



· **Father Paul Writes - 8th of October, 2023**

I welcome you all today as we baptise Nikoleta Grace Beka, in welcoming her as a member of God's family. I especially welcome Nikoleta's parents, godparents, and grandparents along with Nikoleta's Aunt, the Rev'd Sue Burgess who will baptise her. Baptism marks the beginning of one's spiritual journey within the Christian faith. It is a moment when a child or adult is initiated into the Christian community, receiving the grace of God and becoming a beloved member of the Church. It is a timeless and essential sacrament in our modern world where we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit, a grace from God, which enables us to be guided by God and His Son Jesus Christ in our lives.

We continue our Alpha course this afternoon at 5 pm. The topic this week is how we share our Christian faith with others. It is a topic that I'm sure many of us need help with. The session in the meeting room starts at 5 pm with welcome drinks and nibbles, followed by a light tea, a video and discussion. All are welcome, no matter whether you have come along before.

Speaking of Alpha, Niky and Sila Lee from Alpha are coming to Adelaide to speak about their pre-marriage and marriage courses. Their ministry has reached over four million people in more than 120 countries in over 40 languages. They are experienced in developing a church culture where the community is reached and marriages flourish. They will be in Adelaide on Tuesday and Wednesday the 17th and 18th of October at the Burnside City Uniting Church at 7 pm. The first session on Tuesday is called "A Discipleship Journey with Alpha and The Marriage Course" and the second session on the Wednesday is called "The Marriage Masterclass". This is a great opportunity to hear two very talented speakers and to learn more about the courses they offer. If you would like to register, please speak to me and I can email you the registration details.

Next Saturday, we will be holding a barbecue and a trading table while our church grounds are utilized as a polling booth for the referendum to change the constitution and accept an indigenous advisory body (a voice) for the Federal Government. The trading table and barbecue will be held from 8 am until mid-afternoon. 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.

On Sunday the 22nd of October, it will be Anglicare Sunday. It will be an opportunity to hear about the work of Anglicare in Adelaide. The Rev'd Ben Falcon, the Acting Manager of Mission & Anglican Community Development will be our guest preacher at both the 8 am and 10 am services. St Saviour's is a great supporter of the Magdalene Centre in providing food and with the Christmas hampers.

There are two articles online about my trip to Papua New Guinea, one on the ABM website, the other on the Adelaide Guardian website. You may wish to have a look at them on www.abmission.org and or adelaideguardian.com

The planned giving program for the next 12 months is underway with the distribution of new envelopes. The envelopes are located at the back of the church with people's designated names on them. If you are not giving and wish to do so using weekly envelopes, there are spare sets of envelopes available at the back of the church. Please take one but let us know so that it can be recorded with your name. If you are unable to pick up a set of envelopes, please let me know, and I will endeavour to get a set of envelopes to you. Alternatively, there is our direct debit system through your bank. This simple method enables you to have a direct debit in place on a regular basis, without using envelopes. The direct debit details are located on the back of the pew sheet. Thirdly, there are credit card facilities available at the church entrance, which can be utilised before and after the service. We do thank you for your regular giving at St Saviour's and encourage you all to do so. If we all contribute, as we are able, then we will ensure a balanced budget for the Parish and to be able to continue to show God's love in Glen Osmond and beyond.

Your friend and priest,

Fr Paul