

## 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

Find us on: **facebook**

[facebook.com/stpaultheapostleparish](https://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

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

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

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

## Preparing for the Lenten Journey: Weeks of Reflection and Renewal

Here are some practical ways to prepare our hearts for the Lenten journey:

- As we anticipate the season of Lent, let us approach it with open hearts, ready to be transformed by God's grace. May these weeks of preparation be a time of profound spiritual growth, paving the way for a Lenten journey that leads us closer to the heart of our Lord.

The funeral service will be held this Wednesday 14th at 10:00am at Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church, 40 Alice Street Harris Park, May the souls of our dearly departed rest in peace.

Looking for young adults to worship with? Wondering what goes on around our Diocese? Mass 'Round the Diocese is just that! Our young people are visiting different churches around the Diocese for Mass and fellowship afterwards. The next Mass will be at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes, on Sunday 25 February for 6pm Mass. Please contact Laura on [laura@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:laura@stbernadette.org.au)

We take the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons seriously. Refer concerns to the Parish Priest, or to [safeguarding@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguarding@parracatholic.org) or 8838 3419. More information [www.safeguarding.org.au](http://www.safeguarding.org.au)

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

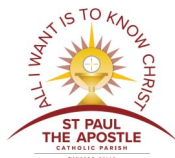
Jack & Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Father Kevin Bates, Father Timothy Crowley, Brother Brendan Maguire, Beth Kenny, Celerina Dakoykol, Charlotte Dos Remedious, Charles & Josephine Clayton, Clive Ryan, Cristina Pulvirenti, Fouad and Olga Matta, George Steele, John Buggy, Lenore Dabrera, Marie Cunningham, Mary White, Mervyn Davies, Raymond Isaac, Signati Concetta, Jacqueline Bazouni.

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

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

**Adoration:** Thursday 6.00pm - 7.00pm  
First Friday 9.45am - 9.00am Saturday

Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat 9.10am, Thu 7:00pm, Sun 9:30am



Prayed during our morning Mass every Wednesday.

Held in Marian Chapel after every Thursday morning Mass.

Fridays 3:30pm in Marian Chapel.

First Friday at 6:00pm

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

Second Sunday at 11:00am

Third Sunday at 9:30am

For the sake of his sorrowful  
passion have mercy on us and  
on the whole world.

If we can't see where we're going, we'll never get there. The Good Shepherd leads us to green pastures, refreshes our souls and brings light to a darkened world.

Access at anytime online:  
[www.catholicoutlook.org/](http://www.catholicoutlook.org/)

News, articles and information:  
[www.catholicweekly.com.au/](http://www.catholicweekly.com.au/)

Available upon request.

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

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

**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.



- Stations of the Cross will be held 7:00pm every Friday evening.
- Lenten discussion groups will be held every Wednesday in the Marian Chapel at 7:00pm. Each week there will be a different theme. There is no need to register your attendance and everyone is invited to attend any or all of these sessions.

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 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

"All I want is to know Christ and Him crucified" was the opening salvo from Tony Montgomery on our discussion on Sacrifice.

So appropriate for Lent. Twenty eight men gathered for our February meeting during the week. All were challenged to address Lent as an opportunity to make some changes by placing the needs of others before their own doing so with a genuine and humble heart. Next meeting is Thursday March 14; all men over 18 welcome. Details please contact 9639 6516 or [mensministryofstpaul@gmail.com](mailto:mensministryofstpaul@gmail.com)

If you can use a TV remote then you've got all the skills needed for this role! We are seeking volunteers to assist in operating the powerpoint presentation for our various Masses. If you are interested and available to assist, please contact the parish office. Thank you.

Registration ([via our website](#)) closes 5:00pm Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February. To know more please contact Sandra Sheehan via the parish office.

RCIA is the process through which older children and adults are prepared for entry into the Church through the Sacraments of Initiation. Last weekend we welcomed our three catechumens, who have been undergoing faith formation, and will be receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. Please continue to pray for our three catechumens on their journey.

11<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Lourdes | 14<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday, Saints Cyril and Methodius | 17<sup>th</sup> Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

There are two creeds that are used for the Profession of Faith: the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed. In the majority of instances, the Apostles Creed is prayed, however during the season of Lent, there is an option to use the Nicene Creed. The “Nicene” Creed is actually not the creed from the Council of Nicea in the year 325, but a summary of the faith expressed by that council and the Councils of Constantinople in 381 and Chalcedon in 451. Its proper title is really the “Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed”. The creed was originally used only in the celebration of baptism. Proclaiming the creed is not about reciting a long list of what we believe but rather a vibrant, life-filled glorification of God, and of God’s love for us. Its structure, its every word, is a proclamation of God’s goodness.

During the season of Lent, you will notice two very distinct omissions in our liturgies, whereby the Gloria (Glory to God in the Highest) is not said nor is the Alleluia verse used before the Gospel. The Gloria is a hymn that celebrates the coming of the Lord using words from the angels at Christ's birth. The Church during Lent returns in spirit to a time when the people of God were in exile, waiting for the Messiah to come and save them. It is a similar season of expectation as is Advent, but instead of awaiting Christ's birth from the womb of Mary, the Christian people await Christ's second "birth" from the womb of the sepulcher. Secondly, following this same spirit of exile, the Church joins Moses and the Israelites as they wander in the desert for 40 years. It is a time of agony and purification, one where the faithful join together in saying, "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?" which is why "Alleluia", the word is rooted in a Hebrew expression "praise the Lord", is thus omitted during Lent. As a result, our focus in Lent is not in rejoicing, but in mourning our sins, looking at how they prevent us from an authentic relationship with God. Once these are removed through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we are able to rejoice again at Easter, for it is not only Christ's resurrection we celebrate, but our own rebirth in the spirit.

Next Sunday at the 9:30am Mass we welcome back members of the Ephpheta community after a break in January.

Please take home a Project Compassion box to support Caritas Australia and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations. With your support, Caritas has supported communities to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow.

Could you share stories of suffering Christians? Are you looking for flexible part time work? ACN is recruiting for a number of Diocesan Outreach Assistants who will deliver monthly presentations in parishes across Sydney. For more details visit [www.aidtochurch.org/work](http://www.aidtochurch.org/work)