



LENT

A SEASON OF REFLECTION,
RENEWAL, AND PREPARATION

**St. Paul's
Church Kandy**

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Bishop's Visit & Confirmation Service

The first annual visit of Bishop Nishantha Fernando to our parish will be held on 11th February 2024. This significant occasion will be marked by the confirmation of 8 candidates, a momentous step in their faith journey. We invite all parishioners to join this joyous and significant event and partake in a fellowship breakfast soon after the service.



The feast of St Paul was held on 28th January 2024. Even though the feast day of the Apostle is celebrated in June, with the lesser festival of the conversion of Paul presenting on 25th January, traditionally the parish has been having its patronal festival along with the visit of the Bishop. This year due to a foreign visit, the Bishop was unable to be with us, yet Ven Dr Rienzie Perera joined us for the feast and also brought insights from the life of the apostle which are in need to us, both as individuals as well as a Church. The festal Eucharist service was adorned with beautiful hymns and made complete with 'smells and bells' to round by a well attended celebration. Towards the end of the service the flag of St Pauls was hoisted by the Vicar and a prayer for the parish, its mission, the city of Kandy and the Church was offered.

From the Vicar's Desk.....



Ven. George Melder

Friends in Christ,

Blessings and greetings in the name of our lord Jesus Christ.

We have passed The Holy Epiphany of our Lord by reflecting the joy of revealing our savior to the world. The Magi help us to think, that we need different path to approach our life so that we may be able to face the coming challenges. Let us not forget, Jesus our Lord thought on a new way, or path for us to have a proper connection with our Heavenly Father. When we reflect about the way of Jesus, he taught us, the whole life style as a way that means a way of life. It is our heavenly father's desire for us to change our way and move forward.

The season of Epiphany ends with Ash Wednesday by helping us to be with Christ for another 40 days. Soon after the Baptism of Jesus, the Holy Ghost drags Jesus to a wilderness to face the challenges, as all servants of God are tested. It is our moment now to be in the wilderness to face the same kind of testing period with Jesus in our own wilderness.

On the 25th of January we were able to commemorate the conversion of St. Paul, who was the pioneer of the first missionary movement. The apostle St. Paul, as a doctor of the church taught us how important it is to have a close connection with God.

Let us believe, the wilderness experience is a testing time for our own goodness. God is testing our spiritual journey, our true human nature, our discipleship and also our faith in him. As honest disciples, it is our duty to allow God to change us so that we be used as true vessels. Let us be more attentive and closer to God, with our prayers, Bible studies, and our opportunities to do good deeds that can affect our change of hearts.

May the season of Lent be faithful and challenging for all of us.

Amen.

Roster for Readers / Intercessors

04th February - Candlemas/Feast of the Presentation Sunday and National Day

Theme - "The call to be disciples in Sri Lanka"

Old Testament	: Exodus 23:1-9	Men's Fellowship
Psalms	: Psalm 60:1-5	Mother's Union
Epistle	: Galatians 5:1-6	Youth Fellowship
Gospel	: St. Mark 12: 13-17	Clergy

11th February - Feast of the Transfiguration and Bishop's Visit (Seventh Sunday before Easter)

Theme - "Jesus Christ the Light of Wisdom"

Old Testament	: 2 Kings 2:1-12	Confirmands
Psalms	: Psalm 50:1-6	
Epistle	: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6	
Gospel	: St. Mark 9:2-9	

14th February - Ash Wednesday 8:30am (sung) 4:30pm (said)

Theme - "Be reconciled to God: Fast, pray and serve others"

Old Testament	: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Congregation
Psalms	: Psalm 51:1-17	
Epistle	: 2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10	
Gospel	: St. Matt.6:1-6, 16-21	

18th February - First Sunday in Lent (Sixth Sunday before Easter)

Theme - "Preparation for the Joys of Easter -The Temptations/ Noah"

Old Testament	: Genesis 9:8-17	Prayer Group
Psalms	: Psalm 25:1-10	
Epistle	: 1 Peter 3:18-22	
Gospel	: St. Mark 1:9-15	

25th February - Second Sunday in Lent (Fifth Sunday before Easter (Theological College of Lanka Sunday)

Theme - "Election and call to Christian Discipleship- Abraham"

Old Testament	: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Servers or
Psalms	: Psalm 22:23-31	Youth Fellowship
Epistle	: Romans 4:13-25	
Gospel	: St. Mark 8:31-38	

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday Services

06:45 a.m. - Holy Communion Service in English

07:45 a.m. - Sung Eucharist & Sermon in English

10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist (සිංහල)

2nd Sunday - Main Service will be in English due to the Bishop's Visit

Wednesday Services

09:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist in English

1st Wednesday - Healing and Anointing Service followed by Holy Communion

*Lenten Cottage meetings**

Lenten Cottage meetings will commence on 15th February 2024 on every Tuesday & Thursday evening until the Holy Week. If you would like to host a Cottage meeting, kindly provide your details and the day to our Parish office.

Our Clergy

Vicar

Ven. George Melder:
076 431 8892

Curates

Rev. Rasika Abeysinghe
077 690 8633

Rev. Anthony Fernando
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Visit us on the web at

www.stpaulschurchkandy.lk

Bank Details

Name: Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC - Branch: Kandy

Account Name: St. Paul's Church, Kandy

Account Number: 1002575501

Swift Code: CCEYLK LX004