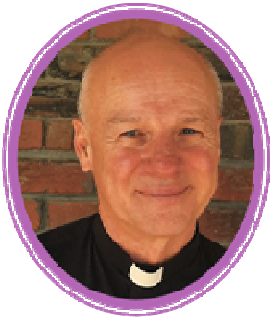


Father Paul writes 6th of September 2026



I welcome you on this first 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 Global Ecumenical theme for this year is "Living Water", which highlights how oceans, aquifers, rivers and wetlands and the precious streams in the desert are gifts from God to be treasured and protected. The theme is based on Ezekiel 47. 9,12, where water flowing from God's Temple transforms barren land into a place of abundant life. This vision offers a message of hope, healing and ecological renewal, where water flowing from God's presence restores ecosystems, nourishes diversity and symbolizes God's desire for the flourishing of all creation.

It is a day where we also celebrate Father's Day, giving thanks for Fathers today. We will give thanks and celebrate the positive influence Dads have including grandfathers and father figures. We also encourage families to attend on a Sunday where we promote on the first Sunday of the month families and "Kids at Church". It is an opportunity also to spend precious time with family.

On Thursday, St Saviour's will join the Burnside City Uniting Church in giving thanks to the teachers and staff at Linden Park Primary School with a morning tea. It is appropriately being held on "Are you OK" Day. St Saviour's is pleased to be involved knowing the school is within our parish boundaries and is another way of continuing to build a relationship with the school. My thanks to Sue Lewis, Beth Walton, Mary Catford and Jill Nield for assisting with the morning tea.

It was intended that next Sunday we would have the opportunity to take part in the National Church Life Survey. Unfortunately, there have been delays in having the forms printed, and so they may not be available for a couple of weeks. About 90 per cent of parishes in the Diocese of Adelaide are taking part in the national survey. It was last done five years ago and aims to give a snapshot of Australian spirituality, church health, leadership and the connections between church and community. Once the survey forms are received, they will be distributed and we will have two to three weeks to complete them. I have also ordered online forms for those who wish to complete the survey online.

Your friend and priest, Paul