

OUR NEWS

13th November 2022

Our Vision

A Community Transforming Lives



Our Values

Grace,
Inclusion,
Dignity,
Faith and Hope

Congregational life at Westmead & Parramatta,
Hospitality Services at 175 Hotel and Wesley Apartments
Meals Plus Services providing for those in need across the
Parramatta LGA

Parramatta Mission acknowledges that all of our work takes
place on the land of traditional owners.

We pay respect to the original custodians of the land on
which we gather, and acknowledge their elders past and
present, and their emerging leaders.

WEEKLY REFLECTION
Pentecost 23C, 2022
Luke 221.5-19



Rev Vladimir Korotkov

*"not one stone will be left upon another
When it feels like our world has ended!"*

1. Luke 21: 5-19, a little apocalypse

Our text in Luke is a "little apocalypse", about end-times and destruction, and some question the value of such an image for our times. Apocalyptic language and imagery have probably fallen into the "non-sense" basket of our concerns because of the way it is used by extreme religious groups and movements. Such groups have narrowed their use of the word apocalypse to mean: "the complete final destruction of the world; an event involving destruction or damage on an awesome or catastrophic scale". (Oxford English Dictionary).

However, the word "apocalyptic" also means an event resulting in great loss or misfortune, involving calamity, disaster, or tragedy, producing times of great trauma. Recent catastrophic events like the unjust war in Ukraine, are devastating events comparable to ancient events like the war in Jerusalem around ACE 67 between Jewish rebels and the Roman army of Vespasian; just like the great famine in Palestine in ACE 50; and the earthquake of Pompeii in 61-62 ACE.

Apocalyptic literature was a popular vehicle in the 100 years before the time of Jesus as well as during the first century of the early church, created to interpret current events. (Ched Myers, *Binding the Strong Man*, 326)

"In Ezra IV we have a document preserved by an apocalyptic-oriented community which offers hope to a covenant people in the face the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans." (Howard C Kee, in Ched Myers, 326)

Without such writings and our story in Luke 21, human individuals and groups become isolated by events which overwhelm them to such a degree that it feels like the end of the world. At one time or other, each of us has experienced events and losses, which have felt like our world has ended. Apocalyptic stories enable us in community to process, interpret, support each other, and give hope. Otherwise, trauma produced by events both overwhelms our whole being and quietly rages on into intergenerational trauma.

2. When it feels like the world has ended and we are alone!

Toni Morrison in her novel *Beloved* graphically narrates the collective, intergenerational trauma produced by slavery for African American people in the USA during the slavery period. Sethe is a mother who as slave commits infanticide because her child, Beloved, is part of her and not an alien culture that treats her nation and her children brutally.

... her maternal identification is so complete that it allows Sethe to take the life of her baby because she believes that child to be "part of her" still. Thus when the slave catchers come to recapture Sethe and her children and return them to slavery in the South, Sethe "collected every bit of her

life she had made, all the parts of her that were precious and fine" and attempted to kill them all; she succeeded in killing one - the nursing baby who returns in the body of Beloved. (Jean Wyatt, *Risking Difference*, 68f)

Toni Morrison's novel shocks us to see the apocalyptic nature of the dehumanising results of slavery. A loving mother is so isolated and broken by a dominant culture that the only way she knows how to love her children is to protect them by taking their life! This breaks the heart of God! And it breaks the human heart! For me, this story acts to reveal and motivate the need for compassionate community and work for justice and personal, community and structural transformation, and in our faith and practice.

As well, what Sethe cannot protect her daughter Denver from, an older daughter who did not experience slavery, is the intergenerational transmission of such trauma. And this manifests itself socially, bodily, and psychically. Denver exhibits symptoms of trauma survivors. She is mute for several years.

In a less intense manner, my Russian-Ukrainian Australian parents, and their Russian-Ukrainian friends, who constantly gathered and talked about the war and their fear of being returned to Russia, in 1960s Australia, transmitted their trauma onto all of us, their children. I had anxieties and a sense of lack of safety that had no real object of concern. This was never recognised or processed directly by the church when it first met us.

3. We are even more alone when others avoid our story!

Jesus shares the journey of his followers as they experience their apocalyptic moments and fears. He forms them into a reflective and sharing community of shared experiences. Unlike the experience of isolated people like Sethe, Denver, and immigrants and their children. Like Jesus, Toni Morrison accompanies her people by writing a novel to enable them to process their past pain.

In the movie from Imre Kertesz' Nobel Prize winning novel, *Fateless*, we meet 14 yr-old Gyuri Koves. He is a young Hungarian Jew who tries to make sense of his apocalyptic experiences in Nazi-German concentration camps. Gyuri is optimistic even with the sheer outward horror and brutal treatment that shatters the viewer.

... a group of prisoners, forced to stand for hours in formation for fear of being shot or beaten, are viewed from above as they sway like seaweed submerged beneath churning water. ...

While everything unfolds from the boy's point of view, everything also plays out with the same benumbed inevitability. Never quite able to bring his emotions in line with his perceptions ... Gyuri filters everything. (Geoff Pevere, Movie Critic)

Yet, the ultimate horror is Gyuri's return to Budapest when the war is over. His ghostly appearance, a skeletal face, and a starved body, on his first public



Leigh Memorial Congregation

WORSHIP @ LEIGH MEMORIAL

We look forward to seeing you this **Sunday, 13 November @ 9.30am** with Pastor Fil.

PASTORAL NEWS

Our prayers remain with everyone in the congregation who needs additional support and uplift at this time. We are especially thinking of our dear friend Bev as she deals with considerable health challenges. Bev and her carers and family remain in our prayers, as does Mae, who continues to participate in rehab at hospital. Please note that contact numbers for the ministry team are included in the newsletter.

MEALS PLUS UPDATE

Meals Plus has returned to serving seated breakfasts and lunches and is no longer using disposable plates and utensils. Attendees wishing to 'take-away' need to supply their own container. Vaccination clinics are still taking place, in addition to other support initiatives – including an 'identity' day in cooperation with Service NSW, aimed at securing appropriate ID documents for those without the usual access to these items. More & more people are accessing Meals Plus each week – so it needs our help to continue its important work. Please see the following YouTube video with Davyn De Bruyn:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHLCItzvNa8>

LAWRY BOOK

Thanks to everyone who is generously supporting the release of the latest Heritage Committee book, **Lawry – Third Edition: Pacific Connections**. In addition to local orders, 10 copies of the book have just been posted on request to New Zealand. Many thanks to Ken Morgan for another great cover – and to Mario, Callum & Snap Printing Parramatta for their help in facilitating the release. The books are available on Sundays for \$20 each. Please see Liz.

NOVEMBER – WORSHIP & EVENTS

Sunday 13 November: 9.30am @ Leigh (Pastor Fil) + Jazz on Hammers @ Northmead: 6.00pm

Sunday 20 November: 9.30am @ Leigh (Rev Ben)

Friday 25 November: 7.00pm, Northmead Uniting Carols @ Hills Special School, Northmead

Sunday 27 November (First in Advent): 9.30am @ Leigh (Rev John)

Wednesday 30 November: Sydney Alliance event (evening) at PM. Information below.

GIVING TREE – HAMPER DONATIONS

Advance notice: Our traditional **Leigh Memorial 'Giving Tree'** will between 27 November and 18 December. Members are invited to bring non-perishable food items to church each Sunday for use in Meals Plus hampers over the festive/summer season.

SYDNEY ALLIANCE FORUM

A Sydney Alliance-Parramatta Mission forum will be taking place at the Fellowship Centre on Wednesday 30 November, 6 - 8pm. Matt Kean, the NSW treasurer, will be special guest. The evening will include information/discussion on topics such as inequality & cost of living, affordable housing/ renter's rights, affordable and renewable energy, and climate change. A team of congregation helpers is being organised. If you would like to help, please let us know. NB: Attendees (inc. congregation volunteers and general participants) need to register in advance:

<https://events.humanitix.com/parramatta-assembly-with-nsw-treasurer-matt-kean>

SAVE THE DATE: COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH @ PM

This year, our congregation will be participating in a very special Christmas event at Parramatta Mission on Friday 23 December – a Christmas Lunch with the community. Volunteers are needed for tasks such as food preparation and service, plus spending quality time with attendees. We'll also have the church open during the event and there will be live music. The time commitment can be an hour or two, or the whole event. If you would like to volunteer, please see Robert or Liz.

CENTENARY COURTYARD

Many thanks to Jan D for her generous tidying and beautifying effort in the Centenary courtyard. A little paint and Jan's "green thumb" have greatly improved the space.

CHURCH FRIENDS LUNCH – Photos kindly supplied by Ruth Cameron.



NORTHMEAD 100th ANNIVERSARY

The Northmead anniversary event was a very happy one last weekend, with over 80 people in attendance. An anniversary cake was cut by Mr Ken Alderson (pictured), who is nearly 100 himself and has been a member of the church since he was 3 years old. Speakers included Stuart Elliott, Liz de Reland and Rev John Barr. A Northmead UC history supplement, 'A Gathered Company of Believers,' is available via email. Please contact Liz if you would like a copy.





Interfaith Commission

Visits

St Andrew's Ukraine Catholic Church



Interfaith Commission of the NSW Ecumenical Council will have a pilgrim visit to the Ukraine Catholic Church to build relationship and understanding, to express our love and solidarity with the Ukraine Community in Sydney. The visit will allow the participants to experience an Vespers according to the rite of the Ukraine Catholic Church, intercultural experience by meeting the people with tea, coffee, biscuits, and cakes

Date: Saturday 3 December 2022

Time: 5.30pm for Vesper Service

Address: 57 Church Street, Lidcombe NSW 2141

Please RSVP by 25 November 2022

Revd Dr Manas Ghosh revmanasghosh@gmail.com

Westmead Congregation

Westmead Congregation

Sharing the Hospitality of Jesus Christ

Sunday 13th November 2022 – 9.30am

Reverend Vladimir will be leading us in Worship service today – Westmead extends a warm welcome to you.

We thank Pastor Sarah for last Sunday's communion service. Sarah reflected on identities that define us in this world and how in the afterlife with God we are no longer trapped by this; we are all equal and are cherished by God. Thank you as well, Don, for your lovely music.

Covid advice – with the new variant of covid, please be careful to hand sanitize and maintain social distancing. Please stay home if you feel unwell and recover before attending. Mask if you need extra protection.

ACTIVITIES YOU CAN JOIN

BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday afternoons, **2pm**. All are welcome.

Zoom Link: <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/95043695512>

TAI CHI: Friday at Uniting Westmead **10am-11am \$10**

Christian Meditation on Zoom led by Pastor Sarah Bishop, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at **6.20am**. Contact Sarah for Zoom Link.

Email: sarah@bluetardis.com.au PH: 0412 606 049

ENQUIRIES:

Chairperson: Jan Robson	0418 438 901
Administration: Lorna Porter	0408 365 478
Prayer Chain Requests: Ruth Geggie	0430 271 205
Newsletter: Cheryl Shyam	0432 436 999
Technology: Alysa Biju	westmead@uca.gmail.com



*Phyllis Nicholls Celebrated her 100th Birthday
On the 2nd November 2022.*



Chaplain,
Lyn Graham



Yvonne (niece),
Robyne Stalder &
Phyllis



Phyllis Nicholls has been a member of the Westmead congregation since the congregation was established at Queens Road, attending always with her sister, Eva Banks. Together they became the tea ladies, and also great supporters of the work of Parramatta Mission, Adult Fellowship and Prayer Chain, and always welcoming newcomers and showing genuine interest and love for all.

Phyllis now resides in Melrose nursing home, where she is well cared for, and where she feels at home. She is a most resilient person, and likes to take part in activities, if she is able.

She so enjoyed her birthday celebration, which was a High Morning Tea, attended by her friends at Melrose, and also her niece, Yvonne and husband John, Robyne Stalder, and Chaplain Lyn Graham.

Jan and Lorna visited in the afternoon and spent a delightful hour with Phyllis, who was so delighted with the continuing delivery of flowers and congratulations. When asked which had been her happiest birthday memory, Phyllis said “this one I think”.

God Bless Phyllis, as she is a blessing to others.



The Galston Concerts 2022

Sunday afternoon 20 November

1.30 organ prelude - concert 2 till 3ish,
in Galston Uniting Church, 11 School Road, Galston

The NSW Police Big Band

with vocalist Belinda Parsons

Bookings on-line at <https://www.trybooking.com> (search Galston)

Adults \$30; Seniors \$25; High school & tertiary undergrad \$10; 12 & under FREE

Enquiries to Galston Uniting office, 9653 2039 (Tuesdays & Fridays)

or to Robert Harris, Artistic Co-Director, 0428 248 348



Our final concert in 2022, with five concerts planned for 2023.

To join our audience database please forward your email info to 0428 248 348

Foster your faith this week

Is 65:17-25

Is 12

2Thess 3:6-13

Lk 21:5-19

Leigh Fijian Congregation

1. Lotu ena macawa oqo 13/11: Na lotu ena sigatabu oqo e ratou na veiliutaki tiko kina na matamasumasu naba dua. E rau na soli vunau tiko kina ko nai vakatawa Anare Vocea kei Serupepeli Nagatalevu.

2. Lesoni ni macawa oqo: 07/11 – 13/11: Aisea 65:17-25, 12 Malakai 4:1-2 Same 98 2 Cesalonaika 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19

3. Lesoni ni macawa mai oqo: 14/11 – 20/11: Jeremaia 23:1-6 Same: 46 Luke 1:68-79, 23:33-43 Kolosa 1:11-20

Lolo kei Na masumasu - Veinanumi ena lolo kei na masumasu ena vei matai ni Vukelulu ena vei vula mai na 6am – 12pm se 6am – 6pm. Soli tu na galala ke o rawa ni qarava.

Veinanumi ena Masu : Kerei meda veinanumi tikoga ena veimasulaki vei ira na nodatou qase kei na vuvale ra sotava tiko na dredre ko Mereoni Kamotu, S Qata, Akisi Dovibua Baranski, Dia Allison Lotawa Family Satala Family Tuiloma Family. Ko ratou na veiliutaki tiko ena nodatou vavakoso vaka viti kei na veivuvale kece sara ena loma ni nodatou vavakoso. Na nodratou veiqaravi na Bula Feeding.

Gadrevi na noda veinanumi ena masu vei ira na lewe ni vavakoso era mai sasaga kei na nanumi talega ni nodra vuvale mai Viti.

시드니 조은 교회 Sydney Jo-Eun Church

21-46

성령강림 후 23주일 (23th Pentecost Sunday) 2022년 11월 13 일 오후 1시30분

개회 찬송 (Entrance Hymn) 예배를 위한 묵상

예배의 부름 (Calling) 인도자

송영 (Gloria) **새 3 장** **통 2 장** 성부 성자와 성령 다함께

사도신경 신앙고백 (The Apostle's Creed) 다함께

찬양/찬송 (Chorus & Hymns) 다함께

새 8 장 **통 9 장** 기록 기록 기록

새 250 장 **통 182 장** 구주의 십자가 보혈로

기도 (Prayer) 추기도문송 **새 635장** 하늘에 계신 우리 아버지 다함께

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) **에스겔 37:20-28**

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 **거룩한 땅은 어디가?**

봉헌 송(Offertory Hymn)
새 503 장 **통 373장** 세상 모두 사망 없어

나눔과 알립 (Announcement & Notices)

1. 전 세계가 전염병으로 힘들 때 주님과 동행하시는 성도가 됩시다.
2. '매일 성경' 말씀으로 주님과 교제의 시간(QT)을 갖고 적용하는 훈련을 합니다.
3. 말씀, 기도, 전도 생활로 하나님이 기뻐하시는 삶을 사는 성도님들이 됩시다.

폐회찬송(Final Hymn)
새 501장 **통 255장** 너 시온아 이소석 전파하라 (1절)

축도 전현구 담임목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부
오후 4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시
다니엘 7:15-28

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시
다니엘 6:16-9:19

The Christmas Plan

Overview

For this year, we will have a Christmas lunch on Friday, 23rd December at Meals Plus. There will also be events leading up to Christmas.

We need your help! Please register your interest at chao.zhou@parramattamission.org.au.

Key dates for Calendar

Dates Events

1st December Parramatta Centenary Square Pop-up

4th December Wesley Castle Hill Market Day

5th December - 11th December Christmas Induction and Rehearsal (date TBC)

12th December - 16th December Festival of Christmas Week One

19th December - 23rd December Festival of Christmas Week Two

23rd December CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Details of the events

1. Parramatta Mission Centenary Square Pop-up

We will set up a marquee with table in Centenary Square, Parramatta, to be manned by staff and volunteers. The purpose is to engage and promote our service, while offering donation opportunities for Christmas.

We meet at 9:30am on the day of the event, to brief and bring equipment to Centenary Square, where we will set everything up ready for a 10:00am opening.

The packing up and debriefing happens at 2:00pm.



2. Wesley Castle Hill Market Day

We have been allocated a space for the Market Day at Wesley Castle Hill Uniting Church on Sunday, 4th December 2022. It is a Christmas market day, so expect lots of jolly in the air. We will promote our service to the wider public and help them make donations to assist our guests.

The location is at Wesley Castle Hill Uniting Church, 32-34 Showground Rd, Castle Hill NSW 2154.

We will meet onsite at 1:30pm to set up. The event starts at 2:00pm and finishes at 7:00pm – you do not have to stay for the entire period, and a shorter shift of 2-3 hours is perfectly fine. If you don't have a way to get there, please contact Chao to arrange for transportation beforehand.

3. Festival of Christmas

During the 2 weeks leading to the Christmas Lunch, we will do special giveaways and services each day of the week. Collection of gifts and donations will begin from November, and this will determine the gifts and themes for each day of Festive Christmas.

The giveaways events will take place in addition to our regular Meals Plus service, so please come along and join in on the fun!

4. Christmas Lunch

The big one. We will set up an extended lunch service for around 300+ people on Friday, 23rd December. Expect everything Christmas-related, from food to carol singers during the day. This will be truly a day for our community to come together.

There will be a formal set of instructions going out in next few weeks about the running of the day.

Getting Involved

The most important thing at this stage is to [register your interest and availability for the December period](#), so we can prepare the schedule and roster.

You can confirm your interest via email to chao.zhou@parrmattamission.org.au. Please indicate if you have any first aid training/certification, as well as any language translation/interpretation proficiencies.

Finally, we want this to be as fun as possible for everyone, so if you have something you can or want to do, have a chat with us – let's make it happen!

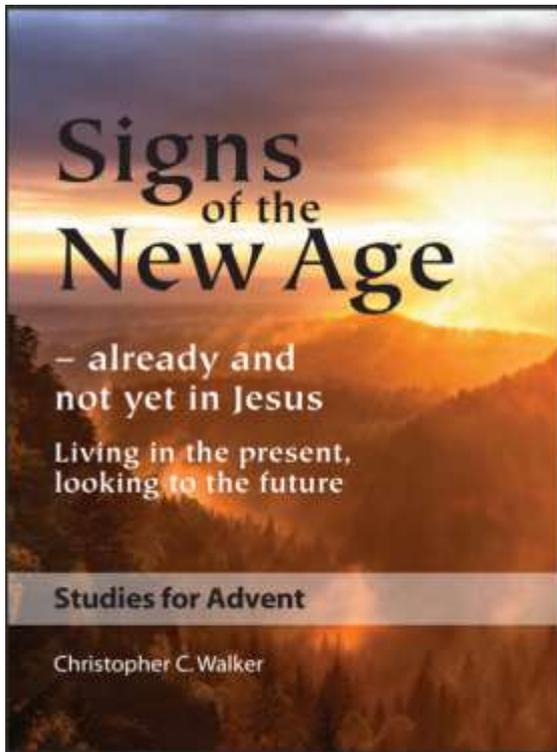
Advent Study

As you prepare for Advent, there is a new resource and study:

Chris Walker's new Advent Study *Signs of the New Age - already and not yet in Jesus* is now available. It includes not only considering the lectionary readings but includes stories, quotes and prayers. It is selling for \$11.95 by MediaCom.

You can obtain it from: mediacomeducation.org.au He will be conducting it from 7.30 - 9.00pm on 21, 28 November and 5, 12 December at Auburn. The Zoom link is:

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/93347342432> for those who would like to join by Zoom.



HUMANITY STARTS WITH CHARITY

MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



For the month of
November, Meals
Plus asks for
TOILETRIES

[Donate Now!](#)



(02) 9891 2277



119 Macquarie St, Parramatta NSW 2150

Prayer Points

The people of Parramatta Mission invite you to pray for Our Community

- We give thanks that some small gatherings are starting to take place. We give thanks for welcoming cafes and the disciplines we have learnt to help keep us all safe.
- We give thanks for coffee, tea, muffins and spiritually encouraging conversations.

PM Westmead

- Lord we pray for those who are battling illness both from the congregation and those that we know and not of. Place Your divine hands on them and cause easing of suffering, healing and Your love to overcome pain.
- For Ukraine and other war devastated countries – Lord we pray for peace, for strength of mind and body for those experiencing war. We pray for restoration of essential services and help for those affected by lack of food, medicine and shelter.
- For the recent wave of new covid – Lord we ask that this strain does not bring devastation and severe illness. Cause Your Holy Spirit to heal those affected by it to heal fully.
- For the rising cost of living – Lord we pray that there be help for those unable to afford resources, for those depressed and unhappy about their future. Heal with Your love and cause assistance to arrive.
- For those that battle with flooding and climatic change devastation both here and overseas- Lord we ask that Your almighty strength be on these as they try to bring life back to normality. May there be hope and guidance for them.
- For our world and climate – Lord we pray that that You may help us in helping control climate change.

PM Fijian

- We pray for those who are going through transitions from school to beyond.
- We pray for the Synod Pulse Team and Ofa's role as a newly commissioned Pastor in the Team, resourcing youth ministry across NSW/ACT.
- We pray for the guests at the Bula Feeding Ministry and Meals Plus and our wonderful volunteers. We pray for those who are unable to meet because of rain or storms and for those who have been sleeping rough.

PM Korean Faith Community

- We pray for the Korean community in Western Sydney and for the revival of the church.
- We pray especially for Nak Su Baik, Kyeong Ok Hyeon (Those who are not in good health).

Prayer Points

PM Leigh Memorial

- We pray for congregation members, leaders and staff who are unwell, or having tests or procedures, and those experiencing anxiety surrounding work, study, family life or health. We particularly remember our members in need of additional support at this time, including those who are separated from their families or grieving. We also remember those within our congregations who are devoted carers to others in their family or within the community;
- We pray for wisdom and inspiration to infuse all current and forthcoming decision-making processes and actions by our dedicated ministers, leaders, managers and staff – and specifically pray for Paul and the team at Meals Plus, Cameron and his team at Westmead, the Bula Feeding ministry, and the life and witness of our fellow Parramatta Mission & Parramatta City Uniting Church congregations;
- We also pray for greater mutual respect, compassion and care within our local communities, and for the realisation of a community-wide spirit of inclusion and love for all people.

Wider Work

For our Combined Parramatta Mission Team

- May God guide all our staff and volunteers to live out our values of grace, inclusion, dignity, faith and hope;
- Rev. Vladimir, Rev. Hyun Goo, Chaplain Sarah, PMC Chairperson, David and Secretary Robert and all those who lead and serve.

Service & Zoom Information

Leigh Memorial Congregation

Time: Sunday 9.30am on site & Zoom

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/5199089657>

Meeting ID: 519 908 9657

Westmead Congregation

Time: Sunday 9.30am on site

Leigh Fijian Congregation

Time: Sundays 11.15am on site

Pastoral Contacts

Prayer Points may be sent to
wecare@parramattamission.org.au

For a conversation or to contact a Minister, please call
Parramatta Mission Reception (9am-3pm)
119 Macquarie Street Parramatta NSW 2150
9891 2277

Leigh Memorial Church
119 Macquarie Street Parramatta NSW 2150
9891 2277

Westmead Church
175 Hawkesbury Road Westmead NSW 2145
9891 2277

IN TIME OF PASTORAL NEED

Please contact our minister Vladimir Korotkov for any pastoral needs.

Rev Vladimir Korotkov (Transition Minister)	0431 759 573
Rev John Barr	0457 879 099
Pastor Fil Kamotu	0404 552 915

YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT THESE PEOPLE FOR PASTORAL ISSUES

Rev Hyun Goo Jun (Korean Faith Community)	0433 320 588
Pr Sarah Bishop (Children's Hospital)	0429 912 943
Anare Vocea (Fijian Vakatawa)	0432 772 852



Parramatta Mission



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Visit our website and blog www.parramattamission.org.au