

30 October 2025

SUNDAY EXTRA

WHATS ON AT ST PAUL'S

Friday 31 October

Men's Group 6.30pm

Saturday 01 November

Family Picnic Ruffey Lake Park

Doncaster 5.00pm

Sunday 02 November

Worship 9.30am

Community Lunch 12.00noon

Monday 03 November

Office closed — Melissa on site

Tuesday 04 November

Cup Day Office Closed

Thursday 06 November

Women's Walking Group 9.30am

Safe Church training 7.00pm

Level 1 part 1

Friday 07 November

Youth 7.00pm

Alpha Youth & Games 7.00pm

Saturday 08 November

Focused Living 9.30am

Sunday 09 November

Worship 9.30am

First Communion session 11.00am

Confirmation session 11.15am

Monday 10 November

LCAV District commence move to Riversdale Road

Tuesday 11 November

Mission Coordination Team 7.30pm

Wednesday 12 November

Young Adults Bible Study

Safe Church Training 7.00pm

Level 1 part 2

Thursday 13 November

Women's Walking Group 9.30am

Youth Ministry Planning 6.00pm

Friday 14th November

Card and Board Games 7.00pm

Saturday 15 November

Just Women Brunch 10.00am

Warren Glen Nursery

(Bring your ideas for 2026)

HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The problems of the world can be so overwhelming that we sometimes feel we cannot make a difference. However, sometimes the Lord shows us how we can help.

There are over 31 million refugees in the world in 2025. More than 6 million refugees are living in camps.

You can help make a difference to one family.

Eight years ago Medi Ojulu and Ajany Odiel came to St Paul's with their children as a refugee family. Originally from Ethiopia, Medi and Ajany had been in a refugee camp in Kenya for 12 years. The family received great support from members of our congregation and are now beloved members of St Paul's.

We now have another opportunity to help.

Medi is bringing his sister, her husband and their eight children to Australia. The parents have been in the refugee camp for 20 years. Medi is paying the Australian government for their flights as refugees. For the family of 10 the flights will cost around \$18,500. Medi has already paid a deposit of \$9,800.

St Paul's, with the support of our pastors, Church Council, and the Justice and Mercy team, will accept retiring offerings for this cause each Sunday in November.

We are asking members of St Paul's if they feel it in their hearts to help support Medi with the costs of bringing his sister and her family to safety in Australia.

We who have so much can make a difference in the lives of others through our generosity.

Donations can be made on leaving church during November or by a clearly noted donation to the church bank account.

Thankyou for your support.

(If donating by direct credit to the St Paul's Westpac account please describe the payment or reference as Ojulu family.

Labelled envelopes will also be available on Sunday in the pews for cash offerings)

If you wish to arrange online giving for this appeal (or to make a regular offering) the account details are:

St Pauls Westpac Account

Acct 123 374

BSB 033 172

(Don't forget to reference Ojulu family to ensure the offering is correctly directed)

ST PAUL'S CHRISTMAS FETE

We have enjoyed a very good local response to our invitation to neighbours for tours. As a further extension of hospitality the Mission Coordinating team are running a fete on **Saturday 06 December from 10.00am to 1.00pm here at Riversdale Road.**

This event is aimed at building good relationships with our neighbours, as well as a good fun celebration for our members.

Some of the events we are hoping will take place include

- Morning tea,
- Plant stall,
- Craft stall and demonstrations,
- Sausage sizzle,
- Games,
- Musical interludes
- Children's activities.

We would love as many members as possible to attend and invite friends and family.

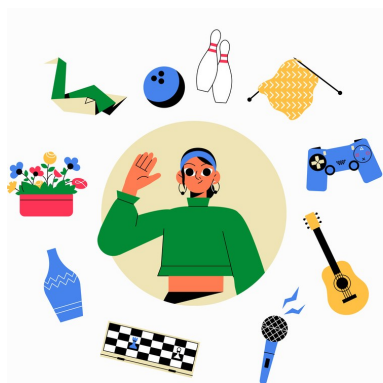
If you are willing to help in any of these areas, especially donating plants and providing morning tea, and also with setting up, serving and cleaning up that would be most appreciated. Please feel free to ask questions too. If you have ideas about fun simple ideas for the day please feel free to make suggestions too - it would be great to hear from you.

A sign up sheet will be available in the café on Sunday.

Garry Tepper—Mission Coordinating team



OPENING DOORS AT ST PAUL'S



The Mission Co-ordinating Team are excited that our congregation is preparing to open our doors to our local neighbourhood. Initially, we plan to open the St Paul's Centre for two to three hours per day a couple of days a week, and we are grateful that a number of people have responded to volunteer already.

St Paul's people are busy people so we are hoping to involve a number of people who might run an activity once or twice a year which might range from learn to crochet or make a simple slice, to how to change a tap washer, to resume and interview skills or offer card and board games or a 'singalong'.

It would be wonderful to have some regularly scheduled activities or information sessions to invite our neighbours, led by members of St Paul's. Of course these activities would be open to our members and present a great opportunity to invite along our friends and family as well as to mix socially with our neighbourhood.

We are looking forward to hearing from members who may be willing to lead or support an activity or information session. Next week a survey will be circulated where you will be able to consider the talents and passions God has granted you and whether you can share these in some way with the congregation and local community.

"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it". (Hebrews 13:2 NIV)

ADVENT ACTIONS - ANGEL TREE

The following article is from a recent Prison Fellowship newsletter, highlighting the role of Angel Tree.

When you give an Angel Tree gift at Christmas time, you remind a child with a parent in prison they are loved and not forgotten.

Each Christmas across the country, thousands of children unwrap Angel Tree gifts – presents given to them on behalf of their mum or dad in prison who don't have the means to do so themselves while inside.

It's a ministry made possible through our partnership with hundreds of churches and thousands of volunteers – and your generous donations. As well as bringing joy to kids on Christmas morning, your Angel Tree gift helps maintain the special connection between a child and their mum or dad, letting children know their parent still loves them and is thinking of them.

Very much part of the story, inmates themselves nominate their children for Angel Tree, sharing their child's age, interests and suggested gifts. And the impact doesn't stop with the kids – your support deeply touches parents and carers, letting them know they are not facing this difficult season alone.

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Jeremy and I am currently incarcerated in prison. I am writing to thank you personally for your support to prisoners and their families through programs such as the Christmas Angel Tree.*

I have been in prison now for two Christmases and was informed last September about Angel Tree.

The first Christmas I spent in prison was the most difficult, upsetting and challenging time in my life as I couldn't be there with my children or even provide them a gift to celebrate this special time of year.

I was raised in a home where Christmas was valued as the most special and magical time of the year. To be absent from my family and unable to even send my children a Christmas gift ripped my heart out.

After hearing about the Angel Tree program, I wrote to your organisation with the hope of my children being included. To my delight, my children were part of the program this past Christmas and received a present from me.

It brought a tear to my eye to see their utter joy and to think that, even though I couldn't be there with them, I had been able to send them a present and watch them unwrap it during a video call.

Your organisation is such a Godsend for families like mine and the good work you do cannot be underestimated. You help bring love and joy to the lives of young children with a parent in custody and the help you provide is much appreciated.

I want to thank you personally for this and for all the support that you provide prisoners and their families.

Thank you and God bless,

*Jeremy**

**Name has been changed*

Angel Tree – details coming soon

Contact: John Hinz 0425400877

John.d.hinz@gmail.com

Advent Actions, including Angel Tree, are encouraged through the St Paul's Justice and Mercy Team.

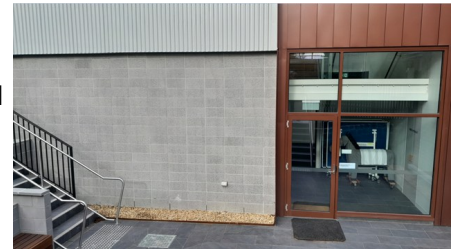


THANK YOU

Thankyou to the many people who supported the visit by our partner congregation GKPS Jalan Jenderal Sudirman across a variety of ways including billeting, hospitality and catering, buddying and transport. Special thanks to Jennie Jones and the planning team for their work to coordinate the visit over many months. What a wonderful time of fellowship this has been.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES FOR ST PAUL'S MEMORIAL GARDEN

Now that the Memorial Garden, on the north west corner of our church property, is complete, we would like to offer an opportunity for interested families to add a plaque in honour of any loved one who has been a member or friend of St Paul's during their life. The memorial plaques will be installed on the wall (pictured right). There are about 160 spots available.



We have selected a preferred supplier, whose plaques are made from a metallic engraving laminate, engineered for exceptional corrosion resistance, UV stability and outdoor weatherability. The brushed appearance mimics a premium metal look - without a premium price tag. Current cost is around \$50, including delivery. Pictured at right are a couple of their sample plaques.



Each plaque for our wall should measure 20cm x 13cm, and can be made in one of the following colour choices (with silver and brass being recommended choices):

Each family can select, order and pay for their own design online, including text (and image if desired). We will then arrange for it to be installed on the wall.

If you are interested in ordering a plaque, please ask the office for a copy of the brochure 'Guidelines for Memorial Plaques'. We can assist with the design and ordering if needed, in which case please contact me or John Juers (St Paul's Funeral Vergers) or the office.



In His Service
David Pietsch,

Contact St Paul's Box Hill	
Office Number 03 9236 0623	Website https://www.stpaulsboxhill.org.au/
Pr Neville Otto M 0409 047 711 E Neville@stpaulsboxhill.org.au Day off Friday	Pr Sue Westhorp M 0412 721 160 E sue@stpaulsboxhill.org.au Day off Thursday
Kate Burke M 0478 539 007 E kate@stpaulsboxhill.org.au Days Monday to Thursday generally 8am—4pm	Cathy Beaton M 0426 220 079 E cathy@stpaulsboxhill.org.au Days generally Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Melissa Coulston M 0434 158 457 E worship@stpaulsboxhill.org.au Days Monday and Friday generally 8.30—4.30	Lester Kerber E finance@stpaulsboxhill.org.au Generally Mondays Currently on leave until October
Church Council Chair Ben Gargett M 0407 279 624 E stpaulschair@stpaulsboxhill.org.au	Church Council Vice Chair Kathy Harrison M 0419 359 149 E vicchair@stpaulsboxhill.org.au
Church Council Secretary Deidre Mattiske E secretary@stpaulsboxhill.org.au	Caretaker John Juers M 0418 355 118 E caretaker@stpaulsboxhill.org.au