



Father Paul writes — 27 August 2023

I welcome you on this 14th Sunday after Pentecost. Last Sunday we celebrated our church being named in honour of Jesus Christ, Our Saviour. We prayed for the many blessings God has given us to those who worship at St Saviour's and we prayed that all who seek God in this place may find Him. We also prayed that we be filled by the Holy Spirit and we become a living temple acceptable to you through Jesus Christ Our Lord. I trust that today you experience this dwelling of the Holy Spirit as we come to worship God as we hear of Jesus saying to Peter that 'on this rock I will build my Church'. It is on this rock that is Peter that Jesus builds his house; a community of disciples, called the "church".

This afternoon at our Alpha session, we explore the topic "How Can I have Faith". A great subject and one that you are invited to come along and find out more about at 5 pm in the meeting room adjacent to the church. Last week's topic "Why did Jesus Die" provided some great discussion with the video. If you would like to view the video you may like to go to this link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11HqYqliKVw&pp=ygUXYVVxwaGEM2h5IGRpZCBqZXN1cyBka_V1/LP/03D If not, go to you tube and type in Alpha 'Why did Jesus die'. It may give you a taste of what we watch as part of our fellowship together, which begins with refreshments and a light meal.

The commemoration of the missionaries killed during the Japanese invasion of Papua New Guinea is being remembered at a Martyr's Day Eucharist on Saturday the 2nd of September at St Cuthbert's Prospect at 11 am. The Bishop of Willochra, Bishop Jeremy James will be the celebrant and preacher at the service. The annual service is particularly in remembrance of the 12 Anglican missionaries killed, including Lilla Lashmar, who was a parishioner at St Cuthbert's. The service will be followed by a lunch, of which you are all welcome. The day is also an opportunity to support the ABM Martyrs Day Appeal. This year, donations from the appeal will assist in training people in leadership skills for the community and the church in PNG. The appeal is tax deductible. For more information, go to the ABM website www.abmission.org

Speaking of Martyr's Day, I have been invited to travel to Papua New Guinea for the celebration of Martyrs Day at the Martyrs Memorial School. I will be present with Archbishop Geoff Smith, the Chair of the ABM Board, the Rev'd Andrew Sempell and two ABM staff. We are also meeting with the leaders of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea at Newton Theological College to hear from them about their priorities and challenges and look at ways in which we can partner with the PNG Church. The Primates of the Anglican Church of Aotearoa in New Zealand and the Pacifica will also be present. Hence, I will be away for this coming week. Fr Peter Brown will preside and preach at next Sunday's services and Fr Graeme Kaines will take the mid-week services. Mind you, at the time of writing, I am still waiting for my business visa to PNG to be approved!

Fr Graeme Kaines will be available during the 10 am service today for anyone who wishes to receive the sacrament of healing. This is for anyone who wishes to be prayed for and to be anointed with holy oil, either during Holy Communion in the chapel or after the service at the altar rail.

Finally, I encourage you to enroll for the National Grandparents' Conference on Saturday the 16th of September. We will be simulcasting the conference from Figtree Anglican Wollongong. At this stage, I haven't had one enrolment. Registrations need to be in by Friday the 8th of September. It aims to encourage grandparents and ministry leaders to be intentional in leaving a legacy for others, especially grandchildren in assisting them shape their character and faith. Registration is through Bobbie Luks and me at \$25.00 per person and this includes lunch. It is being held at St Stephen's Chapel at St Saviour's from 8.30 am to 4 pm. There will be several key speakers including Ian Barnett, Ann Lotz, a daughter of Billy Graham and Dr Jenny Brown, who has worked in child and family mental health and family therapy since the 1980s. We participated in the conference last year and everyone who came thought it was fantastic.

Your friend and priest Paul