

St Andrew's

R O S E V I L L E

NEWSLETTER - FRIDAY 17 APRIL 2026

St Andrew's Roseville

We are a church that loves Jesus and wants the good news of His death and resurrection proclaimed to all people, so that they can believe in Him. If you would like to know more about following Jesus or about St Andrew's, please visit our website -

www.standrews.net.au

Coming up:

April 23 - Small Group Leaders Training - 7pm

June 10 - Prayer and Praise Night - 7.30pm

Staff Leave

Amelia Ross: 17 Mar - 29 Apr

Mel Bell: 25 Apr - 2 May

A FEAST FOR THE SOUL: WHY WE ARE READING ISAIAH

Dear St Andrew's,

Why would we read a book written by foreign aristocrat over 2,700 years ago in an ancient language for an audience 14,000 kms away? Or put another way: Why would we read Isaiah?

Here's why.

A major weakness in contemporary Western Christianity is a superficial knowledge of God—not only doctrinally but practically. We often fail to know God relationally or apply his truth to modern challenges.

Where can we go to strengthen our grasp of God's sovereignty, his nature as a faithful covenant-keeper, and his commitment to his people? How do we build certainty in his coming kingdom of righteousness and peace? **The answer is we read Isaiah.**

Our pluralist and secular culture offers many ideologies and "quick fix" remedies, but these cannot mend broken lives. Amidst such superficiality, how do we grow in faith rather than relying on human policies? How do we believe in the uniqueness of the Lord Jesus Christ as the only Son of God, the only Saviour of the world? How do we get equipped to share the non-negotiable essentials of the gospel, in a warm-hearted way, with those who do not share our beliefs? How do we construct confident structures of faith that undergird our witness in life, as well as by lip, to an unbelieving world? **The answer is we read Isaiah.**

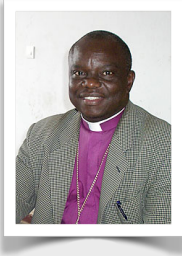
At this point in history, between the first and second coming of the Messiah, the church has many competing priorities. How do we learn to occupy this 'waiting time', looking forward towards the eschatological completion of God's salvation plan? How do we know what values should predominate, both within our Christian community and also in our relationships with others, in the light of our understanding of the end times? **The answer is we read Isaiah.**

Many of our current needs, problems and deficiencies are met in Isaiah. So if you are hungry for the truth of God and all its blessings then can I urge you to join me over the next 12 weeks and "read, mark, learn and inwardly digest" (to quote the Book of Common Prayer) this magnificent book.

Bon appetit!
James

Mission & Aid Partners

Please pray for Archbishop Masimango in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Kindu Diocese.



Give thanks for:

- **Fruitful Pastoral Ministry:** We thank God for the successful visit to the diocese's remote areas despite the challenge of mud roads. We celebrate the ordination of new Deacons and Priests, and the confirmation of 110 people into the faith.
- **Provision for Church Growth:** We praise God for the generosity of the Sydney Diocese and their commitment to support the building of Salama Church, a vital part of the church planting project in Kindu Town.
- **Equipping of Leaders:** We give thanks for the successful training of evangelists at the Christian Center of Evangelism in Goma, preparing them for the mission field.

Pray for:

- **Student Placements & Evangelism:** Pray for the Berea Bible College students and teachers during their annual placements, and for the upcoming Evangelism Crusade in Kibombo - that many would come to know Christ through these efforts.
- **Peace and Welfare in DRC:** We lift up the peace process in the DRC, asking for successful dialogue between warring parties. Pray specifically for the welfare of pastors in Kindu Diocese who are facing immense hardship due to the M23 rebel occupation.
- **Leadership Transition:** Pray for Archbishop Masimango as he approaches retirement in two years. We ask for God's guidance and provision in selecting a godly successor to lead the diocese into

PRAYER POINTS

Please pray for the Kids and Youth ministries of the church:

- For Xtreme that meets on Friday afternoons, for Play Group that meets during the week, and for the Sunday Kids Church program at 10.30am.
- Pray that God will sustain Mel Bell and her team as they minister to our kids.
- For Revive that meets on Friday evenings and for the gathering of youth at the 10.30am and 5pm services.
- Pray that God will sustain Indira Ryan and her team, as they minister to our youth.

Please pray for our Maturity:

- That we will be a church that aims to help people grow in their relationship with Jesus.
- Pray for small groups and their leaders.
- That people will use the 'growing disciples' resources to grow in their personal relationships with each other.
- That people will look to join small groups and meet one to one with each other, to grow in our understanding of the bible.
- Pray that as the Bible is taught week to week, that the preachers will be faithful to the word of God and that God's Spirit might work powerfully amongst us.
- Pray that people notice a difference in their lives, as a result of God working in them, through the ministry of St Andrew's.

Please pray for the global Church:

- Please pray for the many churches around the world that face persecution daily.
- Pray for those churches that are growing quickly – like in China, India and Africa.
- Pray for those churches who are lacking resources and help us be willing to support those who are in need.
- Pray for the continual spread of the gospel around the world and that God will use his church to see this happen.

Please pray for each other:

- For the 5pm congregation:
- That their love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that they may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to your glory and praise. AMEN

Please pray for:

- Thanks for the children who attended Level Up Hub 2026. Pray for those who heard the gospel for the first time, that the message of God's grace may take deep root in the soil of their hearts.
- Thanks for all the leaders and volunteers who worked so hard to make Hub happen.

REMINDER: AMELIA IS ON LEAVE

Just a reminder that Amelia Ross, our Ministry Support Coordinator, will be on leave until **Wednesday 29 April**.

During this time, **Cathy** from Virtual Church Assist will provide temporary cover for approximately 6 hours per week, focusing on essential tasks like Sunday service preparation.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The preferred method for contributing to the ministry and operational costs of St Andrew's is via regular EFT giving to:

BSB 032 086

Account 387 248

St Andrew's Roseville
Cash/cheque contributions can be made via the offertory collection boxes inside the church (no funds are kept on site).

For enquiries about financial matters, please contact our Treasurer, David Vidilini via accounts@standrews.net.au.

To contribute to our Hall Redevelopment, visit:

standrews.net.au/building-a-home

SAFE MINISTRY

We take safety seriously at St Andrew's and we are committed to the physical, emotional and spiritual welfare of those in our care. If you have questions or concerns please contact our (voluntary) Safe Ministry Representative, Megan Webster at safeministryrep@standrews.net.au

Parish Council & Wardens 2026

Wardens

Alys Martin (10.30am)

Luke Hall (10.30am)

Aaron Black (5pm)

Treasurer

David Vidilini (10.30am)

Parish Council

Ursula Keen (8.30am)

Narelle Barbarino (10.30am)

Helen Vernon (10.30am)

Andrew Loel (10.30am)

Adrian Perry (10.30am)

Varya Davidson (5pm)

Olivia Shinfield (6.45pm)

James Russell (6.45pm)

ISAIAH PART 1 'GOD OF THE NATIONS' - BIBLE READING PLAN

Our 12-week daily Bible Reading Blog, based on the book of Isaiah, starts on Monday 20 April.

Every weekday morning at 6:00 AM, a new devotional post will go live on our blog to help you start your day grounded in the Word. If your week gets busy, don't worry - you can use the weekends to catch up and reflect on the readings.

To join the journey and stay updated, simply visit our website home page and sign up today.



DIOCESAN DAY OF PRAYER - 3 MAY

Join us for the **Diocesan Day of Prayer** on **Sunday, May 3**. We are gathering as a community to pray for the North region at **St Alban's Epping** from **2 to 3:30 PM**.

Everyone is welcome to participate in this afternoon of prayer. James will be attending. If you would also like to come along, please let the **office** know. We look forward to seeing the North region well-represented as we seek the Lord together.



ST ANDREW'S ROSEVILLE KIDS

Playgroup

Thursdays 10am-12pm during the school term, in the Kelman Room

Xtreme

Years 4-6

Fridays 3:15-5:30pm

StAR Kids program

Sundays 10:30am Service

ST ANDREW'S ROSEVILLE YOUTH

REVIVE

Years 7-12 | Fridays 6:30-8:30pm

Jnr Youth Bible Study | Years 7-9

Sundays during 10:30am and 5pm services

Snr Youth (years 10-12) are encouraged to attend the 6.45pm Service.

Everyday English

Everyday English classes are held weekly during term time.

Thursdays 10am-12pm

In the office @ 1 Bancroft Ave

STAFF TEAM:

Senior Minister
Assistant Minister
Assistant Minister
Assistant Minister (*Kids & Youth*)
Youth Minister
Ministry Support Coordinator
Assistant Children's Minister
Student Minister
MTS Trainee
Office

QUARTERLY UPDATE

As we move into Quarter 2, it is a good moment to pause and thank God for his kindness to us in my first three months as Senior Minister. One word I used in my AGM address was **growth**—not growth for ego or appearance, but growth that God gives for his glory and for the good of his people. Reflecting on these first months, there is much to encourage us across four key areas.

First, we are **growing in our delight in God**. Across the first three months of the year, our average Sunday attendance was 324, up 5% on the same period last year. Even more encouraging is the heart behind it: people gathering to hear God's word, pray, and sing. In Term 1 we learnt through Mark's Gospel, and many followed the daily Bible reading plan and blog, which saw average daily views of over 200. Our Prayer and Praise night on 11 March also saw more than 60 people gather to seek God together.

Second, we are **growing in love for one another**. One of the joys of these months has been experiencing the warmth of this church family across all four congregations through various meals and social events. These are not small things; they are part of what it means to belong. It has also been encouraging to see that 63% of our members are connected to small groups, where vital prayer, care, and support happen.

Third, we are **growing in our capacity for ministry**. Financially, after a soft start to the year, March saw an increase in givers and total offertory, though we remain about \$9,000, or 4%, behind budget. At the same time, the Hall Development continues to rise before our eyes. Concrete slabs for the ground floors have been poured, and structural steel is now in place for the first floor. Please pray for a dry winter as construction continues.

Fourth, we are **growing in numbers through outreach**. It was especially encouraging that two teenagers gave their lives to Jesus at Youth Camp in January. Easter brought 99 guests to our services, perhaps helped along by the 600 Hot Cross Buns given away at Roseville Station. Additionally, March mission nights saw 17 young people come to REVIVE for the first time.

Karen and I are deeply grateful for your warm welcome. We are excited for what God has planned for Quarter 2 as we seek to grow disciples of Jesus Christ through Belonging, Maturity, and Outreach.

Blessings,
James

James Smith	james.smith@standrews.net.au	0438 669 530
Scott Warner	scott.warner@standrews.net.au	0416 263 161
Vanessa Hughes	vanessa.hughes@standrews.net.au	0413 339 652
Mel Bell	mel.bell@standrews.net.au	0418 447 428
Indira Ryan	indira.courtiness@standrews.net.au	0421 632 108
Amelia Ross	amelia.ross@standrews.net.au	9412 2553
Emily Tong	emily.tong@standrews.net.au	0403 316 656
Matthew Ryan	matthew.ryan@standrews.net.au	
Beth Boyd	beth.boyd@standrews.net.au	
	office@standrews.net.au	9412 2553