



St. Paul's Church Kandy

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Our Clergy

Vicar :

077 690 8633

Curate:

Rev. Anuruddha Bandara
076 732 4917



Notices

The patronal festival and Bishop's Visit will be held on January 26th, with the Bishop of Kurunagala in attendance to confirm the candidates. Let us remember them and this special service in our prayers.

As we step into 2025, let us embrace this new year with hearts full of gratitude and hope. Reflecting on the past, we recognize God's unending grace and faithfulness that has carried us through. Now, as the body of Christ, we are called to move forward with renewed purpose, proclaiming His love and serving His mission.

"Behold, I am making all things new." (Revelation 21:5) These words remind us that in Christ, each day is an opportunity to grow in faith, deepen our fellowship, and shine His light in a world longing for hope. May this year be one of spiritual renewal, abundant blessings, and collective joy as we continue to worship, serve, and share the Good News.

May the peace of Christ be with you all, and may 2025 bring a deeper sense of His presence in your lives and in our Church.

Happy New Year and God bless!

From the Vicar's desk.....



Rev. Rasika Abeysinghe

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn the Lord's face toward you and give you peace.”
Numbers 6

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

May I take this opportunity with our clergy brethren and families to wish you all a Happy New Year.

We are now in 2025. Every year's beginning is a time for reflection on the past year and its evaluation. And it is also a time to look forward to and to plan. It is a new start and we begin the year with much expectation.

Let us take into heart and mind to walk in this new year with our Triune God. We realize that life is always challenging in one or many spheres, yet we know that God journeys with us in all ups and downs sometimes whether we know it or not. Our task is to commit our path into God's care and witness to God in whichever situation we might find ourselves in.

We begin this year with the first Sunday reminding us of the Epiphany. The visit of the Kings taking the good news from Bethlehem signifies how we must live our faith in witness and proclamation. In the Anglican Church, the proclamation is most creatively detailed in the five marks of mission (Tell, Teach, Tend, Transform and Treasure). So we are much versed in *what* we must do. However, we in each context must think on *how* we must do this proclamation of God's goodness.

At St Paul's we have many ministries in which we share this proclamation with, and we also have general ministries where we attend to other aspects of the same. The need for a well-rounded proclamation is the need of the hour for this historical church surrounded with powerful neighbors on each side and being in Kandy with its own uniqueness.

We uphold our world in our prayers that wars may end and people in fear, hunger, poverty, loneliness and discrimination will have these alleviated. We continue to reflect on our own country and pray that this new year will indeed be a better one for all, where there is good governance, harmony and development of the country. We also look with hope towards our Diocese, celebrating the 75th anniversary less than a month's time. We pray that progressiveness and newness will arise in the manner we think and act and have done so for years, as we undertake different challenges in the 21st century in the Diocese of Kurunagala.

Roster for Readers / Intercessors

05th January - Feast of the Epiphany

Theme - "Jesus Christ – The Manifestation of God"

Old Testament	: Isaiah 60:1-6	Choir
Psalm	: Psalm 72:1-7, 10 - 14	
Epistle	: Ephesians 3:1-12	
Gospel	: St. Matthew 2:1-12	

12th January - Baptism of Christ, First Sunday of Epiphany

Theme - "Manifestation in Christ's Baptism"

Old Testament	: Isaiah 43: 1 - 7	Outreach Committee
Psalm	: Psalm 29	
Epistle	: Acts 8:14 – 17	
Gospel	: St. Luke 3:15 - 17, 21 - 22	

19th January - Second Sunday of Epiphany, Unity Sunday

Theme - "Manifestation in a New Creation"

Old Testament	: Isaiah 62:1-5	Media Team
Psalm	: Psalm 36:5-10	
Epistle	: 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11	
Gospel	: St. John 2: 1-11	

26th January - Patronal Festival, Third Sunday of Epiphany

Theme - "Conversion of Paul"

Old Testament	: Jeremiah 1: 4-10	Confirmands
Psalm	: Psalm 67	
Epistle	: Acts 9:1-22	
Gospel	: St. Matthew 19:27 - 30	

A Glimpse into St. Paul's December

Sunday School Nativity Play

This year's Nativity Play at St. Paul's Church was a heartwarming celebration of the birth of our Savior, performed beautifully by our talented Sunday School children. The joy and enthusiasm they brought to the stage filled our hearts with the true spirit of Christmas.



From the captivating portrayal of the Holy Family to the adorable angels and shepherds, each child shone brightly in their role. The play reminded us of the joy, hope, and love that surrounds the Christmas season. A special thank you to our dedicated teachers and parents who supported the children in bringing this beloved story to life.

May the message of Christ's birth inspire us all throughout the year!



SINGING CAROLS AT THE KANDY NATIONAL HOSPITAL

On December 19th, our St. Paul's Church community once again gathered at the Kandy National Hospital to spread the message of Christmas through joyful carols. Their harmonious voices echoed the love and hope of Christ's birth, bringing comfort and cheer to patients, staff, and visitors alike.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who participated and supported this meaningful outreach. Your efforts exemplify the true spirit of Christmas – sharing God's love and compassion with those in need. May this act of kindness inspire us all to be beacons of hope throughout the year.

Christmas @ St.Paul's





Epiphany: A Celebration of Manifestation

Epiphany is a Christian feast day celebrated on January 6, also known as “Three Kings’ Day.” It marks the end of the Christmas season, which begins with Advent and leads to Christmas on December 25, followed by the 12 Days of Christmas, culminating in Epiphany. This day signifies the start of Epiphanytide, which can extend until the feast of the Presentation of Our Lord (Candlemas) on February 2 or until Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of Lent.

The term “Epiphany” comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, meaning “manifestation” or “appearance.” It refers to the revelation of Jesus Christ as the Savior for both Israel and the Gentiles. The visitation of the Magi, or wise men, in Matthew 2:1–12 is a key event associated with Epiphany, symbolizing the fulfillment of Isaiah 60:1–3, which speaks of nations coming to the light of the Lord.

In addition to the Magi’s visit, Epiphany also commemorates Jesus’ baptism and his miracle at the wedding in Cana, both significant manifestations of Christ’s glory. During this season, the Church emphasizes its mission to share God’s grace and healing truth with all people.

Common Practices During Epiphany

Epiphany is celebrated worldwide with various traditions. Some common practices include:

- **Twelfth Night Celebrations:** Marking the end of the 12 Days of Christmas with carols, house blessings, and the removal of decorations.
- **Chalking of the Door:** Families bless their homes by marking the doorway with blessed chalk, inscribing the year and the initials C, M, and B, which stand for the Magi's names and the phrase "Christ, bless this house."
- **King Cakes:** Special cakes are often served, containing hidden figurines. Finding a figurine brings specific obligations, such as baking for church events.
- **Paper Crowns:** Making crowns to honor the Magi is a fun tradition that celebrates their visit.

Epiphany reminds us of the light of Christ shining in the world and encourages us to share that light with others.

The Five Anglican Marks of Mission



Proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.



Teach, nurture, and baptize new believers.



Respond to human need by loving service.



Seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind, and to pursue peace and reconciliation.



Strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Regular Services

Sundays

- 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 - 07:45 a.m. service is bilingual

Wednesdays

- 09:00 a.m.- Holy Eucharist in English
- 1st Wednesday - Healing and Anointing Service followed by Holy Communion

Singing Carols at the homes of parishioners



Address:

No.10, Deva Veediya, Kandy, SL.

Tel. No:

+94 (0)81 2204050 | +94 (0)71 6064050

Email: stpaulskandy@sltnet.lk

Visit us on the web at

www.stpaulschurchkandy.lk

Bank Details

Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC

Branch: Kandy

Account Name:

St. Paul's Church, Kandy

Account Number: 1002575501

Swift Code: CCEYLK LX004