

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

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

 twitter.com/stpaulapostwin

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

(Rosary is prayed at 8:40 am before each weekday Mass)

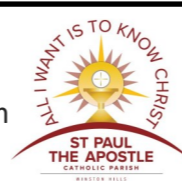
Reconciliation: Saturday 4.00pm - 4.45pm

Baptisms: First and Third Sunday of each month

Baptism bookings only [via our website](#)

Masses that are livestreamed to Facebook:

Mon to Fri 9.10am | Sat 9.00am | Sun 9:30am



From Father Raining

There is a story of a man who had a huge boulder in his front yard. He grew weary of this big, unattractive stone in the centre of his lawn, so he decided to take advantage of it and turn it into an object of art.

He went to work on it with hammer and chisel, and chipped away at the huge boulder until it became a beautiful stone elephant. When he finished, it was gorgeous, breath-taking.

A neighbour asked, "How did you ever carve such a marvellous likeness of an elephant?"

The man answered, "I just chipped away everything that didn't look like an elephant!"

If you have anything in your life right now that doesn't look like love, then, with the help of God, chip it away!

If you have anything in your life that doesn't look like compassion or mercy or empathy, then, with the help of God, chip it away!

If you have hatred or prejudice or vengeance or envy in your heart, for God's sake, and for the other person's sake, and for your sake, get rid of it!

Let God chip everything out of your life that doesn't look like tender heartedness

First Reading: Paul and Barnabas encourage their fellow workers.
Who might need my encouragement today?

Second Reading: The world transformed when God comes to dwell with us.
Where have I experienced God's presence recently?

Gospel: Jesus declares that his followers will be known by their love.
Who has shown me the self-sacrificing love of Jesus?

Prayer to Mary, Help of Christians: Australia's Patroness

Lord, you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary, help of Christians. Through her prayers grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our Citizens. Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for the Safety of Australia as a Christian Nation

Almighty God, we Thy people cry out in our affliction. Do not scorn us but for the glory of Thy name come to our rescue. Look mercifully upon us in our tribulation, and, though we have justly deserved punishment, turn away Thy wrath. Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Help of Christians, bring succour and peace to Australia.

Novena to our

Mother of Perpetual Help

Prayed every Wednesday morning immediately after Mass.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Every Friday 3:30pm in the Marian Chapel. All welcome to attend and join in solemn and intimate prayer.

24 hour adoration

Held the first Friday through to Saturday morning every month.

Moments of Mercy

"Jesus, You have allowed me to know and understand in what a soul's greatness consists: not in great deeds but in great love. Love has its worth, and it confers greatness on all our deeds. Although our actions are small and ordinary in themselves, because of love they become great and powerful before God" (Diary, 889).

Prayer for Vocations

The more your sins are forgiven the more love you must show - what greater love than to lay down your life for others in a vocation to the priesthood or religious life?

Catholic Weekly

As always you can visit their website for a wide range of news, articles and information:

<https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/>

- A tale of two furies. Double standards in politics?
- Parents HANG UP on kid's phones
- CW Informed Voter's Election Guide
- Famed aussie composer dies
- EXCLUSIVE. This timeless faith. Cardinal Pell writes for CW
- Sydney's 'Anglican' Catholic Parish

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RCIA Invitation - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

You are invited to introduce adult family and friends who may be interested in learning about the Catholic faith, in becoming Catholic or in completing reception of Sacraments of Initiation. Our Parish will hold this program and is planned to commence in June after Pentecost. Details for those that are interested can be emailed to our parish office or by telephoning 9639 6516.

Free firewood

We have a reasonable amount of firewood for any interested parishioners. They're tree cuttings of various thickness and have been cut to a small size. If you are interested please contact the parish office for details about where and when to pick up.

Calling all green thumbs

We continue to be truly blessed with the magnificent gardens throughout our Church grounds and is the result of the labours of love of our volunteer gardeners. A constant source of admiration by many and never cease to impress by their beauty and vibrancy. We've all heard the saying many hands make light work and this is especially true for our gardens. If you have a green thumb, or any colour thumb, and are able to volunteer some time to assist with our gardens, we would love to hear from you. Any help would be greatly welcomed, please contact the Parish office to find out more or to register your interest.

While on the subject of Volunteers ...

This week is National Volunteer Week. We take this opportunity to thank, celebrate and acknowledge our dedicated volunteers for their significant contributions and their tremendous work and thank God for their generous patience, persistence and efforts. For without them we would not be where we are, and clearly unable to function as a thriving parish. We are tremendously proud and humbled by their generosity and there is no way we could achieve all we do without them.

If you are interested in assisting within our Parish, in any capacity or ministry, no matter how small it may be, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish office. We are always grateful for any support and assistance!

Positions Vacant: Catholic Youth Parramatta – Project Coordinator x 2

The Diocese is seeking a Project Officer to provide additional support to the coordination and delivery of projects and programs, with a particular focus on local needs, as part of the ministry of MET Parramatta, for the young people of Western Sydney and Blue Mountains. Roles are Part Time (15 to 20 hours) and applications close 29th May. More details please visit <https://parracatholic.org/employment/>

Bishop Vincent Presents Sister Patricia Fox, NDS

Ministering to the poor and marginalised in the Philippines for close to 30 years, Sr Pat Fox was arrested at her convent in northeast Manila and accused by the Filipino president of taking part in illegal political activities and of speaking out against the government.

Join us Friday May 27, 7-9pm at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown for her compelling presentation, a short response from Bishop Vincent Long, Q&A and light canapes and drinks. LIMITED SEATS: Bookings essential via met@parracatholic.org

May - month of Mary

The month of May is the "month which the piety of the faithful has especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady," and it is the occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world [pray] to the Queen of Heaven. During this month Christians, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of God's mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance" (Pope Paul VI). This Christian custom of dedicating the month of May to the Blessed Virgin arose at the end of the 13th century. **Especially in May, please join us as we pray the daily Rosary Mon to Sat at 8:40am.** For prayers and resources please visit catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/05_1.cfm

International Day of Families and National Families Week

May 15th is observed annually as the International Day of Families, and National Families Week is celebrated 15th to 21st May. This reflects the importance which the international community attaches to families as basic units of society as well as its concern regarding their situation around the world. This is a time to celebrate with your family, make contact with your extended family, and share in the enjoyment of family activities within the wider community. It is a time to celebrate the meaning of family and to make the most of family life. Let's take the time to reflect on the critical role that families play in teaching, supporting and nurturing children especially as they grow.

Save the date - Parish Feast Day Celebration on Sunday 26th June

The feast of Saints Peter and Paul falls in late June and we use the occasion of this solemnity to hold our annual parish feast day celebrations. The central focus will be the celebration of the 9:30am Mass followed by fellowship and a meal in the parish grounds. Everyone is welcome to attend and information will follow in coming weeks including how you can get involved in making this a success.

Saint Bernardine of Siena (Feast Day May 20th)

Bernardine was the greatest preacher of his time attacking the rampant paganism. He accomplished all this despite having a very weak and hoarse voice, miraculously improved later because of his devotion to Mary. At 22, he entered the Franciscan Order and was ordained at 24. For over a decade he lived in solitude and prayer, but his gifts ultimately caused him to be sent to preach, travelling on foot and attracting crowds of 30,000. Especially known for his devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus, Bernardine devised a symbol—IHS, the first three letters of the name of Jesus in Greek—in Gothic letters on a blazing sun. This was to primarily displace the superstitious symbols of the day. The devotion spread, and the symbol began to appear in churches, homes and public buildings. Opposition arose from those who thought it a dangerous innovation. Three attempts were made to have the Pope take action against him, but Bernardine's holiness, orthodoxy, and intelligence were evidence of his faithfulness. When Bernardine started there were 300 friars in the community; when he died there were 4,000. He returned to preaching the last two years of his life, dying while travelling.