



Father Paul Writes - 1st October, 2023

Welcome to St Saviour's Glen Osmond and also to your pets as we give thanks to them and bless them as part of the Blessing of the Animals Service at 10 am. A special focus for this service is a public expression of the bond we have with all animals and so we make this an integral part of our worship today. The service also remembers St Francis of Assisi who is the patron saint of animals and ecology. He was an Italian Friar in the 13th century and was the founder of the Franciscan Order. He loved animals and nature, and believed we all have a responsibility to look after them. It is only appropriate we celebrate him today with the Blessing of the Animals and as we continue to celebrate the Season of Creation until Wednesday, a season which began on September the 1st and gives thanks for God's creation where we pray for us to be better stewards of Mother Earth.

Our Alpha Course continues this afternoon at 5 pm. The session today is titled "How Can I Resist Evil?". It asks the question why should we believe the devil exists, what are the devil's tactics and how do we defend ourselves from evil. It will begin with welcome refreshments, a light meal, a video and discussion. If you have not been to an Alpha session before, you are most welcome to join us.

Our next Friendship Lunch is on Tuesday starting from midday. This is a great opportunity for fellowship with one another and to invite others to a two-course meal and drinks. The cost is just \$7.00 per person. You can place your name on the sheet at the back of the church or you can contact Sue Lewis on 0431 151 552 to reserve a place.

On Wednesday, we hold another community seminar in the church's meeting room starting at 2 pm. The topic is "Life happens – dealing with the tough stuff". The presenter is Gail Miller, who spoke at a previous seminar related to Simplifying Aged Care. The seminar on Wednesday is about dealing with grief. There is no need to book but for more information you can contact Beth Walton on 8338 7839. The seminar will be followed by afternoon tea.

St Saviour's is also hosting a bushfire readiness seminar on Tuesday the 24th of October starting at 7.30 pm. This free session being hosted by the Country Fire Service will give some useful pointers on how to

prepare for the coming bushfire season. To register, go to cfs.sa.gov.au/events

Next Sunday, Nikoletta Grace Beka will be baptized as part of our 10 am Sung Eucharist. Nikoletta is a granddaughter to Judy Bowyer and will be baptized by Judy's sister, the Rev'd Sue Burgess. We look forward to the baptism of Nikoletta.

The referendum to change the constitution and accept an indigenous advisory body (a voice) for the Federal Government will be held on October the 14th. St Saviour's will be a polling booth on the day between 8 am and 6 pm. As usual, we will hold a barbecue and offer a trading table. If you wish to help on the day, with the barbecue and or the trading table with plants and cakes, please speak to Lesley Fenton or Ray Correll.

Some forward notice, we are holding our annual memorial service for those who would like the opportunity to remember a loved one. This may be for a loved one who has died in the past 12 months or in memory of a loved one in years gone by. The service will be on Sunday November the 5th at 4.30 pm. It is held on All Saints Day, where we remember all the Saints of the Church, but it also coincides with All Souls Day, where we commemorate all the faithful departed. The service involves a simple liturgy, quiet music, the lighting of candles and prayers. Please mark this date in your diary and let anyone else know of the service, someone who may have lost a loved one whom they wish to remember at this beautiful quiet time. The service will be followed by afternoon tea.

Your friend and priest,

Fr Paul