



## Father Paul writes – 27th of July 2025

### Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

I extend a warm welcome to you all, and especially to Jacqui Maynard who is the Pastoral Care Worker or Chaplain at the Glenunga International High School. Jacqui will speak about her role at the school which has enrolled more than two thousand 300 students, and lies within our parish boundaries. I hope you are able to join Jacqui and us for Morning Tea at the conclusion of both services.

The Gospel reading for today focuses on The Lord's Prayer. The disciples asked Jesus: "Lord, teach us to pray" and responded by reciting what we have come to know as The Lord's Prayer. Jesus directed to them (and of course, us) to whom we should pray. We should pray to God, who Jesus explained is a generous and caring father. Most importantly, he teaches us for what we should pray. He tells us that we should pray not simply for immediate needs (daily bread) but, more importantly, for ultimate needs such as furthering of the kingdom, the gift of forgiveness and protection from anything that would destroy our relationship with God.

Jesus also teaches us that the One to whom we pray is our 'Father' whose love and care for us is unlimited. This deeply intimate and personal relationship with God inspires in us the confidence to pray with 'persistence' and the realisation that what we pray for is not as important as the fact that we address God in such intimate terms. Prayer always deepens our relationship with God, and this is already an answer to prayer.

There are a number of key events next month. On Sunday August the 10<sup>th</sup>, Bp Sophie Relf-Christopher will preside and preach at our "Feast of Title" Service, otherwise known as our Patronal Festival. The one and only service on the day at 10 am will incorporate the confirmation of Polly Kasprzak. I do encourage you to come along where we give thanks for the church of St Saviour and as Bp Sophie confirms Polly. The service will be followed by a special morning tea.

That afternoon, I hope you can stay on to hear the Metropolitan Male Choir perform a concert at St Saviour's at 2 pm, as part of our Feast of Title celebrations. Called a Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, the choir will sing from a selection of classical, religious and secular and pop genres. Pianist, Jonathon

Wong will be the supporting artist. Tickets are just 25-dollars; 20-dollars concession, which is a bargain compared to their other ticketing events for such events with the choir. Tickets can be booked through the Parish Office 8379 4114 or through Clive Waters on 0414 489 972. Tickets also available at the door.

On Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> of August, the Rev'd Dr Joan Riley, the Principal of St Barnabas Theological College will be our guest preacher as part of Vocations Month in the Diocese. St Barnabas College along with the diocese is dedicating the month to raising awareness of vocations to lay and ordained ministry in our churches and Anglican communities. The services on the Sunday will also celebrate St Bartholomew who was called by Jesus to be one of his disciples.

The day before, Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August, St Saviour's will simulcast the National Grandparents Conference from St Paul's Castle Hill. The conference aims to equip and encourage grandparents who have a desire to leave a living faith legacy for their grandchildren or great grandchildren. An exceptional range of speakers will share their insights and experiences. The conference will be held from 8.30 am to 4 pm at St Saviour's. The cost is just 25-dollars, and this includes refreshments on the day. There are flyers, other information about the conference and registration details at the back of the church. St Saviour's has been part of the conference twice before and certainly it has been excellent.

Don't forget our next Friendship Lunch is on Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of August from midday in the meeting room of the church. The cost for the two-course meal plus refreshments is just 10-dollars. An opportunity to invite someone else along who you may wish a share a meal with. Registration can be made in the narthex or by contacting Sue Lewis on 0431 151 552.

St Saviour's is hosting the South East Deanery Mothers Union gathering next Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of July. The Chaplain of the Mothers Union, Gethzi Devasagayam will be in attendance for the service and gathering.

Over the past six weeks, we have been trialling some contemporary music settings with updated psalm settings at our services. Any feedback for any of the psalms can be passed onto myself or to the Rev's Dr Matthew Anstey at [www.ansteypsalter.com](http://www.ansteypsalter.com)

Finally, the Diocese of Willochra celebrates its 110th anniversary next weekend. There will be several people from St Saviours attending the celebrations next Saturday at the Bishops House at Gladstone. This includes Helen and I, Mary Catford and Sr Cheryl Wiseman. The celebrations will continue next Sunday with a Thanksgiving Eucharist at the Cathedral of St Peter and St Paul at Port Pirie.

Your friend and priest,

Paul