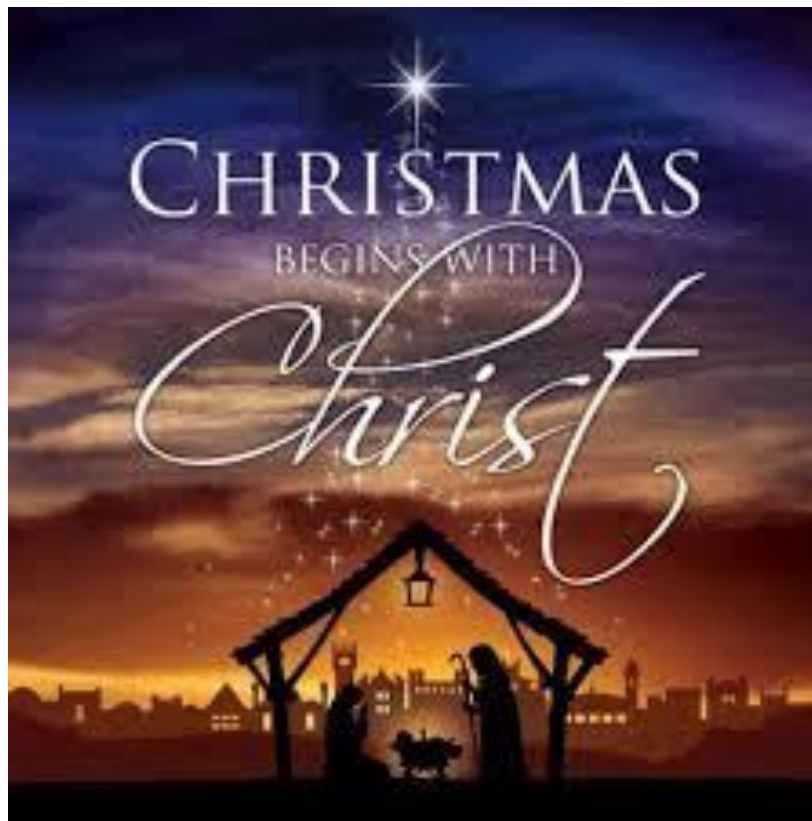


Glen Osmond Anglican Magazine



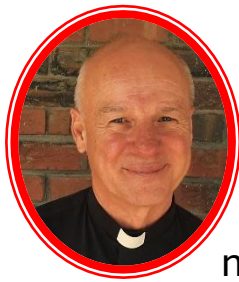
Christmas Edition

**A magazine for all
from St Saviour's**

Anglican Parish of Glen Osmond

Sharing the love of Jesus Christ and the hope it brings to all

*St Saviour's resides on the lands of the Kaurna people whom we
acknowledge as the original custodians of the Adelaide Region*



Christmas Reflection

I enjoy the hype leading up to Christmas, with Christmas trees with all the tinsel and fairy lights in department stores and shops. Then there's the music, listening to Christmas songs and carols. There are many great hymns which I love to sing too as we prepare for Christmas in the Season of Advent. It is a time where we hear of the prophets who foretold the coming of the Messiah, including John the Baptist and of Mary being informed by the angel Gabriel that she would give birth to the Messiah.

The celebration of Christmas is a time where Christians around the world come together to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. It is where we praise and worship the coming into this world of God's Son, as a baby at Bethlehem. It is where we give thanks to God for sending his only Son, Jesus Christ to come and live as one of us.

This is the love of God for the whole of creation. In Christmas celebrations, this love is extended to family and friends and the love of God to us and the rest of humanity. God chose to come and share our human experience with all the highs and lows of life. God's love for his creation and humanity is always more profound and wider than we can imagine. It is filled with wonder and awe that God chose, to make himself known through His Son.

Every year, we celebrate and re-enact with joy this miracle of salvation that occurred two thousand years ago. We give thanks to God, Mary and Joseph, John the Baptist, the shepherds, the Wise Men and many others who came to support God and to give thanks to God for this baby born in a stable. In the birth of Jesus, God is at work.

Christmas is to be celebrated! God expresses a depth of grace and love in the birth of baby Jesus, who would share our humanity, our anxieties and our joys. I hope you are able to celebrate with us at St Saviour's this Christmas, with the carol service on Sunday the 21st of December at 7 pm. Then on Christmas Eve at 5 pm, there will be a children's and family service setting up the nativity, a Christingle activity and singing carols and at 11 pm, the Midnight Mass with Carols. On Christmas Day, there will be one service at 9 am with a Sung Eucharist with Carols. This is a service for all the family with children's activities. The season of Christmas continues until Sunday the 4th of January, where we celebrate the coming of the Wise Men.

In the meantime, the Season of Advent, which in Latin means "Coming" reminds us that we all have another job during the weeks leading to Christmas besides organising the family get-togethers on the day. It is that we "wait for God". Use this season of Advent to be spiritually prepared for this great season of celebration, to step back from our hectic routine, to slow down and contemplate the birth of Jesus, our Redeemer.

With every blessing this Christmas,

Fr Paul

Fr Paul and the wardens Judy Bowyer and Sue Lewis wish you all a happy and holy Christmas and every blessing for the new year.



Bishop Bradly Billings elected as 11th Archbishop of Adelaide

The Anglican Diocese of Adelaide is pleased to announce the election of The Right Reverend Dr Bradly Billings as its 11th Archbishop.

Dr Billings, currently an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Melbourne, brings to Adelaide a wealth of experience in parish ministry, theological education, and senior church governance. He has served as an Assistant Bishop since 2016, most recently as the Bishop for the Oodthenong area, which covers the northern and western growth areas of Greater Melbourne and extends to include Geelong. There he oversees 64 parishes and authorised congregations.



Known for his extensive work in parish ministry, and in church planting and revitalisation, Dr Billings' qualifications include a doctorate in theology and a Master of Law in Canon Law.

He succeeds The Most Reverend Geoffrey Smith, who retired in November.

Speaking on his election, Dr Billings expressed his reliance on Christian hope as he prepares to lead the Diocese.

"The hope we have in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ gives me confidence and faith for the future, despite the many challenges we face as Anglicans and as disciples of Christ," Dr Billings said.

"I firmly believe the Christian faith and tradition continues to be good news for all people, and that making the gospel known in words and in actions is the shared task of all believers."

Dr Billings has a strong track record of collaborative leadership and intends to bring a unifying approach to the role.

“I am comfortable with, and respectful of, the full diversity of Anglicanism,” he said. “I seek to model ministry that is genuinely shared, and to cultivate quality relationships grounded in mutual trust, respect, and humility. I see myself as a partner in ministry with those with whom I live, work, and share my vocation.”

Welcoming Dr Billings’ election, Diocesan Administrator Bishop Sophie Relf-Christopher said: “I have been keenly aware of the Holy Spirit’s guidance at every stage of the nomination and election process.

“I am delighted that Adelaide Anglicans have elected Bishop Billings, and know that he will passionately encourage the ministry of this Diocese, to the Glory of God. We have every indication that Bishop Billings will serve with compassion, wisdom, and integrity, and herald God’s extraordinary love for the world.

“My heartfelt thanks go to the many faithful Adelaide Anglicans who have been praying and preparing for this day, and to the nomination committee.”

Before consecration as bishop, Dr Billings served as Archdeacon of Stonington and Glen Eira and as the vicar of parishes in Toorak and Gisborne, and Curate in Frankston. He has also served as the Director of Theological Education for the Diocese of Melbourne and is a published author in biblical studies, pastoral ministry, and church history.

Dr Billings is married to Karen, and they have five adult children and three grandchildren. He is also a devoted owner of a Hungarian Vizsla named Ruby and enjoys Premier League football and history.

Arrangements for Dr Billings’ installation at St Peter’s Cathedral will be announced in due course.

LECTIO 365 Magazine reflection

The Archbishop of Adelaide Geoff Smith in his final sermon before he laid up his pastoral staff on the altar at St Peter's Cathedral encouraged everyone to download the app Lectio 365. It resulted in a representative from the Uniting Church, to mention while giving thanks to Archbishop Geoff for his comradery and contributions that he had himself downloaded the app onto his phone.

I have used the app over the past two years and have found it to be wonderful, complimenting Morning Prayer. Morning Prayer can be found on another app called Epray, which is also a great resource as part of our daily prayer routine, with scripture readings and prayers. The bible readings for each day for Morning Prayer are listed in the pew sheet also if you use the prayer book. On Lectio 365, there are three devotionals, at morning, noon and night, reflecting the disciples praying with Jesus three times a day.

I came across a morning reflection on epray highlighting the Lord's Prayer which I thought I would share, and with the encouragement for you to also download the app. The devotion of the morning highlights each line of the Lord's Prayer with an explanation....

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name”

Lord, I imagine myself curled up, like a child, sitting in my Father's lap. In my own words, I express just one of the many reasons I love you today.” *Pause and Pray*

“your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven”

I remember the headlines I've read in the news this week and pick one situation to pray about. Father, what is your will? I ask for the hope, healing, and wholeness of your kingdom to invade that situation. *Pause and pray*

And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us”

Holy Spirit, please show me two things: some way in which I’ve let you down, and someone whose wrongdoing I am choosing to hold against them. As I humble myself to receive your forgiveness, soften my heart to in turn forgive them. *Pause and pray*

“and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one”

Father, I think about the day ahead, please strengthen and protect me, in every situation I face.

Yielding Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for the incredible invitation to talk to you as my Father. I accept! Teach me to imitate Jesus and make space throughout the day for intimate and honest conversation with you.

A portion of the Morning Lectio 365 devotional on November the 20th, 2025.

Fr Paul

Monthly Friendship Lunches

One of the long running outreach activities at St Saviour’s has been our monthly Friendship Lunches on the first Tuesday of the month. These lunches are a great opportunity to witness our fellowship and care for others by inviting them to a meal. It may be someone whom you know would like some company and to meet others. It may be someone whom you have had shared your faith with and would like to introduce them to our parish community. Last year, we invited Burnside’s Mayor Anne Monceaux to share her faith story.



The gathering on the day of the Sri Lankan lunch

In July, we had a Sri Lankan lunch, prepared by parishioner and chef Shanka Wijesundara. St Saviour's also every year stages a Melbourne Cup lunch, which just happens to fall on the second Tuesday of November. And then, the final lunch for the year is a traditional Christmas lunch with turkey and ham along with salads and for dessert, plum pudding and brandy custard. The cost is just 10-dollars for the two-course meal along with wine and orange juice. The lunch begins from midday. My sincere thanks to Sue Lewis and her helpers who have co-ordinated this lunch for around 10 years. Registration is via a sheet at the back of the church in the weeks leading up to each lunch or by contacting Sue Lewis on 0431 151 552. The friendship lunches will resume on Tuesday the 3rd of February.



Shanka Wijesundara along with assistants on the day of the Sri Lankan lunch from left, Jill Nield, Gill McKay and Sue Lewis

Blessing of the Pets



An annual service at St Saviour's is the Blessing of the Pets at the conclusion of the Season of Creation usually on the first Sunday in October. The Season of Creation over five Sundays starting at the beginning of September is an opportunity to give

thanks for God's creation but also to pray for its future wellbeing and the proper use of its resources. The final Sunday marks and gives thanks for St Francis of Assisi who is the patron saint of the environment and animals.

Hence, we mark this Sunday by inviting pet owners to bring their animals to be blessed, giving thanks for them, their companionship and for their wellbeing. Those animals presented this year were all dogs, and were all very well behaved as they were blessed. One of the dogs was 18 years old, as shown being held lovingly in a blanket.



New Sign

St Saviour's has installed a new sign on its church property facing the South Eastern Freeway. The sign was erected after a very long process in gaining planning and building approval through SA Planning and Burnside Council. The sign follows much confusion over the years with the erection of two large Sikh signs which face



our church property overlooking the memorial garden. The signs are legitimate in their place as they are in the very edge of their property, but unfortunately it has caused many people to think the church is now part of the Sikh temple complex. The sign was erected in July, thanks initially to Sue Lewis and the signwriter Craig Metcalf from Stacks of Stickers and with its erection to Ray Correll and with engineering help, from Brian McKay.

Mothers Union Christmas Lunch

The St Saviour's branch of the Mothers Union held a Christmas lunch at Mary Catford's residence on Wednesday the 27th of November. The annual lunch brings to an end the monthly meetings and activities of the Mother's Union for each



year. It meets on the last Wednesday of the month after the 10 am Eucharist and meets to foster fellowship and support families.

Glen Osmond Garage Sale

Around two thousand dollars was raised with St Saviour's taking part in the Garage Sale Trail on Saturday November the 16th.

The Garage Sale Trail aims to reduce the number of unwanted items which could be given to a new owner rather than ending up in landfill.

A good quantity of bric-a-brac and clothing was sold along with plants, cakes and pastries. A Devonshire tea and a BBQ were also on offer.

The sale was advertised widely and attracted a steady stream of people during the day.

What was not sold was offered after both church services the next morning before it was given to the Lions Club and an Anglican op shop at Jamestown.





St Saviour's Anglicare Christmas Hamper Drive

Nearly 30 boxes were collected and other donations of food and money from St Saviour's for the Anglicare Christmas Hamper Appeal. The boxes were collected by Anglicare SA early in December and they will provide some Christmas cheer for those in need. Anglicare sincerely thanked the Parish for its great effort, in helping the needy in having a better Christmas. Fr Paul also sincerely thanks all who contributed, in filling the boxes and with other donations.



Pictured is the Rev'd Ben Falcon and Fr Paul Devenport with a car load of Christmas Hamper boxes.

Baptisms and a Confirmation

A great granddaughter of parishioners, Brenda and Ray Roberts was baptised at St Saviour's on October the 5th. Adelaide Jay Gantner-Roberts was baptised by the Rev'd Peter Brown, while the parents Andrew and Samanatha were on holidays from the United States. They were keen to name their first child, Adelaide because of the mother's love of the city and being originally from Adelaide.



Earlier in the year, Alexandra Suzanne Kasprzak was baptised. Her mother, Polly was later confirmed after attending a post Easter Christian introductory course called "Hope Explored" and with confirmation lessons. Polly was confirmed on Sunday August the 10th by Bp Sophie Relf-Christopher with her family and friends present.



National Meditation Gathering at Glen Osmond

St Saviour's hosted the World Community for Christian Meditation Australia Conference (WCCM) on the last weekend of November 2026.

The conference attracted around 100 delegates from around Australia along with two representatives from Fiji.

About 20 committee members met on Thursday and Friday, before the conference began on Friday night and continued on Saturday.

The conference was titled "Simplicity of Stillness: Living into Mystery with Meister Eckhart" and was led by an international speaker, the Rev'd Dr. Mark Burrows from Canada.

Dr Burrows spoke over several sessions about Meister Eckhart who lived between 1260 AD and about 1328 AD. He was a German preacher who promoted simplicity as the quiet virtue that lives at the heart of things.

Dr Burrows has led many retreats for the WCCM internationally. He is widely known for his spirituality and mysticism and has co-authored three books on meditative poems inspired by Meister Eckhart's writings.

At a result of hosting the conference, a proposal has been put forward for St Saviour's to run an introductory course on Christian meditation next year.



*Convenor of the Conference Dianne Schaefer,
Conference Speaker, the Rev'd Dr. Mark Burrows and Fr Paul Devenport*

ABM's 175th Anniversary Celebrations

October 2025 will be remembered for the celebration of the 175th anniversary of the Anglican Board of Mission. It was recognised across Australia including the three dioceses in South Australia.

In Adelaide, it was celebrated at St Peter's Cathedral on Sunday the 26th of October with a celebratory high tea in the Cynthia Poulton Hall, followed by Evensong at the Cathedral, where Archbishop Geoff Smith preached.

The Bishop of Mandalay, David Naing was supposed to be the guest speaker at the High Tea but was unable to gain a visa. Instead, the ABM spoke of where it has come over the past 175 years and its future direction for the next 25 years.

This included a presentation from the National Aboriginal Bishop, Chris McLeod, the Chair of NATSIAC, Cameron Burr and the ABM's Key Relationships Manager, Meagan Schwarz.



National Aboriginal Bishop and Dean of St Peter's Cathedral, Chris McLeod, Fr Paul, Chair of the NATSIAC (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council and ABM Education Missioner, Steve Daughtry

As well, St Saviour's was represented at the 175th anniversary celebration at St James, King Street and at Parliament House in Sydney, where Fr Paul and Helen Devenport and Mary Catford attended.

The anniversary evensong was held on the same day and at the same church where the Anglican Board of Mission was formed on the 29th of October 1850.

The Primate and Archbishop of Adelaide, Geoff Smith preached. The service was attended by Partner Bishops from the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Myanmar, Korea, Hong Kong and Melanesia and NATSAIC representatives.

Around 300 supporters from across Australia along with international partner representatives attended the Evensong and the dinner at Parliament House.



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Cemetery Report

The annual cemetery newsletter was sent out to 99 (mail) and 136 (email) contacts in September.

Donations – several were received in reply to the newsletter.

Annual Working Bee for Friends of the Cemetery was held on Saturday 25th of October in the morning and included morning tea kindly provided by Sue Lewis at 10.30am in the Parish Hall. 16 people attended which was lower than usual but luckily the rain and wind arrived later in the afternoon.

The Burnside Council installed a Blue Heritage plaque for the cemetery just before the working bee. It is next to the white wooden gate on Pridmore Road and mentions the hitching rail nearby.

A large gum tree branch fell in October but was cleverly removed by Dave Monceaux and Ross Bray.

Bequest of John Moore

A quote was accepted for the restoration of monuments as was John's wish. 20 varying styles of headstones and monuments were either restored or secured. The work was completed early in April by Ken Slater Memorials. The appearance and safety of



the cemetery have been greatly

improved. One grave is now back to its original shape, and the other has had the surrounds removed and the headstone set back on the grave so that it is not affected by the large gumtree.



PlanSA

Some of the trees (self-established years ago) in the cemetery are causing damage but they will continue to grow as they are River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*). Their mature height and width are not suitable in a heritage cemetery with monuments and access being compromised. To address this problem, in February I applied to PlanSA to have three of them removed. These trees are listed as significant in the new PlanSA specifications because of their size and species. Arborman Tree Solutions presented a report with understanding of the heritage and significance of St. Saviour's cemetery versus the 3 trees. The total cost of the arborist report and application to PlanSA was \$1,345.00. The application was rejected by Burnside Council.

Volunteers are needed to help keep the cemetery tidy for only an hour at flexible times, with rakes supplied.

Elisabeth Gobolos



The Choir Beneath the Spire

St Saviour's Choir is inviting anyone who enjoys singing and would like to join the choir in 2026.....no experience necessary.

The choir meets to practice on Thursday evenings at 5 pm for an hour and for a quick practice on Sunday morning before the 10 am Eucharist.

To enquire, please contact Margaret Taylor, the Choir Director on 0414 245 303.

The connection between St Saviour's and the Cathedral Organs

St Saviour's has the fortune of having an excellent pipe organ which needs constant maintenance to keep it properly tuned. Some of the pipes were installed in 1927, some of them were from St John's Anglican Church in Wagga Wagga in NSW. The pipes were gradually added with a complete set finished in 2005 by an organ specialist, George Stephens.

Photo: pipes at St Saviour's.

Much of this latter work on the St Saviour's organ was carried out by George Stephens in 2001 and 2005 with the addition of many extra pipes for the organ. There are now 988 pipes installed. George was also responsible for an upgrade of the pipe organ at St Peter's Cathedral in 1989, with the installation of a 32 foot Contra Trombone, pictured on the next page.

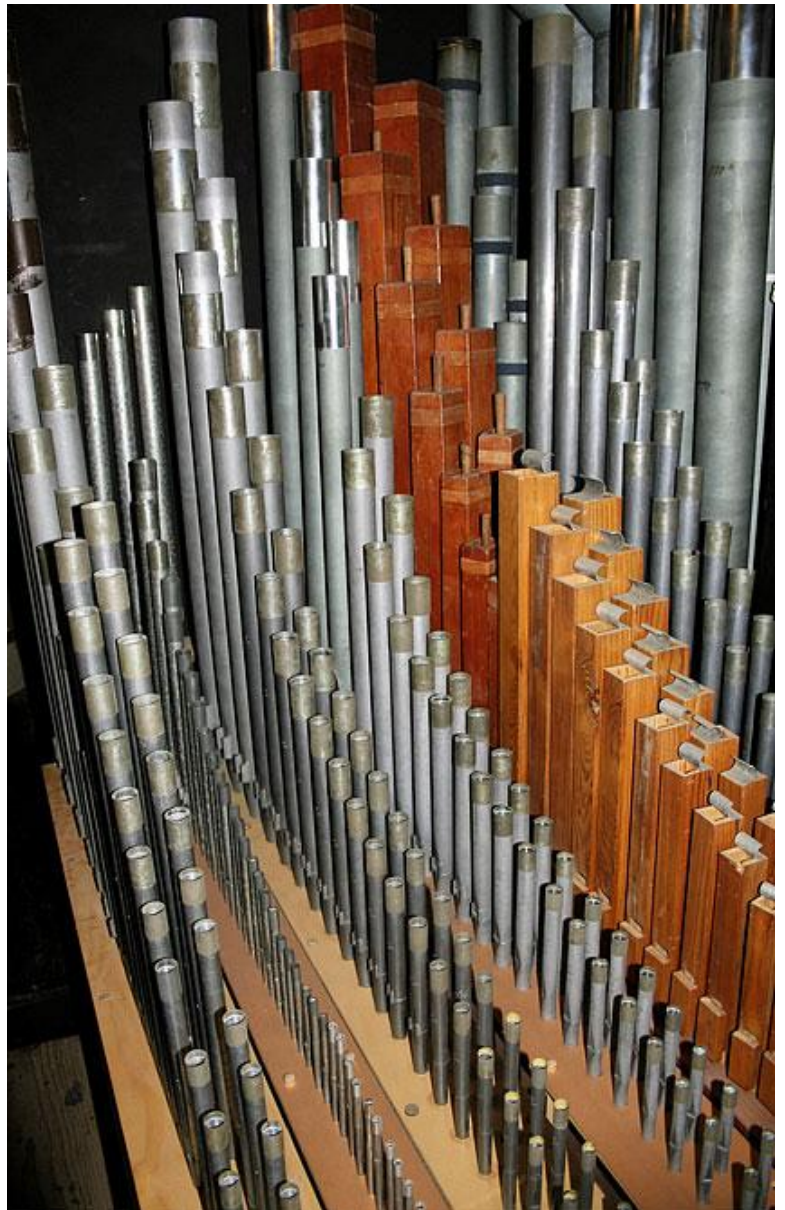




Photo: Chris Oaten

This was installed in memory of musicians associated with the cathedral. These full-length pipes are sited opposite the main organ chamber in the liturgical south transept where the first organ once resided. These pipes are not the largest pipes in the instrument, this title goes to the 32ft Double Open Diapason, whose pipes are big enough to climb inside and stand at the back of the main organ chamber.

In 2017, the organ was shipped back to England to the workshop of Harrison & Harrison Ltd of Durham, where it was comprehensively overhauled at a cost of \$1.7m. Four new stops were provided and the 32ft Contra Trombone was revoiced; these tonal revisions being based on the original pipework scaling are perfectly in keeping with the original 1929 tonal aesthetic organ.

While the romantic style and character of the 1929 instrument has been preciously safeguarded, it has been equipped with modern playing aids to allow the cathedral musicians to have an instrument fit for today's liturgical requirements. The instrument remains as one of the grandest and substantially musically unaltered organs in Australia, making it one of significant historic importance.

The organ was rededicated on Sunday 2 December 2018.

Source: <https://www.stpeters-cathedral.org.au/music/organ/>

Bequests to St Saviour's

Bequests are a great way to ensure a lasting legacy. You can include the Anglican Parish of Glen Osmond in your Will to help future faith generations and the ongoing Mission of the Church. Our Parish has an outward mission focus as well as a commitment to support the spiritual life of our congregation.

Leaving a bequest is a very personal decision and it is important to look after your loved ones first. It is also good to discuss your wishes with those closest to you such as family and friends. Your Will is a very important document, and it is important that it reflects what you want.

When leaving a bequest or gift to the Parish, contact your Executor (family, executor trustee or solicitor) to let them know that you would like to include this in your Will. They will ensure the right wording is used based on your wishes. Please note that bequests can only be made to the Synod of the Diocese for the benefit of a particular parish or ministry.

The Anglican Diocese of Adelaide has a policy on Bequests and the recommended wording to be used is:

I give and bequeath (description of gift, eg specific amount or percentage of estate or balance of estate) to The Synod of the Diocese of Adelaide of the Anglican Church of Australia Incorporated for the use and benefit of the Anglican Parish of Glen Osmond, 596 Portrush Road, Glen Osmond.

You may also specify if you wish the Parish to use the funds for a specific ministry or leave it to the discretion of the Parish Council.

The Anglican Parish of Glen Osmond has been very fortunate with the generous bequests in the past. Every gift, no matter how small or large, is important. For more information, there is a pamphlet on bequests in the narthex of the church.



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CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAY 21ST OF DECEMBER

7.00PM: NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

CHRISTMAS EVE

WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER

5.00pm: Children & Families

Christmas Nativity Service

Set up the Nativity, sing Carols and do a Christingle Activity

11.00pm: Midnight Mass with Carols

CHRISTMAS DAY

THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER

9.00am: Sung Eucharist with Carols

(suitable for all the family)



Priest

Rev'd Paul Devenport E: pdevenport@vtown.com.au | M: 0412 320 375

Administration

Bobbie Luks – Wed 8.30am -11.30am & Fri 8.30am -11.30am
P: 8379 4114 | E: saviours@adam.com.au

Church Website

glenosmondanglicans.com.au

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