Building for GENERATIONS

EST. 1850

THE MINISTRY CENTRE AT ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH



ST PAUL'S
– ANGLICAN –
CARLINGFORD

VISION





THE BUILDING FOR GENERATIONS VISION

A message from Raj Gupta, Senior Pastor, St Paul's Anglican Carlingford

"He made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfilment – to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ."

Ephesians 1:9-10

This is God's vision statement. It is cosmic and grand: Christ as Lord of all. And it's unfolding right here at St Paul's.






At St Paul's our mission is this: Captivated by Jesus, we reach the lost, love one another, and serve the Lord. Our vision, to glorify God in north-west Sydney, lifts our eyes to see thousands of people from all nations, and generations of children and youth, living for Jesus.

I have long been amazed at the development and population growth in the Parramatta Local Government area, one of the fastest-growing areas in Australia. Carlingford bustles with cranes shaping new housing developments. 700 apartments are currently being built at the nearby Meriton site and 136 more have been approved across the road from St Paul's. Young families are moving in and more are coming. In the diversity of our community God is giving us a foretaste of Revelation 7:9 "a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, standing before the throne." The last census shows that 41% of people in our area have Chinese ancestry, 7% South Korean and 6% Indian.

When I arrived at St Paul's, I was struck by St Paul's heritage and foundation, and have delighted in seeing how our church has sought to offer the same foundations of faith to the next generation. We've begun important work, most recently led by Sarah, Mark and our Ministry Team, to bring more children and youth to St Paul's, along with their families, and new families are discovering Jesus through Kids Holiday Club and weekly ministries like Ignite and SALT Youth.

We need our facilities to match our vision and provide ministry spaces for the growth we are seeing in our local area, both now and for decades into the future.

As Christians, we don't believe in coincidences, because God is sovereign. He has provided this opportunity to us, and he has ordered the times and seasons. We must be ready to be faithful stewards of this God-given opportunity.

Previous generations sacrificed to give us what we have today. The original sandstone church. The Moseley Street site. The North Hall. None of these facilities appeared by accident. Under the sovereignty of God, they were built by people just like us, who believed future generations deserved the very best resources for Gospel ministry.

So here's our challenge: what will our generation's gift be? Will we offer the next generation, and the ones to come, the same foundations we have had?

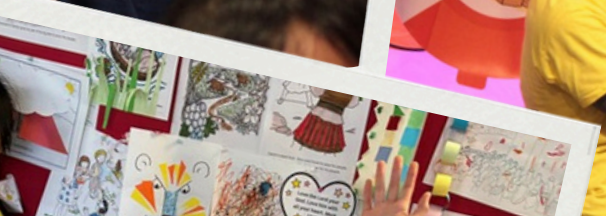
Let's see what God does as we step forward together in faith and sacrificial generosity.

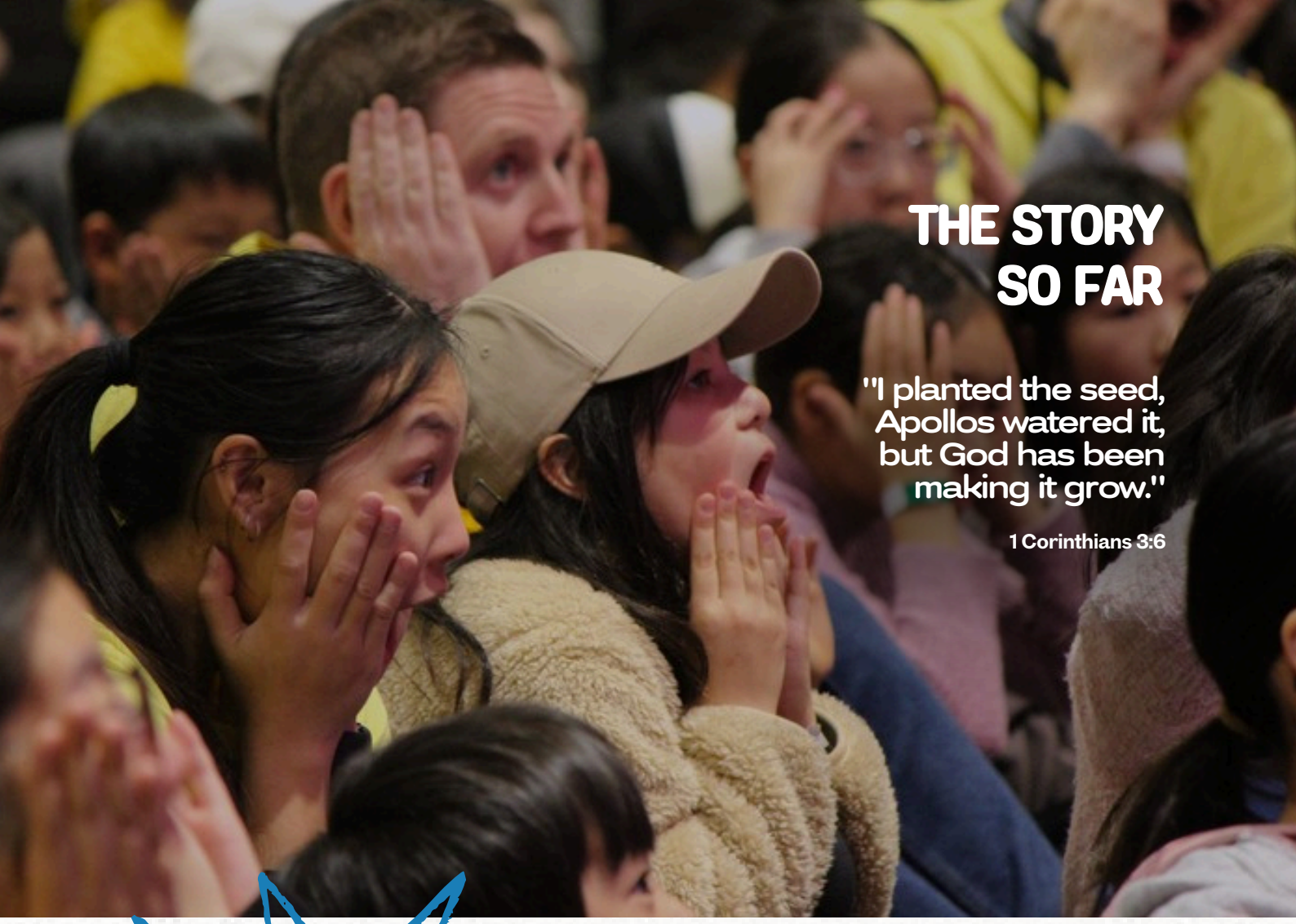


"One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts."

Psalm 145:4





THE STORY SO FAR

"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow."

1 Corinthians 3:6

For more than 175 years,

the faithful and visionary people at St Paul's have understood what God is doing in this world and in our community and have stepped forward in faith.

1850

The Marsden Road sandstone church built.

1974

St Paul's Carlingford merged with St James North Rocks.

1978

The first service ran at the Moseley Street site.

2019

The "Time to Build" North Hall project culminated in the opening of our 450 seat auditorium and related upgraded facilities.

St Paul's has grown consistently in its reach and impact. God has blessed the ministry of St Paul's in many ways, and a commitment to entrepreneurial thinking and future-focused ministry has long been part of our DNA.

OUR LAST BUILDING PROJECT: THE NORTH HALL

The North Hall seemed like an ambitious project. At a cost of $4.5 million, it felt like a huge stretch. But in God's grace, the project was completed in 2019.

The "Time to Build" North Hall project rallied people across St Paul's. Everyone prayerfully and creatively considered and gave what they could; young adults just starting careers, gave alongside families of every shape and size. Bequests were considered and made, young children donated from their pocket money. We praise God that financial partnership was with all members of St Paul's, young and old, at every life stage. Together and with God's help, we built something extraordinary and the remaining debt is almost repaid.

We rejoice in what God has done. We see large congregations gathering each Sunday, and we've had the privilege of training more than 100 Ministry Training Strategy (MTS) trainees to serve the gospel around Sydney, Australia and the world. Many of our ministries have benefited from the space provided by the "Time to Build" North Hall project.

At St Paul's, we've seen a wonderful pattern over many decades. Each generation has built and invested in people they would never meet. In our time, the North Hall project was Phase 1 of a substantial redevelopment at the Moseley St site. Now it's time for Phase 2, the Ministry Centre, made up of flexible spaces, allowing for growth in children's and youth education.

It's our turn. For some of us, it's our turn again.







"Neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow."

1 Corinthians 3:7

Each generation at St Paul's has planted and watered. And God has made it grow, often in ways no one could have predicted.

The Opportunity

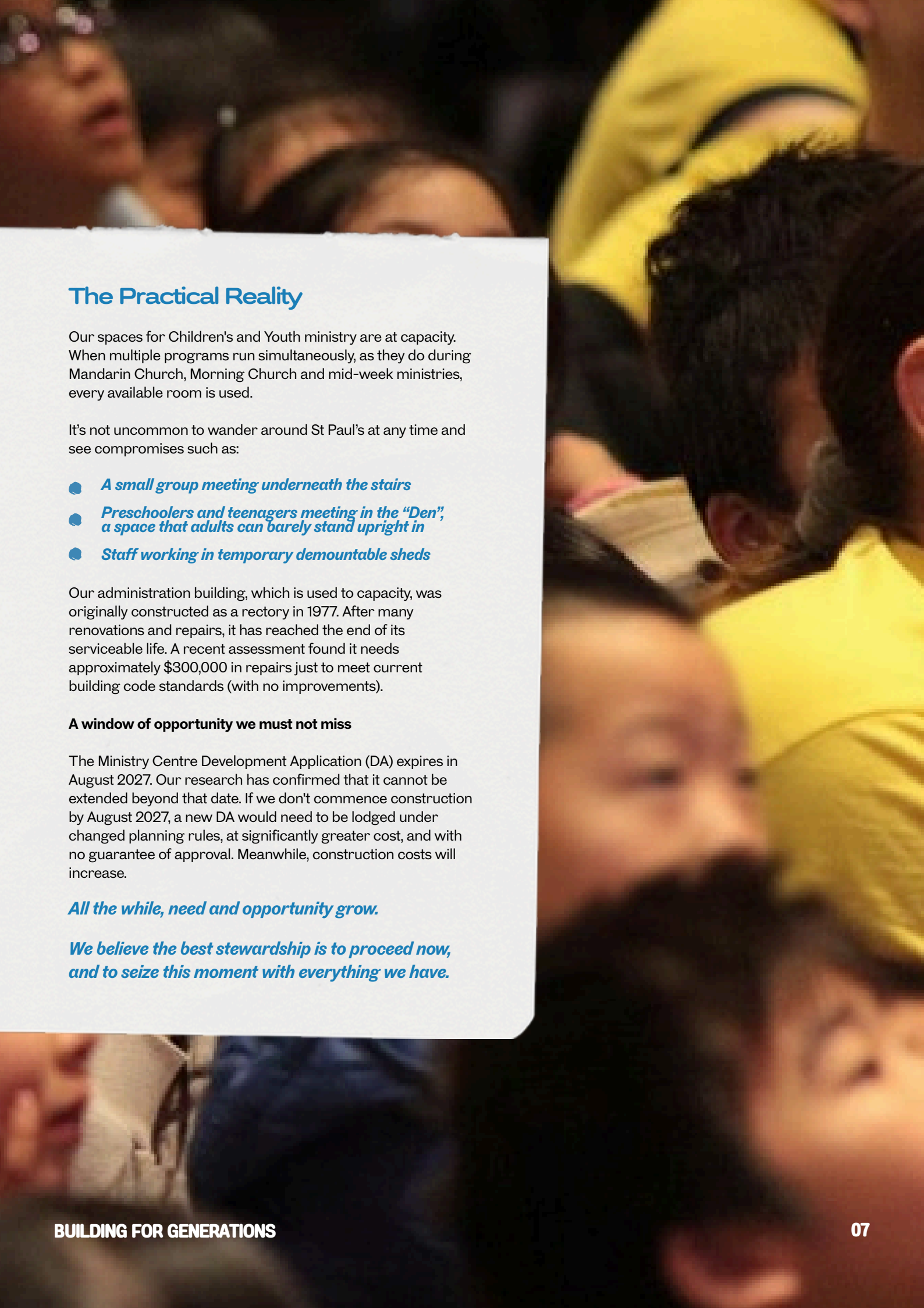
We prayerfully project that in the next 3-5 years, we will have twice as many children and youth attending St Paul's.

As they come, we must be able to welcome and accommodate them appropriately. Currently, our children's and youth spaces are at, or beyond, capacity or are not well suited for welcoming these groups.

The Ministry Centre will change all of that. The approved design includes:

- *Purpose-built children's spaces*
- *Dedicated youth areas*
- *Multiple meeting rooms, allowing for simultaneous meetings and ministries*
- *Space for expansion of our congregations*
- *New programs and, excitingly*
- *New ministries we haven't yet imagined*

The infrastructure we build now needs to serve us today, foster growth and enable ministries that don't yet exist. Future generations will dream up ways to reach their world that we can't imagine. Yet whatever they prayerfully create, we know Bible-based education will be central, requiring flexible, welcoming, accessible and safe spaces to meet and learn.



The Practical Reality

Our spaces for Children's and Youth ministry are at capacity. When multiple programs run simultaneously, as they do during Mandarin Church, Morning Church and mid-week ministries, every available room is used.

It's not uncommon to wander around St Paul's at any time and see compromises such as:

- ***A small group meeting underneath the stairs***
- ***Preschoolers and teenagers meeting in the "Den", a space that adults can barely stand upright in***
- ***Staff working in temporary demountable sheds***

Our administration building, which is used to capacity, was originally constructed as a rectory in 1977. After many renovations and repairs, it has reached the end of its serviceable life. A recent assessment found it needs approximately $300,000 in repairs just to meet current building code standards (with no improvements).

A window of opportunity we must not miss

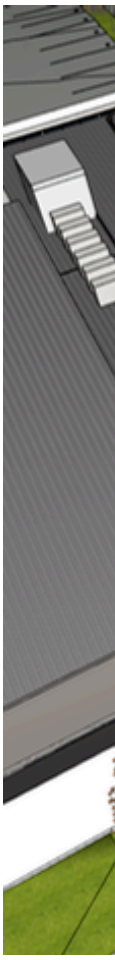
The Ministry Centre Development Application (DA) expires in August 2027. Our research has confirmed that it cannot be extended beyond that date. If we don't commence construction by August 2027, a new DA would need to be lodged under changed planning rules, at significantly greater cost, and with no guarantee of approval. Meanwhile, construction costs will increase.

All the while, need and opportunity grow.

We believe the best stewardship is to proceed now, and to seize this moment with everything we have.

WHAT WE'RE BUILDING





PURPOSE-BUILT CHILDREN'S SPACES:

Age-appropriate rooms for creche, preschoolers, infants and primary education programs, designed for modern, safe children's ministry.

DEDICATED YOUTH SPACES:

Areas for both large gatherings and small group discussions, providing space for SALT and other youth programs to grow.

FLEXIBLE MEETING SPACES:

Multiple rooms for Growth Groups, Bible study, training, music practices, Explore Christianity, ESL, Playcircle and community programs, to run consecutively, in appropriate and inviting spaces.

The Ministry Centre

Designed by Stanton Dahl Architects, the total floor space of the Ministry Centre (over two levels) is approximately three times larger than the North Hall. Of the total 1,400m^2 space, around two-thirds are dedicated to flexible ministry areas, focussing on spaces suitable for and dedicated to children's and youth education. It will replace the current 1970s administration building. While it provides much needed office improvements, its main purpose is to provide Youth and Children's meeting spaces.





STAFF OFFICES AND COLLABORATION SPACES:

Replacing demountable sheds, makeshift workspaces and our current, structurally flawed, meeting room.

A WELCOMING ENTRY AND RECEPTION:

Inviting new families to walk in and immediately feel: "we expected you, we are prepared for you".

The building has Development Application approval from the City of Parramatta Council.

IMAGINE







Imagine next Sunday with the Ministry Centre complete.

- Multiple simultaneous ministries in tailor-made spaces, especially for children and youth.
- New families visiting and finding purpose-built rooms that say: "welcome, we want you to be here."
- A new English-speaking family congregation meeting in parallel with Mandarin Church, sharing children's ministry, or some alternative.
- Youth groups with dedicated spaces for both large gatherings and the small group conversations where real discipleship happens.
- Growth Groups, education and new training programs running simultaneously. Afternoon and evening ministries of many kinds, all at the same time.

"One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts."

Psalm 145:4

And imagine the ministries that don't yet exist. Our Senior Pastor, Raj, says “One day I'll be in a retirement village and hear about what future generations have dreamed up in these spaces. I can hardly wait to hear the new ideas. I know this: Bible education will be at the heart of whatever they create.”

We're not only building for our generation. We're Building for Generations.

WHAT HAS ALREADY HAPPENED

> "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ."
>
> **Ephesians 1:3**

This project already has real momentum.

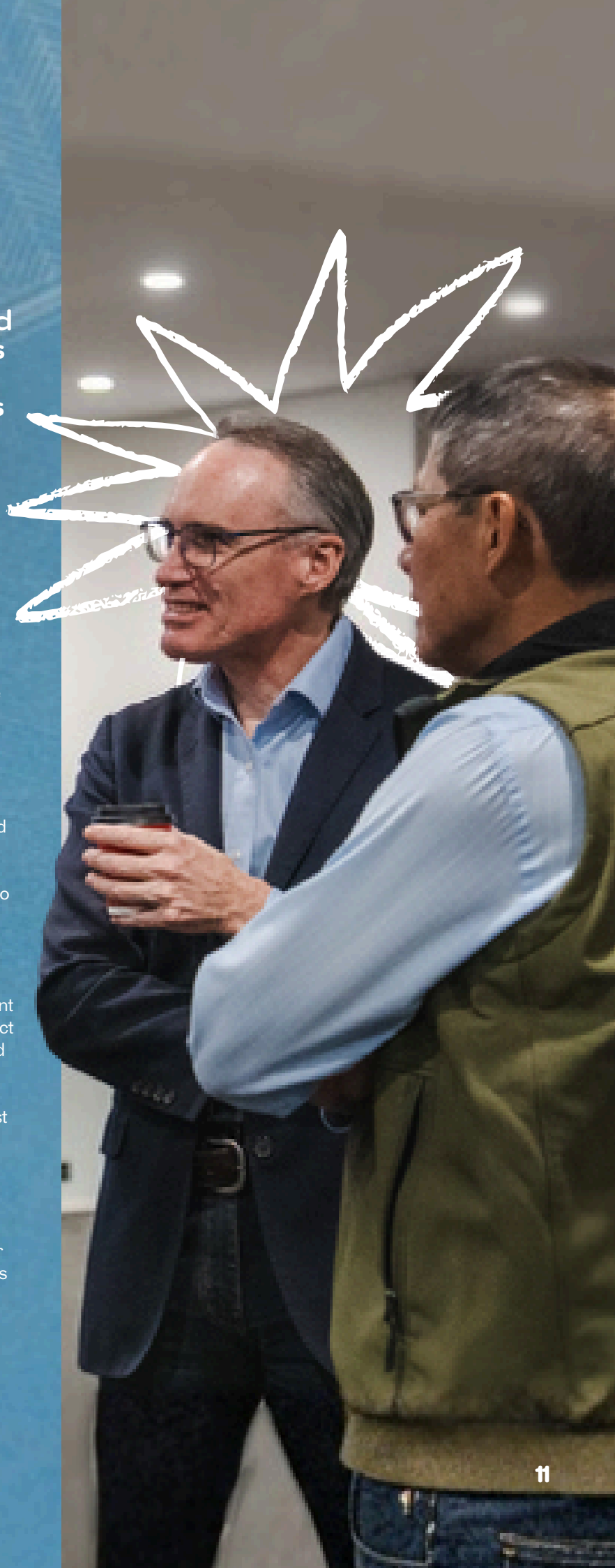
Parish Council unanimously endorsed the project. A Focus Group representing a cross-section of St Paul's showed overwhelming enthusiasm for the project across all demographics. As one participant put it: "We don't want to be the church that wasn't ready for the numbers that are coming."

In November 2025, over 50 families gathered at two early supporter events to pledge funds for the pre construction costs. After informative presentations and discussions along with prayerful consideration, this group committed the full target amount of $325,000 within three weeks. This funding enabled us to press go on the detailed design process, now underway.

The detailed design phase has commenced, and involves both Stanton Dahl Architects and Reitsma Constructions through an Early Contractor Involvement process. This process brings the builder into the project at the design phase to ensure both realistic pricing and value management. Geotechnical work and other preparatory steps are also well underway. This increasingly common approach allows for greater cost certainty and ongoing design management with budgets in mind. Contingencies have still been allowed – this is important in any construction project.

This project is achievable based on what we know about our church family's generosity and capacity. Our generosity is possible because God first provides for us and empowers us to share.

This is our project.
God started it.
We will finish it together.



WHAT WILL IT COST?

As of August 2026, the estimated total Ministry Centre project cost is approximately $6.5 million (est.). This figure is being refined through our detailed design process and *includes* construction, fit-out, project management and contingencies.

A proposed funding scenario for $6.9 million (including the 400K residual North Hall loan): *These are high-level estimates and will be confirmed before Commitment Sunday in November 2026.*

$2.3 M (EST.)

Raised at Commitment Sunday

In upfront givings

$2.3 M (EST.)

A pledge to give regularly over the next three years

In ongoing regular commitments

$2.3 M (EST.)

Medium-term loan

Managed through a diocesan-approved arrangement



A significant tax advantage

Following legal advice, it has been determined that 78% of this project (that is, the proportion of the building to be used for educational purposes) qualifies for tax-deductible giving through the St Paul's School Building Fund. This Fund has been specifically approved by the ATO. We encourage you to speak with your own financial or tax adviser about how giving a tax deductible donation could work for your personal circumstances, while being able to generously support Gospel education infrastructure.

Financial partnership can be directed to either the **St Paul's School Building Fund** (tax deductible) or the **General Building Fund** (non tax deductible).





TWO WAYS TO GIVE

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2 Corinthians 9:7



1 ***A one-off financial gift on Commitment Sunday on 22 November 2026, and/or***

2 ***A pledge to give regularly over the next three years.***

To get this project completed, we need both upfront giving and pledged giving into the future. However, if you must choose between the two, we have a preference for upfront giving because this enables us to move forward more quickly.

Some people may also wish to give in different ways at different times. We encourage and welcome creative thinking, again we encourage you to speak with your own financial or tax adviser about how giving a tax deductible donation could work for your personal circumstances.

Every financial partnership helps, no matter what size or shape it takes. If you give and the project does not proceed, you will have the option for a refund or to re-direct your gift.

Important note: your financial partnership for Building for Generations (the Ministry Centre) should be in addition to normal weekly giving. We also need to remember the ongoing, day-to-day running expenses of our church and its ministries, which we currently fund through our regular giving program. We're not asking everyone to give the same amount. God has blessed each individual and family differently. Some will give more, others less, according to what God enables you to sacrificially and generously contribute. **We encourage equal sacrifice, not equal gifts.**

If you're a member and keen to support the ministry of St Paul's but aren't yet giving, please start by giving regularly to ongoing ministry.



"But since you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you - see that you also excel in this grace of giving.... For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich."

2 Corinthians 8:7-9

The most important decision we each will make during this campaign is how we will respond to God's generosity.

Begin by praying. You may like to use this prayer:

"Father, this is a big step for us. We're asking you to strengthen our faith and help us grow spiritually through giving. We thank you for all you have given us. We know everything we have comes from you. We want to be cheerful and generous givers. Thank you for this opportunity to grow. Help us to reach our goal to build the Ministry Centre, as you use us to build your kingdom here on earth. We pray these things through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."



Whether you are single, married, or part of a family or growth group, commit this decision to prayer together with those closest to you.

Perhaps you could ask your family or Growth Group to think of ideas in advance, then meet together to discuss your giving options. If you have children, be sure to involve them too. This is a great opportunity to teach them about giving and faith. At the right time, we will also develop appropriate ways for children to be involved.

Read God's Word. As you consider your giving: Proverbs 3:9-10, 2 Corinthians 8:1-12, 2 Corinthians 9:7, Matthew 6:19-20.

Give yourself time. Don't rush your decision. You may find that if you genuinely ask God, over a period of time, to show you how to give, God will reveal ways to give more than you previously thought possible.

Questions to consider

Regarding your one-off gift:

- How much money could we gather by Commitment Sunday?
- Are there different ways to increase my gift? You might consider income from savings, tax refunds, selling items, reducing expenses, delaying a major purchase, going without a non-necessity for a period of time. Be creative and involve the family - remember, for those with children, this is a great opportunity to talk to them about how all our money belongs to God

Regarding your medium-term pledge:

- Are there ways I could decrease my expenses - or our expenses, if giving as a family - in order to make a larger commitment pledge?
- Are there ways we could increase our income in order to make a larger pledge?

How can I give if I don't have very much?

- First, we each need to have a heart's desire to give. In Mark 12:41-44, Jesus honoured the widow for her faith, even though she did not have much to give. From this, Jesus taught us two important truths: our attitude is more important than the amount we give, and it is always possible to give something if we trust God.
- In seasons where every expense is keenly felt, we can trust that God's boundless provision will comfort our anxieties and strengthen our generosity.







Consider future generations

While we consider how our giving today may impact the next generations, we can also consider how our future giving may impact the generation after that, and after that! A bequest, or a gift in your will, is a wonderful expression of long-term faithfulness. It is an act of stewardship that allows your generosity to continue impacting gospel ministry long after you have gone to glory.

By remembering St Paul's in your will, your bequest can become a key part of our church's long-term capacity, providing significant resources to maintain and enhance the facilities we plan to build. In this way, you can ensure that every future generation in north-west Sydney has the welcoming, accessible, and safe spaces they need to encounter Jesus and grow in faith.

If you'd like to find out more about leaving a gift in your will, please contact *bequests@stpaulsanglican.org.au*

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR US

The total funding we need is about $6.9 million.
This includes the $400,000 still owing on the North Hall.

About $2.3 million of that will be carried as a longer-term loan. That leaves about $4.6 million to be given and / or pledged over the next three years by our church family.

There are about 1,400 adults and children who call St Paul's their church home. If we take around 400 households and individuals as giving units, this works out to an average of $12,000 in some combination of an upfront gift or pledge over three years.

$12,000 over three years could look like

- $333 a month for three years; or
- An upfront gift of $4,000 and then $222 a month for three years; or
- $12,000 as a single gift; or
- $6,000 now and $6,000 in twelve months' time

Another way to look at it

$12,000 over three years is about $77 a week.

78% of the project qualifies for tax-deductible giving through our School Building Fund. Ask your accountant about how this can work for you and the Gospel.

Thirty-six payments, for a building that will serve St Paul's for forty years and more. For 175 years, the people of St Paul's have been thinking about the future, people they would never meet. Now, it's our privilege to Build for Generations.

TO BREAK IT DOWN ACROSS CHURCH

We would exceed our goal if we received the following gifts and pledges from different households or individuals.

NUMBER OF GIVERS		IF GIVEN UPFRONT	IF GIVEN OVER 36 MONTHS
1	gift of	$150,000	$4,167 p/m
3	gifts of	$90,000	$2,500 p/m
4	gifts of	$50,000	$1,389 p/m
8	gifts of	$30,000	$833 p/m
34	gifts of	$20,000	$556 p/m
190	gifts of	$12,000	$333 p/m
135	gifts of	$8,000	$222 p/m
25	gifts of	$4,000	$111 p/m
400	**TOTAL**	**$5.0M**	

Of course, none of us is "average". Some of us are on fixed or low incomes. Some of us are able to give a great deal more. What we are after is not equal gifts, but equal sacrifice. We hope these figures are a useful guide as you pray and think and plan.

There is no need to decide anything now. Commitment Sunday is 22 November.





THE TIMELINE

2019
North Hall opens (Phase 1)

2021
Ministry Centre vision developed

2022
Development Application approved

MAY 2025
175th Anniversary - 900 people gather

NOV 2025
Early supporter dinner / morning tea - target raised

2026
Detailed design and builder appointment / tender process

LATE 2026
Congregation-wide campaign & Commitment Sunday

EARLY/MID 2027
Construction commences

AUG 2027
DA expiry deadline

2027-2028
Construction & completion



"WE'RE BUILDING TO THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORIOUS GRACE."

Find out more. Ask questions. See the Plans.

FAQs, detailed project information, videos, floor plans and to make your giving commitment:
www.stpaulsanglican.org.au/mcp

Or speak with Raj or any member of the Fundraising and Communications Group..

Pray with us
Please commit to praying regularly for this project - for wisdom, unity, generosity and God's provision. Prayer points and updates are available on the website.



ST PAUL'S
ANGLICAN CARLINGFORD

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