

# St Paul the Apostle Parish

40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills NSW 2153

T: 9639 6516 W: [www.stpaultheapostleparish.org](http://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



**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)

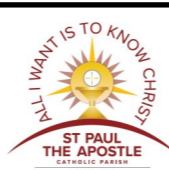
Saturday 4.00pm - 4.45pm

**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



## Lenten Program 2024 - deadline for ordering books is Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January

Our parish will be again holding Lenten discussion groups and more details will be available shortly. The theme for our program is *Pieta*. *Pieta* is perfect for individual devotional reading in addition to the longer-form Sunday Scripture readings and reflections, prayers and questions that traditionally form part of Lenten groups, and contains short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday). If you are interested in knowing more about *Pieta*, or viewing a sample of the resources, please visit <https://www.dow.org.au/shop/>. Booklets will be provided free of charge. To place your order, please add your details on the register as you enter the Church. We are placing our order on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January and any requests after this date cannot be accepted.

## Security and cameras

Every effort is made where possible to ensure the safety of everyone whilst on our grounds and also within the Church. A number of cameras already monitor and record activity inside the Church and around our property, and was only made possible through the receipt of a government grant. To supplement this, additional cameras were recently installed adjacent to the driveway. These will monitor vehicular activity entering and leaving the property, and also the area around the Vinnies charity bins. Use of these cameras are one way to provide additional level of security, and we also acknowledge our ever vigilant parishioners. If you ever have any concerns about your safety or that of others, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office.

## Ministry and Volunteer groups - Roster changes and WhatsApp

One of the strengths of our Ministry groups is early communication and advice when a person becomes unavailable to commit to their rostered mass. This supports timely swaps and ensures that our ministries are covered for all of our masses. This has been highly successful through the use of WhatsApp groups. Please continue to regularly monitor your relevant group and it is recommended to activate WhatsApp notifications. For any queries regarding the use of WhatsApp, including access, please contact the parish office.

## St Pauls Men Ministry Update and invitation to their next gathering February 8<sup>th</sup>

"The basic foundations of prayer are humility, faith and perseverance" said Tony Montgomery, our speaker at last Thursday's Men's Ministry evening. The challenge Tony gave us is to try and make prayer (conversation with God) a regular, habitual part of your life. That evening the Men's Ministry hosted a gathering of 24 men after Mass for a meal, great informative discussions and fellowship. All men over 18 are welcome to our next gathering, Thursday February 8<sup>th</sup>. Until then "Your Father in heaven awaits you now and every day of your journey and beyond with His loving kindness and presence go meet Him"

## Updating our Sick List in this Bulletin

If you have someone in the *Please pray for our sick*, who has since recovered or sadly passed away, please contact the parish office. This is so their name can be removed to allow the list to remain up to date but also allow inclusion of others due to space limitations.

## Mass Intentions requests and envelopes

To prevent any confusion, assumptions or spelling errors, it would be greatly appreciated if parishioners indicate on the envelopes:

- names written clearly and distinctly with full and specific details, including dates where relevant
- if the intentions are for illness, anniversary, deceased or recently deceased

Please feel free to use the back of the envelope if you need the extra space. Thank you.

## Feast of Holy Child Jesus - Nine Day Novena Mass: Saturday January 21<sup>st</sup>

At Good Shepherd Parish in Plumpton, the feast day Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 2:30pm.

You are all invited to attend and participate in this Novena, especially as the worship of Our Lord is truly universal.

## Diocesan World Day of the Sick Mass: Saturday February 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am

Mass includes Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown.

All are welcome, including who care for the sick and dying. RSVPs are required by February 6<sup>th</sup> to [mary.gale@parracatholic.org](mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org)

## Come and join in our fortnightly Leisure Group

A social group where the young at heart share a laugh and a cuppa every second Wednesday 10am - 12pm in the Father David Scott Parish Centre. The next get together is Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January. Want to find out more? Please phone Anne on 0417 043 605

## What is the difference between the first and second collections?

As you are aware, there are two collections at our weekend Masses. There is a difference between these in terms of allocation of funds, with the following information providing some clarification.

**First Collection:** primarily supports the clergy across our Diocese. This provides the monthly stipend for our clergy and in addition provides for care and health of clergy both current and retired.

**Second Collection:** provides for our specific parish (ie St Paul's) expenses. These include both our Church and Office and in respect of our various ministries, and includes all operating and maintenance costs, liturgical provisions and insurance.

As always, thank you for your ongoing and generous financial support of our Parish and if you are interested in our Planned Giving program, please don't hesitate to contact the Parish office.

## Upcoming Retreats at Mulgoa

**Come & See:** The Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary is providing a unique opportunity to observe and experience their spiritual lifestyle in a weekend retreat. The retreat will consist of personal prayer, reflection, and learning about spirituality with the Sisters.

When: February 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$125 and register by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> Jan Sr Rebecca 0417 738 339 or [sr.rebeccasampang@gmail.com](mailto:sr.rebeccasampang@gmail.com)

**Grace & Silence:** A four part silent retreat series for single, young women 20-40 years of age discerning a vocation to Marriage and Family, Single Life or Consecrated Life. Attendance at all four full day retreats is highly recommended.

Registration closes Feb 25<sup>th</sup> for Part 1. For more information please contact Hannah on 0433 443 384.

## 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 asked him, "Do you have among our students any who are a comfort to your heart?"

The Lord answered (that) he has, but their live is weak, and so I put then in your special care - Pray for them. (*Diary #288*).

## Prayer for Vocations

Once we have been captured by the beauty of God's promised reward, we want to go out into our world and invite others into the heavenly banquet. Who will tell the Good News? Now is a good time to begin.

## Catholic Outlook

Access at anytime online:

[www.catholicoutlook.org/](http://www.catholicoutlook.org/)

## Catholic Weekly

News, articles and information:

[www.catholicweekly.com.au/](http://www.catholicweekly.com.au/)

## Low gluten hosts

Available upon request.

## Hearing Loop

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

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

## There is nothing Ordinary about Ordinary Time !

Today in the Church's liturgical calendar we celebrate the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time. You may also be asking yourself why isn't there a first Sunday of Ordinary Time? Because there isn't! Last Sunday, being Epiphany Sunday, is not part of Ordinary Time as it is officially part of Christmastime. Normally, what would have been the first Sunday of Ordinary Time, is actually the Baptism of the Lord, which was celebrated last Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

It is also important to recognise that Sunday (and not Monday) is the first day of a liturgical week. When we offer the prayers of a weekday in ordinary time, assuming there is no particular feast that day, we use prayers from the Sunday before. So to call the Sunday, that we call the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, the First Sunday, would be to look backwards and not forward in the week, which is not the way we view liturgical time. So in the Roman Missal, prayers for those days are listed under "First Week of Ordinary Time," while the prayers for every future week fall under the relevant "Sunday of Ordinary Time" for that week.

Ordinary Time is a season encompassing the majority of the liturgical calendar, lasting for 33 or 34 weeks. The season is divided into two parts: one between the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and Ash Wednesday, and the other between Pentecost and Advent. This division reflects the unfolding of Jesus' life and ministry, with the first part focusing on his early years and the second part on his public ministry.

The term "Ordinary Time" does not imply that these Sundays are ordinary or unimportant; rather, the word "ordinary" is derived from the Latin word "ordinalis," meaning "numbered."

Sundays and weeks of Ordinary Time are days of growth and harvest -- days of hope and time to mature in one's faith. Green is the colour of ongoing life in nature: the renewal of spring grass, flowers and trees. Green signifies hope and growth, inviting us to journey deeper into the heart of our relationship with God.

## Returning in February

- The first 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration for 2024 will take place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Morning Tea will be held after both morning Masses on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>
- 9:30am Mass with Ephpheta Community on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>
- Everyone is invited to attend and we encourage you to bring members of your family or friends.

## 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](mailto:safeguarding@parracatholic.org) or 8838 3419. More information available at [www.safeguarding.org.au](http://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, Peter Casey, Daniella Younis, David, George El-Bayeh, Iranie Perumal, Kayla Ho, Lucas Le Huray, Mary Finianos, 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, Aaron Apikotoa, Ajay Kallukalam, Antoun & Laila Moubarak, Beth Kenny, Charles & Josephine Clayton, Charlotte Dos Remedios, Donald John Bush, Dorothy Dahlberg, Ella (Bobbie) Darcy, Joyce Morris, Nametallah ElKhoury, Nathalina Pereira, Patricia McInerney, Vito Collisimo, Joan Gurr, George Steel, Gonzalo Balagtas (Senior), Brother Patrick Fetherston, Ross Pollard, David Wilks, Alan and Noel Darcy.