

St Paul the Apostle Parish

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Website: www.stpaultheapostleparish.org

Parish Priest: Fr Raning Creta
Assistant Priest: Fr Tovia Lui

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday Evening Vigil 6.00pm (*Exposition 4.30pm - 5.45pm*)
Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am and 6.00pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday 9.10am
Tuesday 7.00pm (*Exposition 6.00pm - 7.00pm*)
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.10am
Saturday 9.00am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4.30pm - 5.30pm

FROM FATHER RANING

Kenneth Filkins wrote a poem entitled "The Pit". Visualise, if you will a great pit - a pit perhaps of your own devising - or perhaps one devised for you by others - visualise a pit into which you have fallen and cannot get out of.

Filkins writes:

A man fell into a pit and he couldn't get out.

Budda said: "Your pit is only a state of mind."

A **Hindu** said: "This pit is for purging you and making you more perfect."

Confucius said: "If you would have listened to me, you would never have fallen into that pit."

A **new ager** said: "Maybe you should network with some other pit dwellers."

A **self-pitying person** said: "You haven't seen anything until you've seen my pit."

A **news reporter** said: "Could I have the exclusive story on your pit?"

A **federal bureaucrat** said: "Have you paid your taxes on that pit?"

A **county inspector** said: "Do you have a permit for that pit?"

A **realist** said: "That's a pit."

An **idealist** said: "The world shouldn't have pits."

An **optimist** said: "Things could be worse."

A **pessimist** said: "Things will get worse."

But Jesus, seeing the man, took him by the hand and lifted him out of the pit.



A pit is an awful place to be—particularly the pit created by the power of sin and temptation. But there is One who will help. There is One who has managed to avoid the pit and who seeks to help us out of the pit. His name is Jesus.

ST PATRICK'S FAMILY FESTIVAL 18 March

This festival is organised by the Life, Marriage & Family Office and will be held from 2pm-5pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Precinct, 1 Marist Pl, Parramatta. The Irish themed event will include live entertainment, food, rides for all ages and a historical display about the contribution the Irish have made to our Diocese. The event will also raise awareness about the World Meeting of Families taking place in Dublin next year and raise funds for families to be able to attend. All are welcome!

For more information check out:
www.parralmf.org.au/St-patricks-day

Anyone interested in volunteering to help run stalls, prepare food, assist with crowd management and other duties:

Tel: 8838 3441

Email: lmf@parra.catholic.org.au



CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM

The Handmaids of the Lord, an integral part of the family ministry of Couples for Christ Australia Oceania Mission, invites you to participate in a **Christian Life Program (CLP)** to be held in the

Father David Scott Parish Centre
starting Sunday, 19 March at 1pm

The program is an integrated course intended to lead the program participants into a renewed understanding of God's call to them as Christian women. The CLP is a Christian renewal and support ministry and is open to mature women who may be a single parent, unmarried, divorced, separated or widowed.

Details please call:

Lourdes Zaballa ~ 0413 263 695

Sylvia McGee ~ 0410 685 002

FEAST DAYS

7th Ss Perpetua & Felicity
8th St John of God
St Frances of Rome

NOVENA MASS to OUR LADY of PERPETUAL HELP

Every Tuesday at 7pm
in the Church preceded by
Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament 6-7pm

ROSARY

For the intention of world
peace. Every Wednesday
at 2.30pm in the Church.
All welcome.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Every Friday at 3.30pm
in the Marian Chapel.
Please join us.

NEXT MEETING

Parish Council	06/03	7.30pm
SVDP	08/03	7.00pm
MOSJ – Westmead	09/03	7.00pm
Leisure Group	15/03	10.00am
Liturgy	30/03	7.00pm
Baptism Talk	06/04	7.30pm
Finance	20/04	6.45pm

HOLY HOUR for VOCATIONS

Saturday 5pm-6pm

Lent is a season of renewal, of spiritual growth. These forty penitential days invite us to strive for our true calling.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Meet the atheist scientist who believes in miracles
- Our first Chinese-Australian bishop
- Called: Capuchin Brother John Nguyen ordained
- The transgender error: allowing men to define femininity
- Having a ball for St Valentine's
- Terry Tobin: helping Russians to be open to the Church

LITTLE WHITE BOX

Is available this weekend. Your financial support no matter how small makes a big impact on the lives of a mother and her little one.

PARISH MORNING TEA

This will take place next Sunday 12 March following the 9.30am Mass. Please stay awhile and enjoy each other's company!

Overheads for hymns used in the Church are used with permission, Word of Life International Licence N° 2251.

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS AND OTHER ROSTERS

11 / 12 MARCH	6.00PM VIGIL	8.00 AM	9.30 AM	6.00 PM
ACOLYTES	Q	S	I	T
MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	Evelyn Brien Jan Francis	Pat Lord Lesley Neylan	Ken Abrahams Shani Tarrant	Sean Trainor Diana Roberts
ALTAR SERVERS	H	I	J	K
READERS COMMENTATORS	Carmel Kevill Jill Cruz	Gabrielle Badaoui Emmy Cox	Veronica Reitano Tony D'Souza	Esmerelda El-Bayeh Michael Hruby
PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS	Dennis & Hackney Families	Mifsud Family	Brogden Family	Couples for Christ
CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Monique Fenech and Sophia Fenech			
CHURCH CLEANING	Isabelle Badaoui, Eileen & Dennis Dunnachie, Judy Hince, Chris Leonard, Gemma Martin			
WINDOW CLEANING	Joe and Yvonne El-Bayeh			

A Lenten Message from Bishop Vincent

My dear people,

Lent is an important season for us Catholics insofar as it reminds us of the need for conversion. We cannot live life to the full if we gloss over the inconvenient truths about ourselves. We cannot grow to full maturity if we ignore the obstacles that prevent us from reaching our potential. Pope Francis always asks people to pray for him because he says he is a sinner. It is characteristic of a true Christian who recognises the darker side of himself and seeks metanoia, a change of heart.

To read Bishop Vincent's Lenten Message in full and watch the video, please visit:

<http://catholicoutlook.org/bishop-vincent-longs-lenten-message-2017/>

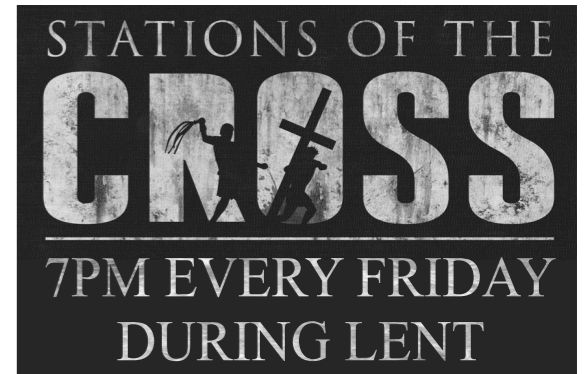
Please take home a Project Compassion box and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Love your neighbour".

You will be helping to empower our world's most vulnerable neighbours to build a better future for our common home.



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Jack & Gladys Scott, Fr David Scott, Therese & Noel Scahill, Louis Bayeh, Alice, Aurelio Lopez, Julia Sherman, Bern, Mary Betts, Elias & Afifi Younis, Frank Whiting, Ted Church, Josephine Clayton, Elizabeth & Allan Ward, Frank Borg, Stella Borg, Fabri Family, Suzanne Portelli, Pasquale & Maria Paoletti, Ross Nelson, Edna Fernandez, Adrian Coppolino, Marie & Claude Strange, Nellie Rodrigues, Brian Hollings, Franco & Lucia Paoletti, Joe Mangion, Sebastian Pereira, Therese Farrugia, Noel May, William Wilson, Sam & Lily Vella, Paul Gove, Noel & Trudy Millett and Mario & Maria Coppolino.



LENTEN OBSERVANCE

To guide you through Lent with regard to abstinence, fasting and penance there is an article entitled "Lenten Penance Explained" (on a yellow sheet) which you can find at the back of the church.

KINDERGARTEN 2018 ENROLMENTS

St Paul the Apostle School will commence accepting enrolment applications for Kindergarten 2018 on Monday 13 March. Please bring your child's original Birth and Baptismal Certificates when applying. If your child was baptised at St Paul's a certificate is not required.

Applications must be made in person, between the hours of 8am-4pm. Applications close in May.

MOMENTS OF MERCY

The greater the misery of a soul,
the greater its right to My mercy.
(Diary 1182)