



Sydney Lutheran Parish

St Paul's, Sydney & Redeemer, Narraweena

*Welcome to Sydney
Lutheran Parish.*

*Please join us for morning tea
served after worship in the
hall.*

*If you are new to our church
please fill out a welcome card
and place it on the offering
plate.*

Pastor Jason.

Holy Communion at our church is for all

- *baptised believers*
 - *who know their need for
forgiveness, empowerment
and releasing into the world
as disciples of Jesus*
 - *who believe Jesus himself is
present with his body and
blood in this meal with the
bread and the wine*
- (see page 2 for more info)*

Sunday 5th February 2012

Today's Old Testament reading is from:

Isaiah 40:21-31

All human beings have only a transitory nature and insignificant power compared to the Lord, who has ordered all things. The Lord himself is above comparison, being both the architect and creator of the universe. God's people are therefore wrong to question his significant involvement and influence over events which affect their wellbeing. Those who will but trust him and turn to him are strengthened and sustained.



St Paul's Ministry Contacts

Church Council Members

Bruce Arnold
Peter Hong Ning
Marcus Herstik
Milton Sickerdick
Ian Pietsch
Rhonda Raines

Prayer ministry: Virginia Milla
Men's breakfast: Tom Allen
Women's group: Rhonda Raines
Webmaster: Marcus Herstik
Discipleship: Pastor Jason

Worship Centre:

3 Stanley Street
East Sydney NSW 2010

Worship Time:

10.30 am

Website

www.stpaulssydney.org

Redeemer Ministry Contacts

Elder

René van den Tol

Church Council Members

René van den Tol
Toby Rudolph
Gary Rollans
Allen Hausler
Dorothea Preis
Dan and Tatiana Cox
Denis and Rose Moore

Worship Centre:

48 Parr Parade
Narraweena NSW 2099

Worship Time:

8.30 am

Website:

www.redeemerlutheran.org.au

PARISH STAFF

Parish Pastor

Rev. Jason S Sander
P: (02) 9331 1822
M: 0421 123 173

pastor@stpaulssydney.org
pastor@redeemerlutheran.org.au

Day Off: Tuesday

Parish Office Administrator

Elaine Elliott
M: 0425 337 149

secretary@stpaulssydney.org
secretary@redeemerlutheran.org.au

Holy Communion in our church:

- Gluten free wafers are available; please inform the steward at communion.
- Non-alcoholic wine is available in individual cups (this is marked on the cup tray).
- You are welcome to take from the common cup or dip your wafer.
- If you would prefer a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.
- Children are welcome to come and receive a blessing from our Pastor.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

This week's service:

Contemporary

This week's readings

OT: Isaiah 40: 21 - 31

NT: 1 Corinthians 9: 16 - 23 Gospel: Mark 1: 29 - 39

Next week's service:

Traditional

Next week's readings

OT: 2 Kings 5: 1 - 14

NT: 1 Corinthians 9: 24 - 27 Gospel: Mark 1: 40 - 45

Prayer of the day

God our Saviour, thank you that your Son healed the sick, drove out demons, and brought your good news of salvation. Make us whole in body and spirit, so that we are free to serve you. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Psalm of the day: Psalm 147 (V)

Praise the LORD. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him! The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel. He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds. He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit. The LORD sustains the humble but casts the wicked to the ground. Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music to our God on the harp. He covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills. He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of a man; the LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love. Praise the LORD.

Hymn for the week:

Jesus, all for Jesus; all I am and have and ever hope to be.

All of my ambitions, hopes and plans;

I surrender these into your hands.

For it's only in your will that I am free.

Jesus, all for Jesus, All I am and have and ever hope to be.



Growing in God's Word



Sunday February 5th - Revelation 3: 1 - 22

Reflect: Ask yourself the same questions as you did yesterday. How would you describe your relationship with Jesus? Hot? Cold? Lukewarm? Getting warmer?

Prayer: *I hear your voice Lord; come in and renew my heart. Amen.*

Monday February 6th - Revelation 4: 1 - 11

Reflect: In the Liturgy, and especially in the Lord's Supper, we already participate on earth in this worship of God in heaven. How does that encourage you?

Prayer: *You are worthy Lord, to receive glory, honour and power. Amen.*

Tuesday February 7th - Revelation 5: 1 - 14

Reflect: The future (the scroll) is in the hands of our Lord Jesus, who is the Lamb who was slain to win forgiveness and eternal life for us. We are safe in his care!

Prayer: *All praise to you, Jesus, my victorious Lord and Redeemer. Amen.*

Wednesday February 8th - Revelation 6: 1 - 17

Reflect: The Lord will not be mocked. Judgement is coming. Despite the troubles of life and despite those who oppose God's will, the victory is ultimately God's!

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, thank for saving me from the wrath to come. Amen.*

Thursday February 9th - Revelation 7: 1 - 17

Reflect: The symbolic number 144,000 reminds us that God will rescue his people and that none will be forgotten. How do verses 14 - 17 encourage you in tough times?

Prayer: *Lord God, salvation does belong to you, all glory to your name! Amen.*

Friday February 10th - Revelation 8: 1 - 13

Reflect: The opening of the seventh seal ushers in the sounding of the seven trumpets. The theme of judgement and control being in God's hands is repeated once more.

Prayer: *Lord, you always hear my prayers. Make me more eager to pray. Amen.*

Saturday February 11th - Revelation 9: 1 - 21

Reflect: Despite all this suffering, people still refused to repent! Are we in Australia today also this stubborn? Too deaf to hear? Too blind to see? Lord have mercy!

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, move our nation to repent. Begin with my own heart. Amen.*

Prayer Points



Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Romans 12:11-13

Worship prayer points

- that the church may readily serve those in need of physical healing;
- for all those who work in the medical profession;
- for those whose illness isolates them, and renders them powerless;
- for wisdom for our nation's leaders, as they consider how to heal the problems of our community.

Our parish

- for the elderly, the sick, and their carers, especially Gaston Bauer, John Hanckel (in Melbourne), Trudy Pahl, Jacqui Bayliss, Baden Wendt, Steven Raines, Krystian Fudala (Nina's dad) and Allen Hausler;
- for those living and working elsewhere: Riang Carver and her son Xavier (Dubai), Andrew and Josie James and their children Mabel and Allen (Abu Dhabi);
- for all students who started school this week, especially those starting for the first time;
- for those who live on the streets in the East Sydney area and all those who care for them;
- *"Lord, renew your church; begin with me."*

Our LCA

- for the parish of Bankstown/Liverpool, Pastor Tim Zanker and his wife Denise, and the congregations of Living Waters Liverpool and Concordia Yagoona;
- for the LCA Mission and Ministry Conference to be held at Warrambui from 6th to 8th February;
- for last year's 5 interns at Warrambui - Megan, Kerri, Zach, BB and Rebecca - as they leave Warrambui and move on to further avenues of service and study;
- for the teachers of Lutheran schools who faithfully share the message of Jesus Christ through their words and actions with the students in their care.

Our world

- for the Bishops, General Secretaries and leaders of our overseas partner churches in Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Sabah and Papua New Guinea;
- for wisdom for LWF and other agencies responding to the African refugee crisis;
- for safety for our Lutheran teams working in Dadaab Refugee Camp;
- for the refugee families who have lost everything and suffered so much;
- for the two female aid workers from Dadaab Refugee Camp who were kidnapped last October and whose whereabouts still remains unknown.

What's happening?

Alpha Course

Alpha is being held at St Paul's Worship Centre on Sunday nights at 7pm. Everyone is welcome. It will run for ten weeks - but don't worry if you can't make it to all ten sessions. Just come to as many sessions as you can. There is also an Alpha retreat scheduled for the 9th and 10th March. We look forward to seeing you there!



Parish Women's Thursday Morning Coffee Group

This early morning group will start the year with breakfast on Thursday 16th February. For more information, please speak to Virginia or Rhonda at St Paul's or Elaine in the Parish Office.

Parish Men's Breakfast

This group meets fortnightly on Fridays at 7.05 am at the Three Beans Café in Greenwood Plaza, North Sydney. The next breakfast will be on Friday 17th February. 7.00am for a 7.05 start. For more information, speak to Tom Allen or Pastor Jason.

Harvest Thanksgiving Festival



Harvest Thanksgiving will be celebrated at St Paul's on **Sunday 12th February 2012**.

You are invited to bring home grown or home made produce, as well as other items, to express our thanks to God for his provision of good things and for his blessings to us. All items will be donated to a local charity. There will also be a retiring offering for the work of ALWS to help a community or family buy the tools needed to grow their own food.

Would you like to help set up the display of goods on the morning of 12th February? Please speak to Pastor Jason.

"I'm New to This Church"

If you are new to our church or to the Lutheran Church, this course is for you. Come and hear about what is important to our church, learn what a Lutheran is, and find out where you can serve in your church. Everyone is welcome to attend this information afternoon. It's on **Sunday 19th February 2012** at St Paul's Worship Centre at 12.30 pm. A light lunch will be provided.

This session will be repeated at Redeemer later in the year.

St Paul's and Redeemer AGMs

These important meetings will be held as follows:

- St Paul's - after the service on **Sunday 12th February 2012.**
- Redeemer - after the service on **Sunday 19th February 2012.**

Pastor Jason will be presenting his vision for the parish at each meeting.



The Christ Files

Go on a journey with Australian author John Dickson as he goes in search of the historical Jesus. This DVD study is for all people, new Christians and older ones. There will be 4 sessions starting on **Monday 5th March** at 7.30 pm, at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Narraweena.

'Confirming Easter' Camp at Warrambui

The experience of Easter Camp is unlike anything else you've ever done or seen. The Easter Story comes alive through real-life drama and action settings, and you will be challenged to a new understanding of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. This camp is for anyone who has studied confirmation or is doing the classes now. The 2012 camp will be held at Warrambui Retreat and Conference Centre from **Maundy Thursday 5th April to 8th April**. Contact Pastor Jason for more details.

Lutheran Women of NSW Retreat

This year's retreat will be at Warrambui Retreat and Conference Centre from **9th to 11th March**. Take a break, rest and recharge with other faithful women as they explore the theme "Your Family and Mine: Caution! God at Work". Early bird registrations close on Friday 3rd February. Other registrations close Friday 24th February. For more information, contact Elaine in the Parish Office.

National Day of Prayer and Fasting

This will be held on **Sunday 19th February** from 10 am - 4 pm in the Great Hall at Parliament House, Canberra.

For more information, go to the website at www.nationaldayofprayer.com.au

What is the Alpha Course?

The Alpha Course is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith. It's relaxed, low key, friendly and fun. Listen, learn, discuss, discover and ask anything. Alpha is a place where no question is too simple or too hostile.



How the course works

The course is based around small groups hosted by leaders who facilitate and encourage discussion. The whole course usually lasts for 10 weeks, with a day or weekend away in the middle. The emphasis is upon exploration and discovery in a relaxed and informal environment



Course content

The course covers topics such as

- Who is Jesus?
- How can we have faith?
- Why and how do we pray?
- How and why should I read the Bible?
- How does God guide us?
- What does the Holy Spirit do?

What others say

- *Many claim Alpha has changed their lives and appear genuinely happier for the experience.* **Time Magazine**
- *... every person seeking to know more about Jesus and His plan and purpose for our life should be given the opportunity to complete Alpha.* **Darren J Beadman, Jockey**
- *Alpha makes Christianity relevant to modern life.* **The Express, London**

An advertisement for the Alpha Course featuring Bear Grylls. On the left is a close-up of Bear Grylls smiling. On the right is a smaller image of him standing on a mountain peak with his arms outstretched. The text reads: "MY CHRISTIAN FAITH IS THE BACKBONE OF MY LIFE" Bear Grylls. IS THERE MORE TO LIFE? THE ALPHA COURSE | WWW.ALPHA.ORG.AU. There is a small Alpha logo in the bottom right corner of the image.

"MY CHRISTIAN FAITH IS THE BACKBONE OF MY LIFE"
Bear Grylls

IS THERE MORE TO LIFE?
THE ALPHA COURSE | WWW.ALPHA.ORG.AU

ALWS - Farmers First



This year's retiring offering at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service at St Paul's on Sunday 12th February will be for the work of ALWS in farming communities.

Here are some of the ways your gift will help:

Farming Project	Cost
Hatch Chicken Eggs in <i>Indonesia</i> Build incubator, hatch eggs, make chicken feed, starter set of chickens, using chook poo as fertiliser.	\$42
Agricultural Training in <i>Burundi</i> Train association of 30 farmers to diversify production for more nutritional diet.	\$48
Kitchen Gardens in <i>Nepal</i> Train households to establish kitchen gardens for vegetables to improve children's health.	\$15
Ducks in <i>Cambodia</i> Poultry are easy to raise, and low cost to feed using local vegetation and rice. Start a business selling popular duck eggs with 9 females and one male duck.	\$44
Piglet Raising in <i>Cambodia</i> Piglet raised using no-cost household scraps. Bred. Extra piglets returned to Pig Bank. Generate on-going income for a family.	\$77

Media Matters

Lutheran Media – Listen to *FACE TO FACE*

Download the script or listen online at www.facetoface.org.au



5th February Never Too Old to Learn Rob Schubert

All over Australia kids are back at school. Another year of learning has begun. But do we ever really stop learning? This week our guest Rob Schubert reminds us that every day brings new experiences. And we're never too old to learn something new! Rob will show how Jesus invites us on a lifelong journey of growing with him.

12th February Winning the Race Richard Mau

In July this year athletes and fans will be joined by the media circus in London to celebrate the 2012 Olympic Games. While many of us will cheer on the efforts of our Aussie athletes, this week Richard Mau will be talking about another competition which is even more significant and which affects each person on earth.

19th February How Do I Look? Mark Doecke

Judy Garland was quoted as saying "be a first rate version of yourself, instead of a second rate version of somebody else." Most of us compare ourselves with others and use their opinions to give us value. But can we truly rely on these perceptions? This week on *Face to Face* Mark Doecke will be presenting a message titled "How Do I Look?" We hope you can join us.

26th February Restoring Broken Relationships Interview

We all face conflict in our lives. It may be at work, in the home or with friends or neighbours. This week's guest is Ted Kober from the United States. He's involved with an organisation called Ambassadors For Reconciliation. Their aim is to help restore relationships damaged through conflict. Through real life stories you'll discover that it's never too late to make peace.

Have you returned your Roster information sheet?

Please return as soon as possible the coloured sheet indicating how you can help with the practical running of our parish during 2012.

You can return it with the offering or hand to the stewards after the service.

Thank you to those who have already completed this form.

Contact Elaine in the Parish Office for more information: 0425 337 149 or secretary@stpaulssydney.org or secretary@redeemerlutheran.org.au

St Paul's Roster

Date	Flowers/Coffee	Parking	Stewards	Lector	Holy Communion
Today	Beryl	Lilian	René	Virginia	Marcus/René
12th Feb	Gretchen	Clem	Marianne	Bruce	Bruce/Helena
19th Feb	Barbara	Raines Family	Hong Ning Family	Andrew	Peter/Emilie
26th Feb	Brigitte/Ilze	Andrew A	Ilze	Matt	Andrew O/Helena

Redeemer Roster

Date	Flowers/Morning Tea	Vestment Colours	Lector
5th Feb	Rose Moore	Green	Brigitte
12th Feb	Seija	Green	Jarmo
19th Feb	Dorothea	Green	Dan C
26th Feb	Sari	Green	Miro

Please note: If you are unable to fulfil your part of the roster on any given Sunday please make alternative arrangements and let the office know by emailing secretary@stpaulssydney.org or secretary@redeemerlutheran.org.au or phone Elaine on 0425 337 149

Regular Electronic Giving = REG

Did you know that it is now possible to support the work of your church through regular offerings made electronically?

The LLL (Lutheran Laypeople's League) has made it possible for this safe, convenient, flexible and confidential way of giving and there is no extra charge to you or to your congregation.

Regular Electronic Giving (REG) has many distinct advantages, such as ensuring a regular income for the congregation.

If you would like to use this facility, contact René at Redeemer or Milton at St Paul's or Nancy Fox (LLL representative) or contact the LLL on (08) 8360 7200.

The **Privacy Act** regulates private sector organisations and the way these organisations handle personal information. The Church is required to comply with this Act. Individuals have a right to know why an organisation is collecting their information, what information it holds about them, how it will use the information, and who else will get the information. A copy of the Privacy Policy of the LCA is available from the LCA website www.lca.org.au

Responding to Sexual Abuse Complaints: a confidential service for responding to complaints of sexual abuse/harassment by church employees has been set up. Trained advisors are available. Free Call 1800 644 628 or write to The Supervisor, PO Box 519, Marden SA 5070.



To post notices in the Bulletin, please contact Elaine Elliott
secretary@stpaulssydney.org or secretary@redeemerlutheran.org.au or 0425 337 149.
Notices received by Wednesday will appear in Sunday's Bulletin.