

WE
Believe
IN PRAYER
PRAISE
NEWS &
THE BIBLE

WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S ROSEVILLE
5TH JUNE 2016

ST
ANDREW'S
Believes
IN NEWS

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

FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER

REV JOHN DICKSON

☉ Senior Minister

Dear St Andrew's,

I am enjoying taking us through the book of James, both in the preaching and in the daily devotionals. Your response has been very uplifting to me personally. Thank you.

One challenging question has been asked by some of you in recent weeks: *How does our \$10m building project square with James' insistence that "true religion cares for widows and orphans in their distress"?* In other words, is such a large expenditure on buildings in keeping with an emphasis on showing practical mercy to the vulnerable?

The question hasn't been put as a criticism but as a sincere attempt to wrestle with what it means to be followers of Christ on Sydney's North Shore. I appreciate it.

I have a few thoughts.

First, it is always good for Christians to analyse and challenge their spending patterns. Can we justify spending \$20 on a bottle of wine instead of the poor? Can we justify buying a house on the North Shore when that money could be better spent? And what about that kitchen renovation that exceeds our family's charitable donations by a factor of ten? Can we

justify that overseas holiday, or that family trip to the snow, when those dollars could save lives elsewhere? Can a church of 580 adults justify spending over \$10m on expanded buildings? These are all good questions. They should be asked by each Christian, by families, and by whole communities like ours. I never want to discourage such self-reflection, both individually and collectively. Who knows what God might say to us when we come to him with a humble heart!

Secondly, it is clear the New Testament does not insist that the wealthy should no longer be wealthy; Christianity is not socialism! Some wealthy individuals in the Gospels are indeed told to sell everything and give to the poor, but that's not the default teaching. The more typical instruction is found, for example, in 1 Timothy 6:17-18, "Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share."

The rich aren't told to be rich no more. They are urged to enjoy what God has given them and to be generous. They are to complement

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their material wealth by being “rich in good deeds” and “willing to share.”

Generosity, *not poverty*, is the virtue in the Christian faith. There should be no shame in spending on ourselves if we are generous to others. This is true for your family as you ponder whether it is reasonable to spend a million dollars on a family home, just as it is true for a church of 350 families as we contemplate spending ten times that amount on facilities for the coming generations.

This leads to my third thought. In reality, our building project is not about ourselves at all. It is not the obligatory “North Shore renovation”. It is in itself an act of generosity to Roseville and beyond, for this generation and beyond. The whole point of our building project is to provide a worship space, counselling rooms, ESL classes, children’s ministry, youth activities, seminar spaces, charitable services, and community events *for others* for decades to come.

In addition, think about our projected budget as stated in our *2020 Vision*. Currently, we give away 30% of income to mission and aid. The aim, as you know, is to increase this to 50%. Assuming we grow in the future as we’ve grown in the past—and only the planned buildings can make that logistically possible—we can expect to have a budget of over \$2m

per annum, giving more than \$1m each year to mission and aid. In other words, God willing, within ten years of the completion of the *2020 Vision* Project we will have given away as much as we spent on the buildings. I find this very inspiring. But there is no way it will take place without this crucial piece of infrastructure.

In short, please always be willing to ask the hard questions of both the church and yourselves. And let’s strive not to impoverish ourselves *but to enrich others*, materially and spiritually. We are the “rich in this world”; let’s be “rich in good deeds”.

Every blessing,

John

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord God, the unfailing helper and guide of those whom you bring up in your steadfast fear and love, keep us, we pray, under the protection of your good providence, and give us a continued reverence and love for your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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COMMUNITY WATCH

COMING UP

🕒 **Belonging Course**

Sun 19th Jun | 12pm - 2pm

Over lunch in the Kelman Room

Fast-track way of getting to know St Andrew's
and other newcomers.

Contact James Smith for details or email
belonging@standrews.net.au

2020 Vision Project launch and fundraising dinner.

Mon 20th June | 7pm

Roseville Golf Club

There is no payment
required for this event.

Guest speaker:
Archbishop Glenn Davies

RSVP by Fri 10th June to
events@standrews.net.au



PLEASE PRAY

🕒 **Churchwide**

Please pray for Mike and Kel Hastie's son
Lewis who is having his adenoids removed on
Monday; for safe and effective surgery, and a
good recovery.

Pray for Martin Butler and Christine Yoo as
they get married at St Andrew's on Saturday 11
June; that their wedding day will be a joyous
start for a marriage which will truly reflect
Christ's love.

Pray for the family and friends of Bradley
Jones (known by a number of people at St
Andrew's) who passed away from cancer last
week. Pray for the Jones family, especially
Bradley's father Garry as well as the many
other family and friends who will be grieving
at this time. Pray that they will know God's
comfort during this time.

Pray for St Andrew's Environmental Action
Group as it seeks to help us live as good
stewards of God's creation and to build bridges
into our community for those who share our
concern for the environment.

🕒 **8:30am**

Please pray for Margaret Labruyere's recovery
in hospital from a respiratory infection and

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COMMUNITY WATCH

that God will renew her strength and restore her to better health.

Thank God for Richard Tress's surgery and rehabilitation at Castlecrag Private Hospital. Pray for a good recovery and that he will be able to go home soon.

🕒 7pm

Give thanks for the recent MTS (Ministry Training Strategy) conference that was attended by our MTS workers Rachael Perry, Sam Bainbridge, as well as Cath Ahern and Mike Hastie. Pray especially that Sam and Rachael would benefit richly from their training here and that many more would be raised up behind them.

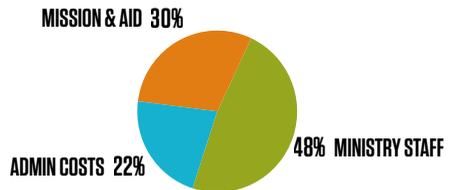
🕒 St Andrew's Ministries

Pray for those in Nursing Homes and Hostels who are no longer able to worship with us. Beverley Glissan, Margaret Green, Gwen Hutchison, Margaret Rook, Adrienne Searle, and Frank Wyndham. Pray for Judy Hodges, Marion Stanbridge and Peter Watson who lead the team and for others at St Andrew's who assist them.

Pray for all those who attend Playgroup each week, and for Cath Ahern and her team of helpers. Pray for the parents and children to see Jesus' love through the activities and through the care given by all involved.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

🕒 Where your offertory goes:



🕒 How we are tracking

The approved Parish budget for 2016 saw a 9.7% increase in General Offertory when compared with 2015. This increase is needed predominantly to cover the costs associated with ministry staffing in 2016.

This year's budgeted general offertory is \$87,200 per month. The offertory actually received for the 5 months to May has averaged \$74,400 per month; a shortfall of \$12,800 per month. **We are therefore \$64,000 behind budget at the end of May 2016.**

Please prayerfully consider if you are able to help; both in catching up the shortfall to date of \$64,000 and also increasing your level of regular general giving. Details of how to give are found on the back page of the News.

Blessings,

**Philip Bell, Craig Taylor and Andrew Killen
- Wardens**

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

MISSION & AID

JENNY FALLON



☛ **SIM (Serving In Mission) Australia**

Jenny Fallon is the Pastoral Care and Development Coordinator for SIM in Australia.

Praise God for the generous financial and prayer support of many, enabling Jenny and Dale to spend 6.5 months in Southern Africa. Pray they'd remember the remaining things to finalise before they leave in June.

Pray for uneventful travel and meaningful connections with each person with whom Jenny and Dale will spend time in South Africa.

Pray for Jenny's colleagues in SIM Australia's Ministry team who are taking on more responsibilities in her absence.

Pray for a refreshing and encouraging Home Assignment for the Jeyachandran family who are staying in Jenny and Dale's home.

Praise for the Holy Spirit's work in each person who attended the SIM Re-entry Retreat. Pray for his continuing work of healing and peace.

Pray for missionary kids who are currently on Home Assignment with their parents or have returned permanently.

Continue to pray for Ken Elliot, still held hostage somewhere in West Africa. Pray for all the family to be upheld by God's grace.

Praise God that Dale and Jenny's friend Asad, a new immigrant to Australia, has work 2 days/week with a legal firm in the Sydney CBD. Currently he's working in the library. He also has work for 4 days/week doing handyman and labouring work.

Praise God for the great weekend in April celebrating SMBC's centenary. Pray for many to give generously to the '100 for 100 Overseas Scholarship' vision, as well as continuing provision for the College.

Pray that God will continue to raise up men and women who are keen to be well trained in the Bible and who have a heart to reach those who don't know Jesus, whether in Australia or overseas.

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

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE PRAYERS

CONFESSION

Most merciful God,
we humbly admit that
 we need your help.
We confess that we have
 wandered from your way:
we have done wrong,
and we have failed to do
 what is right.
You alone can save us.
Have mercy on us:
wipe out our sins and teach us
 to forgive others.
Bring forth in us the fruit
 of the Spirit
that we may live as
 disciples of Christ.
This we ask in the name
 of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

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.

KEY CONTACTS

➔ Senior Leadership Team

John Dickson – Senior Minister
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Cath Ahern – Children's Minister (*Honorary*)
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➔ Ministry Contacts

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Meredith Hatcher – Assoc. Women's Minister
(*Part Time - Sun, Tue, Thu*)
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James Smith – Assist. Minister
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Peter Watson – Minister for Seniors
(*Part Time*)
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➔ Church Office

Bec Kimpton – Office Manager
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➔ Group Contacts

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Community Project
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Environmental Action Group
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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)

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