

WE
Believe
IN PRAYER
PRAISE
NEWS &
THE BIBLE

WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S ROSEVILLE
15TH MAY 2016

ST
ANDREW'S
Believes
IN NEWS

*All that's going on
around St Andrew's*

FROM THE SENIOR ASSOCIATE

REV STUART HOLMAN

☛ Senior Associate

Thank you to all who have welcomed Cate and me so warmly into your fellowship. We are enjoying getting to know new friends and settling in well to our St Andrew's family.

As I sat under God's word last Sunday I was drawn to ponder the nature of 'desire' — those inner yearnings that all of us have. Biblically this kind of 'desire' (*epithumia*) is not necessarily good or evil. Rather, the way we satisfy our desires leads us either down the pathways of righteousness or sin. Of course, our fallen natures predispose us to corrupting the good. Yet God gives us more grace, and his Holy Spirit, that we might increasingly choose the good.

And so we have this desire for 'more'. It is a profound yearning that says there is more than this. Surely we have not arrived yet. Whatever I have thus far does not satisfy; not fully. More stuff is not the answer. More exotic experiences, better holidays, bigger thrills, leave us with the uneasy realisation that ultimately 'nothing tastes'.

But when I channel that yearning for 'more' towards God, I am soon surprised by a dangerous delight that only seems to get

deeper. I say 'dangerous delight' because it upsets the carefully honed balance of our lives where we have just enough of God, but not so much that our usual patterns are disturbed. With God as my priority, his good gifts overthrow my pale attempts to find satisfaction in activity or stuff. It turns out that undivided devotion to God really is delightful. It also has the effect of changing me in a way that I like.

I am no ascetic or spiritual sage, but with my L-plates firmly fixed in place, can I commend to you some adventures in prayerful meditation on God's word. Eastern religions view meditation as the emptying of the mind, so that in 'nothingness' we might feel a peaceful calm without anxiety. Christian meditation, on the other hand, calls us to fill our mind with God's word so that his Holy Spirit might transform us from within. Instead of putting anxiety on hold for a while (only to surprise us at the next provocation!), we learn to trust God with our concerns. We find real peace because God actually has answers; he really responds to our prayers. In addition, he gives us his grace, sufficient to sustain us *through* our trials.

As one rookie to another, here's a beginners exercise for you to try in the coming week using the Sermon on the Mount in Mathew 5-7

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(words of Jesus surely known to James' first readers). Set aside 20 uninterrupted minutes. As you slowly read Matthew 5-7 through, highlight some verses that seem to be talking to you and your situation. When you've settled on them, write these verses out. Speak them out loud. Sing them (if you dare!). Ponder them. Speak them out again with different emphasis. Turn them over and over. Commit them to memory. Sit quietly with them. Talk to God about how you feel about these verses. Allow the verses to ask you questions. And take these words of Jesus with you into your day.

Doing this, I don't expect that you will instantly become a spiritual giant. On the other hand, you should expect to encounter God in new ways. Depend upon him for this. Such Christian meditation is not an anti-intellectual pursuit. Rather it aims to connect our hearts and minds, that we might enjoy God undivided. Most wonderfully, the word implanted within us grows; and it grows us.

Well, my first offering for St Andrew's weekly news is not the entertaining 'profile piece' that I probably should have written, telling you funny stories and introducing my family. Rather, I thought I'd risk sharing what's on my heart and where God is stretching me at this time. I am, however, delighted to be part of

St Andrew's as your new Senior Associate. Cate and I look forward to sharing our lives with you, our new church family, for many many years to come.

In His Grip,
Stuart

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Almighty God, who taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant to us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and always to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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around St Andrew's*

COMMUNITY WATCH

COMING UP

🕒 **Church-Wide Prayer Meeting**

Wed 25th May | 7:30pm - 8:30pm

In the Church Hall

Please do your best to make this a priority as we join together as a whole church to praise God, thank him for his blessings and bring to him our heart-felt concerns for our local community, our nation and the world.

🕒 **Life of Jesus**

Tue 31 May | 7.30pm

John and Buff Dickson's home

A 4-week course for people curious to find out about the basics of the world's largest faith.

Contact the Church Office or email

lifoofjesus@standrews.net.au

🕒 **Property Redevelopment Launch Event**

Save the date! Mon 20th June

Roseville Golf Club

Guest speaker: Archbishop Glenn Davies

PLEASE PRAY

🕒 **8:30am**

Please pray for Margaret Labruyere as she receives further chemotherapy treatment this

week. Pray for her strength in coping with the treatment, that it's effective and that God would uphold her trust in his sovereign love and faithfulness.

🕒 **5pm**

Thank God for the success of Veronica Hanrahan's mother Eileen's cataract surgery and that Veronica was able to travel to Victoria to support her and pray for her recovery.

🕒 **7pm**

Pray for Brad, a close friend of Mel and Bas McIntosh, who has an aggressive form of cancer. Pray that God will guide him in his treatment, that he will be comforted and that he will fully trust Jesus.

🕒 **St Andrew's Ministries**

Pray for our Small Group leaders as they nurture, encourage, and pastor the members of their groups. Ask that God would continually equip them with his Holy Spirit and with his wisdom for their roles. Pray also that God would be developing and raising up new leaders for more groups.

Pray for Cath Ahern as she leads the team who teach SRE in local public schools. Pray that all the SRE teachers will be inspired to provide engaging and fun activities for the kids who come.

*All that our missionaries
do in and around their communities*

MISSION & AID

EAGLE VALE ANGLICAN CHURCH



☉ Eagle Vale Anglican in South-western Sydney

Pray for the Parish of Eagle Vale and for the Senior Minister the Rev Craig and Mrs Sandra Hooper.

Pray for more open doors for the gospel in South-western Sydney, and more workers to go through those doors.

Pray for the Eagle Vale staff and all who bring the word of God to others; that they will keep watching their lives and teaching closely, to save both ourselves and their hearers.

Thank God for the opening of the demountable buildings recently which now provides more space for ministry, particularly for the Children's and Youth work.

Pray for the Alive Kids Club (for yrs 3 to 6 students) on Friday afternoons; that through it, many kids and families are reached for Christ. Thank God for a great start to the club recently.

Pray for ongoing preparations for the Eagle Vale Mission trip to Cloncurry (near Mt Isa in Qld). 13 parishioners will be there in early July working in partnership with Rod and Christene Oldfield, who are BCA workers with the Anglican Church there. Please pray for a fruitful time.

Pray for the Eagle Vale Church; for knowledge, and discernment as they seek to live for the glory and praise of God.

*Words you'll need for
today's contemporary services*

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE PRAYERS

CONFESSION

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have strayed from your ways
 like lost sheep,
We have left undone
 what we ought to have done,
and we have done
 what we ought not to have done.
We have followed our own ways
 and the desires of our own hearts.
We have broken your holy laws.
Yet, good Lord, have mercy on us;
restore those who turn to you,
according to your promises
 declared to us in Jesus Christ
 our Lord.
And grant, merciful Father,
 for his sake,
that we may live a godly
 and obedient life,
to the glory of your holy name.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
 on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory, are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

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CONTEMPORARY SERVICE PRAYERS

THE ST ANDREW'S CHURCH PRAYER

(Congregation reads *italicised text*)

*Dear Lord, our Creator and our Redeemer,
please enable our church to become
all that You want us to be.*

☛ *Above all, teach us to worship you.*

In large and small gatherings, in heartfelt prayer, in knowing and obeying Your Word, and through our music, help us to put our hope in Your coming kingdom and to live for Your glory now and always.

☛ *Merciful God, inspire us to love one another in practical ways.*

May we value each other's company and friendship, and, mindful of Christ's sacrifice, teach us to care deeply for those in need in our church family and the wider community, so that no one around us would suffer unassisted.

☛ *Enable us, Lord, to promote the gospel of Jesus Christ in our words and actions.*

Give us more people gifted for the task of evangelism, and enable all of us to share our faith whenever opportunity allows.

☛ *Sovereign Lord, add to our number many who come to know Your grace.*

May our buildings and ministry teams expand to welcome them, so that you are honoured throughout our community.

☛ *Gracious God, thankful for your blessings make us a deeply generous church.*

Help us to meet and expand our annual budget and to increase our giving to overseas mission and aid.

☛ *Lord of the world, may we be international in our concern.*

Enable us always to support and pray for Your people throughout the world, and may our church over time be blessed with the rich diversity of nationalities in our region.

☛ *Our great God, fashion us to become 'a light on a stand'.*

Help us to offer a centre of community for Roseville and beyond. Give us grace to serve with local churches and to share the good things of St Andrew's with everyone.

Above all, may we offer to others an example of lives lived in the power of Your Holy Spirit, after the pattern of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in honour of you, our Creator and our Redeemer. Amen.

KEY CONTACTS

➔ Senior Leadership Team

John Dickson – Senior Minister

T. (02) 9412 2553

john.dickson@standrews.net.au

(note: this email account is managed by the Office)

Santino Dimarco – Executive Pastor

T. (02) 9412 2553

santino.dimarco@standrews.net.au

Stuart Holman – Senior Associate Minister

M. 0414 439 771

stuart.holman@standrews.net.au

Cath Ahern – Children’s Minister (*Honorary*)

M. 0407 152 995

cath.ahern@standrew.net.au

➔ Ministry Contacts

Mike Hastie – Assist. Minister

M. 0421 014 977

mike.hastie@standrews.net.au

Meredith Hatcher – Assoc. Women’s Minister

(*Part Time - Sun, Tue, Thu*)

M. 0403 154 160

meredith.hatcher@standrews.net.au

James Smith – Assist. Minister

M. 0438 669 530

james.smith@standrews.net.au

Peter Watson – Minister for Seniors

(*Part Time*)

T. (02) 9412 2553

peter.watson@standrews.net.au

➔ Church Office

Bec Kimpton – Office Manager

T. (02) 9412 2553

office@standrews.net.au

➔ Group Contacts

Children’s Ministry

kids@standrews.net.au

Community Project

communityproject@standrews.net.au

Environmental Action Group

eag@standrews.net.au

ESL

esl@standrews.net.au

Fit For Good

fitforgood@standrews.net.au

Playgroup

playgroup@standrews.net.au

Time Out

timeout@standrews.net.au

Youth

stayrevive@standrews.net.au

Xtreme

Fri after school for Years 5&6

kids@standrews.net.au

FINANCIAL SUPPORT DETAILS

➔ Supporting the General Ministry

Supporting the general work of St Andrew’s:

Anglican Parish St Andrew’s

BSB 704 998 | A/C 100 005 413 *

This is our preferred method to receive your regular support.

Alternatively cash/cheque contributions can be made via the offertory collection during each of the services.

➔ Supporting the Property Redevelopment

To support the St Andrew’s Property Redevelopment, **tax-deductible** contributions can be made via:

St Andrew’s Anglican Church

Roseville Donation Fund

BSB 704 998 | A/C 100 010 195 *

Please include your surname and the initials “PV” (for Property Vision) in the reference field.

Donations by cheque should be made to St Andrew’s Roseville Donation Fund.

Please mark the envelope with your surname and “PV”.

If you would like to support the Property Redevelopment but **do not** require a tax deduction, please contact the Executive Pastor, Santino Dimarco.

(* this BSB may be displayed as Indue Limited which is part of the Diocesan banking arrangements)



St Andrew’s Anglican Church Roseville

1 Bancroft Avenue Roseville NSW 2069, Australia

T. (02) 9412 2553 | office@standrews.net.au | www.standrews.net.au