Father Paul writes 14th of September 2025

I welcome you on this second Sunday in the Season of Creation, a season where we join Christians from around the world in giving thanks for God's creation and to pray for its sustainability. The theme for this year is "Peace with Creation", something that is sorely needed not only with the end of conflicts but an end to the exploitation of it. It is also an opportunity to restore our broken relationships with God, ourselves, with each other and the rest of Creation.

Our bible readings today again focus on our shortcomings as human beings as sinners but of God's mercy to us. The Old Testament reading from the prophet Jeremiah portrays a land devastated by human wickedness. Despite this, God is there, promising to be with those who are faithful to him. Paul in his letter to Timothy speaks of Jesus coming into the world to save sinners while the Gospel reading focuses on Jesus' concern for sinners through two parables. Through the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin, it reveals God's deep care for what is lost and vulnerable. It reflects God's concern for every part of creation — especially what has been neglected or harmed. Just as the shepherd seeks one lost sheep, we are called to seek the restoration for damaged ecosystems and endangered species. And the joy of recovering what was lost, mirrors the hope found in ecological renewal in God's world.

Next Sunday is Stewardship Sunday as part of the Season of Creation. It is a day where we focus on our time, talents and treasure for God. It is a time when we come to consider our giving for the next 12 months with a new round of envelopes beginning on Sunday the 5th of October.

Parish Vision

The Parish Council will meet on Tuesday night to consider feedback on an updated mission action plan for the Parish. The plan has been distributed to gain comment before it is formally adopted by the Parish Council. The plan is summarised in line with the Diocesan Vision Plan. The plan builds on the mission action plan developed more than two years ago and on a presentation on what makes flourishing churches thrive at a Parish Forum. Copies of the plan are at the back of the church. Final comments should be received today.

Parish Roll

The Parish continues to update its Parish Roll and needs your help! The Parish Roll has not been updated for some years and so if you could fill in a slip found in the pew sheet, that would be appreciated. Thank you to all who have done so already. Please fill in and hand to me or one of the welcomers. Otherwise, email the Parish Secretary at saviours@adam.com.au with any updated details. The Parish Roll is kept confidential.

Bunnings BBQ

St Saviour's will join St Michael's Mitcham on Thursday the 2nd of October 2025 at Bunnings at Mile End with a BBQ fundraiser. The BBQ raises money for the church's mission, including the ABM and other activities for the year. If you are able to assist, please place your name on the sheet in the narthex.

Baptism

On Sunday the 5th of October, we will welcome as part of the 10 am service Adelaide Roberts-Gantner into God's kingdom. Adelaide is the great grand daughter for Ray and Brenda Roberts. Adelaide's parents, Andrew and Samanatha will be visiting South Australia at the time from the US with their daughter.

Friendship Lunch

The next Friendship Lunch will be held on Tuesday the 7th of October 2025 from midday. A great opportunity for fellowship and to invite someone else for a two-course meal and refreshments for just 10-dollars. Once again, a sheet will be placed in the narthex to register. Otherwise, rung Sue Lewis on 0431 151 552.

Blessing of the Pets

On Sunday the 12th of October, St Saviour's will hold its annual Blessing of the Pets as part of the 10 am Sung Eucharist. An opportunity to bring your pets for a blessing but to invite others to bring their animals along to be blessed.

Your friend and priest,

Paul