



St James' Old Cathedral

11th January 2026 at 10:00am

The Baptism of our Lord

*Service of Holy Communion from
The Book of Common Prayer (1662)*

Acknowledgement of Country

We worship our creator God on the ancestral lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge them as the traditional and continuing custodians of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Child Safety Officer

We are committed to continuous improvement in a safe culture for all, and especially vulnerable persons. Our parish's Child Safety Officer is Una Ebsworth. Una is an accredited specialist in criminal law. All correspondence and questions relating to safety checks should be forwarded to her at safety@sjoc.org.au

The Old Cathedral Voices

Formed in March 2009 from some of Melbourne's finest choral soloists, The OCV are a consort choir directed by Alex Ritter.

The choir is on leave until 1st February. Solos are sung by Spencer Chapman.

The Organ

The present organ was built in 1991 by Australian Pipe Organs, restoring and expanding the 1866 Fincham organ. 2 manuals, 18 speaking stops, 8 couplers. Gt: 8.8.4.4.2.III. Sw: 8.8.8.4.2.III.8. Ped: 16.16.10-2/3.8.4.

The Old Cathedral's organist is David Brown. David undertook studies as an organ scholar at the Universities of Cambridge and St Andrews. He also serves as College Organist for Scotch College.

David is on leave. The organ is played by Andrew Anderson.

The Bells

Melbourne's first peal of bells were the six bells hung in St James' Cathedral in 1853, replacing an old ship's bell. Two more were added in 1885. All were cast by Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel Road, London, and are reputed to be the finest ever cast there. They are still rung regularly by a team of volunteers.

Processional
Veni, Creator Spiritus

Spencer Chapman (Tenor)
Anon., Latin 9th cent.

*Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire
and lighten with celestial fire:
thou the anointing Spirit art,
who dost thy seven-fold gifts impart.*

*Thy blessed unction from above
is comfort, life, and fire of love;
enable with perpetual light
the dullness of our blinded sight;*

*Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and thee with both to be but one,
that through the ages all along
this may be our endless song:*

*Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

Poem: 'Epiphany on the Jordan'

Canon Matt Williams

Beginning here we glimpse the Three-in-one;
The river runs, the clouds are torn apart,
The Father speaks, the Spirit and the Son
Reveal to us the single loving heart
That beats behind the being of all things
And calls and keeps and kindles us to light.
The dove descends, the spirit soars and sings
'You are beloved, you are my delight!'
In that quick light and life, as water spills
And streams around the Man like quickening rain,
The voice that made the universe reveals
The God in Man who makes it new again.
He calls us too, to step into that river
To die and rise and live and love forever.

by Malcolm Guite (2012)

The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Mike Raiter

**Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil. Amen.**

The Collect

Rev. Mike Raiter

**Almighty God,
unto whom all hearts be open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love thee,
and worthily magnify thy holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Welcome

Rev. Mike Raiter

Hymn 322 (Spiritus Vitae)

B. P. Head (1850-1936)

**O breath of life, come sweeping through us,
revive your church with life and power;
O breath of life, come cleanse, renew us,
and fit your church to meet this hour.**

**O wind of God, come bend us, break us,
till humbly we confess our need;
then in your tenderness remake us,
revive, restore: for this we plead.**

**O breath of love, come breathe within us,
renewing thought and will and heart;
come, love of Christ, afresh to win us,
revive your church in every part.**

The Commandments

Rev. Mike Raiter

God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God: Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image,
nor the likeness of anything that is in heaven above,
or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth.

Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain:
for the Lord will not hold him guiltless, that taketh his Name in vain.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

Six days shalt thou labour, and do all that thou has to do;
but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God.

In it thou shalt do no manner of work.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honour thy father and thy mother.

Thou shalt do no murder.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Thou shalt not covet.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

The Collect of the Day

Rev. Mike Raiter

Eternal God,
at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan
you proclaimed him your beloved Son,
and anointed him with the Holy Spirit:
grant that all who are baptised into his name
may keep the covenant they have made,
and boldly confess him as Lord and Saviour;
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Gathering for Children's Chapel

Bridget Chapman

We offer an age-appropriate experience of the Ministry of the Word for children, led today by Bridget Chapman. They are invited to process out to the conference centre, as the following anthem is sung. They will return in time to join us at Holy Communion.

Childsafe Policy: Children's Chapel is supervised at all times by at least two unrelated adults with current Working with Children Check approvals.

Meditation

Spencer Chapman (Tenor)

O Taste and See

R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:

Blessed is the man that trusteth in him. Psalm 34:8

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!"
And he said, "Here I am."

² He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love,
and go to the land of Moriah
and offer him there as a burnt offering
on one of the mountains that I shall show you."

³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey,
and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac;
he cut the wood for the burnt offering and set out
and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him.

⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away.

⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men,
"Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there;
we will worship, and then we will come back to you."

⁶ Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering
and laid it on his son Isaac,
and he himself carried the fire and the knife.

And the two of them walked on together.

⁷ Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!"
And he said, "Here I am, my son."

He said, "The fire and the wood are here,
but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

⁸ Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb
for a burnt offering, my son."

And the two of them walked on together.

⁹ When they came to the place that God had shown him,
Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order.

He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood.

¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand
and took the knife to kill his son.

¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said,
“Abraham, Abraham!”

And he said, “Here I am.”

¹² He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him,
for now I know that you fear God,
since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.”

¹³ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram,
caught in a thicket by its horns.

Abraham went and took the ram
and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.

¹⁴ So Abraham called that place “The Lord will provide,”
as it is said to this day,
“On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

¹⁵ The angel of the Lord called to Abraham
a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said,

“By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this,
and have not withheld your son, your only son,

¹⁷ I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous
as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore.

And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies,

¹⁸ and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth
gain blessing for themselves,
because you have obeyed my voice.”

Hear the word of the Lord: **thanks be to God.**

I waited patiently for the Lord:

and he inclined to me and heard my cry.

He brought me up from the pit of roaring waters,
out of the mire and clay:

**and set my feet upon a rock,
and made firm my foothold.**

And he has put a new song in my mouth:

even a song of thanksgiving to our God.

Many shall see it and fear:

and shall put their trust in the Lord.

Blessed are those who have made the Lord their hope:

**who have not turned to the proud,
or to those who wander in deceit.**

O Lord my God, great are the wonderful things which you have done,
and your thoughts which are towards us:

there is none to be compared with you.

Were I to declare them and speak of them:

they are more than I am able to express.

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire:

but my ears you have marked for obedience.

Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required:

then said I, Lo, I come.

In the scroll of the book it is written of me, that I should do your will:

O my God, I long to do it, your law delights my heart.

Epistle: Hebrews 10:1-10

Jenny George

Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come
and not the true form of these realities,
it can never, by the same sacrifices
that are continually offered year after year,
make perfect those who approach.

² Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered,
since the worshipers, cleansed once for all,
would no longer have any consciousness of sin?

³ But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sin year after year.

⁴ For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats
to take away sins.

⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

⁷ Then I said, ‘See, I have come to do your will, O God’
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

⁸ When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure
in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings”
(these are offered according to the law),

⁹ then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.”

He abolishes the first in order to establish the second.

¹⁰ And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified
through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hear the word of the Lord: **thanks be to God.**

Hymn 6 v1-3, 5-7 (Wareham 52) *Thomas a Kempis (1379-1471)*

**O love how deep, how broad, how high!
it fills the heart with ecstasy
that God, the Son of God, should take
our mortal form for mortal's sake.**

**He sent no angel to our race
of higher or of lower place
but wore the robe of human frame
himself, and to this lost world came.**

**For us he was baptized, and bore
his holy fast, and hungered sore;
for us temptations sharp he knew;
for us the tempter overthrew.**

**For us to wicked men betrayed,
scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
he bore the shameful cross and death;
for us at length gave up his breath.**

**For us he rose from death again,
for us he went on high to reign,
for us he sent his Spirit here
to guide, to strengthen and to cheer.**

**To him whose boundless love has won
salvation for us through his Son,
to God the Father, glory be
both now and through eternity.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:13-17 *Rev. Mike Raiter*

The Gospel is written in the third chapter of the Gospel according to Matthew, beginning at the thirteenth verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan,
to be baptized by him.

¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying,
“I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now,
for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.”

Then he consented.

¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized,
just as he came up from the water,
suddenly the heavens were opened to him
and he saw God’s Spirit
descending like a dove and alighting on him.

¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said,
“This is my Son, the Beloved,
with whom I am well pleased.”

For the gospel of the Lord: **praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Sermon

Canon Matt Williams

Anthem

Spencer Chapman (Tenor)

The Call

R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life;
Such a Way as gives us breath,
Such a Truth as ends all strife,
Such a Life as killeth death.*

*Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength;
Such a Light as shows a Feast,
Such a Feast as mends in length,
Such a Strength as makes his guest.*

*Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart;
Such a Joy as none can move,
Such a Love as none can part,
Such a Heart as joys in love.*

George Herbert (1593-1633)

**The Athanasian Creed
(Pt 1: The Trinity - Abridged)**

Rev. Mike Raiter

The Catholic Faith is this:

**That we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity;
Neither confounding the Persons, nor dividing the Substance.**

**For there is one Person of the Father,
another of the Son,
and another of the Holy Ghost.**

**But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost,
is all one: the Glory equal, the Majesty co-eternal.**

**Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Ghost.
Each person is Uncreate, Incomprehensible,
Eternal, Almighty, God and Lord.**

**And yet there is only One Uncreate, One Incomprehensible,
One Eternal, One Almighty, One God and One Lord.**

**The Father is made of none:
neither created, nor begotten.**

**The Son is of the Father alone:
not made, nor created, but begotten.**

**The Holy Ghost is of the Father and of the Son:
neither made, nor created, nor begotten, but proceeding.**

**And in this Trinity none is afore, or after other:
none is greater, or less than another;**

**But the whole three persons are co-eternal together:
and co-equal.**

**So that in all things, as is aforesaid:
the Unity in Trinity,
and the Trinity in Unity is to be worshipped.**

He therefore that will be saved: must thus think of the Trinity.

Intercessions

Canon Matt Williams

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's
Church militant here in earth.

Almighty and everliving God,
who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us
to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men:
We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept these offerings,
and to receive these our prayers,
which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty;
beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church
with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord:
And grant, that all they that do confess thy holy Name
may agree in the truth of thy holy Word,
and live in unity, and godly love.

We beseech thee also to save and defend
all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governors;
and specially thy servant Charles our King,
that under him we may be godly and quietly governed:
And grant unto his whole Council,
and to all that are put in authority under him,
that they may truly and indifferently minister justice,
to the punishment of wickedness and vice,
and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and Curates,
that they may both by their life and doctrine
set forth thy true and lively Word,
and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace;
and specially to this congregation here present;
that, with meek heart and due reverence,
they may hear, and receive thy holy Word;
truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness
all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord,
to comfort and succour all them,
who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow,
need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants
departed this life in thy faith and fear;
beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples,
that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom:
Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake,
our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Preparation for Confession

Rev. Mike Raiter

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins,
and are in love and charity with your neighbours,
and intend to lead a new life,
following the commandments of God,
and walking from henceforth in his holy ways:
Draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort;
and make your humble confession to Almighty God,
meekly kneeling upon your knees.

Confession

Rev. Mike Raiter

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Maker of all things, Judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,
Which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
By thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty,
Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
The remembrance of them is grievous unto us;
The burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
Forgive us all that is past;
And grant that we may ever hereafter
Serve and please thee in newness of life,
To the honour and glory of thy Name;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution

Rev. Mike Raiter

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins
to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him;
Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins;
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness;
and bring you to everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.****

Let earth and Heaven combine,
Angels and men agree,
To praise in songs divine
The incarnate Deity,
Our God contracted to a span,
Incomprehensibly made man.

Unsearchable the love
That hath the Savior brought;
The grace is far above
Of men or angels' thought:
Suffice for us that God, we know,
Our God, is manifest below.

He deigns in flesh to appear,
Widest extremes to join;
To bring our vileness near,
And make us all divine:
And we the life of God shall know,
For God is manifest below.

Made perfect first in love,
And sanctified by grace,
We shall from earth remove,
And see His glorious face:
His love shall then be fully showed,
And man shall then be lost in God.

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith
unto all that truly turn to him.

Come unto me all that travail and are heavy laden,
and I will refresh you. *Matt 11:28*

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son,
to the end that all that believe in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
 1 Tim 1:15

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.
 1 John 2:1

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty,
that we should at all times, and in all places,
give thanks unto thee, O Lord,
Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we laud and magnify thy glorious Name;
evermore praising thee, and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory:
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High. Amen.**

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table,
O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,
but in thy manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much
as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table.
But thou art the same Lord,
whose property is always to have mercy:
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption;
who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered)
a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction,
for the sins of the whole world;
and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue,
a perpetual memory of that his precious death,
until his coming again:

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee;
and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine,
according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood:
who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread;
and, when he had given thanks, he brake it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
"Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you:
Do this in remembrance of me."
Likewise after supper he took the Cup;
and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,
"Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament,
which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins:
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." **Amen.**

(The Communion)

*All baptised believers in the Lord Jesus Christ
including children at their parents' discretion
are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table.*

Gluten free wafers are available on request.

*If you prefer an individual cup of grape juice,
simply decline the common cup of wine when it is offered to you.*

During Communion

Spencer Chapman (Tenor)

O Taste and See

R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:

Blessed is the man that trusteth in him. Psalm 34:8

After Communion

Canon Matt Williams

Our Lord and heavenly Father,
we thy humble servants entirely desire thy fatherly goodness
mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;
most humbly beseeching thee to grant,
that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins,
and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord,
ourselves, our souls and bodies,
to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto thee;
humbly beseeching thee, that all we,
who are partakers of this holy Communion,
may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction.

And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer unto thee any sacrifice,
yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service;
not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences,
through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom,
in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee,
O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

Notices

Canon Matt Williams

**I bind unto myself today
the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One, and One in Three.**

**I bind this day to me for ever,
by power of faith, Christ's incarnation,
his baptism in the Jordan river,
his death on cross for my salvation,
his bursting from the spiced tomb,
his riding up the heavenly way,
his coming at the day of doom:
I bind unto myself today.**

**I bind unto myself today
the power of God to hold and lead,
his eye to watch, his might to stay,
his ear to hearken to my need,
the wisdom of my God to teach,
his hand to guide, his shield to ward,
the word of God to give me speech,
his heavenly host to be my guard.**

**I bind unto myself the name,
the strong name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One, and One in Three,
of whom all nature hath creation,
eternal Father, Spirit, Word.
Praise to the Lord of my salvation:
salvation is of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

Canon Matt Williams

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,
be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional

Andrew Anderson (Organ)

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR MORNING TEA
IN THE CONFERENCE CENTRE NEXT DOOR
AFTER THE SERVICE**

Instead of collecting offertories during the service, we gratefully receive offerings made at the exit, where a tap and go facility is provided. Bank transfers may be directed to:

St James' Old Cathedral

BSB: 013 377

Acc. No.: 008 684 064

Tax deductible giving to support our music program is also possible through the St James' Gift Fund:

Melbourne West ITF Gift Fund

BSB: 013 377

Acc. No.: 526 890 909

Cover Art: Robert Dowling (1827-1886): Baptism of Christ (1863). Oil on Canvas, 2220x1610. Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide.

National Trust Appeal: Roof Replacement

In 2010 a Heritage Review identified the replacement of our slate roof as an urgent work for the next two years.

We have not been able to fund this, and have continued to tolerate regular leaks in the rain, which are damaging other parts of the church in turn.

Parish Council and the National Trust have authorised an appeal. **We are seeking to raise \$500,000** for the full replacement of the slate roof and the restoration of other things which are urgent or best done at the same time. We have engaged Extent Heritage to guide this process and optimise outcomes.

Just before Tony died, Tony and Wendy Greenwood donated the first \$200,000 to this appeal. They hoped to inspire others.

Donations through the National Trust are Tax Deductible. The National Trust take an 8% administration fee.

Please direct Tax Deductible Donations to:

National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

BSB: 033000

Account number: 937419

Description: St James Old Cathedral

Please follow up any donations with an email

to both accounts@nattrust.com.au and office@sjoc.org.au
so that we can track donations.

**Should we raise more than is needed for urgent works,
we are approved to use donations to repay the outstanding loan
for the 2011 Tower Restoration.**

St James' Old Cathedral

Commitment to Child Safety

Jesus said:

*"Anyone who welcomes a little child in my name welcomes me.
But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble –
it would be better for him if a heavy millstone were hung around his neck
and he were drowned in the depths of the sea."*

Matthew 18:5-6

As we meet together to worship God,
we seek to honour him by the diligent protection of children.

We are committed to creating a culture of safety for all,
and undergoing regular training to do so.

We seek to normalise routine submission
to Police Checks and Working With Children Checks
for all members of the community.

If anyone sees any behaviour
related to child safety that strikes them as odd,
they should not investigate the matter themselves,
but call the independent Professional Standards Hotline
(Kooyoora Ltd) for expert guidance:

1800 135 246

or our local police (313 Spencer Street, Docklands):

03 8690 4444

Intercessions

We pray for: Our West Melbourne Community; Haileybury College; Mike Raiter and The Centre for Biblical Preaching; Emma Payne (CMS); Chris & Sarah Griffioen and family (OM); Australian Indigenous Churches; Ridley College; Trinity College; the Overseas Chinese Christian Church; Janette Wells; Neil; Diane and Roger Smith and family; Beverly Stephenson; Sergio Altin; The Hamilton Family; Jean Ely; Neil Hawthorn; Lorraine Hedley; Jamie Chisholm; Stuart; Jenny Swain; Kim Boulton; Tony Billington; Ken McAlpine; Anne Ellison; Faye Moses; Gillian Williams; Amodha Ratnayake; Mavis Payne; Lisa Thompson; Warren Mills; Chris & Roselee Jones; Wendy Greenwood.

St James' Old Cathedral in 2026

Many of St James' Old Cathedral's regular ministries are in recess after Christmas until 27th January 2026.

This includes our Friday night Youth Group
and our twice daily zoom prayer services,
and The Old Cathedral Voices.

Children's Chapel will still be provided at each Sunday Service.

Contact Details

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Matt Williams	0403 770 867
Associate Minister:	Rev. Mike Raiter	0425 211 058
Lay Minister:	Ms. Bei-En Zou	0434 899 839
Student Minister:	Ms. Bridget Chapman	0406 320 940
On-Site Manager:	Ms. Lisa Wardell	0417 624 915
Child Safety Officer:	Ms. Una Ebsworth	0400 717 571
Churchwardens:		
Mr David Spriggs		0417 190 319
Ms Elizabeth Blades-Hamilton		0423 100 677
Mr Andrew Watkins		0451 128 788

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