

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, Sat 9.10am, Thu 7:00pm, Sun 9:30am



Message from our Priest

The following is a continuation of previous articles in respect of the Catholic Church.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Members of Eastern Catholic churches or Oriental Catholic churches are known as Eastern rite Catholics or Oriental Catholic Churches. They are sui iuris (autonomous) Catholic churches or independent eastern Catholic churches in the communion of Catholic churches. Around the world, their membership may be about 18 million.

The largest catholic group among the oriental churches is the Greek Catholic Church or Ukrainian Catholic church. It had its origin in from the ancient Christian communities of eastern Roman empire. It took shape after the great eastern and western divide of 1054 which is known as great schism. The Greek Catholic Church acknowledges the authority of the Pope while retaining tis unique liturgy, spirituality, theology, and traditions. They still maintain some of the Byzantian practices influenced by the eastern orthodox church.

They follow the Byzantine rite and have about 5.5 million followers, being the largest group among the oriental Catholics. They were separated from Rome for a long time after the great schism. Almost after 600 years of separation they got connected to Rome in 1595 AD. Still there are some bishops who have not come to the full communion with Rome.

The head of the church is major Archbishop and are spread mainly in Ukraine and old soviet countries. They are also present in many countries in Europe, North America, South America, the Middle East, Asia, and Oceania. This church is a major-archiepiscopal church headed by a Major Archbishop.

They have a very attractive architectural style for their churches and maintain a different organisational style from that of Roman Catholic churches. Overall, we can say that the Greek Catholic Church stands as a testament of diversity and unity within the catholic churches, blending ancient eastern traditions with a commitment to the authority of Pope. And their life and witness add to the colour of the Christian heritage in the wider scenario.

Father (Doctor) Abraham Kunnatholy CMI

Parish Safeguarding

We take the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons seriously.

Refer concerns to the Parish Priest, or to Office for Safeguarding and Professional Standards safeguarding@parracatholic.org or 8838 3419. More information available at 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 Klein, 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, Father Brian Rooney, Barbara Killick, Brian Reardon, Charles & Josephine Clayton, Charlotte Dos Remedios, Felicula Purisima Perez, Fouad & Olga Matta, George Steele, Geraldine Senewirathne, Grace Lucas, Herbert Morris, Iyrika D'Cruz, John Ford Junior, John McGee, Lolit & Jonnel Del Rosario, Lorain Coyte, Mary Hackett, Paul Martin, Ray Bazouni, Sarkis & Tamina Matta and all the deceased members of their family, Tony Vasta, Barry Sliagar.

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

St Paul's Men's Ministry

Second Thursday of the month:
6pm-Church, 8pm-Parish Hall

2SM Filipino Mass

Second Sunday at 11:00am

Mass with Ephpheta

Third Sunday at 9:30am

Moments of Mercy

"I am not only the Queen of Heaven, but also the Mother of Mercy and your Mother. I am Mother to you all, thanks to the unfathomable mercy of God." (*Diary 330 & 449*)

Prayer for Vocations

"For your example, brothers, in patiently putting up with persecution, take the prophets who spoke in the Lord's name" A vocation is responding to the call of God.

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

Christmas / New Years Eve Mass and Reconciliation times

- **Mass times (4th Sunday of Advent)** Saturday 23rd: 5:00pm Sunday Vigil | Sunday 24th: 8:00am and 9:30am
- **Christmas Mass times** Sunday 24th: 5:00pm (Vigil/Children's Mass), 8:00pm, (Carols 11:45pm), 12:00pm midnight.
Monday 25th: 8:00am, 9:30am (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.

Additional Reconciliation times this Tuesday 19th

Held 10:00am -12:00pm and 4:30pm - 7:00pm. As there will be one priest, please be considerate of the finish times for each session.

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!

Christmas Mass Times for all parishes in Parramatta Diocese

All Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times across our Diocese are available at www.parracatholic.org and www.catholicoutlook.org

Mens Ministry of St Paul Inaugural Gathering ... and save the date for the next on January 11th

Twenty men gathered on Thursday 14th for the first time as part of the Mens Ministry of St Paul. Those assembled attended adoration, availed themselves of confession, celebrated Mass and then shared a light meal. The keynote speaker Tony Montgomery challenged everyone to detach from worldly things by going through our possessions and eliminating whatever is superfluous; not to consider anything as one's own and trying to not complain when even the most basic things are lacking. Food for thought and action! Are you up for the challenge? All men over 18 are invited for their next meeting Thursday January 11th and there is no need to RSVP. To find out more about this Ministry, please phone the parish office 9639 6516 else email mensministryofstpaul@gmail.com .

New Diocesan website launched

The new website has exciting features and functionality including 'Find a Mass', Reconciliation and Adoration times, event calendar, Daily Mass readings and different ways you can contribute to the Church in our Diocese. Visit it now: parracatholic.org

Please take home a free copy of the latest Outlook magazine

As always there is a wide range and variety of content and in this edition there is an article about our parish of St Paul the Apostle!

St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal - Thank you

The Society are deeply grateful for your generous support of their Christmas Appeal. As in previous years the Winston Hills Conference will again be purchasing Christmas hampers from Foodbank NSW. These cost \$25 each however are worth well over that amount. Please donate online anytime: my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/winston-hills-conference-christmas-appeal . Thank you.

Baptisms welcome

We welcome James who was baptised, and Matt who received the Rite of Christian Initiation. As a parish community we pray that their faith will be an important and integral part of their lives.

Rosters for January to March 2024

These will released by the end of this week. Thank you again for your tremendous support!

Columban Art Calendar

This is an iconic Catholic Calendar, well known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information and is a major fundraiser for Columban Missionaries. Please consider buying one for yourself or perhaps a family friend or relative and available for \$8.00.

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. For more information please contact the parish office.

Upcoming Feast Days, Memorials, Solemnities

21st Saint Peter Canisius (commemoration) | 23rd Saint John of Kanty (commemoration)

Receiving Communion for those unable to attend Mass

If you, or anyone you know, seeks to receive the blessed Eucharist at their home please contact the parish office to arrange.

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2024

Visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp or to find out more, email met@parracatholic.org or call Karin 0419 242 435 or Marisa 0412 280 017.

Have you visited our Piety Stall lately?

Our Piety stall carries a wide range of gifts, cards and religious items for all occasions. You are welcome to stop by and browse and if there is something particular you are after, please don't hesitate to ask. It is operated on a voluntary basis after the weekend masses and we acknowledge those who generously volunteer their time to keep it open. Thank you again for supporting our Piety Stall.