

Contact Details

St John's & St Paul's (03) 5962 6620

Minister - Rev Matt Smith

0421 213 790 Email - minister@stjohnshealesville.org.au
(Day off - Tuesday)

Parish Administrator - Maree Colombo

0417 326 227 Email - admin@stjohnshealesville.org.au

Newsletter - Sandy Berthelsen

0419 506 784 Email - sandyphotos@bigpond.com

Address

Postal PO Box 191, Healesville, 3777
St John's 3 Symons Street, Healesville
St Paul's 43 Bell Street, Yarra Glen
Website <http://www.stjohnshealesville.org.au>

Child-Safety Commitment

St John's Healesville & St Paul's Yarra Glen Anglican Church is committed to the welcome, safety, and value of the children under our care and has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Our child-safety officer is Claire Bennett.

For further information please see the Anglican Church Child-Safe Policy available from the information board.

Giving to St John's & St Paul's

Please give generously to the Mission and Ministry of our church:
'Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.' (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Church Banking Details

A/C Name: St John's Anglican Church
BSB: 063 689 A/C No: 1006 5060



St John's Healesville



St Paul's Yarra Glen

*'Making Spirit-filled disciples of Jesus Christ
who glorify God and enjoy him forever'*

Newsletter - Christmas 2019

Holy Communion - 9.00am at St Paul's
Holy Communion - 10.30am at St John's

A warm welcome to all visitors who are worshipping with us.
Please join us for a cuppa. We would love to meet you.
10.00am at Yarra Glen and 10.15am at Healesville

Christmas Eve Service

8.00pm Holy Communion @ St John's

Christmas Day Services

9:00am Holy Communion @ St Paul's
9:30am Family Service @ St John's

Welcome to visitors and newcomers

We are so happy you could join us today and we hope you feel welcomed and at home in our community. If you would like to be connected with our church or receive more information, please fill in one of the blue Welcome Cards found on the pews and place in the offering basket or give to our welcomers or minister.

Coming-up in December

Combined Service Dec 8: 10:30am @ St John's
 Parish Council Dec 9: 7:00pm @ St John's for our 2020
 planning meeting
 Ladies Guild Dec 12: 11:30am @ St John's for Christmas
 Lunch *(No Guild meeting in January 2020)*
 Man Flu Guild Dec 18: 7:00pm @ St John's for BBQ Dinner
 Combined Service Dec 29: 10:00am @ St Paul's

Bible Studies

Yarra Glen: Thursdays at 1:30pm led by Berys Nixon
 Healesville: Thursdays at 7:30pm led by David Green
 Chum Creek: Wednesday fortnightly at 8:00pm led by Matt Smith
 Meeting December 4 & 11
 Youth Group: Friday fortnightly at 6:30pm led by Narelle Allison
 Meeting December 13 only
(Please contact leaders if you are interested in joining a group)

Celebrations

If you have a birthday, anniversary or extraordinary event coming up, we would love to celebrate with you, lift you in our prayers and congratulate you on your achievement. Please let us know using the blue Welcome Cards or email Sandy at sandyphotos@bigpond.com

Notices for the Newsletter

If you would like to add something to the monthly newsletter, please forward to Matt or Sandy via email (preferred), text or phone, no later than the 3rd Monday of each month.

Rosters - Blessed to Serve

Dec 1

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Sermon | The Seven Seals |
| OT | Zechariah 1:12-17 |
| NT | Revelation 6 |
| Leader | Berys |
| Reader | David H |
| Prayers | David H |
| C' Asst | David H |
| Data | Andrew |
| Sides | Rita & David G |
| M' Tea | Delene & David |
| Clean | Delene & David |
| Flowers | Val |

Dec 8 (Combined Service)

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| Sermon | Remembering to Give Thanks |
| OT | Psalms 136:1-12 |
| NT | Luke 17:11-19 |
| Leader | Matt |
| Reader | Andrew |
| Prayers | Barry |
| C' Asst | Doug |
| Data | Brody |
| Sides | Peter & Rob |
| M' Tea | Val & Trish |
| Clean | Claire & Susan |
| Flowers | Trish |

Dec 15

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Sermon | Working for the Truth |
| OT | Psalms 1 |
| NT | 3 John |
| Leader | Berys |
| Reader | Doug |
| Prayers | Claire |
| C' Asst | Claire |
| Data | Will |
| Sides | Jan & Norma |
| M' Tea | Maree & Rob |
| Clean | Jan |
| Flowers | Margaret |

Dec 22

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Sermon | A Messy History |
| OT | Isaiah 9:6-7 |
| NT | Matthew 1:1-17 |
| Leader | David |
| Reader | Margaret |
| Prayers | Sam |
| C' Asst | Simon |
| Data | Brody |
| Sides | Karl & Doug |
| M' Tea | Jan & Rita |
| Clean | Maree & Rob |
| Flowers | Naomi |

1 Peter 4:7: The end of all things is near.

Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray.

Praying for 'S' in SEA with CMS

From S: Many will remember L, S's friend from SEA who visited our Parish while studying theology at Ridley. After returning home, L was diagnosed with cancer. We prayed for her during treatment in Perth. Sadly, recent tests have revealed more tumours in the lung – which cannot be biopsied because of size and location. She will have another scan soon to determine if the tumours are changing or growing. L was married after returning to SEA and had just commenced her ministry. Please pray for her and for her husband, C. On a brighter note, S's language is progressing – more and more sticking in her brain!

Praying for Healesville & Yarra Glen

Jesus Christ born for us, Son of God given for us [Isa 9:6]: Help those in our communities to know your great love which surpasses knowledge—that we may all be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God [Eph 3:19]. Inspire us to worship you, offering our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to you [Rom 12:1]. Empower us to serve you, as faithful stewards of your grace [1 Pet 4:10]. Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, full of the Spirit, hear our prayer, receive our praises and fill our lives, that you may be glorified and your kingdom built throughout this world of yours. Amen.


Praying for our Church

Prayer-points: Our mission partners; Christmas services and community carol events; Parish Council planning meeting; Ladies Guild, Man-Flu Guild & Bible Studies; Kids Club & JYM Youth.

St John's: Keira Colombo, Stan & Iris Sewell, Sherrin & Andy, Emma Barnes & Jeanette, Trish Crowley, Trish & Barry Twist and Dorothy Hort.

St Paul's: Roy Andrews, Sheila McKay, Marlene & Robert Milley, Ann & Robert Groat, Mary de Crespigny, James and Emily who are getting married on 15th Dec, and Nelson Wilson.

Reflection from Matt

According to Andy Williams, 1960s pop singer, Christmas is 'The Most Wonderful Time of the Year'. We will say it and hear it often, 'Merry Christmas!'. 

But then there's the other side of Christmas... The messy side! Tangled fairy lights and tinsel, discarded wrapping paper, the enormous clean-up after the elaborate Christmas meal, shame and discomfort from overeating, and sometimes disappointment or embarrassment when gifts are exchanged.

It is true, Christmas is often a merry time full of joy, laughter and love. But it can also be a messy time dealing with sadness, tension and loss. We celebrate with our loved ones, while also remembering loved ones no longer with us and relationships broken along the way. We will laugh, but we will also cry. We will joke, but we will argue. We will feel loved, and we may also feel lonely.

This is the way Christmas has always been! At the first Christmas it was both merry and messy. Merry, because of the good news of great joy: our Saviour was born. Messy, because of the circumstances of Jesus' birth: Joseph's fiancée is pregnant and he's not the father; they have to travel to Bethlehem while Mary is heavily pregnant, there is no room for them to stay anywhere, and once Jesus is born they have to flee because his life is in danger. It's all a bit of a mess! But the good news is, Jesus entered our mess so that he could pull us out of it.

This Christmas, when things are merry, remember to give thanks to our gracious God who has blessed us so abundantly. But when things get messy, remember that this is exactly why Jesus came on that very first Christmas, to clean up our mess and the mess our world is in. May you have a merry (and not too messy) Christmas!

Mary will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matt 1:21.

Combined Sunday Services in December

Sunday 8 Dec, 10:30am at St John's (no service at St Paul's)

On the 8th December Bishop John Harrower will be preaching at St John's and his wife Gailene will be raising money for CMS through her card recycling ministry. Come early for fellowship, morning tea, and purchase some cards and small Christmas gifts from Gailene's stall.

Sunday 29 Dec, 10am at St Paul's (no service at St John's)

For the final service of 2019, we will combine for a service at St Paul's. Morning tea from 9am, service starts at 10am.

Ladies Guild & Man Flu Guild

The Ladies Guild Christmas lunch will be held on the 12th Dec at Healesville at 11.30-12 o'clock. BYO plate. No meeting in the month of December.

The Man Flu Guild Christmas BBQ is on Wednesday 18th Dec, 7:00pm at St John's. Cost: \$20. Dinner & Drinks provided. RSVP to Matt or Andy.

Christmas Carol Events

Probus Carols

Friday 6th Dec: 7:30pm in the Senior Citizens Hall.

Cost: \$3/head which includes a light supper.

Healesville Community Carols

Saturday 14th Dec: 6:30pm at Queen's Park.

Food, games, Santa, from 5:30pm, Carols start at 6:30pm.

Yarra Glen Carols

Saturday 21st Dec: 5:30pm at the Yarra Glen Playground.

Bring your picnic blanket, family and friends.

Carols start from 7pm

ARDF Bushfire Appeal

The Anglican Relief & Development Fund Australia is appealing for prayer (most importantly!) and financial donations to help those in New South Wales and Queensland who have been affected by recent bushfires. Funds raised will be used in part for supporting the pastoral work of emergency chaplains and others engaged by parishes and church agencies.

By mail:

ARDF Australia

PO Box 227

Mont Albert, VICTORIA, 3127

By Direct Deposit

BSB: 083 166

Account No: 19 810 4947

Description: Bushfires

Update From Parish Council & Planning for 2020

Parish Council will be meeting on the 2nd Monday of most months. If church members would like anything put on the agenda or raised at a meeting, please notify Matt well in advance and in writing. Our church office bearers for the next 12 months are as follows:

Wardens: Berys, Robert and Peggy

Parish Council: Narelle, David Green and Simon

Incumbency Committee: Berys, Robert and Narelle

Treasurer & Minute Taker: Narelle

Secretary: Peggy

Child Safety & Family Violence Officer: Claire

Compliance Officer & Assistant Treasurer: Maree

Electoral Roll Committee: Peggy and David Green

Property, Maintenance & OHS Chair: Robert

Talk to Matt if you are interested in filling a parish council vacancy. And if you have ideas for what our church could do in 2020, please let a Parish Council member know before our December 2020 planning meeting.

Healesville High School Bacon & Egg Brekkie

Wednesday morning 4th Dec: Donations & volunteers appreciated.

See Claire Bennett for further information.

HICCI Christmas Gift Assistance

Each Christmas HICCI provides hampers to over 200 families and a toy to about 175 children under the age of 15. To donate, or to volunteer, contact HICCI on 5911 6000 for further information.

Belgrave Heights Summer Convention

28 Dec-1 Jan - Certainty in an Uncertain World

<http://www.bhc.org.au/events/SummerConvention>

Welcome - This is the 102nd time that we will meet as God's people at a Summer Convention, and it will be great to have you join us for our 102nd Summer Convention. We are pleased to announce our Guest Speakers are David Robertson (Scotland) and David Williams.

Summer Under The Son CMS Conference

15-18 Jan at Syndal Baptist Church

Register online at summerundertheson.org

Day program 9.30-5.00pm: 'Lord, Teach us to Pray' with Peter Adam

Evening program 7.30pm: 'One Gospel for All Nations' with Jackson Wu