



A New King

The life of Jesus
according to Matthew's Gospel

 St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

Wk 25

Sunday 27 April 2025

Our 9:30am service is live streamed to our YouTube and Facebook Channels.

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Song
- Anzac Remembrance
- Song
- Matthew 28:11-20 (p. 999)
- Sermon
- Song
- Confession & Assurance
- Prayers
- Vision Spot
- Song
- Conclusion

Most St Stephen's collection is received electronically.
BSB: 062 272
Account Number:
00490436

If you are a visitor please don't feel obliged to contribute financially.

Whether you're new, visiting, or a regular, we're so glad you're here today. On this ANZAC Day weekend, we pause to give thanks for the courage and sacrifice of those who've gone before us in service of others. Their example points us to the greatest act of love—the sacrificial death and victorious resurrection of Jesus Christ.

As one of our songs today declares, "People and realms of every tongue dwell on His love with sweetest song." That's our hope and prayer: that many from Chatswood, Artarmon and Willoughby would come to know Jesus and dwell in His love.

In Matthew 28:19–20, Jesus sends His followers to make disciples of all nations—and that includes us today. We meet as people being shaped by Jesus to reach our community with His hope.

We'd love to help you connect. Use the Connect Card (via QR code) to let us know how we can support you or help you get involved.



Next Steps

Are you new? We would love to meet you. Hear a brief intro on the life of our church at our next [Newish Morning Tea](#) on today. It runs for ½ an hour straight after the service.

Been regularly coming? If you are a regular member of our church, we encourage you to attend our next [Belonging Course](#) which runs on 1 June from 12-3pm. Belonging is the gateway to our GaP Groups, serving and deeper connection with the community. Or if you'd like to learn more at another time, you can arrange a coffee with Prash or Jill. Simply reach out – they'd love to chat.

Prayers for the Service

These prayers are used during the service. Prayer is a privilege we are given because Christ died for us. His death & resurrection means we can confidently approach God seeking forgiveness (Hebrews 10:22). If you believe that Christ died to deal with your failings then you should be confident to pray with us. If you are still exploring who Christ is then feel free to listen in.

A Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father,
you have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have gone our own way,
and rejected your will for our lives.
We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us, and change us.
By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you,
and to please you in every way;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

1 John 4:9-10

The Lord's Prayer

This is the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray (Matthew 6:5-14).

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 forever
Amen.

Sermon Notes

The Great Commissioner | Matthew 28:16-20

Preacher: Simon Flinders

1. The Last Chapter

2. Worship & Doubt (vv.16-17)

- only 11 at this reunion
- worship
- doubt

3. Authority (vv.18-20)

- all authority given
- make disciples
- all nations
- going, baptising, teaching
- obedience to all commands
- a promise for all days

4. Discipleship In A Nutshell

- recognising Jesus' authority
- seeking others who will recognise Jesus' authority

5. Not The Last Chapter

FINANCE UPDATE

Hasn't it been wonderful to share the good news of Jesus with our Chatswood, Willoughby & Artarmon this year. We've done it as a church on mission together. Life together includes sharing our financial resources for the sake of God's glory and the salvation of the lost. Here's what some of our church leaders say about giving financially to church ministry:

If you would like to support the ministry of St Stephen's use these bank details or visit our give page:

St Stephen's
BSB: 062 272
Account Number: 00490436
st-stephens.com.au/give

1. What's motivated you to give to our church and its ministry?
2. When you give, what do you hope it helps make possible in the life and mission of our church?



Lois

My family has been bountifully blessed by our Gracious Lord God not only in material wealth but with the loving and caring Christian community he has led us to. A community that has helped us and prayed with us during difficult times as well as times of joy. We give so that this ministry may continue but also that we have the resources of staff and facilities that can be used to bring others to know Jesus and experience His love and care.

Garth

1. My motivation in giving is the spread of the gospel, in the church and the wider community. I believe that God has provided me with skills and gifts that I use in my work and therefore the benefits of that work belong to God as well. Another motivation in giving is in response to the love and fellowship I have received from the church while I have been here.



2. Ultimately I hope that my giving means that more people will turn to Christ, through the work of the church in spreading the gospel. I hope that my giving allows the church be able to undertake the ministry and outreach that is needed to reach new people about the gospel, while also continuing to grow people in the church in their faith.

Fred

I give on a monthly regular basis to Scripture in Schools ministry we run because of the importance of SRE to introduce children to the Bible and to Jesus. My first commitment was made in response to a scripture teacher at Artarmon Public. We are fortunate to have great staff who are skilled at getting the message across but, as the Bible says, “a labourer is worth his hire”. Having our ministry staff involved along with volunteers helps connect St Stephen’s to the children and their parents.



Adam

1. It is easy to fall into the trap that our money is our own, to use how we see fit. It can be a challenging lesson, and one that can require regular reminding, that "the earth is the Lord's, and everything in it" (Ps. 24:1). It is from this, and through this that motivates me to support our church.

2. Aside from providing for the staff, maintenance and general running of our church, we long to be a church that is beautiful, diverse and large by the gracious work of Christ. Through careful stewardship of our finances, I hope that we can reach more of those in our area that have not had the privilege of learning about, and coming to know our great God.

Cheryl

1. 2 Cor 8:9 “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich”
God so graciously and generously gave us everything through His Son Jesus so that we might have life! Every good and perfect gift comes from Him and so He is the reason for why I give to church. The very things God has blessed me with I hope to use to further grow his Kingdom.



2. My hope is that it will be used to reach more and more people who don't know God yet and also to help those who attend St Stephens hold tight to the truth in the Gospel. Whether that looks like supporting full time ministry staff, who dedicate their time to disciple God's people and teach faithfully at church, or to support church building upgrades in order to more effectively reach more people, I know God will use it to bring Him glory and further His Kingdom.

Notices

Crafternoon - 29 April

As a church we want young people to develop biblically shaped active faith. One of the ways this happens is by kids doing craft that reinforces the Bible lesson.

We would love your help in preparing these craft activities. Having the craft prepared is helpful as it frees up the kid's leaders to spend more time preparing the biblical content of the lesson. We would really appreciate your help! You don't need any particular craft skills. If you can cut, glue or stick we can put you to good use!

When: Tuesday 29th April

Time: 1-3pm

Where: Hainsworth Hall



SRE Update

Did you know that we have an amazing opportunity to share Jesus with the next generation through SRE? Each week, around 200 children hear about God's love – many from families who don't belong to a church and know very little about Jesus. This Easter, we sent cards home inviting families to church, and praise God – one family came along! What a beautiful reminder that God is at work. Please keep praying for these students and their families to know Jesus.

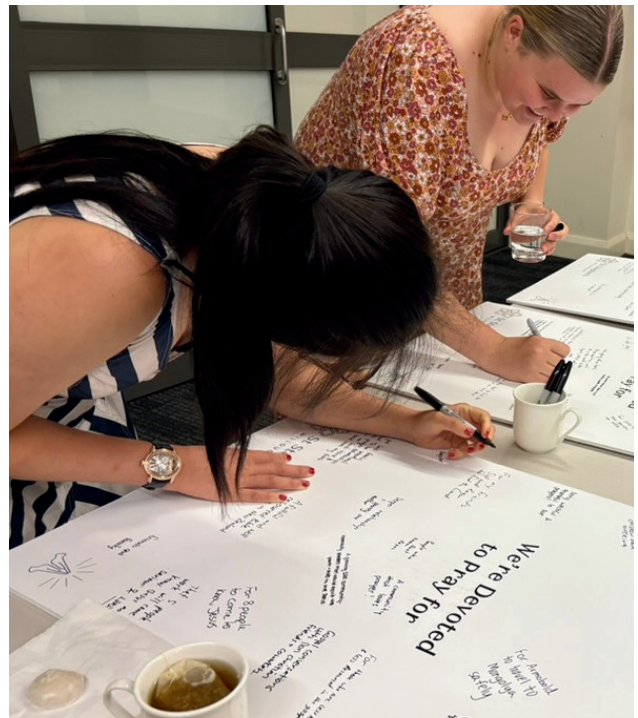


Notices

Week of Prayer - 5-9 May

Each quarter we kick off the life of our church with prayer. Our next Prayer week is May 5-9. Will you come and join us in this necessary launching pad. You can come as many times as you want across the week to pray. We meet Monday to Thursday from 7:30-8:30pm and Friday from 1-2pm (all in the Chapel Hall).

Even if you have never come before, join us, and pray or simply listen say Amen ('I agree') to other people's prayers. God has heard and graciously answered many of our prayers in the past 3 months.



Baptism - 11 May

On May 11 at our 9:30am Service we will be baptising Janice. Come and celebrate with Janice as she participates in this ancient, wonderful symbol of God's gracious saving work in her life. The Holy Spirit has been at work saving many of our friends in the last months. Baptism reminds us of the wonder of Jesus's death and resurrection – sinners can be saved, washed and born into an eternal life of hope and joy.

Alpha for Seniors - 15 May

The Team from Encounter are running Alpha for Seniors each Thursday from 10-12pm starting on 15 May. This will be a wonderful opportunity to reach our older community with the gospel.

Can you help by distributing flyers for the team? We hope to see the program filled with non-Christian elderly members of our community. If you have a non-Christian friend, over the age of 65 who will appreciate the opportunity to discuss life & faith over food with friendship then bring them along.



What's Coming Up

28 April	Come and See
29 April	Crafternoon
2-4 May	KYCK Conference
4 May	Vision Sunday
5-9 May	Week of Prayer

For more on what's happening this autumn at St Stephen's, visit st-stephens.com.au/autumn

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