



## **Father Paul Writes - 10<sup>th</sup> of November, 2024**

I welcome you all to St Saviour's Glen Osmond as we today pray for our troubled world with the many conflicts and for the people of the United States with the election of a new President. We will pray as we do each week for peace in the world but also take time to stop for a minute's silence to remember those who have died defending Australia and our democratic ideals. It is not a celebration of war but a chance each year to remember those who selflessly gave their lives in battle. We do this today as part of Remembrance Day which is tomorrow (Monday). The day was established after World War I. Originally called Armistice Day, the name was changed after World War II to Remembrance Day. The lives in both World Wars and other conflicts are now commemorated on November the 11<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. We will also pray for the Australian Defence Force and particularly the ministry of the Anglican Chaplains, for those who have served in war and those who continue today to serve.

Our Gospel reading today sees Jesus praising a widow who gave all she had, two coins, into the temple treasury. This contrasted with the Scribes who Jesus described as religious hypocrites taking the front seats at the synagogues and swallowing up the property of widows. The one widow who placed her two small coins in the treasury let go of every shred of security and committed herself wholly to God. Her example contrasts sharply with the counterfeit piety of the Scribes. The story is as much about trust in God as about generosity. The widow's generosity results from her trust in God. The offering by the widow was small, but in the eyes of Jesus Christ, it was the greatest.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Memorial Service last Sunday afternoon. This was a time to remember our loved ones who have died but are resting in glory in heaven. Many spoke of how moving the service was. We also had a fantastic Melbourne Cup Friendship Lunch on Tuesday. One person said it was the best Melbourne Cup lunch they had ever been to. Thank you to everyone who assisted in making this a wonderful lunch. My particular thanks to Sue Lewis, Jill Nield, Sue Bishop, Jill McKay, Keith Arnold, Ian and Mary Saunders, Clive Waters and our TV technician for the day, Peter Klar!

Next Saturday is our Market Day in the church grounds and in the meeting room. The Market Day will feature food and plant stalls, bric-a-brac and other stalls featuring handmade jewellery. A BBQ lunch will also be available. The Market Day has been listed as part of the Garage Sale Trail for the day and is being advertised widely. So, come along and support the day between 10 am and 3 pm next Saturday. If you can help on one the stalls, please place your name on the sheet in the Narthex.

St Saviour's Glen Osmond is again supporting the Anglicare SA Christmas Food Hamper Drive and Toy Drive this year. Thank you to everyone who has taken a box to fill up the hamper items required, which are listed in the pew sheet. You are also welcome to donate a toy or toys for the toy hampers. If you are not able to fill a food hamper, please donate what you can, and it will be boxed up with other food items. A few boxes are still available. The deadline to return these hampers is the first Sunday of December. They need to be with Anglicare by Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> of December.

One of the resolutions made at the recent meeting of the Synod was that the Archbishop, Geoff Smith write a letter to the Diocese to be read out in parishes on the Sunday closest to National Survivors Day (Tuesday November the 12<sup>th</sup>), marking the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Olsen-Chung Report into the handling of child sexual abuse claims in the Diocese of Adelaide. This letter will be read out today acknowledging the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and what has been done since then.

On Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> of November at 2 pm, the Diocese is holding on workshop on Ending Spiritual Abuse in Domestic Violence Situations. The workshop will examine what spiritual abuse is, the ways scripture and theology can be misused, the place of the church in all of this and the ways that scripture and theology can help in healing for victims and survivors. The National Program Manager for Families and Culture Commission, the Rev'd Tracey Lauerson will present the workshop at the Cynthia Poulton Hall at St Peter's Cathedral at 2 pm. I will be attending the workshop. If anyone would like to come with me, please let me know.

With every blessing,

Paul