

February 2025

**Sunday 2 February, 2024 – Epiphany 4**

**9.30am** Five Dock

*Preacher:* Rev Wattson Pualilo

*Reading:* Jeremiah 1: 4-10

*Theme:* "Know You, Knowing Me..."

*We are glad to have you with us today in worship.*

*It is our hope that you will not only learn more about God, but that you will encounter Him and experience His presence, love and grace for you.*

**Diary Dates**



**Monday Bible Study** resumes this month.

**Wednesday 5 February** at 11:30am  
**Congregation Profile Committee**  
meets in the Church foyer.

**Sunday 9 February**  
**Worship Committee** meets after Service

**Wednesday 12 February**  
**Congregation Profile Committee** meets  
formally with Rev Thornley and Pastor Day.

**Sunday 23 February**  
**Church Council** meeting has been **cancelled**.  
Date of next meeting to be advised.

**Wednesday 5 March**  
**PAC** meets at 11:30am in the Church.

**Friday 7 March** at 9:30am  
**World Day of Prayer**  
at All Hallows Catholic Church, Five Dock

**Upcoming Dates:**

March 4: **Shrove Tuesday**

March 5: **Ash Wednesday**

March 5 – April 17: **40 days of faith-filled action  
for God's Creation**

March 9: **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

We are sad to see **our Rotuman Friends** leave us to return to their home church. While they worshipped with us it was a time of renewing old friendships and making new friends. We are blessed by their generosity and hospitality and wish them all God's blessing as they worship at Drummoyne.



**Praise and Prayer Points.**

**METHODISM COMES  
TO AUSTRALIA**

It was a significant day for Methodism when Thomas Bowden arrived in Sydney with his wife and family (1812). As Master of the Queen Street Charity School in London, he arrived to be in charge of the Male Orphan Institute.

Methodist by conviction he wrote appealing to the Wesleyan Missionary Committee for their aid in providing two missionaries for NSW. He mentioned that three Class Societies had been established, two in Sydney and one in Windsor.

Thus Rev Samuel Leigh arrived in 1815. Leigh conferred with the Anglican clergy and, meeting in the open, held 6.00am and 6.00pm services to avoid the Anglican service times.

*"Leigh rode from Sydney inland -*

*At the close of the first day's ride I called at the house of a settler to whom I had a letter of introduction, seeking shelter for myself and my horse for the night.*

*To my surprise I was met with a rude response and was told of a person named John Lees who would possibly accommodate me.*

*I rode along with a heavy heart and on arriving at the wooden hut knocked on the door and called out 'will you receive a Wesleyan missionary?'. The door opened and a small lad laid hold of the bridle and said 'get off sir, my father will be glad to see you'.*

*Within, I found a number of persons sitting round a table with an open Bible upon it. Mr Lees crossed the floor and taking my hand gave me a hearty greeting, saying 'we have been praying for three years that God would send us a missionary and now you have come. We are right glad to see you.'*

The name John Lees is now an honoured name in the history of Methodism in NSW. He donated an acre of land for the building of a place of worship, at first a slab building attached to his home, and later a weatherboard chapel in 1917, the first Methodist church built in Australia. This historic property at Castlereagh now runs a Conference and Retreat centre.

prompted by Sunday worship on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
featuring Rev John and Rev Charles Wesley.  
edited extracts from several sources.