

St Paul the Apostle Parish

40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills NSW 2153

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Parish Priest: Fr Raning 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)

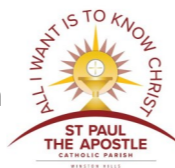
Reconciliation: Saturday 4.00pm - 4.45pm

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



24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration - December 2022

Commences: 9:10am Mass Friday 2nd | Concludes: 9:00am Mass Saturday 3rd

Our Lord Jesus will be exposed for 24 hours and at all times must have someone with Him.

If you are able to be in attendance to ensure we have someone always present, please record your details on the booking sheet as you enter the Church. Thank you.

Come ... spend some time with Him



What is Eucharistic Adoration? Why should I attend?

The Eucharist is the source of life for the Church. Eucharistic Adoration a pious custom in the Church since time immemorial. We adore God when we worship Him in His Real Presence in the Eucharist, and being there in Adoration is a powerful and personal time to be in His presence. Our lives are filled with distractions and Adoration is a beautiful opportunity to be in silence with our Lord, to spend time with Him and where one can find deep, true joy. The Eucharist is also a call for thanksgiving, so what better way to give thanks to the Lord for what He has done in our lives and those of our loved ones!

"The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time that you will spend on earth. Each moment that you spend with Jesus will deepen your union with Him and make your soul everlastingly more glorious and beautiful in heaven, and will help bring about an everlasting peace on earth." – Saint Teresa of Calcutta

"Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to making amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease." – Saint Pope John Paul II

Special Weekday Mass (Thu Dec 8th) - the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend Mass for this solemnity on Thursday 8th December 7:00 pm. It is one of the most important Marian feasts in our liturgical calendar, and centres on the belief Jesus' mother, the Virgin Mary, was conceived without sin.

Christmas / New Years Eve Mass and Reconciliation times

- **Saturday 24th (vigil):** 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, (Carols 11:45 pm), 12:00 pm midnight. **Sunday 25th:** 8:00 am, 9:30 am [no evening Mass]
- **Reconciliation** is held every Saturday in December 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm (except Sat 31st Dec 4:00 pm – 4:45 pm)
- **New Years Eve / Day** (usual Weekend Mass times apply) Saturday vigil 5:00 pm, Sunday 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 5:00 pm
- The only Christmas Mass streamed to Facebook is Sunday 9:30 am. Please note there is no dedicated children's Christmas Mass.

Advent and Christmas - same or different?

Christmas (liturgical not societal!) season is December 25th until January 6th (Epiphany), and **Advent** is the season of *preparation* for Christmas, not the celebration of it. Advent is included with Christmas the same way Lent with Easter. Advent is just as different from Christmas as Lent is from Easter. It is important, in terms of the purpose of Christian Holy Days as teaching tools of the Faith, that Advent and Christmas be different, with different emphases, especially on the first two Sundays of Advent. These need to emphasise expectation and longing, a preparation for celebration much as Lent is preparation for Easter. Without that, it becomes one long celebration without any context for that celebration and with little contact with the reality of life that gave birth to the season in the first place. This also extends to the music and why Christmas hymns and songs are typically not played during Advent.

Everyone is invited to light our Advent Wreath candles - starts this weekend!

As part of our tradition at Christmas time, an Advent wreath is placed on the Altar. At the beginning of each Mass, these candles are lit by members of our congregation. If you would like to take part, please record your details on the roster located in the foyer.

End of Year Mass for our Volunteers and Ministers - Monday December 5th at 7:00pm

All volunteers who assist in our parish, or involved in any of our ministries are invited to attend this special Mass. This is an opportunity to reflect on the efforts and contributions, individually and collectively, especially throughout this year. There is no need to RSVP.

Feast Days this week

Nov 30th Saint Andrew | Dec 3rd Saint Francis Xavier

Baptisms welcome

To Ada, Amarise, Daphne and Rylan being baptised here recently. We pray their faith will be an important and integral part of their lives.

Positions Vacant: St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong

Parish Office Coordinator position. Applications close 10pm Sunday 4th December. More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Getting married? Marriage Preparation Courses in 2023

Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp to view and book courses, or to book the online preparation called *SmartLoving*. To find out more, email met@parracatholic.org or phone Karin 0403 305 431 or Marisa 0412 280 017.

Christmas Stamps

Australia Post has issued their 2022 Christmas stamps, with both a secular and religious themed, and when purchasing, please request the religious stamps. As Christians, we should support this initiative and may each of us play our part to Keep Christ in Christmas.

From Father Raning

A man left the snow-filled streets of Calgary for a vacation in Florida. His wife was on a business trip and planned to meet him there the next day. Upon reaching his hotel, he decided to send his wife a quick email. Unable to find the paper which had her email address, he did his best to type it from memory. Unfortunately, he mistyped one letter in the address and his email was directed instead to an elderly preacher's wife, whose husband had passed away only the day before. When the grieving widow checked her email, she took one look at the message and let out a scream; falling to the floor in a dead faint. At the sound, her family rushed into the room and saw this note on the screen:

Dearest Wife, just got checked in. Everything prepared for your arrival tomorrow. P.S. Sure is hot down here!

First Reading: Isaiah envisions a time of peace and fulfilment for the Jews.
How can I encourage peace and harmony today with others?

Second Reading: Paul tells us to put aside godless ways and live in God's light.
What attitude or action should I reject this Advent?

Gospel: Jesus reminds us that God often comes suddenly into the ordinary events of our lives.
What must I do to be more prepared to encounter God?

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care's Assistance with Care and Housing Service is being held this weekend. No one should be homeless or without support. Your gift will enable giving homeless people practical and emotional support, and a safe place to call home. Please stretch out your hand to the poor and give generously via the Appeal envelopes or online yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal. Thank you for stretching out your hand in compassion for our homeless.

"QUO VADIS?" Pilgrimage to Israel and Rome: 5th – 23rd September 2023

At the request of many of his previous pilgrims, Father Wim Hoekstra is leading a pilgrimage to Israel and Rome in September 2023. The pilgrimage will follow in the footsteps of Saint Peter. For more information contact Fr Wim wim.hoekstra@parracatholic.org or 0409 908 361. Details can be found at www.olivetreetravel.com.au under Upcoming Tours

Please pray for our sick

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

Maroun Ayoub, Helene Barker, Renata Beck, Elly Bejma, Bridget Boldt, Gabrielle Boldt, Danielle Brown, John Buggy, Vicente Calonia, Peter Casey, Christine Coorey, Camarillo Cossid, Emmy Cox, Francis D'Abrera, Iyrika D'Cruz, Gus DelVillar, Tracy Derugo, Helen Dillon, Charlotte Dos Remedios, Adam Duncum, Lara Duncum, Rebecca Duncum, George El-Bayeh, Christine Lin Yew Fai, Nick Galea, Molly Griffith, Steven Hitchings, Anthony Iannuzzi, Elizabeth Kenny, Karen and Lucas Le Huray, Carolyn Martin, Ely Mathew, Leanne Maree McLnerney, Rhiannon McLnerney-Robertson, Sonia Merhi, Maria Micallef, Tess Micallef, Annie Newton, Iranie Perumal, Silvi Perumal, Honor Rosario, Kenneth Del Rosario, Mark Ryder, Alison Samuels, John Trost, Pelenatete Tuaimau, Karl Wagner, Robert Webb, George White.

Please pray for

May the souls of our dearly departed rest in peace

Jack & Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Lourdes Zaballa, Dex Habito, Charlie Micallef, Jim Rowan, Brian Baker, Charles & Josephine Clayton, Kerry and Ron Cini, Vicky Mifsud, Saverio and Rosa Marotta, Paul Beck, Leon Chalker, Maggie Simpliciano, Annette Herft, Andrew Busuttill, Maurice & Yvonne Sequeira, Wasley and Madeleine Adolphe, Aurelio & Connie Lopez, Patricia Minahan, Lena Pereira, Bal & Jennifer Villanova, Geraldine Senewiratne, Frank Borg, Mary and John Ford, John Ford Junior, Donald Ramage, Andy and Maureen Haddad, Thelma Nalliah, Richard Cassin, Julia and Michael Sherman, George Khodeir, Priscilla Bennett, Siobhain Power, Frederick de Silva, Gillian Shannon, Nancy Radocchia, Andrew Scott, Tom Dennis, Ludie Irrullbandra, Maria Di Marzo, Joseph Ebejer, Leone Minahan, Jim Lynch, Billy Leonard.



Novena to our Mother of Perpetual Help

Prayed every Wednesday morning straight after Mass.

Thursday Cenacles

Held in Marian Chapel every Thursday morning 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

"The floodgates of heaven are open to a humble soul, and a sea of graces flows down upon it. God refuses nothing to such a soul, it is all-powerful and influences the destiny of the whole world. God raises up such a soul to His very throne, and the more the soul humbles itself, the more God stoops down to it, pursuing it with His graces and accompanying it at every moment with His omnipotence" (Diary, 1306).

Prayer for Vocations

Many adults never grow up. They continue to traipse across the earth looking for a shining star. Tell them who lights up your life, O Christian.

Catholic Weekly

As always you can visit their website for a wide range of news, articles and information: <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/>

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