

St Paulinus Church



A celebration of St
Valentine's Day

Introduction

We welcome you in the spirit of Christian love and unity. We encourage you to love one another as Christ loves us. We ask you to remember those for whom we love, but see no longer. *Let us pray*

God of wonder and of joy:
grace comes from you,
and you alone are the source of life and love.
Without you, we cannot please you;
without your love, our deeds are worth nothing.
Send your Holy Spirit,
and pour into our hearts
that most excellent gift of love,
that we may worship you now
with thankful hearts
and serve you always with willing minds;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen***

Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm;
for love is strong as death,
passion fierce as the grave.
Its flashes are flashes of fire,
a raging flame.
Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can floods drown it.
If one offered for love

all the wealth of one's house,
it would be utterly scorned. *Song of Songs 8: 6-8*

Shared Expressions of Love

Music: you got the love: Florence and the Machine

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

We pray for the family of the Church, for loving relationships, and for the life of families around us, saying

Jesus, Lord of love,

All in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, born in poverty and soon a refugee,
be with families today who are poor
and live in hunger and want ...

Jesus, Lord of love,

All in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, as you grew in wisdom and in favour with God and the people

in the family of Joseph, the carpenter,
bring wisdom and the presence of God
into the work and growth of families today ...

Jesus, Lord of love,

All in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, as you blessed marriage in the wedding at Cana,
be with those preparing for marriage
and with those who come to the end of their resources ...

Jesus, Lord of love,

All in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, as you healed Peter's mother-in-law,
bring healing to those in our families who are ill today ...

Jesus, Lord of love,

All in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, when you were dying you called Mary and John
to care for one another,

provide today for those who lose their families:
the bereaved and childless, orphans and widows

Jesus, Lord of love,

All in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, as you ate breakfast on the beach with your disciples
after you were raised from the dead,

bring the whole Church on earth and in heaven
into your risen presence to eat at the eternal banquet.

Jesus, Lord of love,

All in your mercy, hear us,

accept our prayers and be with us always.

Amen.

Music: Where is the love. Black eyed Peas

God Is Love

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The

commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. *1 John 4: 7-21*

Remembering loved ones

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.' *John 6: 35-40*

Gracious God,
nothing in death or life,
nothing in the world as it is,
nothing in the world as it shall be,
nothing in all creation
can separate us from your love.

Jesus commended his spirit into your hands at his last hour. Into those same hands we now bring before you all your servants who have died that dying to the world death has

brought them the gift of life and to eternal fellowship with you; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Music: Requiem: Pie Jesu, Gabriel Faure

The Peace

To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all together and complete the whole.
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and also with you.

Concluding Prayers

Eternal God, we offer our thanks that through our earthly
lives
you speak of your eternal life.
We rejoice in the wonder of creation,
the gift of human life
and the many blessings that our relationships bring.
Renew in us the fruits of your Holy Spirit;
that love, joy and peace may abound in our homes,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Heavenly Father,
We offer you our souls and bodies,
our thoughts and words and deeds,
our love for one another.
Unite our wills in your will,**

**that we may grow
in love and peace
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Sending Out

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,
defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.