

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



24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration - February

Commences: 9:10am Mass Friday 2nd | Concludes: 9:10am 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

**** Please note for February only there will not be Reconciliation or Evening Prayers at 6:00pm**



Wednesday evening Lenten discussion group and call out for volunteer leaders

A Lenten Discussion Group will be held every Wednesday during Lent in the Marian Chapel at 7:00pm, commencing on February 21st. There is no need to register your attendance and everyone is invited to attend any or all of these sessions.

We cannot hold these groups without the generosity of volunteers to lead the weekly group and if you are able to assist in leading the discussion, please contact the parish office as soon as practical. Ideally we can have enough volunteers so everyone only has to lead one week each. For those who pre-ordered the Lenten Program booklets, we will advise when these become available for pickup.

Ash Wednesday - February 14th

Ash Wednesday Masses, including distribution of Ashes, will be held at 6:30am, 9:10am and 7:00pm. This marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. Penance, reflection, and fasting prepares us for Christ's Resurrection, through which we attain redemption. The practice includes wearing of ashes on the head and symbolise the dust from which God made us.



Welcome to those Baptised here recently

To Noah, Ted, James and Sophie, we pray their faith will be an important and integral part of their lives.

Invitation to attend Christ's Catholic Community weekly prayer group - Friday February 16th

Do you want to prepare yourself for weekend Mass? Especially during Lent? Please come along as the group goes through Readings and Gospel with an explanation of the Gospel. Praying of the Rosary follows and sing one or two songs in between. The first assembly of this group will be Friday February 16th at 10am in the Conference Room of our Parish Centre and take about one hour. It is hoped this group will assemble every Friday on an ongoing basis. Please direct all queries to the organiser Pauline Camilleri 0407 417 039.

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life: Thursday February 2nd

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is celebrated as the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life. Let us pray that those consecrated to God by their vows may seek to live their baptismal promises more intensely and have the grace to persevere in their commitment. May all in consecrated life continue to be inspired by the Gospel and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

St Pauls Men Ministry invitation to their next gathering - Thursday February 8th

Lent is coming! In preparation would you consider joining us the Thursday before, to participate in some valuable reflections and discussions that could assist you greatly in making this years Lent one to remember?

The evening starts with 6pm Eucharistic Adoration, followed by 7pm Mass, and then assemble at 8pm in the Parish Centre. Our topic of discussion for February will be "The meaning of sacrifice in the life of a Christian" and all men over 18 welcome.

To find out more contact the Parish office on 9639 6516 or email mensministryofstpaul@gmail.com

Come and join in our fortnightly Leisure Group - Wednesday January 31st

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 31st January. Want to find out more? Please phone Anne on 0417 043 605

Word of God Sunday: Sunday February 4th

The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February. Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God. To access resources to help commemorate or for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings visit www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday

Availability of Tap and Go donation facility

Parishioners and visitors are able to donate using this new facility located as you enter the Church. The donation points do not take the place of the first and second collections, or the weekly envelope offerings, and provide a convenient alternative for those wishing to make a donation. Donations can be made using a debit or credit card or mobile phone and a paper receipt can be generated if desired. No financial institution fees will be incurred by you. Thank you again for your ongoing generous support of our parish.

Upcoming Feast Days

28th Saint Thomas Aquinas | 31th Saint John Bosco | Feb 2nd The Presentation of the Lord | 3rd Saint Ansgar, Saint Blaise

Release of the Parramatta Diocese Synod Decree

Bishop Vincent Long recently issued a Synodal Decree promulgating resolutions of the Synod to inform the development of a Diocesan Pastoral Plan: parracatholic.org/synod/ Together, let us embrace the next chapter of our synodal journey and pray the Holy Spirit inspire and guide us to develop a Diocesan Pastoral Plan, renewing the way in which we live out community and mission now and for the future.

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

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 rejoice that souls ask for much, because it is My desire to give much, very much. On the other hand, I am sad when souls ask for little, when they narrow their hearts. (*Diary 1578*)

Prayer for Vocations

The word of God becomes the flesh of God when YOU live it in your life. Believe what you read; live what you believe.

Be another Christ.

Catholic Outlook

Access at anytime online:
www.catholicoutlook.org/

Catholic Weekly

News, articles and information:
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

We are in urgent need of Special Religious Education Catechists

A number of our parishioners visit some of our local State schools in their role as Special Religious Education Teachers or Catechists, however we are in urgent need of more volunteers to join the team. For an increasing number of children in State schools, Catechists are their only contact with the Church.

The role of Catechists is both crucial and sacred. The need for scripture teachers in public schools continues to increase, with more students than we have Catechists to teach. In terms of commitment, it's about one hour a week and all relevant training, support and resources provided. Catechists come from all walks of life, retired or working, and increasingly popular with tertiary and university students. We continue to be grateful for the dedication, sacrifice and passion of all our volunteer Catechists. To know more about this ministry or even to chat with one of our Catechists, please contact Melissa Ellis on 0409 744 565 or mel.ellis@me.com, or speak to one of our priests.

A Catechist's Story from one of our parishioners

Hello, my name is Frank and a St Paul's parishioner. As you are aware from last week's campaign, and the article above, the parish is urgently seeking volunteers to become Catechists.

For 30 years I served as a Catechist before retiring. My passion was teaching at high schools (mainly Model Farms High School) however also at the primary schools. I want to share some of my thoughts and experiences over those years.

I often ask myself why be there for so long, as 30 years is a long time. What drove me?

The best response is my love for Jesus and my response to share my faith with God's children.

Was it worth it? A definite yes! It was great to talk and listen to the kids, to share my experiences as a Christian and mostly to listen to their situations and thoughts.

Most of the students have little experience or knowledge of Christianity and it's up to the Catechist to share the Word of God, particularly where there's minimal contributions from their families.

Often the Catechist is the child's only contact with Jesus. I emphasise contact with Jesus as we represent, and teach with, and for Jesus. The task of being a Catechist is simple as we are living the faith, we are embraced by God's love and the Holy Spirit guides us. My time as a Catechist was well spent and could share numerous accounts of how some students started to read the Bible, to pray daily and even some who started to go to church.

Naturally there were a lot of disappointments but I'm pleased and often reflect on the good moments. One particular case was where five Year 9 students told me that because of me they decided to go to Mass on Sundays with two coming to our parish Another case a Year 7 questioned his mum on why she stopped going to church. The family returned to church. I encourage everyone to pray and to look into the ministry of being a Catechist. Our work often is part of the child's journey in getting to know and follow Jesus. That is what it's all about to know and follow Jesus.

Thank you. Frank Mammoliti.

Please pray for our sick. Lord, heal the sick, grant strength, comfort, and divine peace. Amen

Aeroll Klein, Anthony Iannuzzi, Cathie Christie, Peter Casey, Daniella Younis, David, George El-Bayeh, Gracia Zalvidea, Iranie Perumal, Kayla Ho, Lucas Le Huray, Mary Finianos, Nick Galea, Peter Gamble,

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

Jack & Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Alfred Sfirse, Alan and Noel Darcy, Brother Ambrose Kyne, Brother Anthony Boughton, Charles & Josephine Clayton, Claude Jumeau, David Wilks, Everett Harrison, George Steele, Gonzalo Balagtas (Senior), Gus Del Villar, Jennifer Villanova, Joan Gurr, John Boys, John Cremen, Louis & Elizabeth McMullen, Maria Micallef, Mary Ford, Brother Patrick Fetherston, Robert Barlos, Rosa & Saverio Marotta, Ross Pollard, Tony Charlesworth.