



St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

WE LONG TO BE A CHURCH MADE

beautiful, diverse and large

by the gracious work of Christ

Week 1

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- Song
- Spotlight
- Prayer for Children
- Interview
- Prayers
- Song
- Bible Reading: Mark 10:45 (p.1014) & 2 Corinthians 5:11-15 (p.1160)
- Sermon
- 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.

Sunday 2 August 2026

Today is an exciting Sunday in the life of our church. As we welcome Rev Andrew Lim from Revesby Anglican, we're beginning what we hope will become a rich partnership in the gospel for many years to come.



Connect Card

Partnerships like this remind us that God's mission is much bigger than any one church. Across Sydney, faithful churches are proclaiming Christ, making disciples and serving their communities. We have the privilege not only of praying for one another, but of sharing our resources so that together more people hear the good news of Jesus.

Christ's generosity toward us shapes our generosity toward others. May his love move us to live—not for ourselves—but for him and for the advance of his gospel.

Next Steps

Are you new? Catch up with Prash or Jill to share your story and hear about St Stephen's church life.

Been regularly coming? If you are a regular member of our church, we encourage you to attend our next [Belonging Course](#) which runs on September 13 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 sooner, you may also like to 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

Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Assurance

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Mark 10:45

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

Why serving Jesus is awesome | Mark 10:45 & 2 Corinthians 5:11-15

Preacher: Andrew Lim

1. Not a resume but a rescue

2. Setup and punchline

3. Seeing the invisible

4. An invitation to rest and run

Going Deeper During The Week

Opening Reflection

Tell us about a time someone else helpfully saw something in you or your situation that you couldn't see yourself.

Going deep in God's Word

Read 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

1. Imagine you're a Corinthian who suspects Paul is just another self-promoter (the charge he's answering in v.12). Read v.11-15 with that suspicion. What confirms it? What dismantles it?

2. What could it look like to view someone from a "worldly point of view"? How does the gospel change how Paul sees them (v. 17-18)?

3. Discuss the word "reconciliation". How does our world understand reconciliation and do/don't do reconciliation? How does it compare with how reconciliation is described in verse 18-20?

4. Rewrite v.21 for a twelve-year-old — no "sin," "righteousness," or "atonement" allowed. How does this truth help you apply verse 15, 16 and 20 in your life?

🙏 Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In light of God's Word, spend some time praying together for us to be ambassadors for Christ and help others be reconciled to God.

1. Who is one person in your life who needs to hear that God is for reconciliation, not waiting for them to clean themselves up first?

2. Pray a big prayer for your own heart: that you would stop trying to establish your own righteousness (by performance, image, or comparison) and instead live daily out of the righteousness that is already yours in Christ — and that this security would overflow into courage to share this gospel with someone this month.

Spend time with God each day!

Read through the passages and use the following questions to help you.

- How does this passage make me adore Jesus?
- How is it challenging me? How is it comforting me?
- What is something I need to do today in light of this?

Monday - [2 Corinthians 1](#)
Tuesday - [2 Corinthians 2](#)
Wednesday - [2 Corinthians 3](#)
Thursday - [2 Corinthians 4](#)
Friday - [2 Corinthians 5](#)

Notices

Something New!



This week we launch a new partnership between St Stephen's and St Mark's Anglican Church, Revesby. Although we serve on opposite sides of Sydney, we share the same Lord and the same gospel mission. Over the past months, a small group has explored opportunities to partner with

another church to strengthen gospel ministry across our city. Following consultation with the Parish Council, we are delighted to begin a three-year partnership with St Mark's. We pray this partnership will encourage both churches, see more people come to know Christ, and provide opportunities to live out and support our shared gospel convictions. We pray this partnership will encourage both churches, see more people come to know Christ, and provide opportunities to live out and support our shared gospel convictions.

A Simple First Step to Serve

Haven't joined a serving team yet, or unsure if you can commit to serving regularly? Carols is a wonderful opportunity to take a first step, serve just once, and help many people hear about Jesus. As Peter reminds us, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others" (1 Peter 4:10).



Could this be your opportunity to partner with us in sharing the hope of the gospel with our community? Fill up the Connect Card to let us know!



Notices

Financial Project

We want to be a church that grows in generosity! This week we want to invite you to partner with us and help fund Andrew Lim (St Mark's Revesby) to attend the 2 year Leadership Development Program and Church Review program run by Reach Australia. Our church went through this in 2024/2025 and found immense value. It costs \$4500 a year over 3 years to fund this. For a small church like St Mark's this is hard. For us - this is possible.

A graphic with a light beige background and blue wavy borders. At the top left is the Revesby Anglican Church logo (a green building with a cross) and the text 'REVESBY ANGLICAN CHURCH'. At the top right is the St Stephen's Willoughby logo (a blue and orange flower-like icon) and the text 'St Stephen's WILLOUGHBY'. In the center left, the text '\$4,500' is written in large, bold, teal letters, with 'THIS YEAR'S TARGET' in smaller teal letters below it. To the right of this, a teal box contains the text 'ONE-OFF GIFTS WELCOME' at the top. Below this, there are two sections: the first has a bank icon and the text 'Use our bank details and put 'Revesby' in the reference.'; the second has an envelope icon and the text 'For cash gifts, write 'Revesby' on the envelope.' At the bottom left of the graphic, there is a paragraph: 'Help fund Andrew Lim from St Mark's Revesby to attend Reach Australia's Leadership Development and Church Review programs.'

\$4,500
— THIS YEAR'S TARGET —

Help fund Andrew Lim from St Mark's Revesby to attend Reach Australia's Leadership Development and Church Review programs.

ONE-OFF GIFTS WELCOME

Use our bank details and put 'Revesby' in the reference.

For cash gifts, write 'Revesby' on the envelope.

Could you give a one-off gift to help reach this year's target of \$4500? Simply use our bank details on the front cover and put '**Revesby**' in the Ref field or on the envelope if you want to give cash on a Sunday.

Kids and Youth Programs are a Mission Field!

Playtime, Friday Kids and HPS are some of our best opportunities to connect with local families and share the hope of Jesus.

A graphic with a teal background and a vertical orange line. On the left side, the text 'LAST FRIDAY' is at the top, followed by a large white number '14', and then 'kids and youth from non-Christian families came!'. On the right side, the text 'PLAYTIME' is at the top, followed by a large white number '7', and then 'non-church families came!'.

LAST FRIDAY
14
kids and youth from non-Christian families came!

PLAYTIME
7
non-church families came!

But we can't do it alone. We need our church family to partner together by coming along, building genuine friendships, and inviting others.

So don't let this mission opportunity pass you by!

What's Coming Up

3 August	Come and See
7 August	The Send
10 August	Come and See
17 August	International Food Feast
20 August	Encounter

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

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