

St. Paul's Church Kandy

Established 1843

Newsletter December 2022

Sunday Services	6:45 am Holy Eucharist (English) 7:45 am Holy Eucharist (English) 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (Sinhala)
Wednesday Service	9 am Holy Eucharist (English)
On first Wednesday of the month	9 am Anointing of the Sick followed by Prayer Time
Every 2nd Sunday	6:45 am Holy Eucharist (English) 7:45 am Holy Eucharist (Sinhala)

Contact Persons

Vicar - Ven George Melder The Parsonage, 58, Sangaraja Mawatha, Kandy 076 431 8892 / 0813836	Curate – Rev. Sanath Medagamgoda The Vicarage, 22, Anagarika Dharmapala Mawatha, Kandy 074 150 7136 Curate – Rev. Rasika Abeysinghe 95/17A, Hewaheta Road, Kandy. 077 6908633
---	---

Church Office

Mrs. Princy Fernando

Parish Coordinator,

Mr. Priyantha Jayasiri

Operations Coordinator,

10, Deva Veediya,

Kandy

081 2204050 / 071 606 4050

Email - stpaulskandy@sltnet.lk

Website – www.stpaulschurchkandy.lk

Trustees

Hon. Secretary – Mr. Rustom Praesoody - 0777331422

Hon. Treasurer – Mr. Lalantha Jayasinghe - 0777849311

Message from the Vicar

Dear Friends in Christ

“The kingdom of God is close at hand, repent and believe” - St. Mark 1;15

We have begun our last liturgical year with the Advent of our Lord's coming into this world and now we are completing the same year by celebrating the feast of Christ the king of the universe. The whole liturgical cycle reminds us that we are part of the mission of Christ from the beginning to the end. As Jesus said I am the Alpha and Omega first and the last, it means we are part of his whole sacrificial process and we are witness to the whole process of salvation, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

“The virgin is with child and will soon give birth to a son and she will call him Emmanuel, God is with us” Isaiah 7;14. As we remember the season of Advent, and Advent means to help us believe that God's continuous mission towards the salvation of humanity has no end and for us, God will never let us down in the future too. Advent also reminds us a new dawn for us to re-start our broken lives. Advent helps us to illuminate the candle of hope with Christ in our heads and hearts.

Let us move step by step personally and publicly reading and reflecting on the good news, praying and sharing our love, forgiveness and material goods. The Holy Spirit intervenes in our hearts so that we may concentrate our vision towards Christ reducing our lavish expenses on food, entertainment & partying. Instead let us prepare ourselves to feel for the poor, the needy & the less fortunate around us as it is our responsibility to respond to their needs.

Let us believe and pray that the time of Christmas may bring Joy, happiness and fullness to all of us even though we are going through much difficulties. May God may bring true “PEACE” through his only son, therefore,, let us use this coming month to share our love, Joy, happiness and forgiveness.

May the Christmas season bring you abundant blessings!

Readings for December 2022

4th December – Second Sunday in Advent			
<i>Theme: "The good news proclaimed by a penitential voice"</i>			
<i>Lighting the blue candle of the Advent Wreath</i>			
Readings	OT	Isaiah 11:1-10	Youth Fellowship
	Psalm	Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	
	NT	Romans 15:4-13	
	Gospel	St. Matthew 3:1-12	
Intercessions	Youth Fellowship		

11th December – Third Sunday in Advent			
<i>Theme: "John the Baptist: The Joy of preparing for Christ with faith."</i>			
<i>Lighting the pink candle of the Advent Wreath</i>			
Readings	OT	Isaiah 35: 1-10	Sunday School
	Psalm	Psalm 146:5-10	
	NT	James 5:7-10	
	Gospel	St. Matthew 11:2-11	
Intercessions	Sunday School		

18th December – Fourth Sunday in Advent			
<i>Theme: "Love: The Annunciation"</i>			
<i>Lighting the blue candle of the Advent Wreath</i>			
Readings	OT	Isaiah 7:10-16	Mothers' Union
	Psalm	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	
	NT	Romans 1:1-7	
	Gospel	St. Matthew 1:18-25	
Intercession	Mothers' Union		

24th December – Mid Night Service			
<i>Theme: "The Nativity of our Lord"</i>			
Readings	OT	Isaiah 9:2-7	
	Psalm	Psalm 96	
	NT	Titus 2:11-14	
	Gospel	St. Luke 2:1-14	

25th December – 6:30am Service			
<i>Theme: “The Nativity of our Lord”</i>			
Readings	OT	Isaiah 62: 6-12	
	Psalm	Psalm 97	
	NT	Titus 3:4-7	
	Gospel	St. Luke 2: 8-20	
Intercessions			

25th December – Christmas Day			
<i>Theme: “The Nativity of our Lord”</i>			
<i>Lighting the white candle of the Advent Wreath</i>			
Readings	OT	Isaiah 52:7-10	Trustees
	Psalm	Psalm 98	
	NT	Hebrews 1:1-4	
	Gospel	St. John 1:1-14	
Intercessions	Trustees		

Notices

1. **Journey Bible Study** – will be held every Saturday at 6:30pm on Zoom
2. **Sunday School** – Please give your generous contributions for the Sunday School Christmas get together which is to be held on 11th December. Please use your own or the envelopes provided, clearly indicating that it is for the Sunday School.
3. **Mothers' Union** A Pre-Christmas Fund Raiser organized by the Mothers' Union will be held on Sunday 4th December after the 7.45 a.m. Holy Eucharist Service. All parishioners, friends and well wishers are invited to grab some quality bargains.
4. **Area Stewards:** 13 Areas have been identified with an Area Steward to oversee each area. A list of the Areas with the names of the Area Steward is displayed on the notice board. Please check with the Steward of the Area to make sure your name is included. If you have queries or not sure which area you should belong to please meet the clergy or the

Trustees in charge Dr. Aruni Jayasekera or Mr. Chrisan Fernando. It our desire to see that all parishioners belong to a group and is cared for and built up spiritually.

5. **A Gift to Jesus this Christmas.** -There will be a special envelope dedicated for gifts for unknown children. Kindly bring a small additional gift to another child or donate in cash for this worthy cause.
6. **Dry Rations for the Needy** – Please send your contributions to the church office by the first Friday of every month.
7. The church washrooms are being restructured and renovated at the moment in order to add an extra washroom. Please bear the inconvenience until the washrooms are completed.
8. **Deposits and Receipts** – Please ensure to indicate your pledge number and purpose as reference when depositing to the bank in order to issue a receipt.
Eg: 999 pledge.
Please WhatsApp the deposit confirmation to +94 71 606 4050.
9. **Donations and Offerings** – Use an envelope specifying the name and purpose of all offerings and donations and drop it in the pillar box or offer it during the Offertory and please do not hand over to individuals. An official receipt will be issued. Please collect your receipts from the box at the back of the church or from the office, returning the envelope to be reused.
10. **Monthly Financial Statement** - The Trustees have decided to share the financial statements monthly with the parishioners in order to maintain transparency and accountability. A brief financial statement for the month of November will be on the notice board. If you have any concerns or require a detailed statement, please discuss this with the Hon. Treasurer, Mr Lalantha Jayasinghe.