

# St Paul the Apostle Parish

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Parish Priest: Fr Raining Creta

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For latest updates please visit our Facebook page



[facebook.com/stpaultheapostleparish](https://www.facebook.com/stpaultheapostleparish)



[twitter.com/stpaulapostwin](https://twitter.com/stpaulapostwin)

## From Father Raining

Rev. David Chadwell posed a rather interesting question:

Which would you prefer for a next-door neighbour: person of excellent habits or person with good heart?

Which would you prefer for a good friend: person of excellent habits, or person with a good heart?

Which would you prefer for a husband or wife: person of excellent habits, or person with a good heart?

Which would you prefer for a child: a child with excellent habits, or a child with a good heart?

It is wonderful to have a neighbour who conscientiously cares for their property while respecting yours.

It is wonderful to have a friend who always treats you with consideration.

It is wonderful to be married to a husband who always is thoughtful and courteous, or to a wife who always is gracious in her comments and deeds.

It is wonderful to have a son or daughter who shows respect and uses good manners.

As wonderful as those situations are, none of them compare to having a neighbour, a friend, a husband, a wife, a son, or a daughter with a good heart.

When you discuss good behaviour, you are discussing the quality of a person's self-control.

When you discuss a good heart, you are discussing the quality of the person.

This is the focus of today's Scripture.

Pharisees and teachers have come down from Jerusalem and, interestingly, are gathered around Jesus watching the disciples. The disciples, it seems, are eating lunch, have come in from the day's work.

Too tired and too hungry to care that their hands and faces were dirty, they immediately sat down to eat without washing. The Pharisees seized upon this ceremonial oversight and question Jesus: Why don't your disciples live according to the traditions of elders and clean their hands before they eat? This is all that Jesus needs to hear. He sticks up for his disciples, turns on these teachers and says in essence,

"Why do you not live according to the traditions of God and clean your hearts?" What mistake did these Pharisees make? What is Jesus trying to convey, not only to them, but to us as well.

For you see, it is just as easy for us to fall into a good habit and leave behind a good heart.

What is Jesus' warning to us?

First Reading: God's guidelines for the covenant people's behaviour were not always easy to keep.

*Which of God's commandment is particularly troublesome for me now?*

Second Reading: James tells us to be doers of the word and not hearers only.

*When and for what reasons have I been an eager hearer but a reluctant doer?*

Gospel: Jesus warns us that the real root of sin are our inner attitudes.

*What attitude is giving me trouble lately and pushing me toward wrong actions?*

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## COVID update

Lockdown restrictions are still in place (at this stage) until at least the end of September.

Existing arrangements continue to apply where the Church will remain closed and Masses will be broadcast via our Facebook page. Once restrictions are eventually lifted, we will know more in terms of Mass capacity and if bookings are required, etc and we will provide these updates to our parishioners:

- via our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/stpaultheapostleparish/>

- as announcements during our daily livestreamed Masses

Thank you for your understanding and patience whilst these restrictions are in effect.

## Weekend Mass times

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm

Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am and 5:00pm

## Weekday Mass times

Monday to Friday 9.10am | Saturday 9.00am

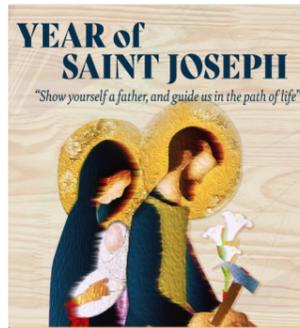
*(all preceded by the Rosary at 8:40 am)*

**All masses limited to 160. No Bookings Required in advance.**

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

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

*All Baptism bookings are to be made via our website*



**'Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life'**

**8/12/2020—8/12/2021**

## Moments of Mercy

Be always merciful as I am merciful. Love everyone out of love for Me, even your greatest enemies, so that My mercy may be fully reflected in your heart. *(Diary 1695)*

## My Jesus I Trust in You

## Catholic Weekly

While the Catholic Weekly is not available from the Church, please feel free to access their website for a wide range of news and information: <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/>

## Holy Hour for Vocations

Don't run away from what you are called to be. Christians take the less travelled road. "What does it profit us if we gain the whole world but ruin ourselves in the process?"



## Bishop's Fathers Day Appeal

The Bishop's Father's Day Appeal, traditionally held on Father's Day, raises much needed funds for the Clergy Support Foundation to continue its work supporting retired clergy and those in ill health. Due to COVID lockdown, the Clergy Support Foundation is postponing the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal in-Parish collection to a later date, when Churches are open once again.

Parramatta Catholic Foundation is assisting us with a mail and online appeal during September.

Your thoughtful gift to the Appeal will mean so much to our retired priests who have put the care of others before themselves.

For more information on the Clergy Support Foundation's work or to make a kind donation please visit [parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal](http://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal)

or call (02) 8838 3482. Thank you, Clergy Support Foundation Committee.

## Social Justice Sunday

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on the 29th of August. The Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement, Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, invites us to join in responding to Pope Francis' invitation to take a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. The Statement provides theological foundations to ground and inspire our efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded.

More information: ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or Tel (02) 6201 9845.

## Thank you for Contributions to Collections at Mass and Planned Giving

The parish is always indebted to those who give through our planned giving. The monthly option of direct debit is becoming increasingly popular and being encouraged for both existing and new givers. If you would like to know more about planned giving please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office by phone or email. Thank you for your contributions and generosity, it is deeply and sincerely appreciated.

## Reflective Ministry Program

The Reflective Ministry Program is a free, online, self-paced leadership development program to renew or encourage people in ministry.

Produced by the Pastoral Formation team, the program covers biblical spirituality, ministry skilling and pastoral theology.

Sign-ups are still open via <https://tinyurl.com/RMIFM> and previous sessions are available as recordings.

## Vinnies Community and School Sleepouts

As you are aware, the Vinnies Winter Appeal will not be held this year due to COVID. It was heartening that the NSW Vinnies Community Sleepout was able to still take place on Friday 27th August. This was held in 11 locations throughout the state that spent a night in their cars, couches and backyards. Vinnies Sleepouts give a glimpse into the realities of homelessness by 'sleeping rough' for a night to raise awareness and funds for Vinnies homelessness services. All funds raised from the event will go towards local Vinnies services and conference work to assist people experiencing hardship with food, clothing, financial aid, educational programs and other vital support.

If you would still like to donate please visit: <https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/vinnies-community-sleepout-western-sydney-2021>

## Support Mass for You at Home

Many people who are isolated, in prison, in hospital or don't have internet rely on Mass for You at Home. The Catholic Mass is broadcast free-to-air each Sunday morning on Channel 10 and WIN at 6am. Find out more at [www.massforyou.com.au](http://www.massforyou.com.au)

## Parish Online Ministry during COVID

There are an extraordinary amount of initiatives taking place online across the Diocese in a number of parishes. These include games nights, trivia competitions, formation, scripture studies and wellbeing check-ins. If your community is willing to share these opportunities beyond your own Parish, the Mission Enhancement Team (MET Parramatta) would love to hear from you and help connect others who are struggling at this time. Email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

## Please pray for our sick

Antonio Abulad, Junelle Ausuncion, Maroun Ayoub, Marielin Suazo Barcelona, Marija Barclay, Elly Bejma, Eveyln Brien, Danielle Brown, Kay Bull, Helen Butler, Richard Cassin, Ron Cini, Christine Coorey, Sorayda Corpuz, Camarillo Cossid, Fevoura, Daroy, Joseph Daroy, Selene Daroy, Emma Davies, Mark Deady, Stephen Deady, Norman De Luca, Frederick de Silva, Gus DelVillar, Camille Diesta, Lara Duncum, Rebecca Duncum, David Edwards, George El-Bayeh, Josephine & Chafic Filfili, Nick Galea, Ma Juana Gaueta, Piper Hastings, Annette Herft, Peter and Julie Herlinger, Colleen Holroyd, Brian Horan, Anthony Iannuzzi, Ludie Irrulbandra, Jacqueline Kelly, Elizabeth Kenny, Karen Le Huray, Sophie Lawrence, Josephine Mamari, Carolyn Martin, James Matos, Leanne Maree McInerney, Judy McNeilage, Sonia Merhi, Maria Micallef, Tess Micallef, Dennis Murray, Lesley Palaki, Arun Papali, Lina Pereira, Iranie Perumal, Silvi Perumal, Des Prendergast, Emely Reyes, Rhiannon McInerney-Robertson, Honor Rosario, Rudy Severino, Joe Stagnitta, Marty Stockford, John Trost, Pelenatete Tuaimau, Karl Wagner, Patrick Wheeler.

**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, Brian Baker, Anna Mary Joseph & Ratnam John Joseph, Maurice & Yvonne Sequeira, Andrew Busuttill, Kerry Cini, Aurelio & Connie Lopez, Bal & Jennifer Villanova, Michael & Julia Sherman, Chammouni Frangi, Madeleine Adolphe, Mary & John Ford, John Ford Junior, Rosy Attard, Jim Rowan, Michelle Makin, Tony Draybi, Donald Ramage, Dex Habito, Andy and Maureen Haddad, Charlie Micallef, Maggie Simpliciano, Lourdes Zaballa, Patricia Minahan, Matthew Essey, Joseph Borg, Louis Saiba. **May the souls of our dearly departed rest in peace**