



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 12th February 2012

Today's gospel reading is from:

Matthew 6: 25 - 33

What do you worry about?

Maybe it is paying bills, succeeding in work, having nice clothes, the biggest TV, the future of your kids, your health, your marriage ... ?

At the heart of our gospel reading is Jesus saying "put your trust in me". He says "don't worry about your life, about money, food and clothing because God will provide for your every need".

We can try to control our lives and its outcomes; we can attempt to make big plans and they may even work out; but ultimately it is God who controls our future. Therefore our trust can be placed in the one who created time and controls it. Look first to God and his kingdom and the rest will be taken care of.



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
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pastor@stpaulssydney.org
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Day Off: Tuesday

Parish Office Administrator

Elaine Elliott
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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.

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany and Harvest Thanksgiving

This week's service: Traditional

This week's readings

OT: Joel 2: 21 - 27

NT: 1 Timothy 2: 1 - 7

Gospel: Matthew 6: 25 - 33

Next week's service: Contemporary

Next week's readings

OT: 2 Kings 2: 1 - 12

NT: 2 Corinthians 4: 3 - 6

Gospel: Mark 9: 2 - 9

Prayer of the day

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank you that you have again shown your kindness by giving us the fruits of the earth in their seasons. Help us to use them rightly, to your glory, for our own wellbeing, and for the relief of those in need. 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 126 (NIV)

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Restore our fortunes, LORD, like streams in the Negev. Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.

Hymn for the week:

Now thank we all our God
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom the world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.



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Growing in God's Word



Sunday February 12th - Revelation 10: 1 - 11

Reflect: God calls each of us to announce his message to the people around us (calling them to repentance and faith). How is this task both sweet and bitter to you?

Prayer: *Lord, give me the faith and the courage to speak for you. Amen.*

Monday February 13th - Revelation 11: 1 - 19

Reflect: Despite persecution of his people, God remains in charge. As these troubles happen on earth, God is praised in all eternity. We are invited to join in this worship!

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, help me to trust that the future is in your hands. Amen.*

Tuesday February 14th - Revelation 12: 1 - 18

Reflect: Satan wasn't able to defeat Christ, so he next attempts to destroy Christ's followers. We too will overcome, not by ourselves, but by the blood of the Lamb!

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, thank you that you have given me the victory. Amen.*

Wednesday February 15th - Revelation 13: 1-18

Reflect: In the midst of our troubles we are called to show patient endurance and faithfulness. We know that in the end, even the worst of enemies cannot defeat us!

Prayer: *When things get hard, keep me close to you, Lord Jesus! Amen.*

Thursday February 16th - Revelation 14: 1 - 20

Reflect: We do not have the mark of the beast. Instead, in Baptism, we have been given the mark of the Father's name (we are his people). Let's live accordingly!

Prayer: *Holy Father, keep me faithful to Jesus, by your Spirit. Amen.*

Friday February 17th - Revelation 15: 1 - 8

Reflect: We echo the words of the heavenly choir, "Great and marvellous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty." The victory began in a manger!

Prayer: *Lord, not only are you Almighty, you are all compassionate. Amen.*

Saturday February 18th - Revelation 16: 1 - 21

Reflect: Remember that Jesus was born in order to save us from this future wrath of God. (His just judgement is on those who refuse to repent.)

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, thank you that I have received new life. Amen.*

Prayer Points



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

Romans 12:11-13

Worship prayer points

- for nourishment with word and sacrament;
- for the church, that it may be a witness to God's generosity;
- for all involved in agriculture - that they may care for the resources they steward, and receive God's blessing through their work ;
- for all paid workers, for all unpaid workers, and for all unemployed;
- for all who do not have enough to eat;
- for those who do not know how to give thanks to God;
- for those who doubt God's goodness;
- for protection from drought and famine ;
- for the environment.

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);
- *"Lord, renew your church; begin with me."*

Our LCA

- for the Sydney Finnish parish, Pastor Martti Paananen and his wife Riitta , and the Sydney Finnish congregation;
- for the NSW District Church Council Planning Retreat from 15th - 17th February;
- for those affected by storms and flooding in QLD and NSW.

Our world

- for Rev Mark Whitfield who will be installed as the President of the Lutheran Church of New Zealand today by Rev Mark Lieschke, NSW District President and Interim LCA Vice President;
- for safety and peace in South Sudan where conflict has resulted in hundreds of people being killed and thousands displaced;
- for safety of our Lutheran teams working in Jonglei state where much of this conflict is happening;
- for school teachers and students in South Sudan, where many schools have been damaged in attacks;
- for the two female aid workers from Dadaab Refugee Camp who were kidnapped.

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 today at St Paul's.

"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 next **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.

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

St Paul's and Redeemer AGMs

These important meetings will be held as follows:

- St Paul's - today after the service in the hall.
- 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". Registrations close Friday 24th February. For more information, contact Elaine in the Parish Office.

Did you know the sermons are available online?

Go to the websites

- www.stpaulssydney.org/sermons or www.redeemerlutheran.org.au

Podcasts for iTunes are available from the St Paul's website.

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. On the left is a close-up portrait of Bear Grylls smiling. On the right, a person in outdoor gear stands on a mountain peak with arms outstretched. The background is a scenic mountain landscape.

"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



There will be a retiring offering at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service at St Paul's today 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



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.

FEBRUARY ISSUE OUT NOW

NEW } Introducing our series NEW CREATION—exciting, encouraging stories about new Christians, new Lutherans, new lives in Christ

IT JUST TAKES ONE

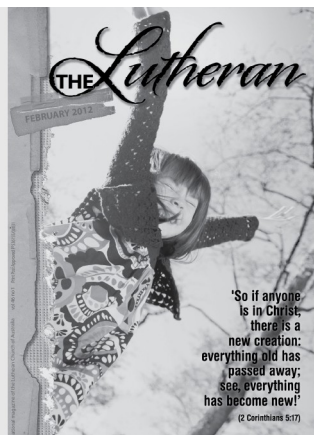
Pinnaroo congregation shows us how to start a youth ministry—starting with just one teenager.

NO KIDDING!

In Burundi, goat-y Gifts of Grace are changing lives.

www.thelutheran.com.au

Subscriptions – 11 issues per year; \$39 Australia, \$41 New Zealand.



St Paul's Roster

Date	Flowers/Coffee	Parking	Stewards	Lector	Holy Communion
Today	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
Today	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.