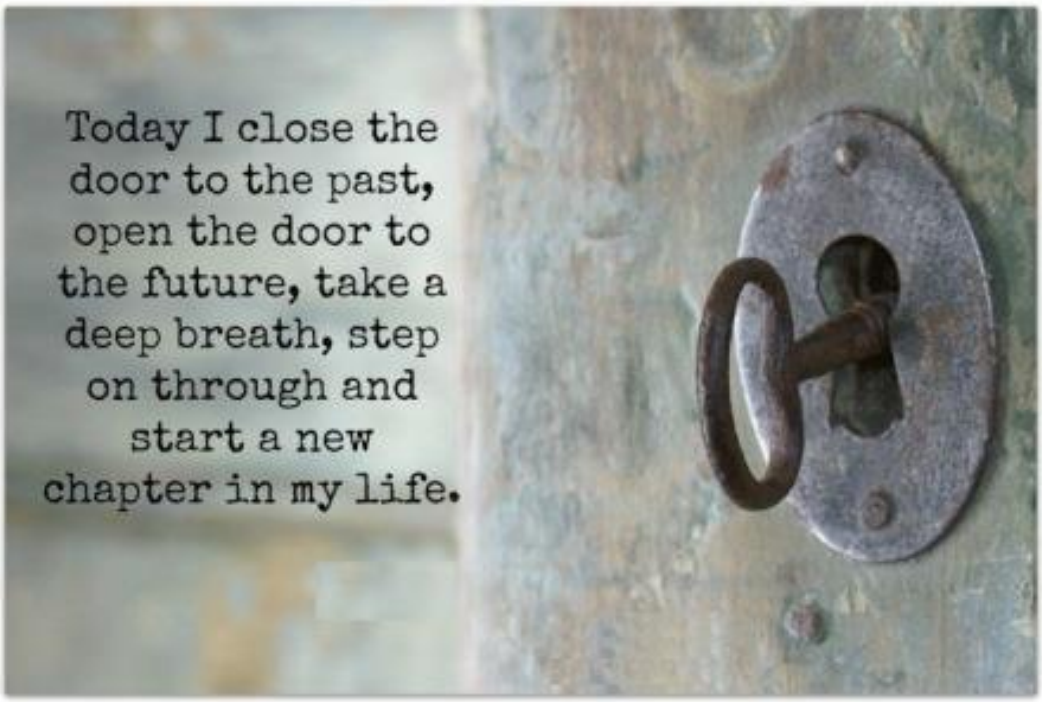
AGM
Annual General Meeting

St Paul's 2017



I AM making all things new



NOTES …….

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Please note our NEW office email address

parish.stpauls@gmail.com

Check out our NEW public face Website which offers an insight for first time visitors and current diary information

stpaulsbeaconsfield.com

and

stpaulsbeaconsfield.org.au

will continue to hold the more detailed parish information and records

AGM
Annual General Meeting

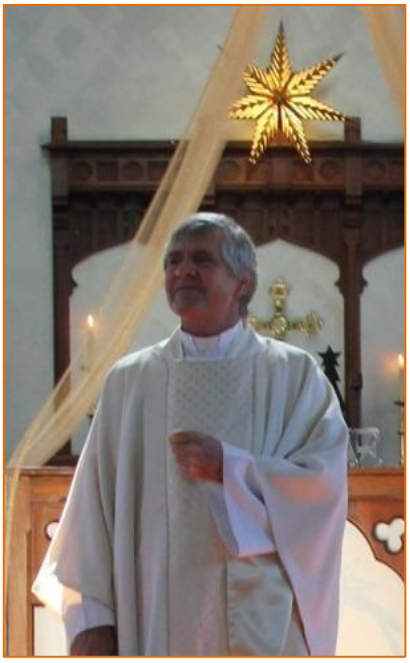
I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. [Isaiah 43:19]

Contents

Introduction

Reports
- Warden's Report
- Deacon's Report
- Rector's Report
- Financial Report
- Just Manna Report
- IGWR Report

Young Ones
Something for Everyone
Thanksgiving
A final ask



AGM Meeting Agenda

1. Registration
2. Minutes
3. Election of office bearers
4. Reports tabled & and questions

5. Open discussion



Our growing in faith is measured by both movement and direction; and our realisation of our faith is then made manifest by our fruits, the harvest we have to share with others.

We have an orientation here toward 'Seeking' rather than 'Knowing' God and that in turn creates a community that is always subject to change; it can be disturbing to those who want certainty and security, it can be challenging for those who already have well-formed traditions; and equally it can be delightful as we experience the Divine unfolding.



Come then Beloved ones let us run, let us fly to this ocean of love that calls us. What are we waiting for? Let us start at once! Let us go and lose ourselves in God, his very heart – so as to be intoxicated with his love. Let us then take the road to heaven.

Jean Pierre de Caussade 1665-1751, *Abandonment to Divine Providence*

Warden's Report

AGM
Annual General Meeting



The focus of last year's report was on our call to community. It read, "We may be called to give money and/or time but the greatest call is to give of ourselves to enter into a personal relationship of communion with one another".
Whilst there is always room for further growth, there are many examples of how this response to the wider community has been demonstrated. The ministry and mission of St Paul's has flourished through the work of Just Manna, In Giving We Receive, prison ministries through Reach for Life and helping families heal through Awaken. We have further embraced and expanded our connection with the Muslim, Buddhist, AA groups and the wider community.
Many aspects of the role of the Wardens are practical & mundane, for example it involves areas such as "Property & Risk Management". To maintain our beautiful precinct requires time, effort & money. The spirit of those who contribute to keeping St Paul's not only looking beautiful but also functioning is greatly appreciated. In addition to our routine completion of the Annual Return, our business practices & record keeping were reviewed by an external consultant as part of a Diocesan review. The consultant commended St Paul's on how it operates. Following on from this review we were requested to complete a comprehensive inventory of all parish assets…. As well as recording valuable religious items & equipment it also required counting every plate, cup, knife & fork... we told you much of our work was mundane! But thanks to the skills of Peter Smith, we now have a data base of all our property assets for insurance purposes… thank you Peter.

Community Life:

Coming together as a community has been enhanced with the increasing number of people sharing in the Monday & Thursday coffee get-togethers in the Meeting Room, our Friday night fire pit & Saturday morning breakfasts. For visitors this has been an opportunity to experience first- hand the life of St Paul's. Please join us, all are welcome.

Looking to the Future:

Firstly the practical; as a result of water ingress, the west-end wall of the Church is deteriorating to the point that urgent repair & restoration work is required. A preliminary assessment has been undertaken & work is planned for the 2017/2018 financial year. Tax deductable donations to the National Trust are encouraged to enable us to apply for a State Heritage grant. Successful applicants can apply for dollar for dollar funding up to $100,000.

Much of our time & emotional energy has been dedicated to both internal and external discussions about our future without Peter Humphris's leadership. During these times we have focused on who we are as a community & what is important to us as we seek a new rector & potentially a new direction for the parish.
A positive good-news story has been the development between St Paul's & the Muslim community. Following the SBS, the ABC & the Djakarta News programmes, we have received positive feedback from the wider community, local, national & international. As Wardens we are delighted that Peter's unique gifts are becoming observable & inspirational to the wider community. This is a refreshing change from the narrow view of the Christian Church. Our hope is that it will inspire an attitude of change for peace, love & coexistence in the face of fear of the "other" which pervades media today.
With Peter's departure as Parish Priest we have an exciting opportunity as a community to support him, maintain the growth of the community & embrace the opportunity that a new Parish Priest will bring to St Paul's. The year ahead is going to be different and will require change, not just in how things are done but also change within each and every one of us as we move forward. It is also an opportunity for us to work together to encourage one another to find a new place of expressing our gifts as we go into the future.
If any of these issues are unknown to you, please follow up with any members of the Church Council and share how you might give to the life of St Paul's.
It has been a privilege to serve as Wardens and we thank you for your support and trust.

Christabel Chamarette & Joan Jessup

Deacon's Report

AGM
Annual General Meeting

This is an article written by Bethan Peters and about Michael's ministry and the work of JUST MANNA

Manna is the food that God provided to the Israelites when they were starving and desperate in the desert. This 'food' provided enough for everybody to share. Michael Jessup, in his sixties, has ensured that through his various work in nursing homes, care agencies, and charities, there is always enough to go around.

For 27 years, Michael worked for Bankwest, and climbed his way up the ranks from a bank teller to managing the computer data center. Michael then became aware that he had talents that were not being used. "I had an awareness that, (it) came about through a health scare, a very strong realisation that we have one life". This caused Michael to reflect on what he wanted to achieve in the future.

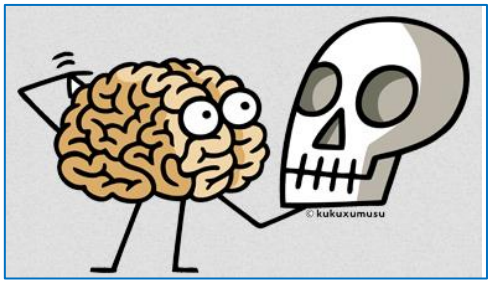
In the late 1990's, Michael changed careers and trained as a hospital chaplain at Royal Perth Hospital. When I asked what he loved about it, he chose his words carefully. "(It was) the opportunity to compassionately listen to people and connect with others who are in a situation where… significant things are happening in their life".

After 18 months, Michael moved to a nursing home hostel, and worked in what he calls, an 'interdenominational pastoral care, chaplain-type role'. He admits the job could be strenuous at times, as he travelled to a different facility every day. Despite this, Michael enjoyed it. "It was something about discovering who I am and… being able to use what I would call God-given talents". Michael worked with many of the elderly, saying, "Sometimes you might sit there for 40 minutes and all of a sudden there'll be a real little gem that'll actually be something that'd be appropriate to explore a bit further".

After five years of this job, he moved to another care agency, but this time, travelled to homes. He was involved with 1200 clients, built relationships with co-workers and explained the importance of being in the moment. "One of the keys to the job was listening and listening very very carefully".

After all this work, Michael began to question how he would contribute in the future. In 2015, he was ordained as a Deacon into the Anglican Church. He describes this as the "absolutely right" decision for him. His role allowed him to focus on the community, and to work as a chaplain at Ocean View Lodge, a hostel for the homeless.

When discussing his Christian faith, he says, "There is a sense in which, in my own way, I would say 'here I am', whatever that unfolds today will unfold, and whatever crosses the pathway, I'll attempt to engage it as best I can".



Michael is currently working for a small organisation called Just Manna. 'Just Manna' is indeed named after the food given to the Israelites.

Michael finds his work rewarding, and believes strongly in one of Jesus' commandments, describing it as, 'the goal that sits in the back of my mind', to love thy neighbour as thyself.

Love thy neighbor.

Peace. Harmony. Friendship.

Rector's (Final) Report



AGM
Annual General Meeting

[18] *Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.* [Isaiah 43:18]

This has been a year of reflection, movement and new creation; it is a delight to feel the energy of 'becoming' that pervades St Paul's.

We are very much blessed with new faces and so too new ideas; and that give us all a real sense of being part of an ongoing and unfolding story.

I'm very much inspired by the new generation of children that are regular members of the Church community, and our evolving relationships with the Muslim community and the hall users that all see St Paul's as a place that they very much are a part of.

Our heartbeat resounds beyond the walls of the Church, we make a very real difference to the lives of children in Nepal (IGWR), many local families in need and distress are blessed with our giving (JUST MANNA) and those in prison are opened to new possibilities by those who share and support restorative justice (REACH for LIFE).

And our 'heartbeat' has been featured on both ABC and SBS during the year, once again we might reflect on how many churches make to the News in a positive light?

This is very much a place where I am 'at home' and a place where I can continue to discover the possibilities for "living a life worthy of our calling"; and it has been a real struggle to respond to the ask of doing more to make our work in Nepal sustainable.

As we contemplate the journey into tomorrow, that also is a journey that extends beyond the St Paul's of today; and perhaps that is also a path toward unrealised delights.
We need to consider the course we set, the path we are on, and the evolving and emerging opportunities that are created by the tidal movement of our church life and our wider culture.(from last year's report)

Turning toward tomorrow, we know that it is going to be different; we all will face new challenges, and so too new possibilities.
It has never been a better time to be here at St Paul's, we really are looking into a new creation and we're all a part of that new creation. I will continue to build on our ministry to children in Nepal and will seek to create a sustainable organisation that will have the same capacity for the future that we enjoy.

And as we seek a new priest, let us be mindful that each member of the Church has a 'priesthood' and so gives shape to the role that is asked of the parish priest; we seek not so much a leader as a companion, one who breaks and shares bread with us..

Finally brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. 12 Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

+

13 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.



Financial Report

of St. Paul's Anglican Parish for the Year ending 30th April 2017



This has been another successful year for the Parish, although we have experienced a downturn in income from givings, pastoral functions (weddings), and fundraising activities, while hall income has increased.

The hall continues to be fully utilized by a diversity of hirers. Our expenses continue to rise, and both show a wider gap between budget to actual funds than we anticipated.

The outcome for negotiations re the arrears in assessment over the last 2-3 years was finally concluded to what we consider an equitable situation. It is now up to us to maintain the requirement placed upon us, so that the oldest of the arrears (2012-13 year) will, in due course, be waived. We are reducing that accumulated arrears by a minimum payment of $500 per month.

It is hoped that the reduced profitability for the year (2016-17) will result in a reduced assessment to be paid during the next year (2017-18), however because the majority of all income but only minimal amounts of expenses to offset this, are assessable, then this outgoing may still be a substantial burden to the Parish funds, given that it is likely to be a "neutral" financial outcome at years end, i.e. income and expenses being essentially the same.

The year began with the final payment towards the loan from the Anglican Community Fund for the restoration of the east end of the church, and this was cause for a celebration on a wonderful achievement, of which we can all be so proud. Parish Council, later in the year, voted to invest that monthly repayment amount ($2000) into IGWR. This had not been budgeted for, and is a reason for the relatively neutral result of our finances.

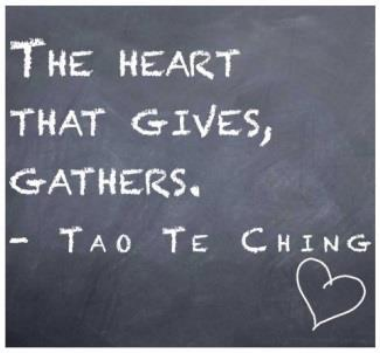
There is no doubt that management of the Parish funds will be increasingly difficult in the coming year (or years), and may require some hard decisions to be made.

We finished the year, as per the accompanying financial performance report, courtesy of Maureen Lucivero, to whom we are immensely grateful, with an income balance of $168,444, and expenses of $172,019. Peter Smith manages the rectory for rental income and outgoings. Thank you Peter for a splendid job.

This is my last AGM report, as I relinquished the position of Treasurer at year's end. I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure in that position, and I wish the Parish continued success in its spiritual endeavours.

Bob Matthews
Parish Treasurer (retired April 2017)



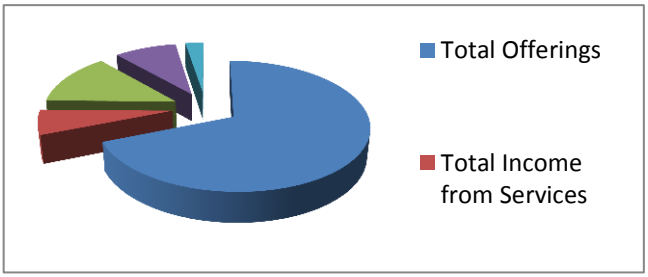


[5] *And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."*

[Revelation 21:5]

Our financials

The table below shows that our income has fallen by around 16% since 2015 and with a rising cost of living(expenses) we will need to address this and correct the trend in the year ahead.
Together, we do create all that St Paul's is, and so too all that it costs.



	2017	2016	2015
Income			
Total Offerings	111,769	128,745	132,515
Total Income from Services	10,223	17,630	16,015
Total Hire of Church Property	21,544	19,629	20,054
Total Fundraising and Appeals	14,425	16,830	15,023
Total Other Income	4,137	2,298	2,508
Total working Income	**162,098**	**185,132**	**186,115**
Nett Rectory Rental income	**8,776**	(less 15% assessment $7,460)	
	170,874		



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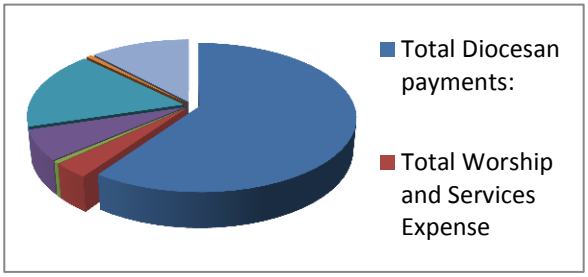
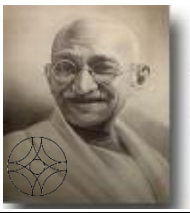
As can be seen from the three year analysis, our expenses have increased by **22.7%** since 2015
We must now ask ourselves have we increased our giving by the same percentage.



	2017	2016	2015
Expenses			
Total Diocesan payments:	98,864	89,883	73,940
Total Worship and Services Expense	5,470	8,072	7,600
Groups & Fellowship	968	1,202	1606
Total Church Expenses	10,952	14,862	7,701
Total Administration Expenses	28,296	28,543	40,303
Total Hall Expenses	1,119	978	1,221
Total Other Expenses	19,750	2,041	2,431
Total Expenses	**165,419**	**145,581**	**134,802**
Loan repayments	**2,235**	**49,025**	**45,860**
Assessment Arrears paid	**6,600**		
Total payments	**174,254**	**194,606**	**180,662**





"Generosity consists not of the sum given, but the manner in which it is bestowed"

- Mahatma Gandhi

Did You Know?

We pay for the priests stipends (wages)
We pay all the regular bills
rates, insurance, gas, electricity
We pay for every maintenance job
And we pay for every ministry activity that reaches beyond our community
and then… we also pay a % to 'Church Office' for the ministry of the wider Diocese of Perth….

EVERYTHING WE DO is dependent on OUR GIVING

Thank you Maureen for the preparation of our financial statements and for the analysis and images above..

AGM
Annual General Meeting

Heritage Repair & Restoration

As we plan for the future please join in our efforts to renew, restore and so bring new life to our Heritage precinct.

The West Wall of St Paul's Church has faced the prevailing weather for well over 100 years.
It now requires, and deserves, some repair and restoration.
The Leadlight window will most likely need replacing and the walls need to be stripped back repaired where there has been water ingress, and then restored to their former glory.

We are currently working with Heritage professionals to establish a scope of work AND at the same time are seeking gifts to assist in funding the work





NATIONAL TRUST

In Partnership with **The National Trust** we have established an account and ALL gifts are

TAX DEDUCTABLE

Gifts can be made by direct debit to:

BANK BSB 706 001
A/C 30004913
NAME St Paul's Restoration

Please confirm via email so we can send a receipt

Or delivered to:
St Paul's Appeal
162 Hampton Road
Beaconsfield 6162

For more Information or queries;
ronny.stpauls@gmail.com
or come and visit us.

*** TAX DEDUCTABLE * TAX DEDUCTABLE ***

JUST MANNA INCORPORATED 1

BACKGROUND:
Just Manna Inc is a charitable organisation associated with St Paul's Anglican Church, Beaconsfield.
The Committee is made up of representatives from the St Paul's parish.
Just Manna seeks to make a difference to those in our community who are in need.

Just Manna along with others at St Paul's have welcomed refugees into our community and at times into our homes, befriending & supporting them through the early difficult weeks of orientation to their new surroundings & helping them meet the challenges of mastering a new way of life, language & in finding work. Unlike larger support agencies, Just Manna continues to maintain relationships with many of our clients for years beyond the initial connection. Whilst the confidential and sensitive nature of the work of Just Manna restricts what we are able to share publicly, one client has agreed to share a little of his story.

MAYOM'S STORY…..

In 1992, Mayom was forced to flee his home in South Sudan when his village was attacked during the fighting between the rebels & the Sudan Government. As he fled, Mayom became separated from his family. He spent the next 14 years living in extremely harsh conditions in the Kakuma refugee camp. In 2006 Mayom & his young nephew, Abraham were selected by the United Nations for resettlement. On arrival in Australia he & Abraham were embraced by the St Paul's community.

Mayom was quick to master English & successfully completed Human Resources studies at TAFE.
Just Manna helped support Mayom with accommodation during this period. Despite Mayom's language skills, TAFE qualification charm & enthusiasm, Mayom was unable to find meaningful employment & spent long hours cleaning drums which had stored toxic chemicals. With some financial assistance from Just Manna, Mayom obtained a fork lift driver's license which helped improve his job prospects.

In 2011 Mayom discovered his mother & sisters whom he had not seen for 19 years were alive & back in Sudan. With financial assistance from Just Manna, Mayom who by now was an Australian citizen returned South Sudan to be reunited with his family. Sadly, unbeknown to Mayom, his father, late Mading Agau had been killed in the 1992 conflict.

In 2014 Mayom married Deborah in South Sudan which was the start of another stressful period. Mayom needed to return to Australia to work while Deborah was forced to remain in Africa until she could obtain a visa. Unfortunately the work Mayom had been doing had come to an end which placed further stress on Mayom as he tried to provide for his wife. Just Manna was able to use its broader network to secure Mayom an interview with a leading private healthcare provider. In addition, Just Manna provided some interview coaching for Mayom. Whilst support was given by Just Manna in this way, it was Mayom who impressed the interview panel so much that he was offered the job and it is Mayom's work ethic that has ensured ongoing employment for nearly 3 years.





Meanwhile, as there is no Australian Embassy in Sudan, Deborah was required to relocate to Nairobi This was particularly difficult for Deborah as she left all that was familiar to her in South Sudan including her family & moved to Nairobi where she knew nobody. The visa application process was protracted, complex and expensive. It was further complicated by the fact that Deborah herself was considered a foreigner in Kenya & did not speak the local language. On a request from Just Manna, the Anglican Archdeacon in Perth was able to contact their "sister" church in Kenya and arrange some local support to assist with the application process. Just Manna was pleased to provide financial assistance for obtaining the visa.



In September 2016, after 2 years of waiting, Deborah's visa was finally approved. A month later, with some further financial support from Just Manna, Deborah & Mayom were finally reunited at Perth airport. Just Manna members were pleased to be there alongside Mayom & the South Sudanese community to welcome Deborah.
It has been a joy and at times a heart ache as Just Manna has journeyed with Mayom since 2006.

Whilst Just Manna is a small organisation our personal involvement and commitment to those who cross our path ensures the much needed ongoing support for years beyond that which other organisations may provide.

Just Manna's relationship with Mayom & Deborah has not been one sided, for they have indeed enriched our lives. We wish Mayom & Deborah every blessing as they move forward in this new, exciting phase of their lives as they set up their first home together and await the arrival of their first born.

Other Highlights 2016 / 2017:

Household and Other Goods:



Through our networking with the Street Doctor, the work of Just Manna has significantly expanded in the area of providing assistance to those in our community who find themselves either living on the streets or in inadequate accommodation. Just Manna has funded the purchase of new mattresses & fridges for numerous clients as well as the provision of white goods & other house hold goods. A car has also been generously donated to enable a client to get to work. What amazing gifts of generosity.

Meals:
The distribution of meals to those in need has increased by 50% to a total of 600 meals being distributed this year.

Chaplaincy:
Another wonderful expansion of the work of Just Manna has occurred at "Ocean View Lodge", the large block of flats located in Hampton Road. For over 2 years we have established a good working relationship with the tenants & the various service providers through our weekly delivery of meals. Many of the tenants in this lodge have complex needs. In response to a request from management for emotional support for residents, Rev Michael Jessup has developed a chaplaincy role to support residents and staff as required. In recent times this chaplaincy role has extended to referrals from Alma Street Mental Health Clinic.

Christmas Hampers/Vouchers:
With the support of the "Line Dancers", Just Manna distributed 97 Christmas hampers & vouchers. This was an increase of over 100% from the previous year. The hamper goods for the women were presented in new & near new handbags.



Tutoring:
Just Manna has provided funding for the tutoring of a year 12 student.

Dog Lovers:
Just Manna appreciated the generous support from dog lovers' for the donations towards the dog bond to ensure a former homeless woman was reunited with her "best friend".

Acknowledgements:

It is a constant delight that each time there is a need Just Manna is in a position to meet that need……One is left with a feeling of gratitude for God's provision and the generosity of others.

The work of Just Manna maybe small but it is vital and makes a significant difference in the lives of those in need. However, it can only exist thanks to all those who give so generously to Just Manna.
It is only through your support that we are able to reach out to others…. Thank you.

Thank You

Thank you to Amy Jessup for the ongoing gift of meals.

Thank you to the "Line Dancers" for their monthly financial support & help with the Christmas Hampers.

Thank you to Debbie Black from "Orange Sky" for the provision of numerous handbags which will be used with the Christmas hampers.

Thank you to Gabby Dean for her tutoring skills.

Thank you to Jenny Warren & Janice Miller-Eves for the wonderful concert to promote the work of Just Manna.

Thank you to the "Rug Establishment" for the generous donations of floor rugs.

Thank you to Jude and the "Street Doctor" team for their advice & support.

Thank you to Chris Williams & Rodger Philpot for the use of their vehicles to move household goods.

Thank you to our removalists - Rev Peter Humphris, Michael Jessup and Leon Lucivero.

Thank you also to the committee for their support. Special thanks to Laurel Ellis for the management of finances & to Pauline O'Hara as secretary.



Joan Jessup
Chairperson 2017

Committee Members: Laurel Ellis (Treasurer), Pauline O'Hara (Secretary), Linda Blagg, Lyn Sherwood, Angela Wilson, Kim Kemp, Ruth Shelley, Michael Jessup, Colleen Scarlett, Ruth Shelley, Kath Daniels.







IGWR In Giving We Receive

Our Budget this year

Already a formidable ask!

Kids Education	100030
IGWR 1	25220
IGWR 2	15200
IGWR 3	10800
Volunteer House	5890
IGWR Office	22500
P.K. School	13454
Shri, Nandevi School	2000
EDUC	1600
Chokrabati House	1800
School Plus	10307
Total	**208801**









We provide 66 children with full-time education; *our students range from grade one school to 3rd year university, it is a long term commitment.*

We lease three houses in Kathmandu and employ housemothers; *this provides over 30 children with a safe and secure home in which they have a real opportunity to grow.*

We support three rural schools and employ four teachers; *and this has enabled one of the schools to extend their education from year 8 up to year 10.*

You can give life to a child….
For the cost of a cup of coffee a day



Our work as IGWR in Nepal is a very real and visible sign that we can make a difference and we can bring life to others.
The children we work with would not have an education if we were not 'giving' them a chance, and as they reach tertiary study we can readily appreciate the difference being made; one is entering third year of Medical School and he will make a brilliant doctor.
Over the next five years we will seek to establish a sustainable model for the operations of IGWR.
If we maintain what we are doing we will need over $1million over this period, and to create sustainable model we will need a further $1million. What a great investment.

We run a "School PLUS" program *that gives some of the poorest children an 'after school' activity time and a decent meal each day*

We have 15 tertiary students *and another seven will seek to start university studies this year*

[24] *and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness*. [Ephesians 4:24]



It is a delight to experience the growing presence of young ones in the congregation; they give us a perspective of looking into the future and also affirm that we are all part of an ongoing, and unfolding, story.

Each week, our attention is drawn to the sanctuary with Niamh carrying the cross, and then a gathering of candle lighters eager to make a wish; a simple liturgy that illustrates our orientation as a community coming together to be creative of 'light' and to express desires for the unfolding of tomorrow.

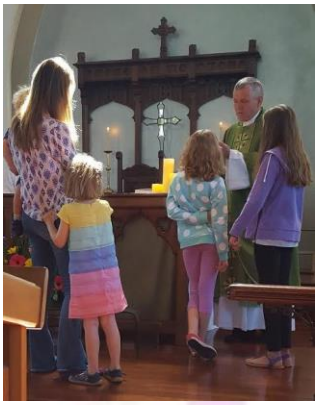








Thanks to all the mums who have created a roster and who give these delightful children a delightful experience of church as a place to enjoy and to feel a part of a community





PUZZLES

1. How many of these …can you see in this whole report?
2. Can you find "Orange Sky" anywhere in this report?
3. How many times does Peter say "I've broken bread"?



[19] I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. [**Isaiah 43:19]**

Something for Everyone

AGM
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For the FAIRies

Please let Martin know your ideas for this year's Fair; what will you do to make this the best Fair ever. Tell Martin what you can do, before he even asks!

Children are 10% of our community and 100% of our future.

Take time to know the names of all the children at church, acknowledge them, say hello; and can you help, maybe just a one off, with an activity that will engage the Children.

Don't just Come to Church!

Rather be a part of the community that creates the church; and join in the delights of being together. Breakfast every Saturday 8am, time in the garden every Wednesday morning from 9am and the 'Fire-pit' 5pm every Friday are great ways to 'get to know' and share in all that we are.



MIND the GAP

Keeping up with rising costs will be easier if we all do a little.. If we each give just an extra $5 each week in our offering, we'll close the gap in our budget. Please, join in this community effort to share the load and take us forward.

West Side Story

We're making a tentative start on repairs to the West Wall of the Church and the concrete facia around the outside of the church. Would you like to join in helping to seek heritage grants and support for this work from the wider community.

A few of us sharing ideas and getting the story 'out there' will help us to complete what is going to be a big job.

Everybody's doing it -- DECLUTTERING

And if you enjoy this cleansing experience, please come and practice at St Paul's… Maybe start with the Chapel Cupboards so that they are delight to look into.

Maybe do a Kitchen sort through once or twice a year making it easy to find anything; plus it shares the load with those already doing it. AND.. if you're getting rid of some old treasures from home, we can put them on GUMTREE/Ebay for you to sell and share the spoils .

RANDOM ACTS of CREATION.

We lead busy lives, and at times need a break. Please come at anytime and spend some time doing something that will make a difference here, keeping the place beautiful is a real gift of giving to others.

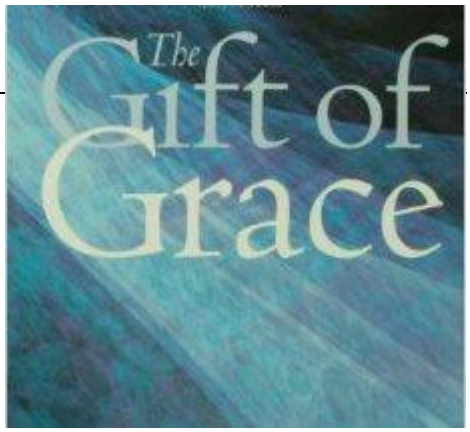


At the End of the Day

By making a bequest to St Paul's we can make a significant difference that goes beyond our everyday giving. Eddie's bequest for example 'gave' us solar panels on the rectory. Please include St Paul's in your will.

17 *For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.* [Isaiah 65:17]

Giving Thanks



Our Church Council & Wardens last year have guided and managed our affairs, and we thank them all for their gifts…

Joan Jessup Christabel Chamarette Martin McAllen
Peter Smith Bob Matthews Debbie Gwynne David Hawks
Laurel Ellis Michael Jessup Peter Humphris

Who should we Thank?

Who takes out the bins?
Who keeps the toilet clean?
Who washes up after breakfast?
Who buys books for all the children being baptised?
Who cooks Saturday Breakfast?
Who creates the flower displays?
Who does our accounts and pays bills?
Who sorted out the blocked sewer?
Who changes the lightbulbs?
Who designed and made the paschal candle?
Who creates and prints off the service sheets?
Who cleans the church?
Who paints the hall cupboards?
Who arranges heritage architects to assess repairs?
Who keeps the gardens looking good?
Who sends out wedding anniversary cards?
Who keeps the web-site up-to-date?
Who trims the plumbago?
Who arranges our calendar of events?
Who contacts and manages tradespeople?
Who looks after morning/midday/evening prayer?
Who sets the Easter fire?
Who washes the tea towels?
Who paints the graffiti wall?
Who records all the sermons?
Who coordinates locum priests with the Diocese?
Who cleans the communion vessels?
Who creates activities for the children every week?
Who gives us beautiful music?

Who sends out our service sheets?
Who arranges the Elders Morning Tea?
Who completes the Diocesan Returns?
Who provides daily reflections online?
Who counts the Sunday Offering?
Who chooses the music?
Who cleans the gutters?
Who delivers meals to those in need?
Who notices when you are not here?
Who comes to Church and shares our journey?

The community directory is a wonderful resource, keep it near when you pray, open a page and give thanks as you read through the names.

"If we magnified our successes
as much as we magnify our disappointments
we'd all be much happier"

- Abraham Lincoln

We shape our self
to fit this world

and by the world
are shaped again.

The visible
and the invisible

working together
in common cause

to produce
the miraculous.

David Whyte
from *"Working Together"*

Thank You

For having me…… Peter H



I still wonder and seek to discover what it is that being a priest requires of me….

I've broken bread into the mystery of eternal wholeness

Baptised and buried babies,
Delighted in hands held by young lovers as they make their vows,
and the same delight as hands are held by lovers at their final anointing.

I've taken the scriptures into primary schools and been taught by two ten year old Muslim boys how to pray.

I've given money to the homeless drunk so he can have another drink before bedding down on the streets and turned away the same so as not to be complicit in his future.

I've said thanks to the 'generous' gift of fifty dollars from the millionaire and given thanks for the generosity of one who gives half of all they have.

I've broken bread into the crumbs of broken lives

I've listened to the theological rant of confusion in the psych ward and wondered about my sanity.

I've sat at the gate of despair with the parents whose child committed suicide, and sat also with the children who can't understand why their parent did the same.

I've seen my reflection in the high mass of a European cathedral and also in the muddy river water as a child blessed me after his baptism

I've chanted with monks echoing the catholic truth and knelt in the mosque hearing the same in the recitation of the Quran.

Each time I read the scriptures I wonder why the 'Word' is so misunderstood; a glimpse into eternity that dispels every darkness.

I've broken bread into life's thanksgiving for its divine gift of itself.

I've framed each day with the office of prayer and still seek to find its unceasing rhythm.

I've processed with bishops robed in ceremony and been blessed by elephants at the door of a temple, wondering if both are like swimming naked in the sea.

I've sat round many campfires with endless bottles of wine listening for the community to discover itself.

I've had endless discussions seeking to explore beyond the doctrines and dogmas that only hold true in the comfort of Sunday schools.

And sat with many in silence where the disturbance of truth becomes too loud for words.

I've whispered to infants as they are anointed in baptism, and heard the words of grace shine in their eyes.

And witnessed the preaching of kids enacting the nativity; jostling for stardom as Jesus or Mary, or comfortable with assignments as donkey or sheep.

I've spent far too much time fundraising, overcoming the forces of gravity that seem to operate more powerfully on money.

I've broken bread into the fragments of life's deepest desire

Thank You



I found home wherever I've wandered with no house to constrain my soul; And discovered (again) the value of beauty beyond possession.

I've listened to the drone of medical complaining by the elderly; and been surprised by the light that sometimes breaks out in smiles.

I've waited with the dying, sharing the song of their final breath as peace comes to bless and embrace them.

I've been washed with tears, and in sorrow have found a cleaning of the heart; and I've bathed in champagne and laughed at the bubbling of the spirit.

I've broken bread to feed the hungry soul

I've delighted in the gift of all who have come; and felt a loss with all who have left; a have enjoyed the support of many who have stayed to share the journey.

I've seen with great joy boys become men and girls become women; wondering in reflection at my own becoming.

I've prayed into healing lives broken by pain and there found the cracks in my own wholeness.

I've intoned mantras to create divine landscapes in the flat landscapes of everyday routine; and still I seek to pray, to pray without ceasing and echo the note of eternity.

I've broken bread into the Word of creation

I've received praise and condemnation in equal measure and discovered they are of equal worth.

I've built and I've destroyed in both confidence and doubt; and seen the cup half full and the cup half empty; and yet I've seen so many times how that same cup overflows.

I've dreamed dreams and seen visions, glimpses and vistas; and sometimes just slept to let life rest for itself.

I've emptied the bins and tended the grounds; delighting in the reality of being mistaken for the gardener.

I've wrestled with the resistance to change, knowing my own comfort takes sides against me; I've let go of so much and yet still hang on, never sure that the future holds more of whatever I'll need.

I've shared in communities that have inspired, met with others that echo more divinely than I; and have been invited in to the most intimate places; giving a depth of vision that almost blinds.

I've sat with those insane, and shared a common madness; and I've had 'tea with the vicar' and shared a joint in the same sentence.

I've broken bread into the oneness of community

I rode my motorbike with an angel on my back; balanced for the road ahead with an unseen guide behind me.

I've seen the highest mountain in the world, starred at stars from the top of a rock with fellow travellers; and yet still yearn to see into life's deepest depths.

I've lifted the veil, torn the curtain and emerged from the tomb and yet still get pulled back to the cradle and the cross.



I've contemplated in silence the singularity of being and found the edge of glory in loud ness of Lady Gaga.

I've broken bread into the fragments of life's glory

Thank You



I've shared in the lighting of many candles each with a wish for life's unfolding dream.

I've walked alongside priests at their ordination, converts at their confirmation; and enjoyed the fellowship of atheists in the celebration of coffee.

I've broken bread into the hands of companions

I've given everything, and yet also nothing, for I know in truth there is more to give; and all that I've given has enabled an emptiness, to be filled with the blessings that I have received.

I still wonder and seek to discover what it is that being a priest requires of me; and what I have discovered is that "a priest" is very much 'of the community', and I give thanks for that we have received, for we are one in our deepest reality, our truest being

I've broken bread as food for the journey

And as that journey continues we still walk it together, for here is home, and here is where I know my truth.

The next chapter of life is not a leaving, nor a going somewhere else, rather it is a response to the more that is called forth as we continue to shine as a light in the world.

"lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called"





Here between the hither and the farther shore
While time is withdrawn, consider the future
And the past with an equal mind.

And a final ask…..

AGM
Annual General Meeting



We will all move forward with some uncertainty, and perhaps that will illuminate the reality of 'faith' for us.

For me there is a whole new routine to discover and a task to be done that is yet to be given shape and form. However, I don't feel as if I'm going, as in going away, but rather I'm going to do more, for there is more to be done.

Over the next five years I'm seeking to make our charity in Nepal a sustainable operation, rather than being the aid-dependant operation it is today. And that has some parallels with the unfolding of St Paul's over the last twenty two years, for we also had unsustainable beginnings and now; we're STUNNING!

If you would like to give thanks for what we have achieved here, and if you would like to join in my endeavours over the next five years, then please consider a gift of a monthly contribution to IGWR Inc. and be a part of making a real difference to the children in Nepal.

We will provide regular updates of progress; you will see what is being done and how much can be achieved when we share in the effort.

Bank:	Commonwealth Bank
BSB:	066-107
Account:	IGWR Inc.
Account No.:	10565151
Address:	Commonwealth Bank 3 Queen Street

The Future Belongs to Those who Believe in the Beauty of their Dreams

A child without education, is like a bird without wings.
~Tibetan proverb

2.6 billion people out of the developing world's 6.9 billion are estimated to be living on less than $2 a day. Educating children in poor countries is an investment in change, an investment in solutions.