

# Hosanna

Newsletter of St. Paul’s Church CNI Pune

(For private circulation only)

January 2025



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“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles.”

*Isaiah 40:31*

## From the Presbyter's desk

**Revd. Dr. Kenseelan Azariah**



### **A New Year: A Time for Renewal and Hope**

Dear friends in Christ, as the calendar turns, the arrival of the New Year brings with it a sense of renewal, hope, and fresh opportunities. It is a time to reflect on the year gone by, celebrate our victories, learn from our struggles, and envision the path ahead. For many, it is also a time to align our lives with deeper spiritual truths and commitments, drawing strength from God's promises.

The Bible beautifully captures the essence of a new beginning. In *Isaiah 43:18-19*, God declares, *"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!"* This verse reminds us that the New Year is a divine invitation to let go of past burdens and embrace the fresh work God is doing in our lives. Every sunrise of this year carries the potential for transformation and grace.

The New Year also serves as a moment to renew our strength and faith. In *Isaiah 40:31*, we are encouraged, *"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles."* As we navigate the uncertainties of the year ahead, we can rest assured that God equips us with the endurance and hope needed to thrive.

Lastly, the turning of the year is a reminder of God's unfailing presence. *Deuteronomy 31:8* reassures us, *"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."* Whether our path is filled with challenges or joy, we are never alone. God walks with us, guiding each step.

As we step into this New Year, let us take time to set meaningful goals, cultivate gratitude, and deepen our connection with God and those around us. Let's celebrate the gift of another year by being a blessing to others, spreading love, kindness, and hope wherever we go.

May 2025 be a year of abundant grace, unwavering faith, and profound joy. Happy New Year!

**Revd. K. Azariah**

Priest-in-charge

<b>Reports from the Wings of St. Paul's Church -</b>	
<b>St. Paul's Youth Fellowship (SPYF)</b>	Youth Advisors – Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Mrinal Johnson President – Mr. Rohan Rajkumar
1 <sup>st</sup> December	SPYF members met for a time of fellowship and helped to decorate Christmas tree and put up star.
8 <sup>th</sup> December	SPYF members met to practice skit and song for Christmas tree program
14 <sup>th</sup> December	SPYF members participated in the Christmas tree program they performed a skit on “SPYF’s Believe it or not – Christmas edition” based on a game show that deals with hard to believe facts and leads us to think about the reality of the birth of Jesus Christ from Luke 2: 1-7. SPYF members sang a song “Gloria” by Gaither vocal band.
SPYF members coordinated to conduct the carol rounds on 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> and 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup> and 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec – SPYF met to keep candles ready for the Festival of 9 lessons and carols service. After Christmas break, SPYF will resume on 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan’25.	
<b>St. Paul's Teen's Fellowship</b>	Advisors – Mr. G Kumar and Mrs. Vinodhini
<p>Season's Greetings to all.</p> <p>Teen's fellowship participated in Christmas Tree program by performing a skit which had news reporters from BBC at Bethlehem reporting about the birth of Jesus, they also sang 2 songs – “Its about the Cross” and “Christmas day”.</p> <p>Post Christmas/New Year break – Teen's fellowship will resume on 12<sup>th</sup> Jan’25.</p> <p>St. Paul's Church has organized a transformational leadership program on 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 10am to 4:30pm for youth and teens of our church. Please make time to attend the “Excellence through Christ-centred leadership” program.</p>	
<b>Women's Fellowship for Christian Service (WFCS)</b>	President – Mrs. Sophana Kenseelan Secretary – Ms. Veronica Bhalerao
The joyous event was held on the 15th Dec. after morning worship service. The women enjoyed singing a few carols after which Rev. Kenseelan gave a short message on Christmas tree and what other traditions of Christmas meant and	

concluded it with a prayer. Then came a time for the distribution of gifts which was thoughtfully arranged for the ladies by the Secretary and the core members of WFCS team. This was followed by games organised by Mrs. Sophana Kenseelan which added to the fun and festivities of the occasion. This was followed by delicious fellowship lunch. It was a blessed time of getting together to share the joy of Christmas.

**St. Paul's Sunday School**

Superintendent – Mrs. Priscilla Victor

1 <sup>st</sup> December	<p>Praise &amp; worship was led by Mrs. Soniya Mudliar, Mr. Kevin Victor and Mrs. Minhee Im.</p> <p>Devotion was led by Mrs. Priscilla Victor on Advent.</p> <p>This was followed by Christmas skit and dance practice for the Christmas tree program.</p>
7 <sup>th</sup> December	<p><b>Christmas Party for Sunday school</b></p> <p>Opening prayer by Rev. Dr. Kenseelan Azariah</p> <p>Games were conducted by SPYF members.</p> <p>Carols by Mr. Ashish Sanga and Mr. Kevin Victor</p> <p>Christmas message by Ms. Neeta Victor on “Jesus the greatest gift of all”. This was followed by Christmas gift distribution and delicious food served to all the children attending and we all had a blessed and fun-filled time.</p>
8 <sup>th</sup> December	<p>Praise &amp; worship: by Mrs Soniya Mudhaliar, Mr Kevin Victor &amp; Mrs Minhee Im</p> <p>This was followed by Christmas dance &amp; skit practice.</p>
14 <sup>th</sup> December	<p><b>Christmas Tree program</b></p> <p>The Sunday school children performed “Kingdom of Hope” a musical drama brought to life by digital backdrop made lively using LED wall and superb performance by our children through dialogues, music and dance. The story follows six friends who travel back in time to witness the birth of the Messiah and spread the message of hope for all. The play concluded with a beautiful</p>

performance by the children and Sunday school teachers, singing “The Promise of Christmas – Great Things”.

A special highlight of the program was the dance on “Bambelela – Hold on to Jesus” song performance by the Sunday school children along with the Women’s and Youth fellowship.

The entire audience was enthralled with the performance as they enjoyed it thoroughly. The event was made memorable thanks to the teachers’ hard work, the children’s enthusiasm and the parents’ support.

### Sunday school re-opens on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Our Sunday school teachers are putting lot of efforts in imparting to our children the word of God.

I thank our Pastor Rev. Dr. Kenseelan Azariah, Hon. Secretary Mrs. Minoti Salvi, Hon. Treasurer Mr. Niranjan Swarge and all the pastorate committee members for their continuous support and prayers.

All glory to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Priscilla Victor**

**Sunday School Superintendent**

### **Outreach Ministry**

### **Saved to Serve**

Updates on St. Paul’s church sponsorship of Mr. Shrikanth, missionary at Kutordoh Church at Washim mission field, Dist. Washim of Indian Evangelical Mission (**IEM**).

We thank our Lord and God Jesus Christ for your prayers and support to our mission field at Kutordoh village.

Every Sunday we conduct morning worship service at Kutordoh church and in the evening at Kothari village.

Every Wednesday we have started Cottage Prayer meeting at believer’s home. This month we have selected 4 believers’ home where we met.

Every Friday we meet for Fasting and Prayer at Kutordoh Church.

Every Saturday we have started prayer fellowship at Julka railway station area.

### Praise Points: -

1. Praise God for His faithfulness to our believers who have harvested soyabean cultivation and God helped to reap the fruit.



2. Praise God for His help to have a medical camp at Kondala Mahali village with the help of Reynolds Hospital Washim.

Prayer Points: -

1. Please do pray for backslidden believers from Kuttardoh village Church, may God restore them all from misunderstanding with the fellow believers.

2. Please do pray for new openings from nearby villages in Washim region.

As we all have been sponsoring towards the needs expressed by the St. Crispins girls orphanage by conducting a session of Pastor Yohan Dasanla from the CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship), this helps to encourage these distraught children separated from their families to look for their support in God who loved them so much that He gave his life and especially as we celebrate his birthday in December as Christmas.

We had a joyous and blessed time celebrating Christmas with St. Crispins girls on 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. Puppet show was a delightful way to share meaningful messages with the staff and children attending. Pas. Yohan shared the word and spoke from Isaiah 9:6 and Luke 2:11. The children had a nice time and we also arranged special lunch after the program.





God bless you all for your support and prayers, which helps us to conduct such outreach programs and enhances our giving for such missionary works.

**Updates from St. Paul' Church office -**

Wishing you and your loved ones a very Happy New Year.

Christmas season was celebrated with much fervour and joy and the church members participated in several events, we thank God for His providence we could arrange and plan towards these events of church. We also had the privilege to welcome our newly consecrated Bishop Rt. Revd. Alfred Chandrakant Tiwade who celebrated Christmas eve service with us.

St. Paul's day service and fellowship dinner will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> Jan'25 evening. Please keep the convenor or the church office informed of your presence so that arrangements can be made accordingly.

**Events in Church History**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of December 24 to  
 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of January 25

**January**

06 **The Epiphany of our Lord** (or on the second Sunday after Christmas)

13 *Nilakanta Devasahayam Pillai, of Kerala (1752): Martyr*

16	<i>Robert de Nobili, of Madurai (1656): Evangelist</i>
17	<i>Anthony of Egypt (356): Hermit</i>
24	<i>Timothy: Companion of Paul, Evangelist</i>
25	<b>The Conversion of Paul</b>
26	<b>Indian Republic Day</b>
	<i>Polycarp of Smyrna (about 155): Bishop, Martyr</i>

## Messages from the Pulpit

## Sunday sermons

### 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024

**1<sup>st</sup> reading: Jeremiah 23: 1-6**

**2<sup>nd</sup> reading: James 3: 8-5**

**Theme: 'Watching for Christ in Patience and hope'**

**Message by Rev. Kenseelan Azariah**

It has been 2000 years since Christ told us that HE would return. Whether Christ would return or not, this doubt lingered even with the early Christians, like Ananias and Sapphira who lied to the Holy Spirit that they did not keep any money but gave away everything. Even today, most of us live as if Christ's return is doubtful and have drifted away from the truth of HIS SOON RETURN. According to 2Peter 3:8, one day with Lord is equal to a thousand years and a thousand years is as one day. God gave us not just one but two thousand years (since Christ's first advent) to repent and to change our ways. Psalm 27:14 and Isaiah 30:18 encourage us to wait for the Lord and that this waiting will give us blessings. In the Old Testament book of 1 Samuel 13: 7 onwards we see that Saul was not able to wait when he was asked to wait by Samuel, and went ahead and offered a sacrifice. Acts 8:13, tells us the story of Simeon who was baptized as a Christian but was impatient to receive the Holy Spirit. He offered money to the disciples to buy the gift of the Holy Spirit. Abraham and Sarah in Genesis 12:2 were promised a child by God and that God through Abraham and his descendants would make a great nation from whom the Messiah would come. But they did not wait and Abraham Hagar. We know the consequences of these decisions take by us in haste. When God says to wait, then we must wait and be still.



## **8<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**1<sup>st</sup> reading---Deuteronomy 18:13-19**

**2<sup>nd</sup> reading--- Acts 3:18-25**

**Theme: 'The Old Testament is fulfilled in Christ'**

**Message by Rev. Mithra**

There are nearly 324 prophecies of the Old Testament are fulfilled in the New Testament. Christ is the HERO of the New Testament and the Gospels speak on HIS life, death and Resurrection. In Matthew 5:17, Jesus says that HE did not come to abolish the law but to fulfill them. Genesis 3:15 (is a Prophecy of Jesus to be born as man); Numbers 24:17 (Prophecy of Jesus born from the tribe of Judah); Isaiah 1:11 (Prophecy of Jesus born from the family of David); Jeremiah 23:5-6 (Prophecy of Jesus going to be from the kingly heir) all these prophecies and many more have been fulfilled by Christ Jesus in the New Testament. These prophecies and their fulfillment proves the authenticity of the God's Word. The bible is the book that proves that which is been said about Jesus. Jesus has been described as prophet in the passages read to us. But HE is also greater than any prophets. HE was anointed to preach the Good News, heal the sick, raise the dead, deliver the demon possessed.

## **15<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**1<sup>st</sup> reading--- Isaiah 35:1-6 & 10**

**2<sup>nd</sup> reading --- Acts 19:1-6**

**Theme: 'John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ'**

**Message by Rev. Kenseelan Azariah**

John the Baptist the forerunner of Christ, was sent to prepare the way for Jesus. Three important things to learn from John --\*Matthew 14: 3-4 –John the Baptist was fearless. People came to him to take Baptism. He was not scared of anyone. He was fearless to speak the truth. He called the scribes and Pharisees, brood of vipers, knowing about their hypocrisy. \*John the Baptist was a just man, and therefore even Herod was afraid of him knowing that he did no wrong. \*He was also very humble—John lifted up and glorified the name of Jesus. He denied himself and exalted Jesus Christ.

## **22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024**

### **Nine Lessons and Carols Service**

#### **Lesson 1: Genesis 3:1-3, 8-10, 21-23**

This passage tells us the story of humanity's fall, the consequences of sin, and God's response. Humanity's fall into sin reveals our need for a savior. The separation of humanity from God was the consequence of the sin and hence the banishment from Eden. Christ's birth is God's response to the sin and separation. HE came into this world to restore the relationship lost in Eden. Through Christ, we receive the gift of reconciliation and eternal life, undoing the effects of sin from the very beginning.

#### **Lesson 2: Genesis 22: 15-18**

This passage tells us that God remembered HIS promise of a Saviour given in Genesis which will now be fulfilled through the descendant of Abraham, whom God chose to be a chosen nation. Through Jesus, we see the faithfulness of God to HIS promises, offering eternal blessings to all who believe.

#### **Lesson 3: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7**

The Passage is a beautiful prophecy about the coming of the Messiah, offering profound hope and joy. Christmas celebrates the fulfillment of this prophecy, the arrival of Jesus, the Light of the world, who dispels darkness and brings salvation.

#### **Lesson 4: Isaiah 11:1-9**

Here Isaiah describes the reign of the Messiah, emphasizing HIS wisdom, justice, and the peace HE will bring. Through HIM, we glimpse the coming kingdom of perfect peace and righteous, inspiring us to live as agents of HIS peace today.

#### **Lesson 5: Luke 1: 26-38**

In this gospel story, The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she would conceive and bear the Son of God. This passage reminds us to trust God's plans, knowing HIS promises are always fulfilled and HIS power knows no limits.

#### **Lesson 6: Luke 2:1-7**

Here Luke recounts the humble and miraculous birth of Jesus. HIS humble birth reminds us that the King of kings came to serve, not to be served, bringing salvation

to all. Christmas celebrates the moment when God stepped into history, offering hope, peace and joy through HIS Son.

### **Lesson 7: Luke 2:8-16**

Here is the story of the shepherds who received the first announcement of Jesus' birth. The Shepherds, ordinary and lowly, are chosen to hear the good news first, showing that God's Message is for everyone.

### **Lesson 8: Matthew 2:1-12**

tells the story of the Magi's journey to worship Jesus. The star leads the Magi to Jesus, illustrating God's guidance for those who earnestly seek HIM. The Magi worship Jesus and offer HIM gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, symbolizing HIS kingship, divinity and sacrifice.

### **Lesson 9: John 1:1-14**

is a profound declaration of Jesus' divinity and the significance of HIS incarnation. Christmas celebrates the miracles of the incarnation—God stepping into humanity to bring salvation and light to all who believe. This passage reminds us of the transformative power of Jesus' power and the gift of eternal life HE offers.

Message by Rev. Mithra

The Virtues like hope, peace, joy and love are celebrated in the season of Christmas. God's love is relational and redemptive. Our love is relative. God gave a promise in Genesis that the seed of the woman would crush the head of the Satan. Just as HE spoke, HE faithfully fulfilled this in Christ Jesus. God took the form of human. He came as a nobody; therefore, there was no place for HIM but a manger. HIS love knows no boundary. The whole world celebrates this day of Christ's birth, but we should be looking and preparing for HIS soon return. God's love is still extended but soon there will be a division of sheep and goats. We need to decide which group we belong to.

## **24<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

### **Midnight Christmas Service**

**1<sup>st</sup> reading – Micah 5:2-4**

**2<sup>nd</sup> reading – Titus 3:4-7**

#### **Message by Rt. Rev. Alfred. C. Tiwade**

Christmas is a festival of wonders. There are 7 blessings that Christmas brings to all. \*Invisible God became visible—no one has ever seen God. But Christ took on flesh and became the visible manifestation of God (John 1:18). Those who have seen Jesus have seen the Father as they are one (John 10:30). HE is Immanuel, God with us (Matthew 1:23). We are called for a specific cause i.e., to extend HIS kingdom through Gospel. \*John 1:12—through the birth of Christ and we receiving HIM as our LORD, make us children of God and Heir of HIS kingdom. \*Romans 5:11—we were enemies of God but through Jesus we are reconciled to God. We are called for the ministry of reconciliation. \*Salvation—Jesus' name means 'savior'. The very purpose of Christ's birth was to save us. And therefore, HE died for us to save us from the eternal damnation. \*In Jesus Christ we celebrate Justice and equality. All are equal and one in Christ Jesus. \*In and through Christ we have joy. Joy of giving is the essence of Christmas. God gave HIS only begotten son that whosoever believe in HIM should have everlasting life. \*In and through Jesus we have been given eternal life.

## **29<sup>th</sup> December 2024 (Morning Service)**

**1<sup>st</sup> reading: Zechariah 8:3-6**

**2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Colossians 3:12-21**

**Theme: 'People who revere the Lord and remain in HIS paths will experience showers of blessing'**

#### **Message by Rev. Devdas Matcha**

In the Jewish Tradition, when boys and girls turn 13 and 12 respectively, the families celebrate a festival called as Mitzvah. This festival of initiation rite enables the boys to enter adulthood and wear tefillin, the black leather band on which the commandments are written, and to take part in public worship services, especially Synagogue services. The Jewish society recognizes that at this stage, boys and girls are at crossroads of moral and spiritual decision-making. This festival is designed to help these young adults to become aware of and draw meaning from this transition in their lives. The family is together in observing the precepts of the Lord.



Desiring the blessings of the Lord for peace and prosperity are also motives we can find in psalm - 128. So let us look at the psalm to draw its message as to how to draw the blessings of the Lord on every one of the family. 1) The fear of the Lord: The main call of the psalm is the fear of the Lord. The presence of God is always awesome and invokes feeling of reverence toward God. Walter Brueggemann, an Old Testament scholar says, 'The fear of the Lord here means that you entrust the whole of your life and hope and follow the divine guidance. It is living in line with YAHWEH's teachings that brings a profound joy and completeness of life'. The Psalmist brings hope of a blessing if we learn to fear, obey and walk in God's ways. The Psalm is also a reminder that God and His Priests are there only to bless the people of God. We know God's command to the Priests through Moses, to bless the people (Num 6:22-26). The only requirement is walking in fear before the Lord. 2) The Blessings that follow the faithful follower of YAHWEH: The second proposition in the psalm is blessing. We humans always desire and wanted to be blessed. The Psalmist says that if we walk in the ways of the Lord, surely blessings will follow. 'You shall be blessed', that there is certainty in what God promised to those who follow His ways. It conveys a tangible happiness and satisfaction for the one who fears the Lord. Deut. 28:1-2 says, "If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all His commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God".

### **29<sup>th</sup> December 2024 (Evening Service)**

**1<sup>st</sup> reading: Zechariah 8:3-6**

**2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Colossians 3: 12-21**

**Message by Rev. Devdas Matcha.**

**Theme: "Runaway Teen; Anxious Parent's Frantic Search"**

Introduction: In Luke 2:41-52 we have the narrative of a runaway teen. The periscope talks about the parents of the Teen, anxious parents searching for their son and it took three days for them to find Him. This periscope presents not only the story of Jesus, Mary and Joseph but many a parent in today's context. Recent news reports have documented that valuable lives of three teenagers were lost by suicide in Pune recently. Teenage children running away from homes, is a common phenomenon known to all of us. The issue alerts all parents to be vigilant to save their children and the harmony of the family. As we pause to ponder today, we can

think about why Jesus gave such an anxious time to His parents. Jesus' behaviour at this point caused anxiety, worry and some amount of embarrassment to the parents.

1) Family in the purposes of God: In all four readings we have heard this morning, the main theme seems to be family. They point towards how a joyful and harmonious family, which glorifies God, can be created. Psalm 128 promises a blessed family if we learn to fear the Lord. It means a profound reverence and awe, especially toward God. In the scripture, fear is used several times. Moses told the Israelites that the Lord has given the commandments to fear the Lord to keep His commands so that their days of life may be prolonged. Luke 1:50 says, "His mercy extends to those who fear Him, from generation to generation". This is the basic idea of psalm 128. The whole family is blessed. In Eph. 6:4 Paul warned that fathers should not embitter their children. Embitter means to make somebody angry or disappointed. In addition, in Col. 3:21 he used the word 'exasperate'. This word means to make somebody annoyed. Let not the parents cause frustration or disturbance to their children. The context and the background of these passages do not suggest that such a situation was prevailing in the Christian community, but in the general pagan communities. The parents of those communities were getting drunk and apparently physically abusing and frustrating their children. This was a warning and an exhortation to the believers, encouraging them to live as God-fearing families, pointing out that all families on earth are God-made.

2) Son of the Father and Father of the Son: Luke 2:41-52 is unique in more than one way. (Luke 2:49). Here Jesus claims the unique relationship with His heavenly Father. We can say that Jesus is the Son of the Father and God is the Father of the Son. Luke records two episodes to affirm this relationship between Jesus and the Father. One is at His Baptism. Luke 3:22 says, "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." And the second one is at His transfiguration. Luke 9:35 says, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to Him". Jesus makes it very clear that God was His true Father who sent Him for a special purpose. Fulfilling that purpose was the goal of His life. Jesus realized His identity, vocation and the purpose of His life very early in life. So, Jesus becomes our childhood model to follow. However, very importantly, He also was obedient to Mary and Joseph until He was thirty years old. We can conclude that Jesus left behind a harmonious family for all families to emulate.

## **31<sup>st</sup> December 2024/1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 (New Year Service)**

**1<sup>st</sup> reading: Joel 2: 28-32**

**2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Romans 10: 9-13**

**Theme: The name of Jesus**

**Message by Rev. Dr. Kenseelan Azariah**

Isaiah 41:14---is a very comforting verse, which gives us hope in our helplessness. All of us believe that God is mightier than all our mountains and troubles of life. When we go through tough times, these verses remind us that our God is bigger than all our trials and troubles. God's mercies are new every day. \*Proverbs 16:3-- - this verse teach us to acknowledge everything to God. We plan so many things without seeking God's will and wisdom. However, the verse says that if we commit our work to the Lord then our works are established. Jesus did the will of God the Father and therefore because of that we enjoy God's Salvation and freedom. Isaiah 55:9----God's ways are always higher than ours. Let us therefore accept HIM and HIS commandments to do all our life. \* Jeremiah 29:11----This verse speaks to us regarding God's wonderful plans for our lives. So therefore, submit yourself to HIS will. HIS plans are to prosper us and for a happy future. We need to listen carefully to God. When we commit our plans to God, HE will reveal HIS purpose for us and we can have a very peaceful life. \*Hebrew 12:1-2---This verse asks us to keep our eyes fixed on HIM. The world around us tries to distract us. Surely, we can walk on the water if we keep our eyes fixed on HIM and not on the roaring waves.

## Church Sunday Worship Service Schedule

Date/Time	Worship Service	Volunteer
12-January-2025	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Christmas: Baptism of Jesus</b>	
	Theme – At his baptism Jesus is revealed as the Son of God.	
8:00 AM	Old Testament – Isaiah 42: 1 – 7	Mrs. Lulu Eapen
The Lord's Supper	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading – Acts 8: 26 – 40	Mr. Peter George
	Gospel – Matt 3: 15 – 22	Presbyter
	Element Bearers	Mr. Walter & Mrs. Vera Tresslor
6:00 PM Eve Worship	Theme – At his baptism Jesus is revealed as the Son of God.	
19-January-2025	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Christmas: Ecumenical Sunday</b>	
	Theme – Jesus brings joy through the fulfillment of God's gracious purpose.	
8:00 AM	Old Testament – Isaiah 25: 6 – 9	Mr. Kevin Victor
The Lord's Supper	Psalm – 145: 10 – 16	Lay Leader
	Epistle – Galatians 3: 23 – 29	Mrs. Mayura Rao
	Gospel – John 2: 1 – 11	Presbyter
	Element Bearers	Mr. Sunder & Mrs. Christabel Vergis
7:00 PM	Theme -Jesus brings joy through the fulfillment of God's gracious purpose.	
26-January-2025	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Christmas: Republic Day</b>	
	Theme – Prayer for our country.	
8:00 AM	Old Testament – Nehemiah 5: 14 – 19	Mr. Joseph Chaly
The Lord's Supper	Epistle – 1 Peter 2: 11 – 16	Mr. Manoj Bhatt
	Gospel – Matt 22: 15 – 21	Presbyter
	Element Bearers	Lt Col Abraham & Mrs. Annie Abraham
6:00 PM Eve Worship	Theme - Prayer for our country.	
2-February-2025	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Christmas: Presentation of Christ in the Temple</b>	
	Theme – The child Jesus is revealed as the promised Saviour.	
11:00 PM	Old Testament – Malachi 3: 1 – 4	Mrs. Alka Jadhav
The Lord's Supper	Psalm 48: 1, 9 – 14	Lay Leader
	Epistle – Romans 12: 1 – 2	Mrs. Enid David
	Gospel – Luke 2: 22 – 40	Presbyter
	Element Bearers	Mr. Manoj & Mrs. Trupti Adhav
6:00 PM The Lord's Supper	Theme – The child Jesus is revealed as the promised Saviour	



### Birthdays– (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of January'25 to 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of February'25)

Birthdays in January			
05	Mrs Clair Nadkar	20	Mr Varghese Kurien
06	Mr Peter George		Mrs Sheba Telore
07	Mrs Selina Chandran	21	Mr Joseph Chaly
	Aiden Salins		Ronald Rao
	Mr Rakesh Singh		Ms Archisha Daniel
09	Mrs Supriya Kashyap	22	Mr Manoj Bhatt
10	Ms. Renee Samson	24	Mrs Minal Chougule
	Mrs Anupama David		Mrs Priya Samuel
	Sheldon Samuel	25	Mrs Supriya Manmothe
11	Ms Natasha David	26	Mrs Ragini Waghmare
13	Mrs Lulu Eapen	27	Mr Praveen Paranjape
15	Mr Samuel Eden		Anshdeep Suren
	Ms Leha Divakar		Ms Pranali Pawar
16	Mrs Sarah Angre		Mr Jayant Shasikant Kshetre
	Kevin Victor	28	Mrs Anila Soans
	Mr Arnav Harry		Mrs Yvonne Shishupal
	Eric Khan		Mr Hemant Korabandi
	Mr Dan Felton	30	Mrs Chandrika Sampson
17	Mrs Mayura Rao		Mrs Alka Jadhav
	Ms Emma Madhok	31	Mrs Anita Rao
18	Mr Arpan Rao		Mrs Jean Samuel
	Mrs Andrea Irani	<b>“ HAPPY BIRTHDAY “</b>	
19	Mr Arvind Wairagar		
	Mr Joseph Zacharias		
Birthdays in February			
01	Mrs. Enid David		
	Rachael Bell		
	Ivan Raghava		

## Wedding Anniversaries –

(1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of January'2025 to 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of Feburary'2025)

Anniversary in January	
06	Mrs Archana & Mr Andrew Daniels
07	Dr (Mrs) Swati & Mr Surendra Mohite
	Mrs Deepa & Mr Dan Felton
	Mrs Sneha George & Mr Ben Alex
08	Dr (Mrs) Geeta & Dr Mahindra Chitre
	Mr Samuel & Mrs Mona Bhte
10	Mrs Sheeba Selvaraj & Mrs Jeba Arul Shelton
16	Mrs Garima & Mr Arpan Rao
17	Mrs Mohana & Mr Jason Charles
18	Mrs Suman & Mr Nelson Bell
	Mrs Trupti & Mr Manoj Adhav
	Mrs Anupama & Col Anmol David
	Mrs Beena & Mr Joseph Mani
21	Mrs Vaishali & Mr Uday Borde
	Mrs Supriya & Mr Vikrant Manmothe
23	Mrs Sarah & Mr Nitin Angre
24	Mrs Manila & Mr Anil Williams
25	Mrs Anshu & Mr Ashish Dutta
	Mrs Kavitha & Mr Aswin Gunasekaran
26	Mrs Annie & Lt Col N O Abraham
	Mrs Vaishali & Mr Varun Korabandi
27	Mrs Angeline & Mr Jeyakumar Peter
	Mrs Preeti Johnson & Arthur Alva
Anniversary in Feburary	
01	Mrs Smriti & Mr Abhishek Laxman

### Prayer Requests –

1. Pray for Aged, Sick and the Housebound
  - a. Mrs. Rachel Chacko
  - b. Mr. Virgil Daniels
2. Pray for Missionaries/Organizations Supported

#	Organization Name	Missionary Supported
1	Indian Evangelical Mission (IEM)	Mr. Shrikant (Washim Mission Field)

2	Maharashtra Village Ministries (MVM)	Mr. Shankar Jungare (Asgaon Mission Field)
3	Indian Missionary Society (IMS)	Mr. Motilal Joel (Pentri Mission Field, Gadchiroli)
4	The National Missionary Society of India (NMSI)	Mrs. Sumalatha Reguntwar (Nandgaon Mission Field, Chandrapur)
5	Friends Missionary Prayer Band (FMPB)	Mr. Shrinivas Rao (Jawahar Mission Field, Palghar)
6	Mission to the Blind (MTB)	Mr. Manoj Tayade (Pune Mission Field, Pune)
7	Children Evangelism Fellowship of India (CEF)	Mr. Yohan (Ministering at St. Crispin's Home on behalf of St. Paul's Church)

### **Donations –**

**Bank Name: BANK OF INDIA, Pune Main**  
**Account Name: THE SOCIETY OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH**  
**Account No.: 050010100069789**  
**IFSC Code: BKID0000500**  
**MICR Code: 411013002**



All Donations in cash/cheque to the wings of St Paul's Church, Pune – 1, viz. Sunday School, Youth Fellowship, Women's Fellowship and Medical Fellowship, are to be given to the Hon Treasurer of the Church Pastorate Committee who will issue a Receipt and account the same and the information of the Donation will be intimated to the particular church wing and given to them for the said purpose. All cheques are to be crossed and drawn in favor of '**The Society of St Paul's Church**'.

**Kindly remember to inform the Hon Treasurer or send an Email to [stpaulchurchpune@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulchurchpune@gmail.com) mentioning your Name, Amount and Purpose of Giving.**

Donations can be made for the following causes / purposes which need to be clearly mentioned:

- a) Donation to needy Churches / Diocese / Priest
- b) Donation to Christian and Missionary Organization
- c) Donation to Poor, Needy & Sick
- d) Financial support to Theological Students & Institutes
- e) Feeding of the Poor

f) Sponsoring Pastors' Children's Education of Pune Diocese – CNI

Church Subscription / Freewill Offering / Tithe / Thanksgiving Offering / Donations in the form of financial giving towards specific purpose can also be made through Bank Transfer.

Donations towards “**Church Building Maintenance**” can be made through bank transfer to;

**Bank Name – BANK OF BARODA**

**Account No.- 75980100000094**

**Account Name – Society of St. Paul's Church**

**IFSC Code – BARB0VJCAMP (Fifth character is zero)**

**MICR Code – 411012074**





**Church Services**

<b>Sunday</b>	8-9:30 am – The Lord's Supper (Holy Communion Service)  6-7:30 pm – The Lord's Supper (HC Service) – 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Sundays  6-7:30 pm - Evening Worship Service - 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:30-8 am – The Lord's Supper (Holy Communion Service)
<b>Thursday</b>	8:15-8:45 am – The Lord's Supper (Holy Communion Service)
<b>Friday</b>	7:30-8 am – The Lord's Supper (Holy Communion Service)

**Other Activities**

<b>Sunday</b>	8:15-9:30 am – Sunday School for Children  8:30-9:30 am – Teens Fellowship meeting – 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays  10:00-11:30 am – Youth Fellowship meeting - 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays  10:00-11:00 am – WFCS meeting on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday  10:00-11:00 am – St. Paul's Medical Fellowship meeting on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sundays
<b>Friday</b>	6:30-7:30 pm – Choir Practice
<b>Saturday</b>	3 pm to 5pm – Women's Prayer Group (1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturdays)  3 pm to 5pm – Fasting Prayer meeting (2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturdays)
<b>As per schedule</b>	Cottage Prayer Meetings - as decided by groups

**MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM CHURCH OFFICE ABOUT CHANGE OF NAME, ADDRESS, EMAIL AND PHONE NUMBER.**

**CHILDREN OF MEMBERS AGED 18 AND ABOVE SHOULD SUBMIT A SEPARATE MEMBERSHIP FORM AT THE CHURCH OFFICE, IF NOT DONE ALREADY.**

**PLEASE UPDATE CHURCH DATABASE BY ENTERING DETAILS ONLINE @**

<https://zfrmz.in/sNMsRwm8M5d7qyvlsri5>

## CHILDREN'S CORNER



### A New Beginning

So, when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?” John 21:15

Peter is well known among the Jesus’ disciples as being outspoken and God used him to lead many people into a relationship with Christ. However, Peter was also an imperfect person who sinned and denied Christ. He miserably failed his Lord when he fled with other disciples from the Garden of Gethsemane. Peter must have wondered as if he had been capable of being Jesus’ disciple when he was unfaithful to Jesus in his most crucial hour.

Children, have you ever messed up? Like really messed up? How did it make you feel? How did it affect others?  
Just because we are Christians does not mean; we don’t mess up!

As you begin a New Year, you may be painfully aware that you have failed the Lord in many ways just like Peter. Perhaps you were not faithful. Perhaps you have disobeyed His word to you. Perhaps you denied Him in the way you lived. Do not fret because our God is a God of second chances. He desires repentance from us. 1John 1:9 says, ‘If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.’

Jesus has a wonderful way of restoring us when we fail Him! He does not humiliate us. He does not criticize us. He does not ask us to make a resolution to try harder. Rather, He takes us aside and asks us to reaffirm our love for Him. He will ask you examine your love for Him. He asked Peter, “Do you love Me?” If your answer like Peter is “Yes, Lord!”, He will

reaffirm His will for you. If you truly love Him, you will obey Him (John 14:15). God wants to use you in spite of your failures. He used Peter despite his faults. We need to repent and accept His forgiveness and so we can continue serving Him.

My dear Children, Jesus does not need your resolutions, your commitments or your promises to try harder this year. If your resolve to obey God last year did not help you to be faithful. It will not make you successful this year. Jesus asks for your love. Your love for Jesus will motivate you to obey His word and live your life according to His word. If you truly love Him, your service for Him in the new year will be of quality that He desires.

Questions:

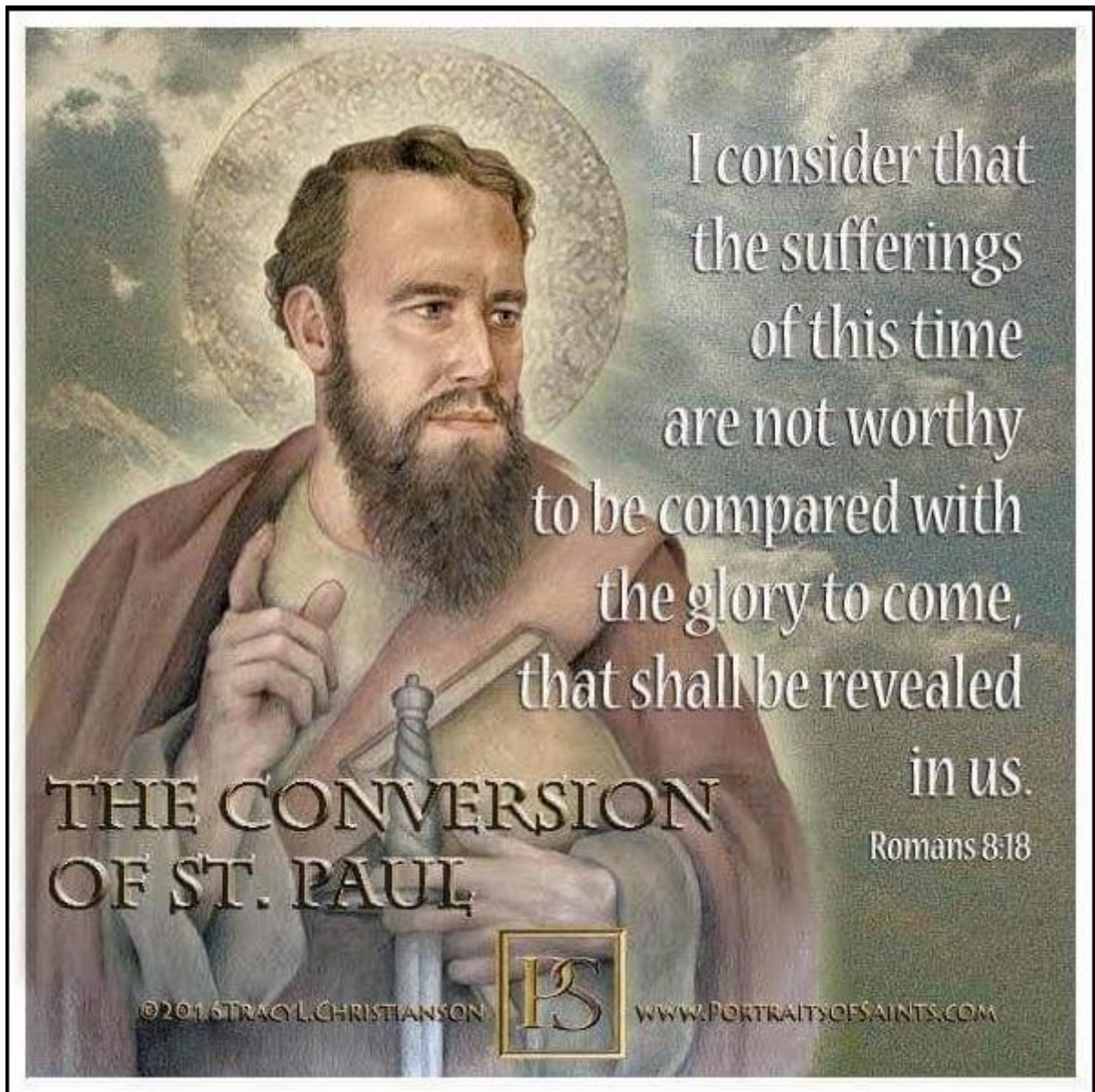
1. Do I love Jesus?
2. What are the different ways that I can show my love for God?

Prayer

Dear Lord, we make as many mistakes, but we know that You offer a new beginning every time we seek forgiveness. Thank You for loving us unconditionally and helping us become more like You. Amen.

**Anubha Daniel**





# St. Paul's Day – 25<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025