

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



From Father Raning

Once, during the hours of a quiet, starlit night, above the hills of Bethlehem, from a strange voice there came an announcement this world will never forget. To a few shepherds then - and to all the world eventually - that voice said, "Behold! I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be to all people ..."

We cannot be sure what language that messenger spoke - perhaps Hebrew, maybe Aramaic, or possibly some language never named and not understood except by a few. But the message heard that night has been translated into almost every language spoken on this planet. When the message reached primitive England, there it encountered an old Anglo-Saxon word, "godspell," which meant "good news" and thus the message became the "gospel" and so it has remained ever since.

"I bring you good news!" From whatever source, these are welcome words to most people most of the time. But this particular piece of news is especially good because it is good for all people in all time. For over 2,000 years it has occupied an uppermost place in human thought.

And now today, it is because of this piece of good news that we are gathered here - to think about it again, to talk about it some more, to ponder it anew, to give thanks for it and rejoice in it - and to prepare ourselves to share it with all others wherever we can.

First Reading: Isaiah foresees the beginning of freedom from our burdens.

What burdens do I want Jesus to lift from me today?

Second Reading: We must reject godless ways to enjoy the gift of Jesus.

What must I give up in order to live more like Jesus wants?

Gospel: The child is a sign of the peace and unity God desires for all.

What sign of this unity have I experienced this Advent?

Feast Days this week

25th The Nativity Of The Lord | 26th St Stephen | 27th St John | 28th The Holy Innocents
29th St Thomas Becket (Commemoration) | 30th The Holy Family Of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
31st St Sylvester I (Commemoration) | Jan 1st Solemnity Of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God

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, 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 McInerney, Rhiannon McInerney-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 Smpliciano, 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, Bea Therese, Joanna Luz Ococa, Iyrika D'Cruz.

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

O my Jesus, my only hope, thank You for the book which You have opened before my soul's eyes. That book is Your Passion which You underwent for love of me. It is from this book that I have learned how to love God and souls. In this book there are found for us inexhaustible treasures. O Jesus, how few souls understand You in your martyrdom of love! Oh, how great is the fire of purest love which burns in Your Most Sacred Heart! Happy the soul that has come to understand the love of the Heart of Jesus! — *Diary, 304*

Prayer for Vocations

Can you honestly pray: Unless your family loves you, nothing else makes sense. In your family your vocation can grow in wisdom, age and grace.

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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Welcome to the parish of Saint Paul the Apostle !

If you are visiting or just passing by, we extended a sincere and warm welcome to you and yours, and hope that you will visit us again.

If you are new to the parish or would like to know more about becoming part of our parish community at Saint Paul the Apostle, please don't hesitate to:

- phone or visit our parish office
- visit our Piety Stall where we will be more than happy to say hello
- send us an email from the Contact us page on our website.

Solemnity Of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God, New Years Eve/Day Mass times

Usual Weekend Mass times apply - Saturday vigil 5:00 pm, Sunday 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 5:00 pm

The Feast of Solemnity Of Mary is one of the most important feast days of the year, however it is not a Holy Day of Obligation. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference decreed (unchanged since 2001) the only feast days to be observed as holy days of obligation are Christmas Day, the Feast of the Assumption and all Sundays of the year.

Baptism welcome

To Lauren who was baptised here recently. We pray that her faith will be an important and integral part of her life.

Special prayer for our parish Volunteers and Ministers

A special Mass was celebrated earlier this month for volunteers who assist in our parish, and involved in any of our various ministries. This was an opportunity to reflect on the efforts and contributions, individually and collectively, especially throughout this year. Following is the prayer that Father prayed at Mass and included here for those who were unable to attend.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, the privilege is ours to share in the loving, healing, reconciling mission of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Thank you for the willingness of our volunteers and ministers to respond to your call to serve with gladness. Loving Father, please fill each volunteer with the knowledge of Your will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. Stir their hearts to hunger and thirst after You. Sustain them on the days when they are tired, give them the strength to serve with patience, mercy, and grace. As they serve you, may they be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ordination to the Priesthood

On Thursday 2nd February, Deacon Adam Carlow and Deacon Jack El Kazzi will be ordained to the presbyterate (priesthood), after being ordained to the *diaconate* during 2022. Deacon Adam was in our parish as a Seminarian placement for about 18 months until mid 2021 and since then has been at Guildford. Deacon Jack was also in our parish briefly in late 2020, and is at Castle Hill. As we know more details they will be published in our bulletin.

A Prayer for Seminarians

Jesus, we thank you for the great gift of your priesthood in the Church. We pray for all priests and those in formation for the priesthood. Form their hearts to be more like your own, the Heart of the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep. Draw them to your Heart, and bless them with courage and zeal as they serve you and your people. Give them great joy as they proclaim the Good News of your Resurrection, wisdom and trust as they discern your will. We ask this with great confidence in you. Amen. St John Vianney, patron of priests, pray for us.

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses recommence February 2023

This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Communion to the Sick and Dying, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion and Ministers at the Altar. For more information, or to enrol, please contact our parish office.

Diocesan World Day of the Sick Mass: 11th February 2023

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held 11:00am Saturday 11th February at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6th February to hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org

A very happy and holy Christmas to all members of our Parish Family. May the peace and joy of the Christ Child be with you all during this Christmas Season and in the coming New Year.

