No. 486 17/11/26

Clearing the Way for Jesus

The ***Five Islands Christian Ministries*** newsletter facilitates church unity among Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa. A printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF file of the newsletter may be downloaded from www.5icm.org.au/resources.html.
Distribution of this edition: **4,073**

Church of the Week (for Prayer Support)

St Osthathiose Jacobite Church, is at Unit 55/401 West Dapto Rd, Horsley and is a church of Malankara Archdiocese of the Syrian Orthodox Church under the Holy See of Patriarch of Antioch and the Entire East. Services, in a combination of Malayalam and English, are on Sundays at 8:30 am (Morning Prayer) and 9:00 a.m. Holy Qurbana (Eucharist). The senior minister is Fr Daniel Paulose.

Church of the Week (next week)

St Paul's Anglican Church at 12 Town St, Shellharbour. The Senior Minister, Rev. Nigel Parker, emailed:

> "St Paul's is a long-established, gospel-focused fellowship in the Shellharbour village. Our Sunday services are an 8:30 am prayer book service, and a 10:15 am family service. We love hearing and sharing our Lord Jesus Christ from God's word and committed prayer - and a core part of our fellowship is our weekly Bible study group meetings. We engage enthusiastically in supporting SRE to the local public schools, serving residents in Warrigal nursing home services, personal gospel witness to our neighbours in the community, missionary support in Newman WA and Cordoba, Argentina, and supporting both Anglicare Wollongong with grocery and food donations and Shoalhaven Aboriginal Community Church (SHACC) with financial support and prayer. We'd appreciate prayer for our church family for opportunities leading up to and during the coming Christmas season to share Jesus with locals and visitors."

News.

1. **Paul Elanjickel** of **St George Indian Orthodox Church, Wollongong**, emailed the following request for accommodation for their church.

> "We are currently looking for a suitable church building or hall where we can conduct our regular Sunday morning worship services, ideally between 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM every Sunday. Our timing is flexible depending on venue availability.
>
> We are a small and growing congregation, and unfortunately, we do not have sufficient funds to purchase land or a building for our own church. We are hoping to find an affordable, long-term rental arrangement with another Christian church or organisation in the Illawarra region.
>
> Ideally, we would also appreciate a small, secure storage space for our worship items, although this is not essential.
>
> Our congregation would be happy to contribute a reasonable weekly rental fee and comply with all venue requirements."

5icm News

1. When I was seeking an administrator for the Illawarra Christians Facebook group, it was raised that there should be a regular ecumenical prayer group to support the 5icm ministry, its leaders and for church unity in the Illawarra. Please email me if you are interested in leading or joining such a prayer group and/or offer your suggestions.

2. The next edition of ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 1st December 2026**. If you have any church news items or events, especially **Christmas events** that are for the general Christian community, please email me the details; advertising is free. To subscribe to this newsletter, or if your email address is changing, please email me or message me on Facebook.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
Five Islands Christian Ministries Inc.,
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Email 5icm to subscribe or unsubscribe from this newsletter, or if you are changing email address

*See the **5icm Events page** for **Coming** and **Regular Events**.*

Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Illawarra Seniors Band rehearsals are normally on the first Tuesday of each month from 10.30 am at Shellharbour Salvation Army Corps, Cnr Ulster & Leawarra Ave, Barrack Hts.
Next Concert: 6:30 p.m. 28th November, Allowrie St, Jamberoo Christmas Tree Lights.

Tuesday 17th November, Illawarra Seniors Band Rehearsal and Lunch
Details: 10a.m. Shellharbour Salvation Army Corps, Cnr Ulster & Leawarra Ave, Barrack Hts

Saturday 28th November, The Outpouring
A night of worship. Download information and flyer.
Details: 6:00 p.m. Awaken Church, 39 Ellen St, Wollongong
Cost: free entry. *RSVP:* via Humantix

Sunday 29th November, First Sunday in Advent

Sunday 6th Dec, Colin Buchanan's Big Christmas Concert
Details: Doors open 3:00 pm for start at 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm at Wollongong Salvos, 11-13 Burelli St. Download flyer.
Cost: $25 any age, babies in arms are free but need a ticket.
Tickets: www.trybooking.com/DPHVY

Sunday 6th Dec, Carols in the Valley
Hosted by Stockland Calderwood Valley and Albion Park Anglican Church.
Details: 4:30 p.m. family fun activities; 6:00 p.m. Carols. BYO picnic rugs and chairs.

Tuesday 8th December, Jamberoo Combined Churches Carols
Details: 6:30 p.m. Reid Park, Jamberoo. Features Illawarra Seniors Band

Sunday 13th December, Carols in the Street Party
Hosted by Corrimal Community Church
Details: 4:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. 9 Augusta St, East Corrimal

Sunday 20th December, Christmas Celebration by Wollongong Salvation Army
Face painting, kids' activities, sausage sizzle, carols. A free event.
Details: 3:00-5:30 p.m. Osborne Park (opposite Belmore Basin), Wollongong.

Friday 25th December, Community Christmas Day Lunch
Details: 11:30 am - 2:00 pm Senior Citizens Centre, Benaud Crescent, Warilla
RSVP by 13th Dec: Larissa & Ben Okonkwo

See the **5icm Events page** for **more events** and the **Regular Events** list.