

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

From Father Raining

There is a fable about a man who lived in the desert. He would wake up every morning and follow his shadow. So as the sun moved across the sky from east to west the man essentially walked in a large oval. At sundown he ended up where he had started. This continued for years. The man walked in circles day after day, following his shadow. One night the man heard the voice of God in a dream while he slept. The voice told him to stop following his shadow. Instead, "Follow the sun," the voice challenged, "And you will experience life as you have never dreamed it could be."

The man thought for many days about his vision of God while he continued to walk around in circles in the desert. But one day he mustered up enough courage to break away from his shadow. Little by little, step-by-step, the man began to follow the sun. And he discovered a kingdom that was, heretofore, way beyond his wildest dreams and imagination. Ultimately, he became friends with the Son.

"For whoever wants to save his own life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for me and the gospel will save it."

First Reading: God's servant must put up with hardship to do what God asks.
How do I respond to hardship and difficulties in living as God requires?

Second Reading: James knows that works are necessary to make faith relevant.
What works am I doing that show my desire to follow Christ more closely?

Gospel: Jesus asks the disciples to tell him who they think he is.
How would I answer Jesus' question today?

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.

A Prayer—for the fifth Plenary Council of Australia

Come holy spirit, who moved the people of this land in ages past,
open our hearts to hear you and our minds to the message you send.
Breathe your vigour into us, and launch us into the deep.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and companion on the road, Amen

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

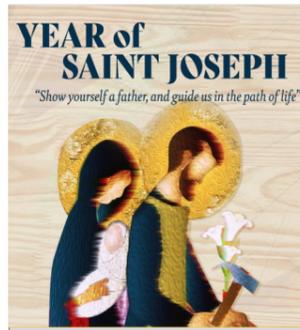
(all preceded by the Rosary at 8:40 am)

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

God will not deny His mercy to anyone. Heaven and earth may change, but God's mercy will never be exhausted. Oh, what immense joy burns in my heart when I contemplate Your incomprehensible goodness, O Jesus! I desire to bring all sinners to Your feet that they may glorify Your mercy throughout endless ages. - *Diary, 72*

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

"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Make a stand for mercy, empathy, forgiveness and selflessness!

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

Mental health

The Diocese of Parramatta is aware of several media reports recently that have highlighted the rise in mental health issues that prolonged lockdowns are having on young people in NSW. A working group made up of our various agencies has been convened to look into this issue and to determine what support we are able to provide our young people. More information from this group will be made available in the coming days and weeks.

Safeguarding Sunday

The Parish of Saint Paul the Apostle, and the Diocese of Parramatta are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday

Office for Safeguarding offering online training to keep our parishes safe

The Office for Safeguarding is providing an opportunity for all of us to develop our awareness and skills in ensuring our parishes are safe and welcoming places for all. The team are currently offering accompanied online training courses throughout September and October. If you are interested or have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email our Safeguarding office on safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org or maria.kervin@parracatholic.org.

Diocese of Parramatta launches Plenary Council resource website

A new website provides resources for parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta to stay involved in the Plenary Council, which is exploring what the future of our Church should look like. The first assembly starts in October, so visit parracatholic.org/plenary-2021/ to find a range of information, a Diocesan prayer and more.

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.

Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Today marks the Optional Memorial of the Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a few days following the Memorial of her Nativity. This feast is the counterpart of the Optional Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus. Honoring the Holy Name of Mary as a feast was originally established around 1513, with variations on the date through the centuries. It was removed during the reform of the General Roman Calendar in 1969 but restored by St. John Paul II as an optional memorial in 2002.

There are two simple points of this feast to draw home today: the honoring of the name of Mary, and also understanding the importance of a name through our baptism. So at this feast of the Holy Name of Mary, we praise her greatness and seek her aid at the invocation of her holy name. We also consider our own Christian name which was conferred at our baptism, when we became part of this family of Christ. Through the intercession of Mary and our patron saints, may we deepen our love of Christ our brother and love for our family in Christ, the Mystical Body of Christ.

Please pray for our sick

Antonio Abulad, Junelle Ausuncion, Maroun Ayoub, Marielin Suazo Barcelona, Marija Barclay, Elly Bejma, Eveyln Brien, Danielle Brown, John Buggy, Kay Bull, Helen Butler, Christine Casey, 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 Filfil, 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, Kenneth Del 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 Busutil, 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 Saliba, Wasley Adolphe, George Khodeir. **May the souls of our dearly departed rest in peace**