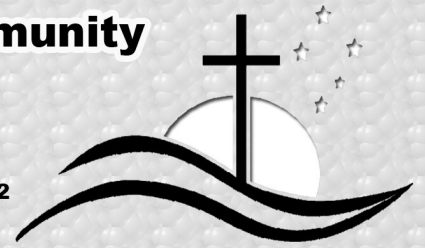




St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

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Advent Year B-2nd Sunday 3rd-4th Dec

This Week

SUNDAY 4th Dec
9am, 11am, 6pm Mass
Baptisms 12.30pm

MONDAY 5th Dec
8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass

TUESDAY 6th Dec
8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass
9.30am Adoration

WEDNESDAY 7th Dec
6.30pm Rosary
7pm Mass
7.30pm Meditation

THURSDAY 8th Dec
9.00am Mass
(at North School)

FRIDAY 9th Dec
8.30am Rosary
9am Mass
9.30am Divine Mercy

SATURDAY 10th Dec
Reconciliation 10.30am
6pm Mass

SUNDAY 11th Dec
9am, 11am, 6pm Mass

Reflection

Each Monday the old man comes to the hospital. He comes by bus and train and walks the final part of the weekly journey. He goes to the psychiatric ward where his son has been a patient for years. They sit together. The elderly father does not say much as he listens to the mumblings of his son. They do the same every Monday. After an hour they part.

The dad then walks along another path to visit the dementia ward where his wife is in care. Sometimes, she knows him; other times she ignores him. But still he visits and sits and waits. And the staff are comforted, for the old man speaks and treats his wife tenderly, like the Shepherd of Israel. Now and then he remembers the good times when they were young and their family was intact. He is faithful. He is making a crooked way straighter each time he comes.

At least, that is how the staff at both units see him and his visiting; though they would not use that kind of language. What they do know is that the units are better for his coming. For in the sad places of forgetfulness and stiffness and foolishness, the coming of the Monday visitor is the love that makes sense of chaos and mess and pain. It is like a new heaven and a new earth are being constructed on the faithfulness of an old man. It is saying that God does not have to come in power and awesome sights, but rather he can come in the gentle, patient, faithfulness of an old man. And life is better.

Following one Fathers' Day I met the son in the foyer of the hospital. He has a way of coming close and whispering in one's ear - confidential like. He tells me that he surprised his old father on Fathers' Day.

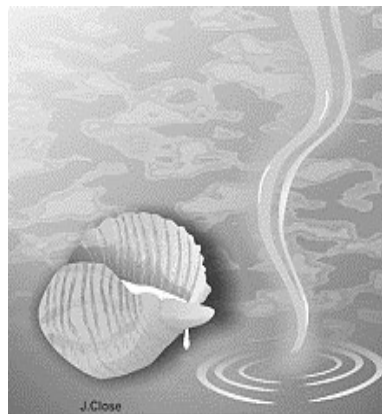
"Yes," he whispers in excitement at the memory, "I gave him a cardigan." The father was very taken by this gift. "You know," says the son, "my Dad cried."

So would I have cried. This is the moment when the surprise is so unexpected that only tears of joy can explain the peace and goodness that overwhelm the heart of a father, rejoicing in the love of his son. It is the joy of the Spirit of God who makes and clears a path to thanksgiving. Is this what 'prepare the way of the Lord' means?

Carers' meetings at a hospital are special times and it is a privilege to be present. Most of those who participate are parents who do the hard yards like the old father above. Some ask if their son is able to

receive Holy Communion. Is he still alert enough? Others feel that a thief has come and stolen the life of their child, a mystery illness for which there is no solution. It is the gift of the Spirit which reveals in the sorry sight the hope of resurrection, when all the crooked ways will be made straight.

It is in the simple signs of water and the coming of the Holy Spirit that a new world is being built. It is about suffering leading to resurrection and along the way we experience times when we are gathered like lambs to the heart of the Shepherd. Times like the giving of a cardigan on Fathers' Day. *by Fr Peter Carrucan PE*



Parish Calendar, News & Events

DIARY DATE

- Dec 5th:** Training session for new Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors 7.30pm
- Dec 7th:** Nativity Play at North School
- Dec 9th:** Tennis Club Award night & Xmas Party
- Dec 11th:** Children's liturgy at 11am Mass
- Dec 11th:** Christmas Hamper Mass and Fiesta Christmas Carols
- Dec 13th:** Seniors Christmas Brunch 10am
- Dec 18th:** YCS Fundraising—Cakes Stall
- Dec 21st:** Service of Reconciliation
- Dec 24th:** Masses 6pm; 9pm;
Carols followed by Midnight Mass 11.30pm
- Dec 25th:** Masses 9am and 11am
No evening Mass
- Dec 31st:** Parish New Year's Eve Dance

Baptisms Sunday Dec 4th 12.30pm:

Congratulations to Ava Balta, Oliver Balta, Sarah Hughan, Charlotte M Samuel, Zahli D Palma, Stella G Henstridge, Olive Cruz Latour, Talia Mudalige and Cassia Mudalige who are being baptised this weekend. We as community offer them and their families the support our prayer as they take this step in their faith journey.

Thank you to all the young families who presented their children for blessing last weekend. We continue to pray for our young families.

Apostleship Awards:

This is the last weekend to nominate people for apostleship awards. These will be people whose ministry you have observed as giving consistent and inspirational service in our parish or in the wider community. The yellow forms are available in the gathering space and the foyer. Nominations should be into the Parish Office by **December 4th** at the latest.

Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors December 5th:

This will be a session for **new** Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors on **Monday December 5th at 7.30pm**. and includes the younger members of the Parish who were commissioned in September as well as any people wishing to be involved in these ministries next year. We welcome people from Sunday 11am Mass where there is a greater need. If you regularly attend this Mass and would be willing to be involved in either of these ministries please come along.

Christmas Eve Family Mass at 6pm

We invite children to take part in the Nativity Play, which will be part of the Mass. The first practice will take place on **Tuesday 6th Dec from 3.45pm** in the church. The next practice will be decided then. All children are welcome to take part, from the prep to grade 6 (or older).



Christmas Hampers.

Thank you to all who have taken names. We believe that your generous gift will help those families and make Christmas special. **Please return hampers by Sunday December 11th in time for 6pm Mass.** This mass will then be followed by **Christmas**



Carols (One World, One Family on Sunday 11th December) at the St Paul Apostle Community Hall. Everyone is welcome to join the fun.

Seniors Christmas Brunch- Tuesday 13th December.

It will begin with Mass of Anointing at 10am. The Mass and the Brunch will take place in the Community Hall at South School this year.

Please sign up if you wish to attend. If you know of anyone who is housebound and would like to attend please let us know as soon as possible. Forms for people to sign up with offers of help with finger food either to bring on the day or the evening before. Please PRINT your name and contact number on the APPROPRIATE forms. **Parish Youth also are invited to come along and help out.**

YCS group.

This group has been meeting regularly in our parish. Three of their members are heading off to Adelaide for a YCS Conference on the 8th January 2012 (not far to go!) They are doing some fundraising activities to help cover some of their costs. They will be selling cakes at the church on the 18th Dec.

Thanks

to Ernie San Giorgio and Sig Romano for the day they put in filling in the underneath of the church gathering space. Its great to see so many of our parishioners helping out with this job.

Christmas Prayer Wishes:

There are bauble shapes in a basket on the Altar step. If you would like to make a prayer wish please write on one and add it to the other basket. They will be used over the Christmas period.

SPA Tennis Club is having their 29th Annual Award Night and Christmas Party on Friday the 9th Dec 2011 at St Paul Apostle Community Hall. There are 300 awards and 90 recipients champions in the making. SPA Tennis Club is also taking this opportunity to wish Fr Tim, Fr James, Parish Staff and all of you, Parishioners, a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. *(Tennis Club Committee)*

Parish New Year's Eve Dance on 31st December at the St Paul Community Hall from 7pm to 1am. This will be a family event. There will be plenty of music & dancing. Please book in early as tickets are selling very fast. They are \$30 for adult, \$15 for child, and \$5 for Toddler (under 5yo) This includes Hot Supper. BYO Drinks & Nibbles. Contact person: Serge 0412037592, Clency 0418381943, Vianney 0438700675

North School Nativity Play: "CHRISTMAS STAR"

On Wednesday the 7th of December all students across St Paul Apostle North School will be involved in a presentation of the Nativity entitled "Christmas Star", with script and music written by well known Catholic composer John Burland. This event will be held outdoors with a 'Carols by Candlelight' atmosphere in the school grounds. The entertainment will commence at 7.00pm with performances by the school drum band DRUMBA and School Choir, and "Christmas Star" will start at 8.00pm. Families are welcome to come from 6.00pm onwards to get a good picnic spot and enjoy a picnic dinner!

The Art Gallery Viewing will be held on the same night from 6.00pm-8.00pm in the School Gym with all students having 2 pieces of visual art work on display

Diary for Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation

5th Dec: International Volunteer day
 10th Dec: Human Rights Day
 29 Nov-9Dec: UN Climate change Conference in Durban, South Africa

Climate change is a complex problem, which, although environmental in nature, has consequence for all spheres of existence on our planet

Youth Gathering Next Saturday Evening

An invite is extended to the youth of the parish (Year 10 up) to come along for a social night next Saturday evening in the Annexe. (\$5.00 at the door Pizza and Drink)

Thought for the week:

*One Body in Christ
 One body in Christ called to share
 The Good News with the world,
 Each of us gifted-made in God's image.
 We have a story to tell- a story of love*

Called to share the Mission of Christ, the Spirit of God alive in our hearts. To be a light of welcome in the darkness of exclusion, an outstretched hand of love to everyone. To give voice to the voiceless, the unheard in the wilderness, an outstretched hand of love. Amen



Sunday Readings

THIS WEEK:

2nd Sunday of ADVENT

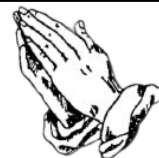
Is 40: 1-5, 9-11
 2 Pet 3: 8-14
 Mk 1: 1-8

NEXT WEEK:

3rd Sunday of ADVENT

Is 61: 1-2, 10-11
 1 Thess 5: 16-24
 Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28

This weekend we pray for:



Those who are sick

Russell Kennedy, John P Lawrie, Jude Peter, Bert Geileskey, Lucia Celiz, Peter Tongi, Nazar Rafoo, Nazanine Damini, Lashan Abeyegoonewardene, Nasrin, Anne Ephraums, Pete Jaminola, Patricia Nicholas, Cherie Anderson, Indira Devi, Steven Klepac, Mark Pereira, Carla Jeronimo, Suzanne Michel, Albert Salindeho, Teresa Leong, Lisa-Maree O'Hara, Edward Hale, Jorge Canales, Anne Payet, Shirley Frank, Joan Druett, Jenny Conyers Mckenzie, Joyce Peters, Lilian Alyson Jillian Mendoza, Doreen Harris, Beth Flores, Manuel Guinto, Joseph H. Padamadan, Khoshaba Zaia, Alyzée Dromart

For those who have died

Hensley Philip Chapman, Natale Portelli, Melitona Paderanga-Bollzsos, Wilhelmina Olivio, Peter Mai Viet Ly, Maria Do Carmo Bernardes, Jane Hili, Delia Occkleshaw, George De Silva, Giuseppe Corizzo, Richard Burrows, Victor Vicencio, Giovanni Donazzon, Kavitha Francis, Moya McPhee, Josephine Caruana

May they rest in peace

**St Paul Apostle
Catholic Community**

Priests:
Fr Tim O'Toole CP (PP)
Fr James Fernandez CP

Pastoral Associates:
Sr Joan Smith CP
Sr Brigid Murphy CP

Parish Staff:
Bursar: Gillian Velupillay
Secretary: Didi Karkas

Passionist Community

Fr Peter Addicoat CP
Fr Brian Gleeson CP
Fr Tim O'Toole CP
Fr James Fernandez CP

**Sisters of Cross and
Passion**
Sr Anne Cunningham CP
Sr Brigid Murphy CP
Sr Joan Smith CP

**St Paul Apostle
North Primary
School - 9700 6068**
Principal
Mrs Christine White

**St Paul Apostle
South Primary
School - 9700 3663**
Principal
Mrs Helen Greenhill

**St John's Regional
College - 9791 3366**
Principal
Mr Andrew Walsh



Rosters for this Weekend: December 3rd-4th (1st Sunday of Month)

	6pm	9am	11am	6pm
Welcome	V&C De Zilva, J Tarranto	J Bilton, M Nadarajah	A Gargana, Y Sherwin, D Kearney	J Disanayake
Sacristan	M Rolfe	L Lapierre, D De Rozairo	Y Sherwin	K Jayasinha
Gifts	V&C De Zilva	J Bilton, M Magee	O Connor Family	M Meerwald
Readers & Commtrs.	R Gonsalves, M Pegram, L Sendapperuma	V Vaifale, J Chadwick, C Carayannis	R/M O'Connor M Anthony, M Martyn	S Fernando, D Candido
Communion	G Akom, J Stewart, D Turner, D&N Trindade, J Satyagraha, S Dang	P Marion, L&R Alveyn, S&D McGuire, E&M Morales, D Mariette	V&A Clark T Bugge, L Newman, S Jayamaha, A Gargano	L Rolfe, S D'Roza, C Wick-ramasinghe, P Mendonca
Servers	K Fernandes, L Mendonca, K Stewart, D&A Gonsalves	M Harper, S Jayasuriya, D De Silva	K Mehes, J Madeira, A Del Socorro	J Weerasinghe

Rosters for Next Weekend December 10th-11th (2nd Sunday of Month)

	6pm	9am	11am	6pm
Welcome	B Carvalho, S Sharp, C Vaz	S De Rozairo, J Aldag	C Boissezon, G Jornet	B Bonett
Sacristan	J Carvalho	A Nadarajah	L Forkgen	N Sangalang
Gifts	B Barnfield, A Gonsalves	S & D De Rozairo	Volunteers	V Hassett
Readers & Commtrs.	D Rodgers, P Loudon, S Dang	M Vaifale, D Vaifale	Y Sherwyn, G Johnson, M Quirin	P Leitan, A Tanner
Communion	MC Maillard M Maillard C Quinless C Fernandes D Rice G Lock G Tyszka	V Vaifale J Chadwick S&D De Rozairo D Farrell D Alwis A Perera	S Tranquille A Costa M O'Connor A Petyk S Dilinger	G Canales B Bonett J Hallett N Sendapperuma N Fernandes K Rowden
Servers	K Maillard R Vaz A D'Souza	K Dimitrakas V Jayetileke M Harper	A Del Socorro M O'Connor K Fernandes	M McMahon
Cuppa	<i>4th Sunday of the month</i>			
Communion to the Sick after 9am Mass	Roster A: C De Silva	Viewhills: S Tranquille E Fourize		
	Church Prep Team 6 P Mallac Family	Flowers ** No flower **	Counting L Cresswell I Heneric C Quinless	Rosary Calixio Family

Parish Finances

Parish (1st)	Pledged Weekly	Rec'd
T/G Envelopes	\$3,110.38 (303 pledges)	\$ 2,059.00 (130 env)
Credit Card & Direct Debit	\$2,333.04 (177 pledges)	\$ 2,333.04
Cash		\$ 308.80
Parish Total		\$ 4,700.84
Priests (2nd Collection)		\$ 1,162.50

Thank You

Sacraments:

Baptisms are held on the 1st Sunday of the month. Preparation is on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Marriages require 6 months notice to one of the priests, participation in a FOCCUS marriage preparation program, or a CatholicCARE Course.

Anointing of the Sick is held during Mass on the 1st Friday of the Month at 9am. Before going to hospital for major surgery, why not ask one of the priests to pray with you and anoint you.

Children's Sacraments require full participation in the preparation phase.

Registration forms in the Parish Centre.