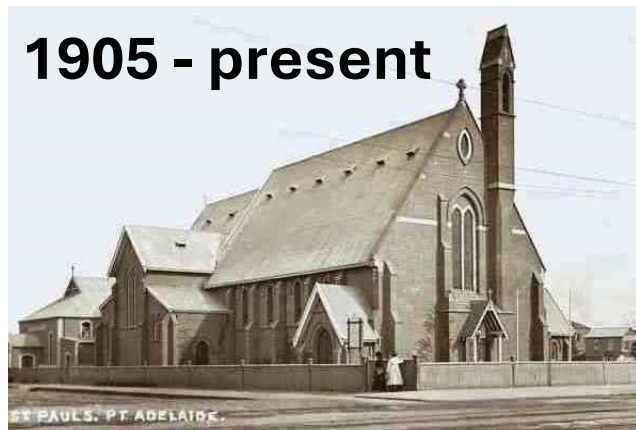
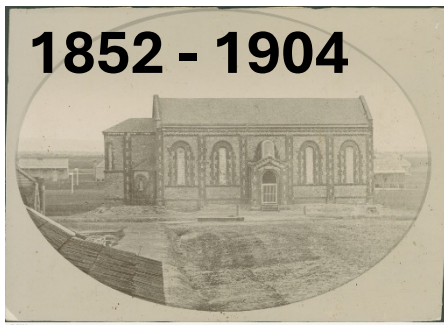
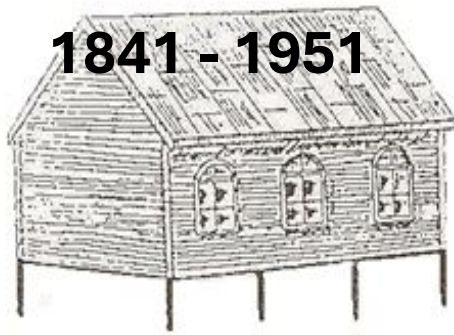


# THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST PAUL IN PORT ADELAIDE

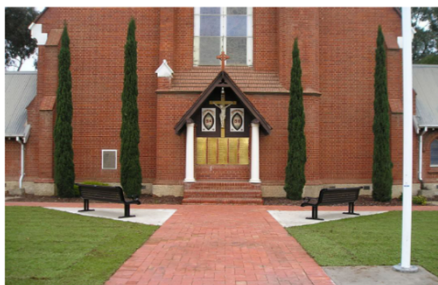


## **Our Vision Statement:**

The Parish is committed to promoting the Church's mission in Port Adelaide by building up the congregation in its faith, by providing for the needy, and by living the gospel.

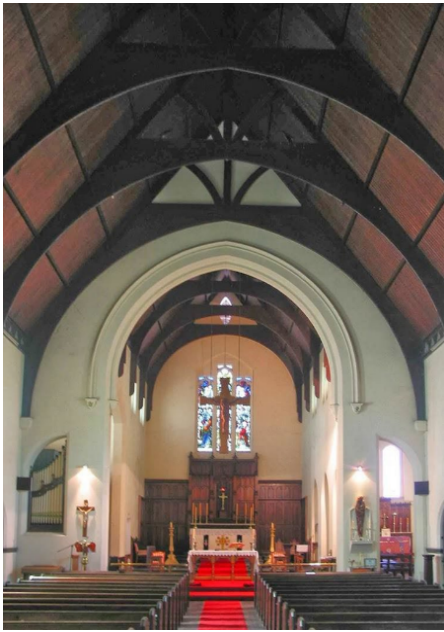


St Paul's Anglican Church is at the geographical centre of Port Adelaide on St Vincent Street, near the Birkenhead Bridge. It has been a popular place for worship for decades and has a significant World War I memorial. The current church building, constructed in 1905, represents the continuous provision for Anglican worship in Port Adelaide since 1841.



It is on the site of the third earliest Anglican Church in SA. Inside, at the rear of St. Paul's is a handsome blackwood altar and Honour Roll on which are inscribed about 220 names of the men from Port Adelaide Parish who answered the Empire's call to war in 1914 - 1918. Likewise, on the outside face of the church, there is a large brass Honour Roll to those who died during WWI.





St Paul's is much more than an iconic landmark; it is a living Christian community which seeks to deepen faith and broaden its welcome.

The acoustics in our church are outstanding. The vaulted wooden ceiling, jarrah floorboards and high stone walls resonate with musical instruments and concert vocalists. The church easily seats 200 persons and is the venue of choice for some well-known brass bands and international philharmonic ensembles.

For larger public gatherings (e.g. concerts), weddings or funerals, there is limited zone parking on the surrounding streets but there are several large shopping-centre car parks nearby. The Church contains a disability ramp on the western side and there is one adjacent disabled car park.

In 2023, St Paul's Vestry adopted a forward-thinking strategy to embrace both traditional and contemporary Sunday services. We pursue this strategy in the expectation of excellence, and a spirit of love and harmony.

Five foci are noted:

1. Active support and promotion of two regular Sunday services;
2. Both the traditional and contemporary services will be the best that we can make them;
3. Both congregations are of equal status and priority;
4. Special events should be held each year to combine the morning and evening congregations in social fellowship, and
5. Parish Councillors (wardens) and office bearers should be comprised of members from both congregations.



Port Adelaide is a beach-riverside region approximately 14 kilometres northwest of the Adelaide CBD. The Port is one of the largest and fastest growing (housing) areas in Adelaide.

The renewal of local apartments, finalisation of New Port Quays, Fletcher's Slip (500 new homes), Dock 1 (750 new homes), Dock 2 maritime heritage precinct, along with rapid redevelopment in the local suburbs of Ottoway, Queenstown, Portland, Rosewater, Alberton, Cheltenham, Ethelton and Glanville, make Port Adelaide a very challenging and changing social demographic.

Whereas the northwest of Adelaide used to be a depressed working-class community, it is now a vibrant young professional's hub, with a median housing value of \$800K. The large ASC and Techport submarine/ship building consortium is just down the road, with now over 3000

employees and projected strong future demands for skilled workers. The Royal Australian Navy has built a new Naval Base at Osborne.

The State Treasury has relocated its main office dockside and two new hotel complexes have recently been built, with a third 5-star hotel under construction behind Dock 1. A new railway line and station, Port Dock, and a new shopping complex, Port Plaza, were recently opened. A huge (\$22 million) sporting and cultural centre is opening later this year. It is expected that when the housing development has finished in Port Adelaide and neighbouring suburbs, there will be 3000-4000 new homes, with about 10,000 local residents.

New singles, couples and young families, from many and various cultures, are flooding into our Parish. The real question for us is how to be meaningful and relevant to the changing demographic of The Port. Full demographic and planning details can be found on the PAE website: [cityofpae.sa.gov.au](http://cityofpae.sa.gov.au)

## Our People

We are a small but dedicated congregation with a heart for mission. St Paul's parishioners are known for their warmth, resilience and hospitality. Many have lifelong ties to the parish and a deep love for Anglican tradition. We are open-hearted and ready to be led into new seasons of renewal and growth.

## Our Current Ministry Team

St Paul's has been well cared for by a series of Locum Priests over the past six years. We are now seeking a full-time Parish Priest to continue to lead our mission and ministry.

Alongside the Lay leaders of the parish, ministry is currently provided by visiting Clergy and the full-time Honorary Assistant Deacon to Port Adelaide, Reverend Dr Wayne Philp, *tsyf*, who supports local missional outreach, community-building and evangelism. Deacon Wayne maintains a Franciscan spirituality and focus in leading the "Alive at 5" fellowship meal, the Sunday Evening Prayer Praise and Proclamation service, the weekday Bible Study and the Men's Fellowship. Deacon Wayne is routinely in and about the Op Shop, local businesses and shops, and has come to know many of the locals, being himself a local resident of Largs. Recently, adult baptisms have resulted from this local ministry.

The Parish Op Shop is open 9:30am–2:00pm Tuesday to Saturday. "Paul's Place" is a very busy enterprise which occupies most of the Parish Hall behind the church. The Op Shop mission is led by dedicated parishioners and a team of about twenty local volunteers (many of whom have little Anglican background but are certainly steeped in good works). The Op Shop brings in about \$70k each year as income to the Parish. The Parish Council gives 5% of all revenue to external charities and a further 5% to offset the costs associated with mission and support to the homeless and hungry. Paul's Place Pantry regularly provides free simple hot foods and beverages, pantry food staples, clothing and toiletries.

A relatively new initiative has been the introduction of a handicrafts social group called "Crafty Friends". This group meets in the Op Shop on Thursday mornings for people who like to engage in craft activities – a happy gathering – again with people who are mostly outside of our church community.



## Hospitality and Welcoming

The personal and direct welcoming of all visitors and congregational members is key to our common practice. After the Sunday morning service we share in a fine Morning Tea. There are many, and increasing numbers of backpackers, tourists and visitors coming to our front door whenever the doors to the church are open. We know well that hospitality and welcoming is a very high priority in the nurture and growth of our congregations. We are good at this! We get significant positive feedback in this regard.

The Church contains a modern niche kitchen which was wholly funded by donations from our parishioners. The Sunday morning congregation meets at the back of Church for Morning Tea and refreshments. The evening congregation also meets there for fellowship meals (serving up to 25 persons). The free evening meal is often frequented by hungry backpackers from across St Vincent Street. Homeless persons also regularly drop in for a meal. We meet many new and interesting people through this simple hospitality.

The Parish Hall also contains a modern kitchen, dishwasher and storage facilities, along with lady's, men's and disability toilets. The Hall has a disability ramp at the main entrance.

The Church Office is situated in the side vestry of the main church. There is a Parish Council of six elected and two appointed members, two wardens and the Parish Deacon. We currently have a voluntary organist and musical director.

## **Finances**

The finances for the Parish are currently healthy and, given the continuance of the Op Shop, able to pay for a full-time priest. The Parish pays full synodal assessment and has no outstanding accounts. Parishioner's giving, capital investments and proceeds from the Op Shop yield an annual parish income of about \$130k.

## **Worship and Tradition**

The Sung Eucharist on Sunday morning focuses on the ministries of 'The Word' and 'The Sacrament,' as both are essential to our Christian faith. There is a sense in which we enter the loving presence and the mystery of God when we come together in formal worship. The use of Prayer Book liturgy, candles, incense, organ music, and recognised vestments all express our joy in having the Holy Spirit in our midst.

Our Sunday evening congregation enjoys a contemporary and informal style of praise and worship. The service runs for around 90 minutes, and usually includes a 30-40-minute PowerPoint-based teaching session. Formal vestments and sacramental traditions are not a feature of this service, but rather the focus is on Bible teaching, discipleship and personal development of spiritual gifts. This service is relaxed and well-suited to old and young alike; especially those who struggle to find enough time to get to church on Sunday mornings.

On Thursday afternoon we hold a simple service of Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel or say Evening Prayer together. There are usually only a few in attendance, but this also adds to our rhythm of weekly life.

At all services, we are a multicultural mix of people, from all walks of life, all of whom may be found any day in and about Port Adelaide. We are committed to loving, befriending and nurturing all who come to our church.

Baptism and sacramental rites of Confirmation, Marriage, Confession, Anointing and prayers for healing are offered as requested, in consultation with the Parish clergy. Holy Communion may be taken to the housebound or to the sick.

## **Accommodation**

The parish of Port Adelaide does not own a rectory, but we are looking forward to renting a home to meet the needs of our new priest and their family.

## **Our Hopes for a Priest:**

We are seeking a priest who:

- Will love us and identify with the people of Port Adelaide.
- Will reach out with us to find new Christians.
- Will guide us in good works to support the homeless and needy.
- Will lead us in the best use of our iconic church, income and assets.
- Will nurture both the spiritual depth and missional heart of our parish
- Loves the Lord and delights in traditional, sacramental worship.
- Is energised by the challenge of finding modern cultural relevance and meaning in a demographically changing (and increasingly secular) urban community having rich diversity and a disproportionate number of singles, couples and younger families.

SUMMARY OF USUAL ATTENDANCE	
High Festivals (Christmas, Easter)	50
Most other Sunday Mornings	30
Sunday Evenings	15
Thursday Holy Communion/Evening Prayer	7
Wednesday Bible Study	7
Men's Fellowship	7
Crafty Friends	5
Alpha Course (recently combined with St Bede's)	20

## SUMMARY PROFILE – 2024 CHURCH LIFE SURVEY (24 adult respondents)

### The people of this Church:

Average Years	67
Female	57%
University Degree	27%
Non-English-Speaking background	5%
New Arrivals in last 5 years	38%
Young people Aged 15-19	4%

### What we value and prioritise:

Value traditional style of worship and music	63%
Value sharing in Holy Communion	63%
Priorities for creating a clear vision for the Church	50%
Prioritise Growing into a larger local Church	35%

### How we relate to God:

Experience much growth in faith in past 12 month	19%
Private devotions at least weekly.	64%
Agree faith in God is an important part of who I am.	86%
Worship services usually challenge me to take actions.	29%

### How we relate to each other:

Strong sense of belonging.	91%
Found it easy to make friends.	80%
Involved in Group activities at church.	24%
Satisfied with activities for children under 12 yr	9%

**How we relate to the community:**

Helped others in three or more informal ways in last year	71%
Involved in local church services, justice, welfare activities	41%
Part of community groups not connected to local church	59%
Feel at ease sharing our faith with others	68%

**How vision and leadership:**

Aware of, and strongly committed to, the church's vision.	0%
Agree that this church is ready to try something new.	38%
Attenders who hold at least one leadership/ministry role.	18%
Leaders encourage use of gifts & skills to a great extent.	14%

**Conclusion:**

The Anglican Church today faces challenging times. A weekly Sunday celebration of Holy Communion alone is not enough to sustain or grow a viable church in our increasingly secular society. More is needed: Varied styles of Christian worship; specialist use of digital platforms and social media; advertising and promotion; robust parish businesses such as Op Shops and childcare; multiple weekly (maybe multicultural) services; Bible studies; home groups; craft groups; support and interest groups; home/age-care and hospital visits; specific and targeted outreach programs such as “Alpha Courses”. Combined, all this requires a full-time vocational presence and full-time professional leadership. St Paul’s needs a full-time priest who will live and work with us in the Western suburbs of Adelaide.

## How to contact our Parish:

**Office Hours:** Thursday 9.30am to 4.00pm

Email: [priest@stpaulsportadelaide.com](mailto:priest@stpaulsportadelaide.com)

Telephone: (08) 8447 7050 to leave a message anytime

Location: 1 Church Place, Port Adelaide SA 5015

Postal Address: PO Box 3425, Port Adelaide SA 5015

Websites: [stpaulsportadelaide.com](http://stpaulsportadelaide.com)  
[crossingbridges.com.au](http://crossingbridges.com.au)

**Parish Deacon:** Rev'd Dr Wayne Philp, *tsf*, JP

Email: [wrphilp@gmail.com](mailto:wrphilp@gmail.com)

M: 0419 800 542

**Priest's Warden & Parish Support:** Leslie Cates

Email: [leslie\\_cates1@bigpond.com](mailto:leslie_cates1@bigpond.com)

M: 0418 804 352

**Peoples Warden & Op Shop Coordinator:** Christine Brown

Email: [cabrow56@gmail.com](mailto:cabrow56@gmail.com)

M: 0468 338 955

**Treasurer & Administrator:** Diane Bunworth

[dianeunworth@outlook.com](mailto:dianeunworth@outlook.com)

M: 0403 152 259

**Organist:** Bill Scott

Email: [bill.scott@internode.on.net](mailto:bill.scott@internode.on.net)

M: 0419 046 986

## Attachments:

- Church Life Profile – Port Adelaide Anglican Church 2024
- 2025 Annual Vestry Meeting minutes.
- 2024 EOFY audited statements.