



Father Paul Writes - 20th of April, 2025

Easter Day

A Happy Easter to you all. We today celebrate Jesus' resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus is the defeat of death and the opening and the promise of eternal life for all who believe. The one who had been dead having been crucified on Good Friday was now alive, He had been raised to new life. Jesus' resurrection was a stamp of approval on everything he had taught and done and said about God and the coming of God's kingdom. This is the hope we share in Jesus overcoming death and the promise of Jesus being with us until the end of age with the gift of the Holy Spirit, given to each of us at our baptism. We affirm today that God's love is stronger than death, that God does not abandon us, and the Risen Lord is with us. This Easter affirmation gives us hope in suffering and disaster. Hope does not take away the source of struggle and pain, but it does point to the good news of Jesus who is with us and close to us. This hope is what we wish to share over the next 50 days with several opportunities offered through the program called Hope25. I invite you to come along to a course to be held over three sessions called "Hope Explored". This course offers an opportunity to know more about Jesus Christ, about his life, death and resurrection. The sessions are based on Luke's Gospel and shares the hope that Christians have, given the uncertainties of this world. It is one of the easiest ways to discover more about Christianity, with two opportunities to join us for fellowship and share in videos and a discussion. The first starts at midday on Sunday May the 4th and the second on Friday the 9th of May from 6 pm. There will be a light lunch served on Sunday and refreshments including wine, soft drinks and cheese on Fridays from 6 pm. If you would like to come along, please register your name on the sheet at the back of the church as you leave. Also, our regular Friendship Lunch on the first Tuesday of the month will have a guest speaker, Burnside's Mayor, Anne Monceaux. She will speak about her faith in the context of being the Mayor of Burnside. That is at 12.30 pm on Tuesday the 6th of May. This is a regular monthly lunch which encourages friendship within our community and the opportunity to invite others to share a meal.

Again, there is a sheet at the back of the church to register. 6 In the last 10 days of Hope25, we will encourage everyone to pray for five people to come to Jesus Christ and to invite them to the celebration of Pentecost, a time where, as promised by Jesus, the Holy Spirit came to many people. If you would like to be baptized and receive this Holy Spirit, please speak to me or contact me. As you are well aware, there is a federal election on Saturday week, the 3rd of May. The adjacent hall will be a polling booth. As a result, we will offer a BBQ and a trading table on the day. If you are able to assist with the BBQ and to provide goods for the trading table and help on the day, that would be great. On the first Sunday of each month, we have Kids@Church as part of our 10 am service. The service aims to encourage families and children to be present and to be involved. Also, we are inviting school-aged children to be part of a children's community choir. The program called "Soundwaves" will run every second Sunday afternoon during school term between 4 pm and 5.30 pm. The aim is to have fun but also the opportunity for the children to present a musical item once a month as part of the Sunday service at 10 am. It is being co-ordinated by parishioner, Kate Hepburn and daughter, Zoe. Registrations can be made at

soundwavesatstsaviours@yahoo.com.

The community choir will be free for children of all abilities and backgrounds. No experience, skills or background in music is required. We are also looking for new members to join our adult choir. If you enjoy singing, please speak to the choir director, Margaret Taylor on 8379 7227 or 0414 245 303. Finally, our pew sheet is now being co-ordinated by the Parish Secretary, Bobbie Luks. The roster will also be co-ordinated between myself and Bobbie. If you are unable to be present at the time you are rostered, please arrange a swap with someone else. Otherwise give me a call so I am aware that you will not be present on the Sunday. With every blessing,

Your friend and priest, Paul