

DECEMBER 2022

## Counting our Blessings

Here we are, almost at the conclusion of another liturgical year and the beginning of our Advent journey to Christmas and the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus. It has been another challenging and eventful year for us all, but one in which we have again been very blessed, even in the face of adversity.

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As a parish family, in 2022, we have been able to worship together regularly, socialise together and grow closer as a committed community of faith. Some of us have

faced significant health issues, some have mourned the loss of loved ones, while yet rejoicing that they have gone to their eternal reward and are seated at the heavenly table with their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Through it all, we have been able to pray together, weep together, celebrate together and look forward to the challenges that will, undoubtedly, lie ahead.


In the pages that follow, you will find a pictorial scrapbook of some of the events that have happened over the past few months here at St Luke's. I hope that these photos will make you smile as you remember the occasions and encourage you to hold fast to your connectedness – with one another, with your Church, with your faith – and that you will, like me, take this opportunity to count your blessings.

*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. (Numbers 6.24-26)*

Every blessing for a Holy, Happy Christmas and New Year. The Lord be with you!

Fr Max Wood, Rector

## Come and Celebrate Christmas at St Luke's Anglican Church Mosman



<b>A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS</b> 7pm Sunday 11 December	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE</b> 5pm Saturday 24 December	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY SUNG EUCHARIST</b> 9am Sunday 25 December
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Cnr. Ourimbah Rd. & Heydon St. Mosman [www.stlukesmosman.org](http://www.stlukesmosman.org)

# The Day of Pentecost

5 June 2022

The Right Reverend Richard Hurford, sometime Bishop of Bathurst, celebrated The Day of Pentecost with us. Happy Birthday Church!



# The Festival of Mary Magdalene

24 July 2022

The Cathedral Singers with Director, Jim Abraham, presented the 'Missa Brevis' Mass Setting by John Ireland, enhancing our worship for the Festival of Mary Magdalene.



## Pentecost 8

31 July 2022

The Revd Paul Devenport, Rector of St Saviour's Glen Osmond (Adelaide), a former Assistant Deacon at St Luke's, was our Guest Preacher.



## Choral Evensong

### Sunday 31 July

The Reverend Dr Max Wood, Officiant  
 The Reverend Antony Weiss, Preacher, Chaplain St Paul's College,  
 University of Sydney  
 The Choir of St Paul's College, University of Sydney  
 Jack Stephens, Director of Music  
 David Drury, Organist



## Mary, Mother of Our Lord

### 14 August 2022

The Revd Elaine Farmer, Associate Priest, St Paul's Manuka (Canberra) was our Guest Preacher. Revd Farmer is a writer who has developed a specialised ministry in preaching throughout Australia and overseas.



## Pentecost 16

### 25 September 2022

The Reverend Peter Kurti concluded his ministry as our Associate Priest after eleven years in the role. We give thanks for the invaluable ministry Fr Peter provided at St Luke's during this time and wish him and Linda every blessing for the future.



# Patronal Festival of St Luke, Evangelist and Martyr

16 October 2022

The Reverend Canon Dr Colleen O'Reilly AM, an adjunct lecturer at Trinity College Theological School, Melbourne was Guest Preacher at our Patronal Festival this year. It was wonderful to gather together to share continuing fellowship and a Sparkling Brunch in the Seddon Hall after the service. A précis of Dr O'Reilly's sermon can be read on Page 6 of this edition of *Parish Life*.





# Spring Concert

22 October 2022

The St Luke's Mosman Music Association Inc. presented a lively 'Spring Concert' in the Church featuring former St Luke's music director, Brendon Lukin at the organ, with trombonist Greg van der Struik and on tuba, his son, Dominic Lukin.



# The Festival of All Saints and 'We'll Gather Lilacs' Concert

6 November 2022

Rachel Mink, a 2022 Pacific Opera Young Artist, sang the 'Missa in Simplicitate' mass setting by Jean Langlais at our 9am Festival of All Saints Eucharist service. Callum Tolhurst-Close, St Luke's Director of Music, then accompanied Rachel Mink on piano, presenting a varied repertoire of songs celebrating springtime love.





## Patronal Sermon – *Précis*

Revd Canon  
Dr Colleen O'Reilly AM

Luke (Ch 10.1-9) alone tells us that Jesus sent seventy to go ahead of him and sent them together because the journey involved dangers to be faced. Courage is needed, faith is needed, support and care of one another is needed. We are given to one another for the work so that alone we are not discouraged, and alone not lambs of Christ's own flock to be picked off by hungry wolves.

None of this is easy. The big picture is daunting. We now live in times that are at best indifferent to the Christian faith. Increasingly there is hostility towards the Church – too often with good reason – though sometimes it is hard to find more than unreflective animosity in some of the rejections we experience. We had better be ready for being among the seventy. As with any journey, it begins with that first step and all the small steps that follow. There is an urgency to our task in a time when all that God offers is so badly needed, and yet God, the source of life and love, is so widely rejected.

We are to speak words of peace wherever we go. 'Peace be to this house', the seventy were told to say. As we bring to those we meet each day God's longing to enfold them in love and newness of life, we are used by God to bring the kingdom close to them. Each word that diffuses anger and resentment, each act that supports and cares for another, each speaking of truth to power carried forward God's mission. Every letter to a politician advocating for those unable to speak up for themselves, every donation to a foodbank, every caring act, every refusal to be hostile even to the hostile, all these seemingly simple daily things, things we can all do, these things bring in God's way, God's kingdom, God's peace, as God enables us, you the parish, to be among those whom Jesus sends out. Be like the seventy, and you will truly be worthy of your patron saint's name.

# 2022 Sydney Diocesan Synod Report

**The 3rd ordinary session of the 52nd Sydney Diocesan Synod commenced with an opening service and the Presidential Address at Oran Park Anglican College on Saturday 10th September 2022.**

The Synod then moved to the Wesley Theatre in Pitt Street for five more days of Synod discussions on 12th, 13th, 14th, 19th and 20th September. This 3rd ordinary session of Synod passed 57 resolutions, 9 ordinances and filled 59 positions on boards and committees. St. Luke's was represented by our Rector, Paula Turner and Dr Jocelyn Chey.

The Presidential Address was delivered by our new Archbishop The Most Reverend Kanishka Raffel. The address discussed providing Anglican ministry to new growth areas of Sydney, multicultural Sydney, indigenous ministry, youth ministry in schools and churches, domestic violence and



*Proceedings and delegates attending Synod 2022 at the Wesley Theatre, Pitt Street, Sydney*

the doctrine of marriage. The text and video of this address can be found on the Sydney Anglicans website.

Some of the key financial decisions made during this year's Synod included:

- The preparation by Standing Committee of a diocesan-wide ministry-directed property strategy.
- The passing of an ordinance (Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2022) committing parishes to the Land Acquisition



*Members of Anglicans Together attending Synod 2022 enjoyed dinner as a group one evening, between sessions.*

Levy over the next ten years to acquire land in areas marked for development before development plans are in place.

- The payment of \$250,000 per year until 2031 to the Diocese of Bathurst for the cost of a Bishop and his Registrar.
- The establishment of a centralised investment vehicle for the Diocese in the Glebe Administration Board.

Other important decisions included:

- The acceptance of an amendment to the approach to meetings of, and financial contributions to, the General Synod.

Highlights included:

- A lengthy debate regarding a motion to give thanks for the life and work of Archbishop Desmond Tutu.
- A secret ballot and vote in houses (lay and clergy) re the withdrawal from fellowship in national church or provincial contexts.



- A question about Synod membership by Paula Turner being ruled "out of order."
- The presentation of a gift, a wooden black and white cross in the shape of a boomerang, to the Archbishop by Indigenous minister The Reverend Michael Duckett.
- The withdrawal of a motion affirming the so-called Diocese of the Southern Cross following a number of proposed amendments by our Rector, Dr Max Wood.
- A presentation by two Year 12 students attending Sydney Anglican schools.

If I was asked to summarise this year's Synod I would say that it was mostly about money: money parishes will be required to pay if they own property, money parishes will be required to pay to acquire land and money parishes will be required to pay to the Diocese of Bathurst. St Luke's, therefore, as a parish in the Diocese of Sydney, as a consequence of this year's Synod, is now required to contribute more financially to the Diocese. This is not a good outcome for St Luke's but it is a done deal which we have to embrace.

*Paula Turner  
Lay Synod Representative*

## Church Roof Replacement

The Wardens were successful with a grant application in 2021, which resulted in St Luke's being awarded \$41,000 by the NSW State Government to replace the church roof. The successful tender went to the contractor, Dreamroof,



recommended by the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat as they had previously satisfactorily completed roof works on a number of Anglican churches. On the recommendation of the roofing specialists, all metal roofs and flashings were replaced at a total cost of \$44,055 plus GST.

The work took place during March 2022 and was rain interrupted several times. Upon completion of the work, Felicity Wilson, Member for North Shore in the NSW Legislative Assembly, met with Fr Max to inspect the new roof.



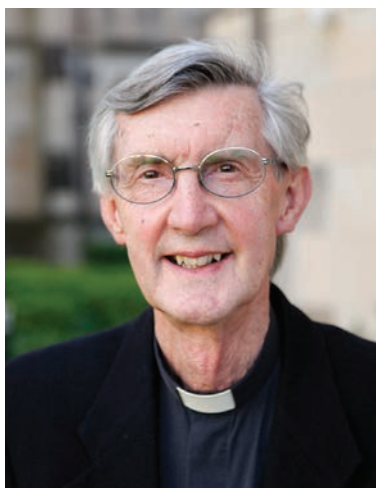


# Bon Voyage and Welcome


Our Rectory family is preparing to head overseas very soon. Danielle, Thomas and Madeleine are flying to Paris in the first week of December for a long-anticipated visit with family in France.

It will be Thomas and Madeleine's first experience of a white Christmas! They will be back home in January, before the start of the school year. The Rector is embarking on Long Service Leave immediately after Christmas. He will initially be spending time in France with the family, then travelling further afield, culminating in a pilgrimage to Israel. Fr Max will be back with us from Palm Sunday. We wish all the family exciting, refreshing and safe travels.

We are very pleased to welcome the Revd Philip Bradford as our Locum Tenens while Fr Max is away. Fr Philip has been a Guest Preacher and Presider at St Luke's a number of times in the past twelve months and so is already familiar with our parish. Although Fr Philip is presently "retired" from full-time ministry, his services are very much in demand in parishes within the Sydney diocese. A warm welcome to you, Fr Philip, and to your wife, Rosemary. We look forward to your ministry to us during this time.



*The Revd Philip Bradford*

Remember you can  
follow St Luke's on 

**Editor:** The Rev'd Dr Max Wood  
**Design:** Debbie McLeod  
**Photos:** Helen Bell, Jocelyn Chey,  
Maxwell Wood

## Diary Dates for 2023

ABM Brunch	5 February	11am
Shrove Sunday Pancakes	19 February	11am
Ash Wednesday Service	22 February	11am
Lenten Study Groups commence	23 February	10.30am (Lower Hall) 7pm (Zoom)
Parish AGM	12 March	10.30am
Palm Sunday Eucharist	2 April	9am
Maundy Thursday Eucharist	6 April	7pm
Good Friday Liturgy	7 April	9am
Good Friday Stations of the Cross	7 April	12 noon
Easter Balmoral Eucharist	9 April	7am
Easter Sung Eucharist	9 April	10am
Easter Sparkling Brunch	9 April	11.30am
Mid-Winter BBQ	25 June	11.30am
Trivia Brunch	23 July	11.30am
Patronal Festival Eucharist	22 October	10am
Patronal Festival Sparkling Brunch	22 October	11.30am
Nine Lessons and Carols	17 December	7pm

St Luke's is a place of rich and diverse liturgy, where life and faith connect.  
We are a progressive community that welcomes all people regardless of  
gender, age, race, sexual orientation or religion.  
We support the full and equal role of women in society and in  
the ministry of the church.

To stay in touch at St Luke's, check the weekly pew bulletin regularly,  
read the quarterly *Parish Life*, visit our website [www.stlukesmosman.org](http://www.stlukesmosman.org) and  
follow us on 