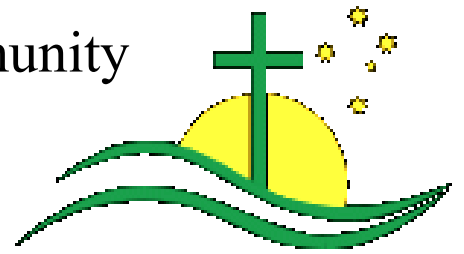




# St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

## One Family

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 T. 9700 3781 / F. 9700 6228  
 office@stpaulapostle.com.au  
 Www.stpaulapostle.com.au



*First Sunday of ADVENT Year B, 28-29 November, 2020*

## Welcome back

It will be a joy to see so many of our St Paul Apostle community celebrating Eucharist this weekend. However, I would like to think that we are only half way there, because I look forward to the times when we can have 200 at each mass.

There has been much said about the negative impact that COVID19 will have on church attendance. I am optimistic that this community will not fall victim to dwindling numbers. Over the years I have heard many people who no longer attend Mass say that they do not miss this Eucharistic celebration. I do not believe that these people understand the communal nature of our Mass. I respectfully reply that though they may not be missing Mass, those who are there are missing them.

For this community Mass is so much more than a private obligation to be fulfilled. The Eucharist binds us ever closer to our Lord and to each other. The following poem was written by a friend of mine and it expresses her feelings on being able to break bread with her brother and sisters again:

*It mattered to take myself away from the ordinariness of my life but also to take it with me, to carve out a space that was just God's and not surrounded by the debris of my work and chores.*

*It mattered to enter a space that was holy and spoke of all those who came before me.*

*It mattered to be welcomed to this space by a person not distant from me in time and space*

*It mattered to sing an Alleluia and to hear other voices, some strong and some tentative, joining and doing the same.*

*It mattered to hear the Gospel with others and to reflect on it not through speakers or headphones.*

*It mattered that the when I said the words 'Our Father' there were other voices with mine.*

*It mattered that at the sign of peace, nods and smiles were extended across the pews.*

*It mattered watching my sisters and brothers bring their lives to communion.*

*It mattered to once again taste and see and share*

*i guess it's like what some other people might feel on returning to the footy!*

*And after that rush of blood to the head I might go*



### Parish Reconciliation

Please note that there will be **NO PARISH RECONCILIATION** on Saturday, 5th December. There will be children making **FIRST RECONCILIATION** on that day

### Weekday Masses

*(No booking is required to attend Weekday Masses)*

**Monday**  
9am Mass

**Tuesday**  
9am Mass

**Wednesday**  
7pm Mass

**Thursday**  
9am Mass

**Friday**  
9am Mass

### Weekend Masses

*"Weekend Masses are for maximum of 100 people. Booking is essential"*

**Saturday**  
6pm Mass

*(will also be live streamed)*

**Sunday**  
9am, 11am & 6pm Mass  
*(11am Mass will also be live streamed)*

### Parish Reconciliation:

Saturdays 10am - 10.30am

*Please contact Parish Office on 97003781 if you wish to book any of the weekend Masses*

*please go into our website: stpaulapostle.com.au*

**Priests:**  
Fr Brendan Connell CP (PP)

**Parish Staff:**  
Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)  
Didi Karkas (Secretary)

**Passionist Community**  
Fr Brian Gleeson CP  
Fr Kevin Hennessy CP  
Brother Luke Bulley CP

**St Paul Apostle North Primary School**  
Ph. 9700 6068  
Principal  
Mrs Mary Lucas

**St Paul Apostle South Primary School**  
Ph. 9700 3663  
Principal  
Mr Paul Gleeson

**St John's Regional College**  
Ph. 9791 3366  
Principal  
Mr Tim Hogan

# Parish Calendar, News & Events

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

This week we are celebrating the birthday of **DIMIANA WEMYSS** and **BEVAN FERNANDEZ**. May God bless them with lots of laughter and good health.

## CHILDREN'S SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION AND CONFIRMATION

Finally, after a long...long wait....the time has now arrived. In the next 3 weeks our school children will be receiving their sacraments. Some of them will be receiving their First Sacrament of Reconciliation. The older ones will be celebrating their Sacrament of Confirmation. This year the celebration will be quite different, however we are sure that the candidates/ the children and their families are excited and looking forward to celebrate it.

We, the parish family, will keep them all in our prayers. That their faith will be nurtured and keep growing as they grow older.

Those who are receiving their first reconciliation this year will receive their First Communion in the new year.

## TO ALL VOLUNTEERS/ MINISTERS - Working With Children Checks

As we gradually return to Church services in the coming weeks and months, this is a reminder to ensure all our volunteers have valid Working With Children Checks (WWCC). Some of you might instead have a Victorian Institute of Teaching card. You can provide me with those details instead. Please note that both your WWCC as well as your VIT needs to be linked to St Paul Apostle Church. If you do not have a valid check or it has expired or you are unsure as to how to link your card to St Paul Apostle please contact Gillian in the Parish office via phone 9700 3781 or email office@stpaulapostle.com.au.

*Please also note that though the Children's week has ended, the activity entry deadline has now been extended to **FIR-DAY, 18th December 5pm**. They hope to receive more entrant. Here are the link*

[Childrens Week 2020 Flyer and Submission Form](#)

[Colouring Drawing Sheet Options Final](#)

## CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

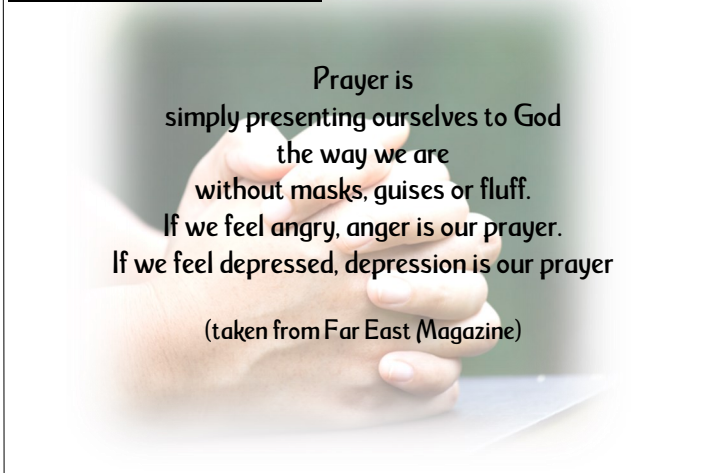
Many of you have been waiting to hear news regarding the list of the families who will be receiving hampers. The lists are now available in the church on the notice board, at the front, near the lectern. If you wish to take part in giving a hamper to one of the families, please feel free to choose one from the board. Please follow the directions written on the board. You may choose a family from the list and take the top layer of the card (coloured paper) and don't forget to write your name and contact number on the bottom layer which is stuck to the board (white paper). We ask you to send the hamper to the church by Sunday 13th December, before 6pm Mass. The agencies will be picking them up on Monday 14th December morning.

If you wish to make up a hamper, but are not able to come to church, please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office and we shall assist you in choosing a family from the list.

We ask you to call during office hours (Tuesday to Friday 9am to 2pm) in order for us to provide you with the correct information

We hope you & your family can be part of this special ministry

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Prayer is  
simply presenting ourselves to God  
the way we are  
without masks, guises or fluff.  
If we feel angry, anger is our prayer.  
If we feel depressed, depression is our prayer

(taken from Far East Magazine)

## This weekend we pray for:

### *Those whose sick*

Camilla D'Rozario, Angela Ameruso, Sr. Serafina, Andre Machado, Yvette Woods, Bryony, Findlay Lawless, Betty Evans, Danny Sugunasekera, Gaetan Clark, Ismael Bermudez, Cyril Hendricks, Lawrence de Alwis, Kevin Passanise, Claudia Cunanan, Jack Scanlan, Domenica Lombardi, Denham Juranasz, Dwayne Edmonds, Anne Ghatt, Milica Andreevska, Chase McCarthy, Irma Aiello, Sonny Tupai, Graham Hawkesworth, Esric Jackson, Emily Broadbent and All those in aged care or home-bound with chronic health issues

### *Those who have died*

Seaton D'Rozario, Russell Sugunasekera, Rudolph Rance, Norma Boosey, Phillip Giles, Belamma, Joseph D'Argent, Arlette Cabon, Veta Wickramasinghe, Gregory Wickramasinghe, Jules Balancy, **and all who are named in our church memorial book and in the November Memorial book**

*May they rest in peace*



### **First Sunday of Advent:**

Is 63: 16-17, 64: 1, 3-8;  
1 Cor 1: 39-;  
Mk 13: 33-37

### **Second Sunday of Advent:**

Is 40: 1-5, 9-11;  
2 Pet 3: 8-14;  
Mk 1: 1-8

[www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults

