



Lenten Prayers for New Worship Centre

*Unless the Lord builds the house those who build it labour in vain.
(Psalm 127:1)*

Ash Wednesday 26th February

Pray for God's protection over all involved in the building project.

Pray for strength and good health for our Building Committee members, our staff team, and all involved in the building project that they may complete God's work.

Give thanks for the work of our Building and Fundraising Committees, and the gifts and skills they bring to their work.

Thursday

Pray for the restructuring of the Committees in the Diocese, that these changes will bear fruit for God's glory and enable projects (such as ours) to be more efficiently supported.

Pray for Bishop Kate Prowd and Archbishop Philip Freier, that they will continue to be enthusiastic supporters of the project, capturing the vision God has given us.

Friday

Pray for a speedy conclusion to the planning process, following Hume Council's requirement for us to submit another planning application, to enable building work to commence.

Pray for good relations with Hume Council going forward.

Saturday

Pray for the planning stages of the project, and consultations with those who use our buildings.

Sunday 1st March

Give thanks for the land on which our church is built, provided by the Colony of Victoria in 1863.

Give thanks for the work of the first church committee, chaired by Mr William J Clarke, and for those first trustees and parishioners who provided the funds, matched by the Bishop in Council, for the building of St Mary's, especially for the generosity of the Clarke family over the years for improvements to the building.

Monday

Give thanks for all who have gone before us.

Give thanks for all who have ministered in this place.

Tuesday

Give thanks for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in planting the vision in us for the development of a new, larger worship centre to meet the worship and ministry needs of our expanding community.

Wednesday

Give thanks for the wealth in our community.

Give thanks for the bequest of Anne and Jack Telford which has kick-started the building project.

Thursday

Give thanks for God's generous provision, and pray that sufficient funds will be obtained for the project.

Friday

Pray for a favourable response to our Diocesan grant application, and to our loan application.

Saturday

Give thanks for the generous pledges and donations from Sir Rupert and Lady Susannah Clarke and from members of our parish towards the new building.

Sunday 8th March

Pray that our church members will be able to honour their pledges over the coming months and years..

Monday

Pray for Russell Van Schellen, the preferred builder, and the Ayjay team, that they will have the heart and capacity to complete the work to a good standard and in a timely fashion, to God's glory.

Tuesday

Pray that the contract documents have been rigorously drafted, with no loopholes with unintended consequences.

Wednesday

Pray that the right building surveyor will be chosen for the project.

Thursday

Pray for wisdom and discernment for our wardens, Parish Council, Building Committee, and Gavin and the staff team throughout the project.

Friday

Pray for Gavin in his role as Archdeacon while he deals with additional pressures at St Mary's as a result of the building program.

Saturday

Pray that good communications will be maintained with the Diocese during the building program.

Sunday 15th March

Pray for willing volunteers from the parish for tasks and odd jobs before, during and after the building works.

Monday

Pray for favourable interaction with our local community during the building program.

Tuesday

Pray for good planning in relation to disruptions to electricity, telephone/ internet, gas and water during the building process. For good relations with utility providers.

Wednesday

Pray for God's protection and safety for all tradespeople and subcontractors working on site.

Pray for safety for all during the demolition of the Parish House.

Pray for God's protection against theft and vandalism during the building

Thursday

Pray that planned demolition of parts of the Parish Centre will be handled sensitively, and existing church property cared for and protected.

Friday

Pray that disruptions to our staff team can be minimised, and acceptable alternative working arrangements found.

Saturday

Pray for a graciousness of spirit and generosity of heart for all in the Parish who will be affected and potentially disrupted by the building projects.

Sunday 22nd March

Pray that our local community may continue to be engaged with our church during the building project despite probable impacts on some of our outreach programs.

Pray regarding impacts on Music Playtime.

Pray regarding impacts on the Winter Shelter Program.

Monday

Pray for our Community Store, that they may continue to operate smoothly serving our local community.

Pray for good, safe access for the public and our store workers during the construction period.

Tuesday

Pray for good management of the impacts on our storage facilities, especially those of the Community Store.

Wednesday

Pray for good access for deliveries and carparking for church activities during the building works.

Thursday

Pray for good weather during the construction period.
Pray especially for fine weather during critical building stages and concrete pours.

Friday

Pray for sensitivity in the maintenance and repair works on our historic church.
Pray that these will be carried out in a timely fashion.

Saturday

Pray that we may continue to worship together and praise God in another place during the works on our historic church,
Pray that there will be minimal impacts on our weekly services during these works and throughout the building project.

Sunday 29th March

Pray for good management of stage payments to contractors during construction.
Pray that God will uphold Narelle with the extra financial workload placed upon her.

Monday

Pray for continuing prompt and accurate financial reporting support from the Diocese to enable us to claim back GST efficiently and quickly, avoiding stressful demands on our financial resources.

Tuesday

Pray for Peter Munns and Matthew Wilson in the Diocesan offices, that God will continue to empower and inspire them in their roles of managing the finances and property in the Diocese.

Wednesday

Pray for God's perfect timing – that unnecessary delays are avoided.

Thursday

Pray for good used equipment to be made available for our commercial kitchen fit out.

Friday

Pray that the right long-term tenant will be found for our Cafe.

Saturday

Pray that the building program will not change our focus of bringing people to God.

Sunday 5th April

Pray that we may continue to praise God in all situations.

Monday

Pray for wisdom for all in dealing with ongoing building and contract issues.

Tuesday

Pray for timely and quality completion of the new worship and ministry centre.

Wednesday

Pray that all these buildings may bring great glory to God and that we may shine a light in the community by using them to reach out to Sunbury and beyond.

Thursday

Give thanks for God's grace and provision to us all.

Good Friday

As David was not fit to build the temple because his hands were stained with blood (the temple had to wait for his son Solomon to build), **give thanks** that we are made fit to build this new church to serve God because, in Christ, we have redemption and purification, through his blood, his sacrifice, the forgiveness of sins.

Saturday

Pray for Noel Sprague as he project manages the building of the new worship centre.

Easter Sunday

Give thanks for God's power, the same as "the mighty strength he used when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms"* , that we can trust in him to build his house through us.

*Ephesians 1:19-20