



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

KerenT@gippslandanglicans.org.au

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Website: stpaulssale.org.au **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/StPaulsCathedralSale

YouTube: St Paul's Cathedral Sale

Cathedral Parish Vision: *People of Christian faith –
Encouraging connection between the Divine and the everyday.*

**14th December
Advent 3**

Sentence from Scripture

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.' *Isaiah 35.3–4*

Prayer of the Day

Sustain us, O God, with the power of your love on our journey to meet the One who is coming: strengthen our weak hands, make firm our feeble knees, and open blind eyes to the dawning of your kingdom, so that our hearts may rejoice as we behold the majesty of our God.

We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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

Please pray for our supported student Will Kepolo at Newton College PNG.

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus
it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord ,
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.'
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,

and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. *Isaiah 35.1-10*
Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(Psalm) 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 of James

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. *James 5.7-10*
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.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples

and said to him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?’

Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see:

the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.

And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.’

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: ‘What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?

What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces.

What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.

This is the one about whom it is written,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.”

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. *Matthew 11.2-11*

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

Reflection. *from the Christmas Bowl resources*

Isaiah speaks of a joy that is transformative, restoring what has been lost and penning paths that once seemed impossible. “The tongue of the mute sing for joy” reminds us that God’s joy comes to those who have known hardship, sorrow, or limitation, bringing new life and hope.

In Central Sulawesi, Indonesia, Eko*, his wife Mega*, and their daughter Dewi* had faced repeated floods that destroyed crops and threatened their entire way of life. Life as a farmer was unpredictable and exhausting and hope often felt fragile. But through the Christmas Bowl and Act for Peace’s local partner, Yayasan Cita Wadah Swadaya (YCWS), Eko and Mega joined the DREAM program, learning sustainable farming techniques, adapting to climate change, and building resilience for the future.

The challenges remain, but they are no longer powerless; they are learning, adapting, and thriving. Isaiah's vision is coming to life here: joy rising in the midst of hardship, resilience replacing despair, and new life flourishing where once there was loss.

Through the Christmas Bowl, we join God's work of restoring joy, supporting communities like Eko's to flourish, grow, and experience the deep, sustaining joy that comes from hope, empowerment, and God's presence.



Christmas Bowl Envelopes are available

Dean's Desk

A huge thankyou to Kaye and her team of helpers who hosted a beautiful Helpers' Lunch for everyone who's volunteered at the cathedral through 2025. About 30 were in attendance - which is not the sum total of folk who have contributed time and talents to the life of our community this year... As we come to the close of 2025, I want to take the opportunity to acknowledge all of you, rejoicing in the gifts you bring as part of this faith community.

On Tuesday evening many of us either attended or participated in the Community Carols at the Leaf at the Botanic Gardens. It was a well-attended event, with about 300-400 people and families who came along to have a sausage and sing some carols. On behalf of the community, we acknowledge the effort Christine Morris put in to making the event a success on behalf of the Lions who sponsored the event.

This morning we commission our Chapter members: Christine, Iain and Kevin as Lay Canons, Kylie, Maria, Nancy, Steph, and Kathy as members of Chapter. Kilmany and Golden Beach will be having annual meetings in the next few weeks to elect (or I will appoint) a centre warden who is also entitled to be on Chapter. At the moment those people are Merryn Stephenson for Kilmany, and Val Kilner for Golden Beach. Please pray for us as we meet for the first time briefly after 10am service today to plot the year ahead.

Tonight is our Lessons and Carols, with some beautiful music to be provided by our cathedral musicians... including the premiere of a carol I wrote as a gift for Jessica and Caroline Martin. Do come if you're at all able, and bask in the beauty of sound and story.

I hope and pray your preparations for Christmas are causing minimum stress, and that you're nevertheless able prayerfully to keep the reason for the season in mind: the coming of our Lord to us as one of us.

Keren

Lady Chapel Services will conclude on Wednesday 17 December and recommence on Wednesday 4 February 2026.

Reminder we are holding only a 9am Sunday service from Christmas day till the end of January.

Thank you to all who have donated to the Anglican Christmas appeal, the third lot is being delivered this week. You can still donate online at:

<https://www.anglicarevic.org.au/christmas-toy-appeal/>.

Giant Book Fair 1st – 21st January 2026

Bookfair boxes have started being sorted, Santa from the Carols helped bring and install the new fencing, Peter installed the 'gate' and Rob moved tables. If you can help Christine move the heavy tables or boxes of books, let her know asap. She is sorting and moving books all week, please help!

We have another wake with outside catering Wednesday, then the hall is taken over by tables and books. Janelle sold a book for \$310 on ebay that in the past we would have sold for \$5.

Around \$300 is needed to cover our raffle, see Christine if you are interested in helping cover the cost of it. It usually makes \$1000, so worth while.



Support the Christmas Bowl Appeal.

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



WEEK 4: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HELPING FAMILIES ADAPT IN INDONESIA

In Central Sulawesi, flooding and unpredictable weather threaten families' livelihoods. Through Act for Peace's partner, Church World Service (CWS), local farmers are learning to prepare for disasters and improve crop quality through the DREAM Program.

Eko and his family have embraced new techniques that make their rice crops stronger and more reliable. "Our harvests are stronger, and we feel safer," says Eko.

Your gift helps communities adapt to a changing climate and protect their future.



Blue Christmas

A Service of Healing and Hope

Sunday December 21st
5pm

St Paul's Cathedral
149 Cunninghame St, Sale

This is a gentle service for anyone who's lost a loved one, either over the last year or around the holiday season, and for anyone struggling to find hope at this time.



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

PARISH CONTACTS

Lay Canons: (*Their Portfolio*) Iain Nicolson (Processes) 0407447250

Kevin Cameron (Music) Christine Morris (Property) 0438595056

Chapter St Paul's reps: Nancy Schmack, Steph Broughton, Kathy Jackiw, Kylie, Maria

St Alban Kilmany rep Merryn Stevenson **St Anne Golden Beach rep** Val Kilner

Synod Reps: Jan & Michael Down

Music: Dean Keren **Sacristan:** Jan Blake **Catering:** Nancy Schmack

Flowers: Julie Mielke/Lyn Ruff **Craft group:** Jenny Wilson

Opening church / lunches: Kathy Jackiw

Rosters, Hall hire, Book Fair, PA/AV, Emergency food Sunday Bulletin

Web, Facebook: Christine Morris OAM 0438 595 056 cmorris@wideband.net.au

St Paul's Anglican Cathedral Parish

SUNDAY 14th December 7.00pm
St Paul's Lessons and Carols Service
Refreshments will be served after the service.

SUNDAY 21st December 5.00 pm
Blue Christmas
*A service of Healing and Hope for those who's lost a loved one,
and for anyone struggling to find hope at this time.*

CHRISTMAS EVE

5.00pm St Paul's Informal Family Worship Service
Suitable for all aged children and grownups!

11.00pm St Paul's Holy Communion

8.00pm St Alban's Kilmany Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00am St Paul's Holy Communion
11.00am St Anne's Golden Beach

Regular SUNDAY services @ St Pauls
28th December & all January only at 9.00am

Contact St Paul's Office
51442020

St Pauls Anglican Cathedral Sale
on Facebook /Web

