

Father Paul Writes - 4th of May, 2025

I welcome you all as we continue to celebrate Christ Risen in this season of Easter. On this third Sunday of Easter, we hear the story of Simon Peter, who recognised the risen Lord because of the abundant catch of fish that happened when

Peter followed his directions. Peter had denied Jesus three times during his trial before the Jewish High Priest; now, Jesus gives him the chance to insist three times that he does indeed love Jesus. Peter's love is now directed by Jesus, the Good Shepherd, to feeding Jesus' sheep. Jesus suggests to Peter what this new ministry of servant leadership will cost him, even to the way he will die, a way that Jesus endured on a cross. We also hear in our first reading of the conversion of Saul, who became the apostle Paul, one of the great missionaries of the early Church.

We begin today in this Season of Easter and as part of Hope25, a course called "Hope Explored". It is a course held over three sessions for about an hour or so on the hope we have in Jesus Christ as our Saviour. It focuses on his life, his death and his resurrection and is based on Luke's Gospel. This course is open to everyone, whether you are an enquirer to Christianity or whether you would like to know more about the life of Jesus and the hope this brings to all of us. The first session today begins at midday with a light lunch and it will be repeated next Friday night the 9th of May from 6 pm with wine and cheese and other light food. The following two sessions will be offered on the following two Sundays and two Fridays at the same time respectively. There is a sheet at the back of the church if you would like to register or just come along. There are also invitations at the back of the church along with copies of Luke's Gospel for anyone who you would like to invite.

This afternoon at 4 pm at St David's Burnside is the commissioning service for the chaplains at our local schools. The chaplains otherwise known as pastoral care workers offer support to students and staff. The chaplains are in part funded by the Federal Government with supplementary funds through the Burnside Interchurch Council. Please come along and support the chaplains as they are commissioned for the year. They certainly need our encouragement.

Burnside's Mayor Anne Monceaux will be the guest speaker at the next friendship lunch on Tuesday from midday in the meeting room next to the church. Mayor Anne will speak about her faith journey and in the context of being the Mayor of Burnside. The lunch is open to all parishioners and especially if you are new to the parish or wish to bring someone else along, a neighbour or a friend. The cost is just ten dollars which includes a two-course meal along with wine. Please mark your name and the number coming on the sheet at the back of the church, otherwise ring Sue Lewis on 0431 151 552 to book.

The parish computer system has been upgraded over the past week to make it compatible with Windows 11. The computer system has been on Windows 10 for quite a few years and needed to be upgraded before October this year. We were fortunate through a computer technician to have it upgraded, without buying a completely new system. The cost of the upgrade was 600-dollars.

The new roster for the various positions in the parish will be collated soon for the remainder of the year. The current roster runs out on the 22nd of June. We are particularly keen to hear from anyone who would like to be a reader, an intercessor, a lay assistant, a welcomer or in assisting the sacristan in setting up on Saturday mornings for the Sunday services. Please let me or Sue Lewis know if you are interested in any of these positions. I am happy to provide support and training for anyone wishing to be an intercessor and for anyone wishing to be a lay assistant, that is serving at the 10 am Sung Eucharist. Sue Lewis is also willing to provide training for anyone wanting to assist the sacristan.

This month is Chaplaincy Month in the Diocese of Adelaide. To celebrate this, the Rev'd Paul Harris will be our guest preacher on Sunday the 28th of May at 8 am and 10 am. Paul is the Chaplain at Pulteney Grammar and is a parishioner. We look forward to hearing him preach on the day as part of Chaplaincy Month. It was intended that Jacqui Maynard, the Chaplain at the Glenunga International High School was going to speak today. Unfortunately, due to other commitments this weekend, she is unable to do so, and so we will welcome her on another day, on a date still to be finalised.

Your friend and priest, Paul