



# The Parish of St Paul of the Cross - Glen Osmond/Parkside

20th - 21st December, 2025 ♦ Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A

We are an inclusive Catholic Community connecting people to God and to one another.

## Today's Theme:

### MARY'S CHILD: THE EMMANUEL

God's choice rested on the House of David which was to bring forth the Emmanuel, the God-with-us. But Mary's Child was to belong to all the nations. We are one of those nations who, by God's call, belong to Jesus Christ.

**Entrance Antiphon:** Let the clouds rain down the Just One, and the earth bring forth a Saviour.

**Response to the Psalm:** Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God-is-with-us. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Behold a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be Emmanuel.



## OFFICE CLOSURE

The office will close on the 19th of December and then reopen on the 5th of January. During this time, our phone will be diverted to a mobile number – for emergencies only.

## FOR THE SEASON OF ADVENT

The response to the Prayers of the Faithful for the season of Advent is :-

*"Come Lord Jesus"*

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

Thank you to those who have volunteered for our Christmas Masses. Readings will be emailed to the Readers on Tuesday.

### Roster for Next Week:

27th - 28th December, 2025

#### St Paul's

#### St Raphael's

##### **Readers**

**6:00pm** Chris W.

**8:00am** Keith B.

**10:30am** Elizabeth D.

**5:00pm** Catherine W.

##### **EOMHC**

**6:00pm** Tom W.

**8:00am** Bernie S.

**10:30am** Marie O.

**5:00pm** Trish W.

##### **Readers**

**5:30pm** Damian C.

**9:30am** Carmel G.

##### **EOMHC**

**5:30pm** Eleanor L.

**9:30am** Rosa F.

##### **Altar Society**

Vera-Ann & Melanie

##### **Count Team - 8**

## GIVE EASY

Please scan the QR code for a link to our collections:



**1st Collection**  
Support of Clergy

**2nd Collection**  
Support of Parish

## MASSES FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEK

20th - 26th December, 2025

	St Raphael's	St Paul's
<b>Saturday</b>	5:30PM	6:00PM
<b>Sunday</b>	9:30AM	8:00AM 10:30AM 5:00PM
<b>Monday</b>		9:30AM
<b>Tuesday</b>		9:30AM
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6:00PM</b> <b>12:00AM</b>	<b>4:00PM</b> <b>6:00PM</b> <b>8:00PM</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9:30AM</b>	<b>10:30AM</b>
<b>Friday</b>	9:30AM	

### *Readings for Christmas Day*

**1st Reading:** Is 9:1-6

**2nd Reading:** Ti 2:11-14

**Gospel:** Lk 2:1-14

#### *Next Sunday's readings:*

*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

**1st Reading:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

**2nd Reading:** Col 3:12-21

**Gospel:** Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

## LET US REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

**Sick:** Michael Shanahan, Hien Ngo, Carlien Liverton, Lisa Gardiner, Gloria Phillips, Amalie Leditschke, Anton Sylvester, Amy & Jude, Chris Harwood

**Recently Deceased:** Fr Paul Mercieca CP, Barbara, Carmel McInerney, Monica De Pasquale, Jack Nicholls

**Anniversaries:** Hannelore Thomas, John & Magdeline Saldana, Santhan Mendonca, Kistu Tellis, Jacob Tellis, Albert Prabowo Chow, Elizabeth Bray, Tom Evans

### Parish Pastoral Team

#### Parish Priest:

Fr Tom McDonough cp

#### Assistant to the Parish Priest:

Fr Tony Simbel cp

Fr Cao Anh Phi cp

Fr Pastor Mumburi cp

#### Pastoral Associate:

Sue Schulz

#### Parish Secretary:

Carmela Pannunzio

#### Admin Assistant:

Claire Hamlyn

#### WHS Co-Ordinator

Donna Cooper

#### Child Safe Contact Person

Sue Schulz

#### Parish Pastoral Council

Mr Peter McLoughlin

#### Finance Chair:

Mr Brian Lilley

#### Passionist Community Members:

Fr Tom McDonough cp,

Fr Tony Egar cp,

Fr Tony Simbel cp,

Fr Cao Anh Phi cp,

Fr Pastor Mumburi cp,

Fr Paul Kien cp,

Fr Pham Quang Vinh,

Bro. Mark Wells cp.

Bro. Phuc Van Nguyen

#### Passionist Sisters:

Sr. Shiji (Community Leader)

Sr. Jasmine, Sr. Nithya,

Sr. Mary Jasmine

#### Parish Office Hours

9am – 4pm Monday to Friday

Phone: (08) 8338 1277

#### Address

St. Paul's & The Monastery

15 Cross Rd. Urrbrae 5064

St. Raphael's, Young St.,

Parkside 5063

#### Email

parish@themonastery.net.au

#### Website and Facebook

themonastery.net.au

<https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsRetreat/>

Holy Spirit Province website:

<https://www.passionists.com/>

#### St Raphael's Primary School

114 Glen Osmond Road,

Parkside

Ph: 08 8274 4900

Mrs Emma Fowler (Principal)

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which our parishes, communities and offices stand and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

We commit ourselves to actively work alongside indigenous people for reconciliation and justice.



The Jewish Feast of Hanukkah remembers that day when the Temple, the place of God's presence, was finally freed from the desecration and sacrilege inflicted on it by the occupying enemies. The Menorah lamp was lit again for the first time, but with only oil enough for one day. The oil miraculously lasted for eight days. Hence Hanukkah!

How could such tragic sadness and desecration at Bondi Beach on Sunday occur on this feast celebrating liberation and freedom. And yet there were also miracles of courage, self-sacrifice and heroism, by so many who died, were injured, protecting loved ones. Ironic too that we Christians, celebrating the Advent Sunday of Rejoicing, lighting the Candle of Joy on our Advent Wreath, ended our day in such sorrow and shock. Yet the very outpouring of grief, shame, support, bewilderment is itself a much needed reminder of all that is best in our community.

On Sunday, we were all wounded. The attacks on Sunday are not unfamiliar for us - Port Arthur, Lindt Café, Christchurch Mosque. All these attacks foster fear and distress for many of our more recent migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, and especially our Aboriginal sisters and brothers. And for the Jewish community, they tell us, last Sunday was another of the countless 'blows upon a bruise' with which they are too familiar, both the violence itself, and the antisemitism that causes it.

Our words, promises, the resolves made by our governments, do little to ease the grief, or lessen the fear and lack of safety for our Jewish brothers and sisters.

But we want, in some way, to stand beside them, practically, emotionally, spiritually. So, we pray. We grieve. We feel deeply for our Jewish community. We pray for Matilda, Alex and those who died. We pray for those wounded and all their families. And we pray for our whole country with gladness for our big heart, but regret our many divisions and we try to say 'Yes' to love as we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace. We sing the carols of His coming, even though, this year our hearts struggle to believe it.

Perhaps this is what Advent really means - our willingness to share in the world's pain and still say 'Yes' to love, - and to Love that was born in Bethlehem. Lighting the fourth Advent Candle, the Candle of Love, takes on a special significance this weekend. Lighting the candle this week is an expression of our longing, our commitment, our promise to try, in our own small ways, to repair a broken world.



In today's Gospel, the Angel Gabriel invites Joseph to take Mary into his home. And not just to protect her from scandal or death. No, this second Annunciation, the Angel asks Joseph to give his heart to the one he loves. He is asked to 'name' Jesus, so that together he and Mary can raise their son to be in fact the Prince of peace. In the shelter of their marriage, Jesus grew in wisdom and maturity, in compassion and courage, in tenderness and truth. Mary and Joseph's love was the tabernacle in which Jesus learned that loves gives and gives till there is nothing left to give; that love holds nothing back, no matter the cost.

Advent this Sunday, asks us to come together and become such a tabernacle of healing, - our families, our parishes, our church. Can we be a tabernacle in which a broken world can be renewed? Especially in the shadow of Bondi, let's hope we can become a shelter where fear is met with tenderness, and wounds are held rather than hidden?

We celebrate at this time the Jewish feast Hannukah and our Christmas feast of Christ - the Light of the World, the Unconquered Sun. Perhaps these words from the poem, *The Hill We Climb*, by Amanda Gorman, the American Poet Laureate are especially apt, especially moving.

"While we have our eyes on the future,  
 history has its eyes on us ...  
 For there is always light,  
 if only we're brave enough to see it.  
 if only we're brave enough to be it."

## CHRISTMAS CAROLS - THIS SUNDAY

Sunday 21 December at St Paul of the Cross Church

- Mass at 5PM
- Sausage sizzle and Christmas gift stall from 6:00PM
- Live Carols from 6:30PM till 8:00PM

All welcome! Bring your family, friends, and festive spirit as we come together to share the Christmas message.

Please BYO chairs or picnic rug.

## BROTHER MICHAEL CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL

The Committee wishes to sincerely thank the parishioners of the Glen Osmond and Parkside Parishes, and all who helped to support this year's appeal. Through your generosity, not only did we receive monetary donations, but presents were wrapped and hampers were packed and then delivered on Sunday December 14th to those in need this Christmas.

Special mention to Bickfords who have donated cordial to the Appeal for many years.

This year some 400 families were assisted through the following organisations, Catherine House, Centacare Family Services, Coolock House, Louise Place, Elizabeth Catholic Parish, Vinnies Women's Centre, St. Vincent de Paul Conferences in Glen Osmond, Kilburn and Noarlunga, Our Lady of La Vang School, Circle of Friends and Vinnies Refugee and Asylum Seeker Service (VRASS).

Without your generosity none of this would be possible. Thankyou!

## CHRISTMAS NATIVITY 6PM MASS

Any children who would like to be part of the Nativity at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve please contact Catherine Woods on 0400 836 128 to organise a costume and meeting half an hour before Mass to prepare.

## ADORATION AT ST RAPHAEL'S CHURCH

### ADVENT ADORATION

**Monday 22nd Dec** As we approach the final days of Advent, there will be a special hour of silent Adoration at St. Raphael's Church this Monday 22nd December from 8.00pm until 9.00pm.

### ADORATION NOVENA IN HONOUR OF THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

There will be a special Adoration Novena in Honour of the Most Holy Name of Jesus taking place at St. Raphael's Church over Christmastide. The times for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament are as follows:

**Thursday 25th Dec.** Christmas Day 9.30am Mass until 12.00pm (Start of Novena)

**Friday 26th Dec.** Boxing Day 9.30am Mass until 12.00pm

**Saturday 27th Dec.** 12.00pm until 5.00pm

**Sunday 28th Dec.** 9.30am Mass until 4.00pm

**Monday 29th Dec.** 8.00pm until 9.00pm

**Tuesday 30th Dec.** 3.00pm until 4.00pm

**Wednesday 31st Dec.** New Year's Eve 3.00pm until Midnight  
Thursday 1st Jan New Year's Day 9.30am Mass until 12.00pm

**Friday 2nd Jan** 9.30am Mass until 1.30pm

Saturday 3rd Jan 12.00pm Mass until 3.30pm  
(Conclusion of Novena)

## MASS & DEVOTIONS IN HONOR OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Saturday 3rd January 2026, 12pm at St Raphael's Church, Parkside.

Confessions from 11:15am - 11:45am.

Holy Rosary recited at 11:30am. Mass at 12.00pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass until 3:00pm, Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3.00pm and concludes with Benediction.

Enquiries: Elizabeth 0431 664 382

## COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS

The liturgy is most effective when we come to it with the proper disposition. Let us consider the elements of the communion rite that lead us to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord and come into union with Christ and one another.

### The Lord's Prayer

The communion rite begins with the introduction to the Lord's Prayer. Here we call upon God as children asking "Our Father" for the food to sustain us from day to day. We also pray for forgiveness from sin so that we who will receive holy things can also become holy. The prayer concludes with a plea for deliverance from whatever separates us from God's love, a love made manifest in the Eucharist.

### Sign of Peace

In this ritual, the Church asks for peace and unity within the Church and for all humanity. It is a symbol of reconciliation and unity between the Body of Christ. Then the Church asks us to express our ecclesial communion and mutual charity with one another before receiving the Sacrament. The words we say are the same as Jesus' first words to the Apostles, "Peace be with you". The liturgy invites us in this way to be Christ to one another. Only after we share in the peace that Christ offers are we ready to approach the altar and share in the meal.

To be able to reintroduce Communion under both kinds we, firstly, need to have people willing to be Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EOMHC). If you have thought about joining this ministry and want a few more details, then please speak to the priest after Mass or contact the Parish Office.

And secondly, have all our EOMHC trained in the reintroduction of the Chalice, have a Working With Children Check (WWCC) and completed Safeguarding Essentials Training (was known as Safe Environments for All/ SEFA training). Once these have been completed all EOMHC will then be mandated with the Adelaide Archdiocese.

More dates for training of EOMHC:

### 2026

**January 13th** – Cathedral Hall 10am to 12pm or 6pm – 8pm

**January 20th** – Noarlunga 6.30pm – 8.30pm

**January 21st** – Goolwa 10.30 am and Afternoon Session in Victor Harbor time-to be confirmed

**February 3rd** – Salisbury Catholic Parish 6.30pm – 8.30pm

**February 5th** – Salisbury Parish 10am – 12pm  
Adelaide Hills Parish – 6pm – 8pm



## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by the Gospel, our Catholic tradition and inspired by the Spirituality of the Passionists we are a welcoming, diverse community with a strong focus on equality for all. We seek God through our gathering to celebrate the Eucharist and to share in liturgies which nurture our stewardship, commitment to social justice and providing spiritual nourishment and hospitality.

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Date	St Raphael's	St Paul's
<b>24 Dec</b>	6:00pm, 12:00am	4:00pm, 6:00pm, 8:00pm
<b>25 Dec</b>	9:30am	10:30am
<b>26 Dec</b>	9:30am	No Mass
<b>27 Dec</b>	5:30pm	6:00pm
<b>28 Dec</b>	9:30am	8:00am, 10:30am, 5:00pm
<b>29 Dec</b>	No Mass	9:30am
<b>30 Dec</b>	No Mass	9:30am
<b>31 Dec</b>	No Mass	9:30am
<b>1 Jan</b>	9:30am	9:30am

### WE PRAY FOR BONDI

*We cry out to you, O God,  
In the shock and grief  
In the wake of the violence at Bondi Beach.  
Hold in your eternal love the people who were killed.  
Surround their families and friends with compassion  
In the depths of their sorrow.  
Hold in your care the survivors, the injured,  
And all who witnessed the attacks.  
Guide the authorities responsible for investigating what happened  
And how to prevent such devastation  
From ever happening again.  
Have mercy on all who are afraid.  
Give courage.  
Have mercy on all who are in grief.  
Give comfort.  
Have mercy on all who are in pain.  
Give healing.  
Stir up Australians of all faiths and none  
To stand in solidarity with our Jewish neighbours.  
Make us builders of a community  
Where everyone has safety, and dignity, and peace.  
Amen.*