## Father Paul writes – 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2025

I welcome you to St Saviour's Glen Osmond. If you are a visitor, I hope you enjoy our services today. Please stay for morning tea following both services.

As the liturgical year draws to a close, the bible readings for today focus on the end of the world, the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and a description of a new heaven and a new earth. You could say the readings are 'apocalyptic'. In the Gospel reading, Jesus predicts the destruction of the Temple which did occur in AD70. He goes on to address the situation of Christians in a time of persecution and where it will be an opportunity to bear witness to the Gospel. However, they will triumph in the end, provided they remain faithful. Paul speaks of the Second Coming but urges Christians to get on living and working normally while the first reading from Isaiah has a pictorial description of the new heavens and the new earth. They are eternal, and in them safety, peace and plenty will be available for all. It is certainly helpful to be alert in our times. However, as a community of faith, we need to certainly look after God's creation but also live in a relationship with Jesus Christ, with nothing to fear.

The final Sunday of the liturgical year is next Sunday where we celebrate Christ the King and where our preacher will be the Rev'd Deborah Jeanes. Deborah has been licenced to be the Deacon for the Deanery of the Torrens, which now takes in St Saviour's. Deborah has agreed to assist at St Saviour's on occasions and I look forward to her being part of the parish.

As part of our preparation for Christmas, St Saviour's will hold an Advent Bible Study over four weeks starting on Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup> of November. The study called "Caravan", written by the Rev'd Canon Stephen Daughtry features eight incarnational stories set in an Australian landscape. The study will be held in St Stephen's Chapel at 7 pm for about an hour or so over the four Wednesdays. The study will also be offered through the internet connection, Zoom. Please register on the sheet in the narthex. If you intend to

join us by Zoom, please let me know your email address. I hope this bible study helps in our spiritual preparation for Christmas.

St Saviour's will be hosting the World Community for Christian Meditation Australia conference on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of November. About 50 delegates have so far registered. The committee will meet beforehand on Thursday and Friday n the meeting room before the official opening on Friday night. They will utilise the church and the meeting room on the Friday night and the Saturday. Please make them welcome.

St Saviour's is again holding a Christmas Hamper Drive through Anglicare SA to help those in need this Christmas. Boxes should be available at the back of the church today to donate any or all the items below. Otherwise, donated items can be left in baskets in the Church and St Saviour's will compile the hampers. Donations can be given between now and Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup> of November.



Your friend and priest, Paul