appeal
For the Christmas appeal this year Anglicare Victoria has a choice of 12 different gift cards, including:
Christmas Fun for Families $100, Chaplaincy Support $50, Christmas Lunch $20
Stock the Community Pantry $30
See the whole range and purchase a gift here: https://christmas.anglicare.org.au/
'Anglicare Victoria works with children, young people and families. Supporting tens of thousands of Victorians every year, our 1700+ staff and volunteers operate from more than 45 sites across the state, as well as delivering assistance online, at home and in the community.' See the display in the foyer.
Please pray for the work of Anglicare and especially for Sarah Gover, the Parish Partnerships Coordinator for our region.

Coming up:
Saturday 21 November **Hymnfest** with the Sale City Band 2pm
AGM Sunday 22nd after 10am service
Choralfest 27th November
Sale Community Carols 9th December Lessons and Carols 13th December
Blue Christmas 20th December
Blessing of backpacks and briefcases on Sunday 31st January next year

Craft Group is whatever people who come want it to be. 10am Thursdays. Come for a cuppa and a chat, stitch, knit, crochet, colour. More information Phone Jenny 0457 455 503

We are continuing to support local state **primary schools with breakfast items** Donations can be left in the breakfast club basket in the foyer.
Food items suitable for donation are milo, muesli bars, pancake mix, jam, fruit cups, sliced cheese and margarine. Contact Kathy J 0400 444 416

10c recycling Bottles and cans can be left at Church to raise money. Plastic lemonade etc larger bottles, even the small juice cardboard ones as well as cans are suitable - Drop them in the small bin with yellow lid in the foyer, or see Christine.

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

PARISH CONTACTS

Lay Canons: (*Their Portfolio*)
Dr Iain Nicolson (Processes) 0407447250 Dr Kevin Cameron OAM (Music) kevincameron560@gmail.com Christine Morris OAM (Property) 0438595056
Chapter St Paul's reps:
Nancy Schmack, Steph Broughton, Kathy Jackiw, Kylie Mannix, Maria Iuliano
St Alban Kilmany rep Merryn Stevenson **St Anne Golden Beach rep** Val Kilner
Synod Reps: Jan & Michael Down **Mission Rep:** Jan Down
Music: Dean Keren **Sacristan**: Jan Blake **Catering:** Nancy Schmack
Flowers: Julie Mielke/Lyn Ruff **Craft group:** Jenny Wilson
Opening church / Kathy Jackiw
Rosters, Hall hire, Book Fair, Emergency food Sunday Bulletin
Web, Facebook: Christine Morris OAM 0438 595 056 cmorris@wideband.net.au

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Affirmations for Pentecost 2026:
God loves me. God loves the people of this parish.
God loves our community.
God is with us; Jesus prays for me, for St Paul's, for our world;
the Spirit prays in us with sighs too deep for words.
We are held in the love of the Trinity. God goes before us.
God give us eyes to see and hearts to respond
to where you are already at work in our world.

Defence Anglicans

PRAY WITH US

O God, our ruler and our guide,
in whose hands are the destinies of this and every nation, we give you thanks for the freedoms we enjoy in this land and for those who laid down their lives to defend them:
We pray that we and all the people of Australia,
gratefully remembering their courage and their sacrifice,
may have grace to live in a spirit of justice,
of generosity, and of peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Partner with Defence Anglican Chaplaincy

When you pray or give you are helping chaplains support Defence members and their families.

For more information and to give visit:
defenceanglicans.org.au

Here to Serve

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." — John 15:13