

St Paul the Apostle Parish

40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills NSW 2153

T: 9639 6516 W: www.stpaultheapostleparish.org

Office hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Parish Priest: Father John Paul Escarlan
Assistant Priest: Father Abraham Kunnatholy

For latest updates please visit our Facebook page

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

Baptisms: First and Third Sunday of each month
Baptism bookings only [via our website](#)

Weekend Mass times

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

Weekday Mass times

Monday to Saturday 9.10am (preceded by Rosary at 8:40am)
Thursday 7.00pm (preceded by Adoration at 6:00pm)

Reconciliation:

Thursday 6.15pm - 6.45pm (during Adoration)
First Friday 6.00pm - 7.00pm (during Adoration)

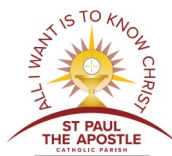
Saturday 4.00pm - 4.45pm

Adoration:

Thursday 6.00pm - 7.00pm
First Friday 9.45am - 9.00am Saturday

Masses livestreamed to Facebook:

Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri,



Christmas / New Years Eve Mass and Reconciliation times

- **Mass times (4th Sunday of Advent)** Saturday 23rd: 5:00 pm Sunday Vigil | Sunday 24th: 8:00am and 9:30am
- **Christmas Mass times**
Sunday 24th [vigil]: 5:00 pm (Children's Mass), 8:00 pm, (Carols 11:45 pm), 12:00 pm midnight.
Monday 25th: 8:00 am, 9:30 am (no evening Mass on Christmas Day)
- **New Years Eve / Day Mass times** (usual Mass times apply) Sunday Dec 31st 5:00 pm / Monday Jan 1st 9:10am
- **Reconciliation** is held every Saturday 4:00 pm – 4:45 pm and every Thursday 6.15pm - 6.45pm (during Adoration)
- The only Christmas Mass streamed to Facebook is Monday 9:30 am.

Invitation to participate in our Children's Christmas Mass

After a number of years absence, we are pleased to announce a Children's Mass will be held Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th at 5pm. There is just the one rehearsal and is the day before on Saturday 23rd from 10:00am to 1.00pm in the Father David Scott Parish Centre. Minimum age to participate is if already enrolled for Kindergarten in 2024 or at school. We are grateful to Veronica Brogden who has kindly agreed to coordinate the Nativity and Mass, and SMS her on 0414 345 526 to register your child's interest or for any queries. Please note the Children's Nativity will commence at 5:00pm sharp with Mass to follow immediately afterwards.

Ministers required for Christmas Masses

We are in need of Readers, Commentators, Projectionists and Ministers of the Eucharist for our Christmas Masses. If any Ministers are available to assist, please write down your details on the list on the table as you enter the Church. Thank you!

Another year winds up for our Special Religious Education Teachers

Throughout this year, 14 of our parishioners were out and about visiting a number of our local State schools each week in the role of Catechists, or Special Religious Education Teachers. Not only are they sowers of seeds who respond to the call of Jesus, they bring the light of Christ into this world and do so with the strength of the Holy Spirit. We continue to be grateful for their dedication, sacrifice, passion and contributions, which they joyfully perform on a purely voluntary basis. At this time of year, together with their students, they have been preparing for Christmas and please remember them all in your prayers. In the new year we will be sharing more about their tremendous work and if you would like to know more about this ministry, please contact Melissa Ellis 0409 744 565 or mel.ellis@me.com .

St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal next weekend

This year our Winston Hills conference will again be purchasing Christmas hampers from Foodbank NSW. These cost \$25 each however are worth well over that amount. This subsidy greatly assists the Society in their work. Each year your support enables the less fortunate families in the Mount Druitt area to enjoy a special treat. Any donation, no matter how big or small, is very much appreciated. You can donate at anytime using this QR code: There will be a special collection at all masses next weekend and a tap-n-go facility also be available after each mass. Donate online at anytime: my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/winston-hills-conference-christmas-appeal



Rosters for January to March 2024

These are expected to be released towards the end of next week. Thank you again for your tremendous support!

Baptisms welcome

To Angus, Ayla, Jericho, Josiah and Teddy who were baptised here recently. We pray that their faith will be an important and integral part of their lives.

Liturgical Ministry Formation Course commencing in 2024

This is formation for anyone interested in assisting our parish as Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. **IMPORTANT: Positions for these courses fill quickly!** These courses commence in mid February 2024 and for more information please contact the parish office.

Join our Catholic Youth Parramatta (CYP) team!

The Diocese of Parramatta's Mission Enhancement Team (MET) is looking to expand and deepen the work of CYP in 2024. This is an opportunity to impact the lives of thousands of youth and young adults in our ever-growing ministry, especially in schools. For more details visit parracatholic.org/employment Applications close at 12pm, Monday 11th December

Christmas Stamps

Australia Post has issued their 2023 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.

Upcoming Feast Days, Memorials, Solemnities

11th Saint Damasus I | 12th Our Lady of Guadalupe | 13th Saint Lucy | 14th Saint John of the Cross

Men's Ministry of St Paul Inaugural Gathering—Thursday December 14th

All men 18 & over are welcome for an evening of Mass and Worship in our Church followed by Prayer and Fellowship in our Parish Centre. December's topic of discussion: "The Christian meaning of Christmas". The evening commences at 6pm with Adoration then Mass. It would be appreciated if you could indicate your interest by phoning the parish office 9639 6516 else email menministryofstpaul@gmail.com . Scan this QR code for updates:



- **2024 Columban Calendars available from our piety stall and still only \$8 each.**
- **There will be no Mass with the Ephpheta community in January, and will resume in February.**
- **Please note there will be no 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration on the first Friday in January.**

Message from our St Vincent de Paul Society team

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay catholic organisation founded 1833 in France which is now active in 150 countries with over 800,000 members and 1,500,000 volunteers supporting the poor and vulnerable, and works to shape a just and compassionate society. In Australia, the Society was founded in 1854 and commonly known as 'Vinnies' and today has over 45,000 members and volunteers across the country.

Our membership is primarily Catholic and our work based on Catholic Social Teachings. We assist whoever seeks our support, without judgement or prejudice. We do not discriminate against cultural, religious, political, gender or gender identity beliefs. We work to combat social injustice by advocating for people who are marginalised or disadvantaged, or at risk of experiencing disadvantage. Our advocacy work goes to the heart of what the St Vincent de Paul Society stands for.

Our Winston Hills conference started in 1972 at a time where care was to the needier people in the developing Mount Druitt area and still do to this day. Our conference comprises of six active members who meet for prayer, spiritual reflection and to review the home visits. New members are always welcome, and contact Sam Formosa on 0451 792 456, or feel free to turn up to one of our meetings in the Father David Scott Parish Centre conference room at 7pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

Here are some of many ways people of any age can help assist support and contribute to Vinnies:

- Volunteering some of your time in our Vinnies Shops, from where about a third of our funding is sourced.
- Students engaged in a number of community activities, including Mini Vinnies
- Vinnies Vans providing meals, blankets, toiletries, companionship including for those in need or at risk.
- Participating in Community Sleepouts to raise awareness on homelessness and to raise crucial funds.

Next weekend there will be a collection for St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal at all masses.

By helping this Appeal, you will assist in two ways. At a local level, our members and volunteers will be able to offer assistance directly to families and individuals. At a broader level, you will contribute to the large and varied network of short and longer-term support services for people in NSW requiring specialised care.

Support for this Appeal will benefit recipients, and address poverty and disadvantage in our communities.

St Vincent de Paul told his followers there are no people so rich that they have nothing to receive, and none so poor that they have nothing to give.

"The strongest hand of true friendship is charity; the exercise of charity is the practice of good works." - Blessed Frederic Ozanam, founder of St Vincent de Paul Society.

Parish Safeguarding

We take the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons seriously. Refer concerns to the Parish Priest, or to safeguarding@parracatholic.org or 8838 3419. For more details: www.safeguarding.org.au

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

Aeroll Kleins, Anthony Iannuzzi, Cathie Christie, Daniella Younis, David, Fran Flaherty, George El-Bayeh, Iranie Perumal, Kayla Ho, Marjory Baker, Michael Ford, Nick Galea, Peter Gamble, Tony Charlesworth.

Please pray for ... May the souls of our dearly departed rest in peace. Amen

Jack & Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Anna Abate, Bal & Jennifer Villanova, Barbara Killick, Beth Kenny, Charles & Josephine Clayton, Charlotte Dos Remedios, Felicula Purisima Perez, Fouad & Olga Matta, Gonzalo del Villar, Grace Lucas, Herbert Morris, Howard D'Abera, John Ford Junior, John McGee, Julianna Torres, Keith Wyatt, Lou, Amy & Leon Burbidge, Mary Hackett, Oscar Estacio, Paul & Josephine Lauria, Paul Martin, Ray Bazouni, Thelma Nalliah, William Geraghty.

Novena to our Mother of Perpetual Help

Prayed during our morning Mass every Wednesday.

Thursday Cenacles

Held in Marian Chapel after every Thursday morning Mass.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Fridays 3:30pm in Marian Chapel.

Liturgy of the Hours

First Friday at 6:00pm

2SM Filipino Mass

Second Sunday at 11:00am

Mass with Ephpheta

Third Sunday at 9:30am

Moments of Mercy

In an appearance to Saint Faustina, the Christ Child told her, "I keep company with you as a child to teach you humility and simplicity" (*Diary, 184*)

Prayer for Vocations

Vocations from God are not always clear. Not all of us are like Joseph who had an angel appear to him: "Take Mary as your wife, and fear not."

Hearing Loop

For signal, set to 'T' (Telecoil).

Low gluten hosts

Available upon request.

Catholic Weekly

Their website also has a range of news, articles and information: www.catholicweekly.com.au/

Catholic Outlook

Access at anytime online: www.catholicoutlook.org/

Overheads for hymns used in the Church are used with permission under ONE LICENCE No A-642251

