bca bush church aid
Going the distance

The K-Town Low-down

with Pat & Issy O'Keeffe • October 2026

Banner Image: Katherine Anglican Church

Circle Image: Issy & Pat

Middle Image: Celebrating 70 years of St Paul's. Four church members who have all been a part of St Paul's for over 40 years!

Bottom Image: 70 years celebration

The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is His faithfulness; His mercies begin afresh each morning. Lamentations 3:22–23

The last few months in Katherine have been full of celebration for us. We have celebrated 70 years of St Paul's and also the baptism of four church members – in back to back weeks! We are so thankful for your generous support of us and our ministry, we are seeing God answer your prayers right in front of our eyes.

Looking back

The first service held in the old St Paul's church building was the wedding of Wendy & Earl James on 25 August 1956. We had a wonderful 70th birthday party to recognise 70 years of Anglican worship in Katherine.

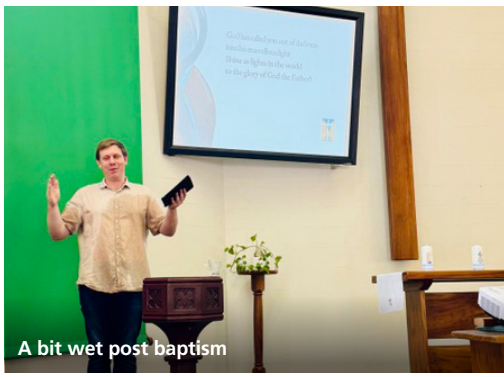
The church was full of St Paul's members both past and present, as well as lots of locals, from politicians to people from the other churches in town.

Some highlights of the day were a very big Bible birthday cake, a 10/10 church potluck lunch, and the visit of Yvonne Schatz from Darwin, who was a member of St Paul's for over 40 years. We put together a video sharing a bit of the history, and also hearing from the people in our church sharing what they love about St Paul's. You can watch that here: https://youtu.be/XHwVhgMxVWM

Join us in praising God for His faithfulness to St Paul's over the last 70 years. Give thanks for the many people who have been part of our church, and for how He has sustained His people over all that time.

New Life

The Sunday after we celebrated 70 years of St Paul's, we had the great joy of baptising four people into the Christian faith. The four who were baptised have all been coming to church for about six months, and we have loved sharing the Good News of Jesus with them and seeing them come to understand God's great love for them in the Gospel. The full stories of God's work in their lives are a wonderful testimony


A bit wet post baptism

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to the power of God's Word, in combination with the kindness and care of Christian people. (Maybe you'll even hear one of those stories if you come to the BCA Spring Gatherings in Victoria, otherwise you'll just have to come and meet them in Katherine!).

Give thanks to God for the way He is working in and through our church to bring people to saving faith in Jesus. Ask God to keep growing in our church a culture of grace that helps people to understand the grace of God. Pray that every person in Katherine will have every chance to hear about Jesus, and that many many people will put their faith in Him.

Looking forward

As we look ahead to the last few months of the year, there is lots to be excited about. In September we ran our first fellowship night specifically for our Aboriginal church members. It was a very encouraging evening, and we've committed to make that a monthly feature of church life.

Pray for God's wisdom as we seek to serve our Aboriginal brothers and sisters. Ask that God would create a beautiful diversity amongst us through the power of the Gospel.

Friday night fellowship on the chruch lawn

We have also received permission from the local high school to start a Christian lunchtime group on Friday afternoons. There are lots of kids at the school who express some kind of Christian faith. We hope Friday lunchtimes will be a place of safety for kids to explore faith and learn about Jesus (and plenty of fun too!).

Pray for Pat and Ash as they start the group this term. Pray that kids will come along to hear about and experience the love of Jesus for them.

As Katherine is a transient place, the end of the year could also bring plenty of comings and goings. Pray that we can joyfully farewell anyone who is leaving town, and warmly welcome those who are new.

Ask God to give us energy to invest in people even for just a little while.

We are so thankful for all your prayers, encouragement and support. We can't wait to see how God continues His work here in Katherine.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 2 Corinthians 1:2–4

With blessings in Christ,

Pat & Issy

Pray for our work in Katherine

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Going the distance

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