

A CHURCH FOR THE FUTURE

St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

Week 4

Sunday 9 November 2025

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

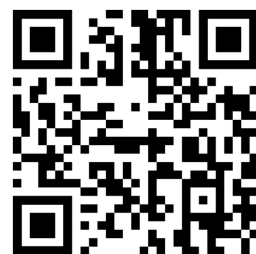
TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Spotlight
- Song
- Bible Reading:
Revelation 2:18-29
& 12 (p. 1238)
- Series Video
- Sermon
- Song
- Vision Spot
- Confession &
Assurance
- Prayers
- 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.

Welcome! We're so glad you've joined us as we continue our Vision Series – exploring how God is **making us beautiful, diverse and large by His gracious work in Christ.**



Connect Card

Here on the Lower North Shore, we value giving our kids every opportunity – the best schools, music, sport, and stability. Yet Revelation 12 reminds us there's a deeper reality at play. Behind all the visible busyness of life, there's a spiritual battle for hearts and loyalties. The world subtly shapes us to chase success and self-sufficiency, even as Christ calls us to nurture faith that lasts forever.

Today's passage shows us the wonder of Jesus – the one who protects and sustains His people, even in a hostile world. As a church, we long to raise the next generation not just to succeed, but to stand secure in the Lamb who has already triumphed.

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 23 November. 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 today 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 Jill. Simply reach out – she'd love to chat.

Prayers for the Service

A Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father,
we confess that we have not always held fast to Your truth.
We have tolerated what is false,
and failed at times to guard the next generation.
Forgive us and keep us strong in Christ,
that our children may know and follow Him.
Amen.

God's Assurance (from Rev 12:11)

Leader: They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Adoration

Leader: Salvation and power belong to our God.

All: And the authority of His Christ.

Prayers for our Church

Child Prayer Leader: Keep us steadfast in Your Word.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Parent Prayer Leader: Protect our children from the evil one.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Senior Prayer Leader: Raise up a generation who love and serve Christ.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Sermon Notes

A Church desperate for the next generation | Revelation 2:18-29 & 12-14

Preacher: Prashanth Colombage

1. The Battle is Real The Spiritual Story

The Different Beasts

2. The Gospel is our Defence 3 Weapons

i.

ii.

iii.

Implications for us

Our 5 Year Goal for Community:



3. The Future is Certain

Never out of care

Charging to Victory

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Opening discussion

When have you felt like you were caught in something bigger than yourself?
How did that affect your faith and relationship with God?

Going deep in God's Word

Read Revelation 12

1. What do the woman, the dragon, and the child in Revelation represent?
What big story is this vision telling us about God's overall plan?
2. What happens when the child is "caught up to God and to His throne"?
What does this reveal about who truly wins the real battle?
3. Why is the dragon described as "furious" (v. 12)? How does that help us understand the Church's experience in the world today?
4. Verse 11 says that believers "overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony." What do these two weapons show us about how victory comes?

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In light of God's Word, spend some time reflecting on the following questions and praying together.

1. What pressures do young people in Willoughby face that threaten their faith? From your own experience, how can both persecution and comfort make following Jesus hard?

2. How can our church practically help kids and youth stand firm in Christ?

Read Revelation 14:1-5

3. This short passage shows God's people standing with the Lamb at the very end. How can this vision drive us to pray and invest sacrificially in raising the next generation of resilient disciples?

Read the Bible with us!

Using some of the questions to guide you.

1. What about Jesus's character makes me want to worship Him today?

2. What does Jesus do in this passage that challenges how I live my life currently?

Monday - [Luke 21](#)

Tuesday - [Luke 22](#)

Wednesday - [Luke 23](#)

Thursday - [Luke 24:1-35](#)

Friday - [Luke 24:36-53](#)

Notices

Gift Day

On Sunday 16 November we launch our annual Gift Day.

It's a chance for every household in our church to invest in the future gospel work of our church.

We have so many wonderful opportunities ahead of us as we serve the Coming King! From property enhancements to new staff in 2027 we want to stretch the ministry here to reach those in our area who haven't heard of Christ the King.

Would you prayerfully consider how your household can partner in this task of generosity.

Gift Day 16 Nov

Support the life, ministry, and outreach of St Stephen's

REF: GIFTDAY



2025 Target: \$60,000



Notices

Serving in Youth Ministry

Next year is an important year for our Youth Ministry! With four kids moving up into youth and great momentum building, we need leaders who will love and disciple our teens. This is a ministry for our whole church to invest in — could you be one of those leaders?

Talk to Pippie to find out more.

YOUTH MINISTRY 2026

LEADERS NEEDED

- 3 HALF PAST SIX



- 2 JUNIOR HIGH



- 2 SENIOR HIGH



Current number of leaders serving
Gaps in the ministry



Come and See

We're loving Monday nights at Come and See 🙌

Exploring the life of Jesus in Spanish, Chinese, and English—side by side.

At St Stephen's, we long for Christ to make us beautiful, diverse, and large.

✨ Curious about Jesus?

✨ Wondering about life, meaning, and faith?

You're invited. Just come and see.

📅 Mondays nights

🕒 7-8:30pm

🎟 Free

📍 St Stephen's Willoughby



What's Coming Up

10 November	Come and See
16 November	Gift Day
22 November	Working Bee
23 November	Newish Morning Tea
6 December	Carols on the Grass

Christmas Events

Christmas Eve Family Service 4pm
Christmas Eve Champagne Supper 10pm
Candlelight Readings & Carols 11pm
Christmas Service 9:30am

Home
Find where you truly belong this Christmas

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

Our Staff - Contact Us!



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