



# The Parish of St Paul Rondebosch

(The Anglican Church of Southern Africa)

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4 November 2020

Dear St Paul's family

Peace, love and mercy.

I greet you in the name of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

## ***Sunday Worship***

On Sunday 6 September we as the St Paul's family had our first in-person service since 25 March. It was a joyous and wonderful experience seeing many of the 31 parishioners who attended for the first time after almost six months. All the necessary protocols were in place; thanks to Val Heighway and her task team for the smooth running of the service.

Since 6 September we have had a regular 9 a.m. service with attendance fluctuating between 29 and 43 parishioners. We also resumed our weekly Tuesday morning services at 9.30. We realise it is a very different way of doing Church. Phoning into the office or booking online for a seat for the service (*just in case you come here on a Sunday to find out that you are number 51*). Taking your temperature and sanitising your hands before entering the Church, sitting one and a half metres from your fellow parishioner, not being able to share peace with one another. However, just worshipping together as the family of St Paul's and sharing the Eucharistic meal is an amazing spiritual experience.

Please feel free to contact the office if you would like to attend a service, or you can use the following link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc0x1HdQP9p6zW9ufeCWZeScoGAKcDeg5vchsnbkdXcm\\_NAw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc0x1HdQP9p6zW9ufeCWZeScoGAKcDeg5vchsnbkdXcm_NAw/viewform)

Also do not feel guilty if you are not ready and comfortable yet to attend church. We understand, because the virus is still with us and we still need to be alert and careful and protect each other.

I have done some pastoral visits but I am still very careful. I have to protect myself and my parishioners. But if you really need to see me please contact me.

## *Security*

It is with deep concern and frustration that I have to inform you that we have experienced several burglaries and acts of vandalism since the start of lockdown. However, during the past two months the church building and property have been seriously damaged. The tiles at the side front entrances of the roof were removed, and the vandals are now starting with the roof at the Wayfarer Chapel. All the downpipes have been stolen. They also managed to enter the church through a very small window that is very high up on the roof. We had a security guard for a week on the premises and he was threatened by some men that come onto the property at night. Because the church is so open and everyone has free access, there is a lot of foot traffic, especially at night. According to the security guard, these men are dealing with drugs and even prostitution. The situation at St Paul's is now very serious and of great concern, so we need your support desperately.

The Parish Council had a meeting and we decided that the upgrading of the security around the church has become a priority. We are looking at putting up a fence and putting in beams, which will cost us ± R500 000.

We are going to start with the first phase, which is putting up the beams, as soon as possible.

We know that because of the COVID-19 pandemic we all have suffered financially, but we would like to appeal to you for any financial contribution that you can make to start with the upgrading of the security at St Paul's. If you are going to make any financial contribution please mark it as SECURITY/FENCE FUND

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

My dear brothers and sisters, I know I sound very despondent but let us not lose hope. ***Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer. (Romans 12:12)***

Blessings

Rev Reeve, Rev Darron, Rev Isaias, Churchwardens and the Parish Councillors

*Rmulder*

