

# St Paul the Apostle Parish

40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills NSW 2153

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Parish Priest: Fr Raining Creta

Assistant Priest: Fr Marcus Hazelman

For latest updates please visit our Facebook page



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All masses limited to 320.

No bookings required and everyone to sign in upon entry.

## Weekend Mass times

Saturday 5.00pm Vigil

Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am and 5.00pm

## Weekday Mass times

Daily 8.40am (Daily Rosary)

Daily 9.10am (No Tuesday evening Mass at this stage)

Saturday 9.00am (followed by the Rosary)

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4.00pm - 4.45pm

**Baptisms:** First and Third Sunday of each month

All Baptism bookings are to be made via our website

## From Father Raining

In the reading from the Prophet Isaiah, we hear how wonderful it will be when the Messiah comes. Specifically, Isaiah dreams of a Messiah who will bring glad tidings to the poor, heal the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to captives, and release prisoners. In the Gospel reading from Mark, we hear John the Baptist, telling the people that he is announcing this promised messiah.

It is little wonder that this Sunday is called Gaudete Sunday, for it is indeed filled with joyful news.

Did you hear about the driver who was so slow pulling out when the light turned green that the woman driver behind him had to wait through another red light? She got so upset she was shaking her hand out the window, swearing out loud, and making obscene gestures. There was a police car right behind her. He turns on his lights, goes up the woman, arrests her, handcuffs her and takes her to the station. She is detained for two hours while they check the facts. Finally they release her.

The officer apologises. "I'm sorry, Lady," he says, "I heard you yelling and swearing and making gestures. Then I saw the bumper stickers saying, 'Honk if you love Jesus' and 'Follow me to Sunday School.' I just figured you stole the car."

### Questions for Reflection/Discussion:

1. Can you recall a time when you "knew" you were called to do or say something? Do you remember experiencing God's grace at this time?
2. In what ways have you prepared the way of the Lord this Advent? Who or what has prepared the way of the Lord for you this Advent.

## Bishop's Christmas Appeal

This Christmas, let us unite in demonstrating God's unconditional love and keep families together. Your compassionate gifts and prayers will help CatholicCare's Project Elizabeth support vulnerable families to build strong, loving relationships.

Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal: [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal)

This appeal will take place 19th and 20th December. Envelopes will be available and can be placed in any of the collection baskets.

Thank you once again for your faithful support and commitment to our ministries of faith, hope and charity through your support of fundraising appeals.

Our faith community's support provides practical and emotional help for parents, children and families in need so that they have every chance to live their potential and lead positive and fulfilling lives.

## St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Hamper Appeal

We've had a fantastic response to this appeal, once again our parishioners have astounded us with their generosity.

This is the final weekend to donate, via the link <https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/christmas-appeal-4> or 'tap and go' facility will also be available after all masses this weekend.

Any donation no matter how big or small is very much appreciated.

## Confirmation

Congratulations to our 69 children who have now received the sacrament of Confirmation and three children who received the special blessing.

May God continue to be your guide throughout your lives.

## Holy Hour for Vocations

Isaiah says: "The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord." Who taught you knowledge of the Lord, and who are you teaching today?

## Moments of Mercy

O living Host, my one and only strength, fountain of love and mercy, embrace the whole world, fortify faint souls. Oh, blessed be the instant and the moment when Jesus left us His most merciful Heart! — (Diary, 223)

## Catholic Weekly

- A vision for the future: Archdiocese launches it's new plan for evangelisation
- The peace of the confessional
- Victorian Law's collateral damage: Children
- ACU Farewells it's remarkable VC
- Movie review: *The Right Stuff*
- Phillipa Martyr: Catholic ju-jits

## Piety Stall

Available in the Piety Store:

- ★ Columban Calendars—\$8.00
- ★ Christmas Cards—\$6.00
- ★ requisites for all occasions.

Open after all weekend Masses so please come and browse!

## Position Vacant

Head of Mission Integration – Caritas Australia

For more details, please visit <https://www.caritas.org.au/about/jobs/positions-vacant>

## Church cleaning

Joe Budwee, Marie Hiscock, Anne Canty, Linda Pereira, Liz Gold

Due to COVID all other ministries are suspended until further notice. Thank you for your continued commitment.

## Feast Days

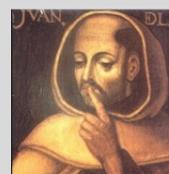
### 13th St Lucy

"Those whose hearts are pure are temples of the Holy Spirit".



### 14th St John the Cross

"Strive to preserve your heart in peace; let no event of this world disturb it."



## Catholic Outlook Magazine Summer 2020/21 Edition

Catholic Outlook Summer edition is out now and free to all parishioners. Read about our amazing HSC students, the new bells of St Patrick's Cathedral and how the new Vatican Ambassador who originates from Castle Hill is settling in. Plus what the symbols of Advent really mean. Don't forget to check out page 47!

## Baptism Welcome

Congratulations to William Wall, Elliot Simms & Isla Fayad who were baptised here last weekend.

*Lord Jesus Christ hear our prayers, and with Your unfailing protection, watch over and cherish these children whom You have blessed with the grace of baptism.*

**Due to COVID-19 do not put this bulletin back in the holder, as it cannot be reused. This bulletin must be taken home with you.**

Overheads for hymns used in the Church are used with permission under ONE LICENCE N° A-642251

## Christmas Mass Times

**No bookings required for Christmas masses**

Thursday 24th (vigil):

**4.30pm, 7:00pm and Midnight**  
(A new 7:00pm Mass replaces 6.00pm & 8:00pm)

Friday 25th:

**8:00am, 9.30am and 11:00am**  
(No evening Mass on Christmas Day)



## New Year's Day Masses

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Friday 1st Jan: 9.00am

**Bookings no longer required for masses**

## Reconciliation

Every Saturday in December 4.00pm-4:45pm with two priests in attendance.

## Communion on the tongue

From Monday December 14th if you prefer to receive Communion on the tongue:

- you will need to wait until after everyone else has received Communion on the hand
- proceed in the centre aisle only
- **and only the priest will perform this**

Father will be careful in placing Communion on the tongue to ensure physical contact is not made.

## Please pray for our sick

Antonio Abulad, Maroun Ayoub, Marija Barclay, Elly Bejma, Danielle Brown, Kay Bull, Helen Butler, John Cassar, Richard Cassin, Ron Cini, Christine Coorey, Sorayda Corpuz, Camarillo Cossid, Kainaz Cowasjee, Fevoura Daroy, Joseph Daroy, Selene Daroy, Emma Davies, Norman De Luca, Frederick de Silva, Gus DelVillar, Camille Diesta, Lara Duncum, Rebecca Duncum, David Edwards, George El-Bayeh, Josephine & Chafic Filfilii, Nick Galea, Ma Juana Gaueta, Patricia Gleeson, Piper Hastings, Peter and Julie Herlinger, Brian Horan, Anthony Iannuzzi, Ludie Irrulbandra, Jacqueline Kelly, Karen Le Huray, Michelle Makin, Josephine Mamari, Carolyn Martin, James Matos, Sonia Merhi, Maria Micallef, Tess Micallef, Dennis Murray, Lesley Palaki, Arun Papali, Lina Pereira, Iranie Perumal, Silvi Perumal, Judy Phillips, Des Prendergast, Emely Reyes, Honor Rosario, Joe Stagnitta, Marty Stockford, Patrick Wheeler, Marielin Suazo Barcelona, Tony Draybi, Fr Domingo Barrawib, Lourdes Zaballa.

**Heavenly Father, We pray that you will lay your healing hands upon all those who are sick. We ask you to have compassion on all who are suffering so that they may be delivered from their painful circumstances. May they know that you are always with them, especially through difficult times. Amen**

## Please pray for

Jack & Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Josephine Clayton, Saverio & Rosa Marotta, Paul Beck, Brian Hurney, Lottie & Fredrick Gibbs, Anna Mary Joseph & Ratnam John Joseph, Maurice & Yvonne Sequeira, Andrew Busuttill, Kerry Cini, Aurelio & Connie Lopez, Michael & Julia Sherman, Chammouni Frangi, Madeleine Adolphe, Brian Baker, Mary & John Ford, John Ford Junior, Rosy Attard, Jim Rowan, Bal & Jennifer Villanova, Donald Ramage, Dex Habito, Charlie Micallef, Andy and Maureen Haddad, Maggie Simpliciano.

**May the souls of our dearly departed rest in peace**

## IMPORTANT CHANGES

Easing of COVID-19 restrictions take effect Mon 7/12:

- **Bookings are no longer required for any Mass- please DO NOT contact the parish office**
- New limit of 320 people for any and all Masses
- **You will need to record your name and phone number yourself upon entry and self sanitise.**
- Allow for extra time before Mass to sign in
- Sign on sheets will be at each door
- Those with existing bookings still need to sign in
- When signing in every person is to be listed separately and not as a group entry.
- Do not write on the back of the sheets if full
- All pre-existing bookings for Christmas and weekend masses are no longer applicable
- Although there are no designated seating arrangements please use common sense and remember to apply social distancing restrictions
- Members of the same family and/or household are permitted to sit together
- Please note reconciliation times have changed to Saturday 4.00pm - 4.45pm
- There is now one Saturday Vigil mass at 5.00pm

## Resumption of some Ministries

For most of this year we were unable to fully engage our wonderful parishioners in many of the roles in Mass. With COVID restrictions easing, and as we transition towards Christmas and Masses with larger attendances, we are in a position where we kindly seek the assistance and support of:

- **Ministers of the Eucharist**, (will be required to wear a mask when distributing the Blessed host)
- **Readers and Commentators.**

Rosters for these are about to be prepared and if you are available to assist, please contact the Parish Office as soon as practical. Thank you!