

ST FAITH'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 2024

# COMMUNITY MAG



# Welcome

## MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

BEN MOLYNEUX



Dear Church,

Can you believe we've entered the final month of the year—Advent season, summer, and so much more? How are you feeling? Maybe Christmas fills you with excitement, or perhaps it feels overwhelming. Whatever your experience, my prayer is that this Christmas will be an opportunity for us to make much of Jesus! To that end, I've written a short article called, "Making the Most of Christmas". I hope it helps us all to think about ways to do just that!

Here's a few other things you need to know for December...

### **Sunday 8 December - Baptism / Confirmation Day**

We're so excited to be celebrating the work that God has done, and is doing, in those being baptised and/or confirmed.

We will have Bishop Chris Edwards opening God's word for us and leading our Confirmation Service. Please be praying for this time together.

### **Sunday 15 December - Newish Dinner (after 6:30pm)**

We weren't planning on having another Newish Event this year, but God has been bringing lots of newcomers to us, particularly our 6:30pm service. As a result, we're planning on having a Newish Dinner on Sunday 15th December after our 6:30pm service. If you're new among our church family and want to take steps to connect in further, please register for this at [www.stfaiths.church/events](http://www.stfaiths.church/events).

## **Sunday 22 December – Traditional Lessons & Carols**

Our two AM services will be combining for one service at 9:00am on Sunday 22nd December for our Traditional Lessons & Carols service, with Kid's Church. Last year, this was a highlight and such a joyful time reading the Bible, being encouraged with the lyrics of hymns and carols. This year, Jake Madder will be opening God's word with us. Consider the people in your sphere of life – who might enjoy this service that you could invite along?

*Our PM services will be at normal time – 4:00pm and 6:30pm.*

## **Christmas Services 2024**

This year we have two Christmas Eve services. Our **4:00pm Kids Christmas Celebration** will be focused on the kids – with plenty of songs and lots of fun as go on an adventure to find

the 'star of Christmas'! Our **6:30pm Christmas Eve Carols Service** will be filled with Christmas carols, and teaching from the Bible which we think you should feel confident to invite family and friends along to. On Christmas Day we will have our usual **8:00am Traditional Christmas Service** (with the Lord's Supper) and **9:30am Christmas Day Celebration**. We look forward to sharing in the joy of Christmas with you all.

## **Sunday 29 December**

Finally, as we wrap up the year ***we will have our normal Sunday services*** – 8:00am, 10:00am, 4:00pm & 6:30pm.

I look forward to sharing in the season's blessings with you all.

Ben

# MAKING THE MOST OF Christmas



*By Ben Molyneux*

For most of us, Christmas is a time of joy, reflection, and hope—a season that’s centered on celebrating the birth of Jesus. But amid the flurry of activity that might include end of school events, family Christmas parties, gift shopping, workplace functions, holiday preparations, planning for Christmas lunch – and much, much more – it’s so easy for us to lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas.

As a church family, we can use this season to embrace Christ’s love, deepen our faith, and shine His light into the world. So, here’s five ways that I think we can make the most of Christmas this year.

## 1. Embrace the Story of Christ’s Coming

Sounds obvious, right? But do we really embrace the story of Christ’s coming? Christmas is an awesome reminder of God’s plan to redeem the world through His Son, Jesus. How often do we stop and set aside time in the chaos to reflect on God’s word and immerse ourselves in the story of Christ’s birth?

If you haven’t already, why not consider incorporating Advent traditions into your personal or family life? On the kids table in the foyer of church, there’s some Advent calendars for the kids with Bible passages to use in the lead up to Christmas Day. But this isn’t just a kid’s thing! There’s plenty of Advent devotionals and ready-made Bible reading plans as well as awesome Spotify playlists with Christmas carols and hymns that draw your heart closer to God (I’ve made a few suggestions at the end of this article). By grounding ourselves in the Christmas story, we keep Jesus at the centre of our celebrations.

## 2. Cultivate a Spirit of Gratitude and Joy

Life’s challenges can often weigh heavily on our hearts, threatening to dim our joy in the Lord. For many among us, this season may feel particularly difficult, as trials and losses make Christmas a challenging time. Yet even in the midst of hardship, Christmas offers a powerful reminder to rejoice.

The angel's proclamation to the shepherds in Luke 2:10-11—"I bring you good news of great joy"—calls us to lift our eyes to God's enduring goodness. His gift of Jesus is a source of hope and joy that sustains us, even through life's darkest moments.

Gratitude shifts our perspective. I've been so encouraged that even in the middle of trial and affliction, God's people have still found reasons to cultivate gratitude and joy in their lives. When things slow down (or even if they don't), why don't you stop and make a list of the different ways that God has blessed you this year and thank Him for His faithfulness. Share this gratitude with others through cards, social media posts, or simple conversations. As you do, you'll find joy growing in your heart and spreading to those around you.

### 3. Give Generously and Serve Others

Christmas is a season of giving, reflecting the ultimate gift God gave us—His Son. Acts 20:35 reminds us, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." While it's natural to focus on giving within our families, this Christmas could also be an opportunity to extend that generosity outward, blessing others with your time, resources, and talents.

At church, you might consider participating in our Christmas services, helping with all that they entail, serving at the Christmas Lunch on 6 December,

or supporting ministries like Jesus Club and TCP. As families, you could make giving more personal—write letters to our missionaries or your Compassion sponsor child, bake treats for your neighbours, or even meet the needs of someone in financial hardship anonymously.

When we give at Christmas, we not only bless others but also reflect and magnify Christ's love and compassion for us, pointing hearts back to Him.

### 4. Build Christ-Centered Traditions

Traditions have a unique way of creating lasting memories that anchor us in love and gratitude. In my family, my Nana Moly's traditional Christmas pudding is the highlight of our Christmas dinner. Prepared in September and served at Christmas, it's doused in brandy and lit for dramatic effect—a true spectacle! Even though Nan was promoted to glory over ten years ago, this tradition remains a way to remember her, thank God for her, and celebrate the legacy she left. It's a powerful memory that keeps her close to our hearts.





Of course, not all traditions are quite so profound—The Grinch Who Stole Christmas makes an appearance every year in our family too! But whether silly or significant, traditions have a remarkable way of bringing us together and reminding us of what truly matters

As a family, what are some Christ-centered traditions you have—ones that create lasting memories and point people to Jesus? Perhaps you could start a tradition of reading the Christmas story from Luke 2 together each year. Setting up a nativity scene is another meaningful way to engage, as you discuss each person’s role in the story and highlight that Jesus truly is the “star of Christmas.” When our kids were younger, their Nana brought a birthday cake to our Christmas gathering so we could celebrate Jesus’ birthday together. It was a simple yet powerful tradition that reminded us of the real reason for the season—Jesus being born into our world. Advent calendars with Bible verses are another wonderful tool for keeping the focus on Christ and His coming. Small traditions like these can have a big impact, anchoring our celebrations in the truth of the gospel.



When our traditions reflect Christ, they enrich the meaning of the season.

## 5. Share the Good News

Christmas is a powerful opportunity to share the gospel. I’m always moved, and often find myself emotional, during the singing of Christmas carols because it’s the one time of the year when my wider family and friends sing about Jesus!



*Joy to the world, the  
Lord has come, let  
earth receive her King!*

What better time to pray for and step into meaningful gospel conversations! When the shepherds saw Jesus, “they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them” (Luke 2:17-18). Their example reminds us that the joy of Christmas isn’t meant to stay with us—it’s meant to be shared. The world needs to hear this wonderful news!

So, invite your neighbours, coworkers, family, and friends to join us for our Christmas services! Statistics show that when someone receives a personal invitation, they are much more likely to attend.

Take some of the Christmas postcards and invite people to come and hear the good news about Jesus! If you're feeling particularly bold, consider sharing your personal testimony about what Christ's birth means to you.

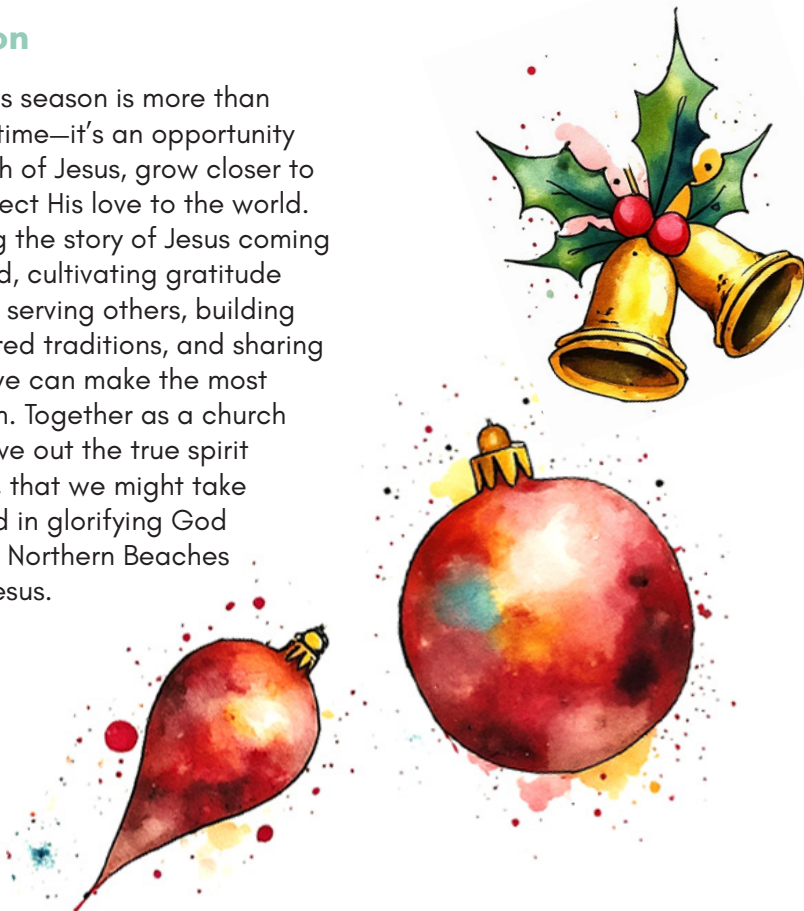
You can also use social media to highlight the true meaning of Christmas, offering encouragement to those who may be feeling lonely or overwhelmed this season. By sharing the good news, we open the door for others to experience the hope and love found in Christ.

## Conclusion

The Christmas season is more than just a family time—it's an opportunity to make much of Jesus, grow closer to God and reflect His love to the world. By embracing the story of Jesus coming into this world, cultivating gratitude in our hearts, serving others, building Christ-centered traditions, and sharing the gospel, we can make the most of this season. Together as a church family, let's live out the true spirit of Christmas, that we might take steps forward in glorifying God and seeing a Northern Beaches that knows Jesus.

## Resources

- Come, O Come, Emmanuel: A Liturgy for Daily Worship From Advent to Epiphany (Jonathan Gibson)
- YouVersion Advent Bible Reading Plans - <https://www.bible.com>
- 'The Season of Advent: A Resilient Rhythms Guide' (Mitch Everingham) - via Instagram (@resilient\_rhythms)
- Spotify: Chris Tomlin - The Ultimate Christmas Playlist (my personal favourite!)



# The Star of Christmas

## Come and Join us!

Kids' Christmas celebration.  
Fun for the whole family.  
All Welcome!

Tuesday 24th December, 4pm





# Christmas

AT ST FAITH'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

## Lessons & Carols

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

9am | Traditional Lessons & Carols

4pm & 6:30pm | Normal Sunday Services

## Christmas Eve

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

4pm | Kids Christmas Celebration

6:30pm | Christmas Carols Service

## Christmas Day

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

8am | Traditional Christmas Service

9:30am | Christmas Day Celebration



**O' Holy  
Night**

CHRISTMAS AT ST FAITH'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

# Introducing

## RENEE MILES

### **Tell us a bit about you and your family.**

In 2019 I joined St Faith's, was further trained up in ministry and was sent off to Moore Theological College. Now I am back at St Faith's! I love spending time with children and have done so over many years! Their curious minds are so great, and we can learn much from them too. My experiences with children have included things like Before/After school care, special and mainstream school education, kids church, beach missions and preschool teaching. I love spending time with my two nieces and four nephews, along with my sisters and parents!

### **Share with us a bit about how you came to know Jesus.**

Over my schooling years I learnt about Jesus through scripture lessons and sporadic church visits. In my later high school years and early uni days, the facts that I had learnt about Jesus transformed into a deep understanding and love of Jesus! Through reading the Bible, God enabled me to realise my sinful state and my need for Jesus as my Saviour and Lord. I'm so thankful for youth group leaders, women's minister, friends, Uni Christian group and others who read the Bible with me, helped me work through many questions and care for me through the journey.



**You decided to go along to Moore Theological College. What did you enjoy most about studying theology?**

In 2022 I started at Moore Theological College. It has been such a privilege to spend time exploring Biblical teaching on things like God's grace, humanity, eschatology, church and sacraments (Lord's supper and Baptism).

**What sort of things do you like to do on the weekends or days off?**

I love being outside (eg. going for a beach/bush walk, playing tennis, kayaking, having a picnic with friends).

**You will be joining our staff team as an Associate Pastor in February. What are you most looking forward to about your new role at St Faith's?**

There are many things I am looking forward to! I'm looking forward to encouraging the young women at night church in their walk with Christ, reconnecting with the St Faith's families and meeting new ones, discipling many kids and leaders of the kids (Lighthouse, Kids Church, SRE), and working alongside a fantastic loving ministry team!

# THE BAINES FAMILY

## Goes Global!



*Matt Baines and his family are about to move back to Edinburgh, Scotland. We interviewed Matt to find out more about his family's plans.*

**Q. Why are you moving back to Edinburgh?**

**A.** I (Matt) have accepted a 12-month contract to lecture in Christian Theology at the University of Edinburgh. It's the same institution where I completed my Master's and my PhD.

**Q. Why are you taking up this role?**

**A.** It's an opportunity for me to teach theology to undergraduate and postgraduate students at the University. I'll also have the opportunity to conduct some original research on systematic theology and the history of Christianity.

**Q. What are you hoping to do at the conclusion of this role?**

**A.** I'm hoping that eventually I will get a permanent position teaching and researching theology in a university.

**Q. What are the challenges and opportunities of working at a university?**

**A.** Unlike a church or a Bible college, a university doesn't require its students to hold Christian beliefs. That means that my colleagues and students will come from many faiths and none. The upside of this, is that there will be plenty of opportunities to share Jesus with many people, and to encourage fellow Christians as they seek to grow in their knowledge of God.

**Q. What are you looking forward to about this role?**

**A.** I'm looking forward not only to teaching but also to learning. Most of my learning and research has focused on theology in the early church, the Middle Ages and the Reformation and post-Reformation era. This role will help me to expand my knowledge of theology in the modern era. I'm also looking forward to spending more

time on research. Evangelicals tend to leave the writing papers and books about the history of theology to others. I believe there is a lot to be gained by contributing towards scholarship that helps us to understand the history of Christianity more deeply and retrieving the best insights for use today.

**Q. What will this move mean for your family?**

**A.** My wife Larissa will have to give up her job and look for work in Scotland. Rachael and Susanna will hopefully go to Flora Stevenson Primary School, where Rachael attended previously. It will be hard saying goodbye to our family and friends here in Australia.

**Q. Where will you go to church?**

**A.** We will go to Edinburgh North Church, a Presbyterian church. It's the same church that we used to attend between 2018 and 2023.

**Q. What can we be praying for?**

**A.** Please pray for the logistics involved in the move. We have to apply for visas to live and work in the UK. We will also need to find a place to live and get the kids settled into school. Please pray for Larissa to find work. Please also pray for me as I build on existing relationships and form new ones. Pray finally that we would all make much of Jesus.



# Square One Camp

## REPORT 2024



Square One is an annual camp for Primary School children run by Youthworks. It's a unique opportunity for kids from churches all over NSW - from Lightning Ridge to Albury - to gather at the Youthworks campsites on the Port Hacking River and spend the weekend singing. Learning and having a great time together.

This was the third year St Faith's has attended Square One. We always have an amazing time and this year was no exception.

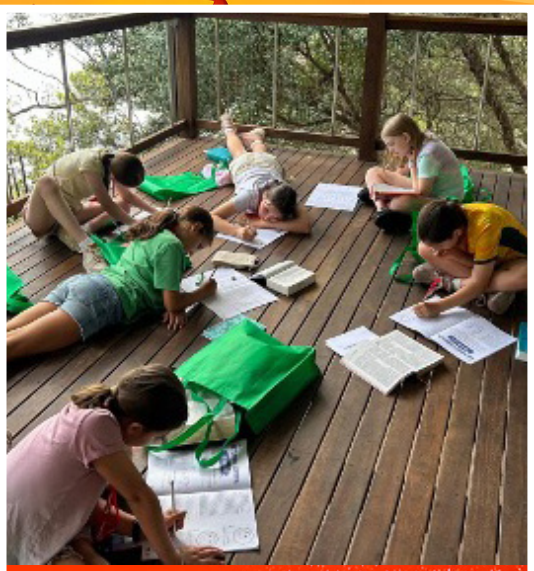
Richard Osborne kindly drove 21 kids and 5 leaders through Sydney peak hour traffic via Macca's for dinner, to our campsite at Deer Park.

The theme this year was 'Exodus! The Second Best Rescue' The teaching and small group times were excellent. We learnt how God rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt and we learnt about Jesus' 'Way, way better rescue'.

We also enjoyed the many activities planned for us including building a tent city, 'Plundering the Egyptians' wide game, water baseball, pool and water slide and a hieroglyphics scavenger hunt.

The kids who came to Square One were awesome! We had a fantastic time together.

We are now looking forward to Square One 2025! "Rock Solid" Friday 7th - Sunday 9th November (tbc).



St Faith's

# Quilting & Needlecraft

## CLUB UPDATE 2024

We thought you might like to know what we have been up to this year. Our group of lovely ladies meet every Thursday to quilt, knit, sew and chat and at morning tea we have a short devotion.

Last year we were saving quilts waiting for the Adolescent and Young Adults Hospice (AYAH) to open in Manly. They are in a beautiful setting overlooking the bush and the harbour in the old Manly hospital grounds. They were thrilled when we delivered 30 beautiful quilts earlier in the year.

We have been providing quilts to Bear Cottage for over 20 years. Each child (or parent) can select a quilt to keep. We delivered another 16 in November and the staff are always happy to greet us.

The students we were sponsoring for their schooling at Ibulanku Trust school in Uganda both graduated from primary school last year and we now have 2 new students.

Dawn( in her 90's) was no longer able to join us on Thursdays but she was keeping busy at home making the pretty skirts for the Christmas Boxes. Our ladies also made lots of cloth bags, dresses and 60 knitted teddies for the boxes! When she passed away a few months ago her family donated her sewing items to our group and with other donations of fabrics and wool our crates are overflowing!

We are now supporting the Sydney Wildlife and Rescue Centre by utilising fabrics not suitable for quilting. We have made snake bags, snake beds,





possum and wombat pouches, jockey bags, basket liners (using old T-shirts) and crochet bird nests.

Last month I saw 2 baby wombats, a baby possum and even a snake in pouches we had made!

Also this year we decided to provide quilts for baptisms at St Faith's, not just for babies but for older children and even adults. Each week our ladies put \$2 in the kitty. After we have purchased our needs and the money box is overflowing we decide which charities to support.

Our recipients in November were "Mercy Ships" and Fred Hollows "Vision Australia" and earlier in the year "Rural Aid" and the Cancer Council. Our final meeting this year is a Christmas morning tea picnic at Middle Creek on 5th December. We will resume 16th January.

New members are always welcome. We all wish you a blessed and joyous Christmas season.

Judith Baker

# December

## PRAYER DIARY

SUN 1	Pray and give thanks for the wonderful <b>WORK OF ANGLICARE</b> in our wider community. Pray for Rev. Roger Green who is joining us in church today to share of the work that Anglicare is doing. Pray that it would be an encouraging and insightful time as we partner together with Anglicare in this way.
MON 2	Give praise for the <b>JESUS CLUB</b> Christmas gathering tonight, where we get to invite our members, their carers, and family members to celebrate the diversity of God's creation, enjoy fellowship around a Christmas feast, play Christmas themed games, hear the Nativity Story and sing carols together. Pray that it's a joyful time!
TUE 3	<b>MISSION - IRWAN AND CATHERINE AFES AT UNI OF WOLLONGONG</b> - Pray for the National Training Events (4-12 Dec), that students will be transformed by Christ's gospel as they are being equipped/trained in handling His gospel, put it in practice as we partner with Wild St Anglican in proclaiming His gospel at Maroubra and Botany. Pray for Irwan's preparation in leading one of the strand training at NTE and supervise the mission team at Wild St Anglican. Pray for students willingly working out together in one mind and heart in various activities to engage and invite people at Maroubra and Botany to hear His gospel at the church during the Christmas carols. Pray for us as we say final goodbyes to students who are finishing uni before returning home - overseas and other parts of Australia. Pray for a good rest with family during Christmas to new year.
WED 4	Thank God for a wonderful year at <b>GUMNUT PLAYTIME</b> , for the new families who have joined, for the families who have continue to come and for the hard work of the volunteers who turn up each week with a smile. Thank God for the friendships with many non-Christian families, and please give the Christian families boldness to invite them to St Faith's Christmas events. Ask God to soften the hearts of those invited and have them attend and be convicted by His word.



THU 5	Pray that the <b>SOU LIES</b> end of year Christmas Party tomorrow night will see many young people hear the gospel and connect with church community. Give thanks for those who have given up their time each week to provide food for our Youth.
FRI 6	Thank God for the opportunity to share a <b>CHRISTMAS LUNCH</b> celebration at church today. Give thanks for the team of volunteers who have helped coordinate this annual event and for Matt Baines as he speaks at the lunch.
SAT 7	Pray for those being <b>BAPTISED AND/OR CONFIRMED TOMORROW</b> , and those who will be coming to bear witness to the testimony of God's work in their lives who may not yet know Jesus. Ask that God would be at work throughout the service to strengthen candidates and church family alike, and convict newcomers of their need for Jesus.
SUN 8	Give great thanks to God for the many leaders who have served so faithfully at <b>KID'S CHURCH AND LIGHTHOUSE</b> . Their love of teaching God's word and their desire to see children grow in their love for Jesus has been a joy to see. Pray for our Year 5s as they Graduate from St Faith's Kids and begin Soulies and Sunday Sessions. Thank God for these children and pray that their transition to Youth will be smooth and they will settle in quickly. Pray that they will continue to grow in their love for Jesus throughout their teenage years. Pray God will raise up more leaders who are passionate about sharing the Good News of Jesus with children and will become leaders of our children in the new year.
MON 9	Our <b>'ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE' CLASSES (ESL)</b> finished the first week of December. Give thanks to our Heavenly Father for the blessings of this year...for the many students He has sent along, for the sense of family and friendship in the classes, and for the privilege of being able to help them to grow their English and to feel more confident as they move around the Northern Beaches. Give thanks for the students who consistently stay back for the Bible based lessons. Pray for God's word to grow seed in their hearts and for them to seek to know Jesus more. Pray for our amazing team, that they will now have rest and refreshment over the holiday period, that they might be strengthened and ready for the return to classes in February 2025.

TUE 10	Give thanks for the <b>SOULIES SUMMERCAMP</b> taking place on the 19th–23rd January 2025, at the Youthworks Shoalhaven Conference Centre at Waterslea. Pray many youth will attend. Thank God for the team of leaders who are serving and for Jake who is overseeing the organisation of the camp. Pray for them as they prepare, that God would give them wisdom, imagination and great joy as they work hard to ensure the gospel is clearly presented in everything that happens at camp.
WED 11	Give thanks for <b>BELONG</b> tonight and the new people at St Faith's who are keen to take their next steps in being a regular part of our church community. Pray for Ben Molyneux as he leads and hosts Belong tonight and thank God for the 25 people who've already come through Belong in 2024 and connected into our church family.
THU 12	Pray for <b>THE COTTAGE COUNSELLING CENTRE</b> as they hold interviews for the Intern position for 2025. Pray for wisdom in selection of the right person who will be a good fit for the team and part of the Cottage world, as they seek to invite a final year student onto the team for the year to finish their training. Pray for all the clients in the lead up to Christmas, as for some of them this can be a complicated time of year.
FRI 13	Give thanks to God for <b>LIGHTHOUSE</b> and for the awesome term we had. Give thanks for the children who have grown in maturity in their love of Christ over the past year and thankful to all the leaders who put in their time on their Friday afternoon to spend time loving and teaching them from God's word. Pray that as the year ends that the year 5s can be equipped, spurred on and encouraged as their time in Lighthouse comes to a close and they move up to Soulies.
SAT 14	Praise God for his work through <b>CHRIST OUR REFUGE CHURCH</b> and <b>DAVE &amp; ROW MIERS IN BRISBANE</b> . Give thanks to God for those who have heard the gospel at the 'Taste & See' Christianity Course and pray for their ongoing follow-up. Pray for the provision of a venue as they explore opportunities to gather regularly for Sunday morning church in 2025. Pray that the light of Christ will shine throughout December Advent/Christmas services.

SUN 15	<p>WAC – Pray that residents will consider and accept our invitation to attend Sunday Services through December as we consider the four Christmas Songs, dating back to the first Christmas – Song of Mary; Song of Zechariah; Song of the Angels and Song of Simeon, and <b>answering four of life’s big questions</b> – What is GOD like? Why we need Him? How HE came? How He did what He did?</p> <p>Give thanks for the faithful partnership of a group of more than a dozen volunteers who each week make sure we celebrate and praise our GOD and Saviour and can welcome residents to Sunday morning worship time. Give thanks for the faithful few who meet together each week to study scripture and take opportunity to share faith and sure hope in Jesus as they engage in the life of our Warriewood Community.</p>
MON 16	<p>Thank God for the leadership, godliness and example of our <b>COMMUNITY GROUP LEADERS</b> during the year. Pray that God would continue to raise up more leaders for our growing network of Community Groups in 2025. Thank God for the opportunity to meet each week, read the Bible, pray and do life together in this way.</p>
TUE 17	<p><b>GUMNUT KINDERGARTEN</b> – Pray for the Gumnut kindly leavers who will be leaving for big school next year. Pray they are confident in their big adventure and transition well. Pray for all the Gumnut families to have a blessed and peaceful Christmas and that they will accept invites to the Christmas services at St Faith’s. Pray for all staff as they work on finishing up for the year. Give thanks for the coming holidays, pray for safe travels and rest for all.</p>
WED 18	<p><b>TCP</b> – Give thanks to God for all our amazing volunteers and for all his provisions continually for the Pantry. Pray for our guests who are very unwell at TCP. Pray for God’s comfort and healing for them. Pray for God to guide their steps and thoughts and that they will lean into God for help. Pray for our guests who don’t know the Lord as we lead into the Christmas period. Pray for the Holy Spirit to be working in their hearts and for Jesus to reveal himself to them. Pray we are Jesus’ light as we talk to our guest. Pray our Christmas message will be clear to our guests and that they will really understand how much Jesus loves each one of them.</p>

THU 19	Pray for our <b>STAFF AND KEY VOLUNTEERS</b> as we prepare for our many services over the December period, particularly 22, 24 & 25 December. Thank God for gifted and passionate volunteers who use their gifts to lead people in our church community. Pray that God would sustain them and our staff team during this busy season and that our Christmas services would encourage the faith of all who attend and point people to Jesus.
FRI 20	Thank God for raising up <b>NEW STAFF FOR US IN 2025</b> . Pray for Nic Trevena and his family, as well as Renee Miles, as they prepare to join our staff team and get involved in ministry at St Faith's. Pray that God would give them good rest over December and January and that their transition from Bible college to ministry would be smooth.
SAT 21	<b>TRENT MCGRATH</b> and <b>THE VILLAGE CHURCH (TVC) IN JINDABYNE</b> - Give thanks to God that we have secured a builder for our gazebo project. Pray that the building works commence well and that the church will be patient in waiting for its completion sometime early next year. Pray that our budget will be met and the building phase to be timely and without any major complications. Ask that God would refresh our people with a renewed love of Christ through our Advent and Christmas services.
SUN 22	Praise God for our combined <b>LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE</b> to be held at church this morning (9am). Thank God for the work of the Choir and the organist in preparing for this service. Pray many from the community will come along and the significance of Jesus coming to be clearly explained to all who attend.
MON 23	<b>MISSION - DAN AND LIV WEBSTER - NAMIBIA EVANGELICAL AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY</b> - Pray for Liv and Dan as they are working hard to keep reminding themselves of the truth in Christ through faith. Pray for them as they are weary and can easily have negative trains of thought. Pray they will catch those thoughts and make them captive to what is actually true because of God's grace in Christ... (cont...)

MON 23 (cont)	Pray they would 'live in the gospel' by faith, and serve others with full hearts, secure in the love of God. Pray for the NETS students to grow in godliness and sincerity. Pray that Dan would know how to love them, draw close to them and serve them while maintaining culturally appropriate forms of respect. Thank God that the year's activities are drawing to a close and ask God for wise decisions and efficient work around administrative decisions at NETS. Thank God for the privilege of serving at NETS and for CMS' wonderful care of them.
TUE 24	Pray for the <b>CHRISTMAS EVE 4PM AND 6.30PM SERVICES TODAY</b> . Pray for many children, families and people from the community to come and hear about Jesus, celebrate his coming to earth and leave with the real meaning of Christmas. Ask God, by his Spirit, to work in people's hearts during these services.
WED 25	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> – Praise God for sending his son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour and our King. Pray for Ben and Colin preaching at the various Christmas services this morning. Pray many will attend and that God's word preached will prompt many visitors attending to include God in their lives. Pray for all those who will be finding Christmas a sad and difficult time, pray they will know God's love and peace.
THU 26	Continue to pray for the <b>DRUITT FAMILY</b> as they enjoy some well-earned rest from ministry. Pray that this time would be useful for renewing their energy and strength to return to us in January ready for the next season of life and ministry together.
FRI 27	<b>NPSRE CROMER CAMPUS</b> – Pray for scripture classes to continue in all public schools. Pray for students who have never heard the gospel to hear and respond. Pray Cromer High School will approve Scripture for the year 9's in 2025. Pray many parents of prospective Year 7 students in 2025 will allow their children to attend Scripture. Thank God for Phil Schouten and all of his efforts in teaching SRE at Cromer Campus in 2024.



SAT 28 Give thanks for all our **VOLUNTEERS** who have served our church and the wider community this year. Give thanks for their time, energy and talents and ask God to continue to bless and encourage them in the many varied roles. Pray for refreshment during the holiday period for them all.

SUN 29 Give thanks for the many children who attended **SCRIPTURE AT OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS** this year. Pray for refreshment for the SRE teachers during the holidays and pray for sufficient teachers to cover all classes next year.

MON 30 Pray for safety for the many people travelling over the holiday period. Pray for rest and refreshment over the holidays. Pray also for the **BEACH MISSIONS** and other mission opportunities in churches across NSW. Pray that the gospel would be proclaimed with truth and clarity that would result in many people coming to trust in Jesus for the first time.

TUE 31 Give thanks for 2024 for all those who have heard the gospel and for those who have responded with open hearts. Pray that God will continue to work through his people at St Faith's into the new year with a renewed passion **TO SEE A NORTHERN BEACHES THAT KNOWS JESUS.**



PRAYERMATE™



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# BAP TISM

**& CONFIRMATION**

*8th December | 6:30pm Service*



*new year's  
dinner*

Sunday 15th December | after 6:30pm service

[stfaiths.church/events](http://stfaiths.church/events)



*Giving.*



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He is  
before all  
things, and  
in him all  
things hold  
together.

COLOSSIANS  
1:17



COMMUNITY NEWS

Pray for...

**Those expecting -**

Ben & Liz Baxter  
(10am)

Hannah & Blake  
Dwyer (4pm)

**Those unwell -**

Trish Clifton  
Barbara Temperley  
Anne Robinson  
Max & Imelda Krause  
Sandra & Albert Burgess  
John & Barbara Storey

Larry Tolnay  
Tracy Scarf  
Margaret Channon  
Debbie Peters  
Lyn Foley  
Kaye Butler



# CONNECTION POINT.

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