



St Paul's Cathedral, Sale

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

Dean: The Very Rev'd Susanna Pain 0418 637 469 susanna.pain@gmail.com

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Hon. Priest: Rev'd Nikolai Blaskow 0428 167 724 nikolai@nikolaiblaskow.com

Hon. Deacon: Rev'd Brian Norris 0418 633446 BrianN@gippsanglican.org.au

Hon. Hospital Chaplain: Rev'd Heather Toms 0400 512 217

Cathedral Organist: Anthony Hahn 0437 569 608

Cathedral Parish Vision: *"People of Christian faith – Encouraging connection between the Divine and the everyday."* **10th Dec 2017 Advent 2**

Holy Communion Services at St Paul's:

Sundays - 8.00am and 10.00am (including Sunday Club for primary aged children)

Wednesdays – 10.00am in the Lady Chapel

<i>Sunday</i>	Healing Eucharist	<i>1st Sunday of the month at 5.00 pm</i>
<i>Evenings</i>	Messy Church	<i>3rd Sunday of the month at 4.00 pm</i>
	Contemplative Service	<i>Last Sunday of the month at 5.00 pm</i>

Sunday Bulletin *Welcome ! - Wuman njinde*

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.

Hymn 8am TiS 270 On Jordon's Bank

10am MP554 Peace is flowing like a river

Sentence from Scripture

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

Luke 3.4; Isaiah 40.5a

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayer for St Paul's

Come Holy Spirit breathe through us:

Enable us to know and make known the connection between You and the everyday.

Help us to be relevant and approachable to the community, to engage inclusively with them and each other, and to stay connected with you.

Enable us to show Christ's unconditional love in action.

This we ask in Jesus name, Amen.

A Reading from The Book of Isaiah

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,

that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'

And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,

lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
‘Here is your God!’
See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep. *Isaiah 40.1-11*
Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85.1-2, 8-13

O Lord, you were gracious to your land:
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
You forgave the iniquity of your people:
and covered all their sin.
I will hear what the Lord God will speak:
**for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful ones, whose hearts are turned to him.**
Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:
and his glory shall dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth are met together:
righteousness and peace have kissed each other;
Truth shall flourish out of the earth:
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
The Lord will also give us all that is good:
and our land shall yield its plenty.
For righteousness shall go before him:
and tread the path before his feet.

A Reading from The Second Letter of Peter

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens

will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him. *2 Peter 3.8-15a*

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

Gospel Hymn 8am TiS 276 There's a light upon a mountain
10am TiS 754 You are my hiding place

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight” ’,

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals.

I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

Mark 1.1-8

For the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Offertory Hymn 8am TiS 444 (T 56) Dear Shepherd of your people
10am TiS 647 Comfort comfort

Final Hymn 10am (Tune TiS 523) Come host of heaven's

Prayers:

- For missionaries/agencies: ABM, CMS, BCA, Rich & Julie, 123 Project
- For Bishop Kay Goldsworthy and family
- The Western Region of the Diocese, Archdeacon Philip Muston, Regional Dean Sue Jacka
- For Dean Susanna Pain and Rev'd Nikolai Blaskow
- For ministry with Families and Sunday Club Ministry: Ro and Marg
- For congregation and ministry of St Mark's Loch Sport
- Gippsland and St Paul's Grammar Schools, and the State Schools in Sale: Chaplains: The Rev'd Rich Lanham-GG , Russell Ferguson-Sale College Martin Burnell-545
- For preparations for all Advent and Christmas services, including the community Carols by Candlelight Tuesday evening.

For those in special need: Caroline N, Lisa C, Andrew G, Heather S, Heather C, Henry, Xavier & Matthew K, Leanne, Isobel M, Loz, Mike C, Libby
For those who mourn.

Cathedral Prayer Chain Requests

Please contact Naomi McDonald 5144 5922 Kerrie Smith 51456783

The prayer chain is for anyone in need of prayer

From the Dean

Dear Vasco,

In response to your question “what is worth doing and what is worth having?” I would like to say simply this. It is worth doing nothing and having a rest; in spite of all the difficulty it may cause, you must rest Vasco – otherwise you will become RESTLESS!

I believe the world is sick with exhaustion and dying of restlessness. While it is true that periods of weariness help the Spirit to grow, the prolonged, ongoing state of fatigue to which the world seems to be rapidly adapting is ultimately soul destroying as well as earth destroying. The ecology of evil flourishes and love cannot take root in this sad situation. Tiredness is one of our strongest, most noble and instructive feelings. It is an important aspect of our CONSCIENCE and must be heeded or else we will not survive. When you are tired you must HAVE that feeling and you must act upon it sensibly – you MUST rest like the trees and animals do.

Yet tiredness has become a matter of shame! This is a dangerous development. Tiredness has become the most suppressed feeling in the world. Everywhere we see people overcoming their exhaustion and pushing on with intensity – cultivating the great mass mania which all round is making life so hard and so ugly – so cruel and meaningless – so utterly graceless – and being congratulated for overcoming it and pushing it deep down inside themselves as if it were a virtue to do this. And of course Vasco, you know what happens when such strong and natural feelings are denied – they turn into the most powerful and bitter poisons with dreadful consequences. We live in a world of these consequences and then wonder why we are so unhappy. I urge you Vasco, do as we do in Curly Flat – learn to curl up and rest – feel your noble tiredness – learn about it and make a generous place for it in your life and enjoyment will surely follow. I repeat: it's worth doing nothing and having a rest.

yours sleepily,

Mr. Curly XXX

(From Michael Leunig's 'The Curly-Pyjama Letters')

Unexpectedly, I had some time off this week. The commissioning in Grafton was postponed due to the ill health of the new Dean. I had cleared the decks, and so I decided to have a rest, as Michael Leunig's Mr Curley from Curly Flat advises Vasco Pyjama. Vasco asks, "what is worth doing and what is worth having?" Mr Curley advises, "It is worth doing nothing and having a rest";

It is in resting that the world opens up. Even many of you who are retired, I suspect need to learn this lesson, again and again – and not wait until we are burnt out or sick. "Do nothing and have a rest", then the body and the spirit repair, are comforted and restored, and creativity flows, and new energy emerges.

Peace is our focus this week,- inner peace, outer peace, working for peace. For me, peace is built in prayer and meditation – with resting in God. We often pray for world peace when I lead services at Ashleigh House, and at Wilson Lodge and Opal. Breathing Space during Advent is one place to do this. The reflections are simple and challenging, the prayer time is enlivening - Mondays to Thursdays 5:30 PM to 6 PM in the chapel. Why not join us for rest and prayer?

We are building on a strong base of prayer in this place, building a contemplative community resting in God's love and ready for action – comforted and strengthened by our close connection with the divine, with God, and guided by God's Spirit.

In Advent we commit to these practices of prayer and stillness, listening, staying awake, praying.

We keep Nikolai and the students in Rwanda in our prayers, as well as this community, and beyond.

The Cathedral Chapter is delighted to engage the Reverend Heather Thoms as Honorary Associate Priest one day per week from the end of January. Heather brings great pastoral skills, and contact with the community through her chaplaincy work at the hospital and prison. I look forward to working with the clergy team of Nikolai, Heather and Deacon Brian Norris to serve you and the wider community next year. We are also soon to welcome three new lay readers in the new year to build up our lay team leading worship and visiting.

I hope to see you at Breathing Space for a time of short reflection, silence, and intercessory prayer, on Mondays to Thursdays in Advent 5.30pm-6pm.

Blessings, **Susanna**

Rev Nikolai is in Rwanda: *7 Students and 3 teachers from Gippsland Grammar School and St Paul's. are having their alternative to 'Schoolies Week' in Rwanda. From the 9th – 12th Dec they will have some R & R at Akagera National Park. Then home via Doha* He writes:

The Hotel of A Thousand Hills

Hotel Rwanda the title of the now famous film which chronicles the Rwanda genocide, will be the subject of our visit today, only now its's called L'Hotel des Milles Collines which is so true of the typical landscape of Rwanda.

We head out this Wednesday 6th, to visit the Museum and the Hotel which immortalize the genocide. It will be the fourth last day of our stay at the Seeds of Peace Centre, and a four hour round trip, and this after a frantic 'off the deep end' encounter with the complexities of Rwandan life over the past week. While on the one hand, Rwanda remembers in graphic detail the horrors of that period which coughed up its sputum of 800,000 maimed and 1 million killed, on the other it is also, in its daily round of business, it is able to live in denial. Just like the re-naming of the Rwanda Hotel, it can and does get good at not mentioning the war. Partly this is a way of tenaciously setting its sights on the present and the future and the re-building of the

nation. It is helped by the remarkable memory of the revival here in the early 20s of last century which spread to encompass large parts of Africa and came to be known as the 'East African Revival'. And while the legacy of the revival is everywhere—to wit the burgeoning parishes many hundreds strong in some cases thousands—the country, like ours for different reasons, needs a strong after shock of that revival to jolt it out of the grinding poverty that affects its well hidden dark side. Its diligent and hardworking people need the encouragement of such an awakening and refreshing in the 'language' of the 21st century.

I am determined to bring home the kindling of the first inklings of that revival, and have seen its manifestations in brief snatches as I sat where those who were affected by it stood in joyous bewilderment. I am also determined to mobilise a very strong campaign to inject funds into the amazing projects being undertaken by so many parishes as they seek to expand. Please pray for the wonderful group of students and staff from St Paul's and Gippsland Grammar School as we finish our time here with so many strong impressions. Every dollar we contribute goes so far. One vision I have is to set up a scholarship fund: \$340 will fund a boarder's education for a year.

Nikolai

Seasons of Birth and Creativity Exhibition

10 - 22 December: opening **TODAY** 11.30am – 12.30pm,
December 10th with speakers The Reverends Jazz and Samuel
Dow, followed by a light lunch.

***Many more people needed to look after the exhibition until the
22nd. Please put your name down if you are able***

There will be a short **special Synod** on 16th December from 9.30am in the cathedral followed by a service at 1pm when **Bishop Kay will lay down her pastoral staff. See Ann Miller if you would like to help cater for this.**

News and Events

Sunday Services from Christmas Day until 21st January will be at 9am.

There is a red tub for donations for the Anglicare Christmas Appeal; CHRISTMAS food (eg puddings/tins of ham.. please no baked beans!!) and UNWRAPPED gifts. Or leave in the office during the week.

We need people to be on a roster to either vacuum or dust the cathedral (the hall is already cleaned weekly) Please see Christine if you are interested. A roster is available if you would like to put your name down.

Thank you to those who delivered Meals on Wheels last week!

St Paul's Raffle raised \$613. Thank you!

Mission Helpers are also having a raffle, 1st Prize A very well dressed doll. 2nd Large Hamper Drawn TODAY .

New Chapter: Chairman: Philip Davis, Chapter Clerk: (Parish Secretary) Christine Morris, Treasurer: Jeanette Henwood. We thank Arthur McPherson for his many years as Chairman, and Julie Irving for her time and dedication to our finances over many years. Thank you! The Financial Audit has been completed, a copy on board in hall near the 'bricks'.

Chapter has formed a sub group looking at the maintenance and all buildings in the precinct. Soon tenders will be sought for a revised guttering/fascia board replacement etc. Another sub- group is addressing fundraising. See A4 info asking for fundraising ideas

Internet Bank Transfer: Cathedral's ministry and mission

BSB 013-795 Account no: 4962-98866 Ref: Offering or ? ?? guttering!!??

Internet Bank Transfer: St Paul's Building Fund (new for 2017)

BSB 705 077 Acc no: 000 409 69 NO reference needed

Cheques made out to Anglican Diocese of Gippsland

VOLUNTEER ROSTERS for the coming week

Morning Tea: 8am: M Monk /? **10am:** H Stokoe, J & P Mielke

December Flowers: Lyn Ruff (none in Advent)

Readings for 17th December Advent 3

1st- Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-11 **2nd** - 1 Thessalonians 5.12-28 **G** - John 1.6-8, 19-28

Weekly Diary of Church Activities

- 11th Monday**
5.30pm *Breathing Space for Advent*
- 12th Tuesday**
9.30am Tadpoles Playgroup
3.00pm Service at Royal Freemasons Nursing Home
5.30pm *Breathing Space for Advent*
7.30pm **Community Carols by Candlelight at the LEAF**
- 13th Wednesday**
7.45am Meditation Group in Lady Chapel *'pre' stretching at 7.30*
10.00am Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel
1.45pm Service at Wilson Lodge Nursing Home
5.30pm *Breathing Space for Advent*
- 14th Thursday**
9.30am *mainly music*
5.30pm *Breathing Space for Advent*
- 15th Friday** *Susanna's day off*
- 16th Saturday**
Synod and 1pm Farewell service for Bishop Kay
- 17th Sunday**
8.00pm Ecumenical Festival of Lessons and Carols Service

Seasons of Birth and Creativity Exhibition

opening 11.30am – 12.30pm, TODAY

with speakers The Reverends Jazz and Samuel Dow,
followed by a light lunch.

Then open 10 - 22 December

Out Centre Services

Today: 2.30pm St Mark's Loch Sport
Next Sunday: Kilmany NOT having a service

Sunday Bulletin: Christine Morris 51444979 cmorris@wideband.net.au

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. The New Revised Standard Version, Nashville, TN Thomas Nelson Publishers 1989.

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Christmas 2017

St Paul's Anglican Cathedral Parish, Sale

SUNDAY 17th December

**8.00pm Ecumenical Festival of
Lessons and Carols Service – St Paul's**

CHRISTMAS EVE

2.30pm St Mark's Loch Sport

10.30am St Anne's Golden Beach Holy Communion

8.00pm St Alban's Kilmany Holy Communion

5.00pm St Paul's Informal Family Worship Service

Suitable for all aged children and grownups!

*Nativity dress-ups are provided so all children can
participate in the telling of the Christmas story*

11.00pm St Paul's Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00am Holy Communion Family Worship.

SUNDAYS

31st Dec-21 January 9.00am only Services

Contact St Paul's Office 51442020

Or Dean Susanna Pain 0418 637 469

susanna.pain@gmail.com





Seasons of Birth and Creativity Exhibition

**Sunday 10 December to-
Friday 22 December
10am-4pm**

Delbridge Hall,
Cunninghame St, Sale

An exhibition of 17 works by local and interstate artists using various media, including sculptures and fabric art. We are recognising the parallels of the seasons of birth with the seasons or phases of creative action.

We trust, that when hung the works will be in ‘conversation’ with other works, around a common theme. It is a way to deepen the conversation about Christmas.

‘The birth of a child brings a great mix of emotions. It brings us face to face with the greatness and vulnerability of being human, it teaches us anew to be human.’

As we prepare to welcome the Christ Child, born into this world of confusion and delight, we again face the greatness and vulnerability of our humanity. If we allow this light of the world made flesh to illumine our being, we will learn anew to be human.’ Jazz Dow