

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



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:

Monday to Saturday 9.10am, Sunday 9:30am



Preparing for Easter

The saying that "Easter is the feast of the resurrected people," fits with the call of the Lenten season for repentance. It is a call for us to become resurrected from our old ways through repentance and be renewed in our relationship with Jesus and our fellow sisters and brothers. Just as Jesus emerged from the tomb we should resurrect ourselves from all that prevents us from enjoying the fruits of resurrection.

The spirit of the season is reminding us about the urgency to mend the broken relationships and build bridges with everyone and hold firm to the values of Jesus. The season offers us ample opportunities to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter by the reception of the sacramental reconciliation and also invites us to walk the way of the Lord through penance and reparation.

Let us use this season to reflect on our actions, through examination of conscience, seek forgiveness through the sacrament of reconciliation, and strive for a positive change in our lives. These will ensure a resurrection in our being from our old ways to the Lord's way. And may the joy of Easter inspire us to retain the spirit of resurrection throughout our lives.

Father (Doctor) Abraham Kunnatholy CMI

Second Rite of Reconciliation - come and join us Monday March 18th

You are encouraged and welcome to attend on Monday March 18th commencing at 7:00 pm.

In the Second Rite, the communal aspect emphasises the Church as a community of believers seeking reconciliation together. In terms of background, the two main forms of the Rite of Reconciliation are:

- **First Rite:** *Rite of Reconciliation being individual confession and absolution*
Typically conducted in a confessional or designated room where the penitent (individual seeking reconciliation) confesses their sins privately to a priest. The priest provides counsel, guidance, and assigns a penance. The penitent expresses contrition and the priest gives absolution.
- **Second Rite:** *Rite of Reconciliation of several penitents with individual confession and absolution.*
Often celebrated communally, especially during special liturgical seasons. Involves a communal Liturgy of the Word where scripture is read, and reflections on sin and God's mercy are shared. Individual confession and absolution follow, with penitents having the opportunity to confess privately to a priest. The priest assigns a penance and offers absolution as in the First Rite.

Funeral service this week

✠ For the late Tessie Micallef Tuesday 19th March at 10:30am here at St Paul the Apostle Church. May the souls of our dearly departed rest in peace.

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. More information www.safeguarding.org.au

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

Adleen Hadchiti, Aeroll Klein, Anthony Iannuzzi, Cathie Christie, Daniella Younis, David, George El-Bayeh, Helen Facione, Helene Barker, Iranie Perumal, John Gin, Kayla Ho, Lucas Le Huray, Mary Finianos, Nick Galea, Peter Casey, Peter Gamble, Valeriano Estacio Jnr.

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

Jack & Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Antoun and Laila Moubarak, Bonifacio Casalme, Charlie Micallef, Charles and Josephine Clayton, Concetta Signati, George Steele, Gioacchino Lombardo, Giuseppina Spata, Giuseppe Di Mauro, Hilaria Mapii Estacio, Norma and Rosario Sciara, Holy Souls In Purgatory and recently deceased Tessie Micallef.

Moments of Mercy

Look into My Heart and see there the love and mercy which I have for humankind, and especially for sinners. Look, and enter into My Passion. (Diary 1663).

Prayer for Vocations

Each Lent should bring us closer to our God. There is no failure, except that of no longer trying. You can still follow Jesus more closely.

Mother of Perpetual Help

Novena prayed after Mass every Wednesday morning.

Thursday Cenacles

Held in Marian Chapel after every Thursday morning Mass.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Fridays 3:30pm in Marian Chapel.

Christ's Catholic Community

Prayer group every Friday 10am: Parish Centre Conference Room.

Liturgy of the Hours

First Friday at 6:00pm

St Paul's Mens 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

Low gluten hosts

Available upon request

Communion to the sick

Please contact parish office to make arrangements for a visit.

Hearing Loop

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

Catholic Outlook

www.catholicoutlook.org/

Catholic Weekly

www.catholicweekly.com.au/

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

Palm Sunday - next weekend

- Palms will be blessed at all Masses next weekend.
- The ceremony of the Procession of Palms will start 9:30am sharp if the weather is suitable. Please assemble outside the Parish Centre from where the procession will commence.
- When parking for the 9:30am Mass we kindly ask where it is possible to consider parking outside, or in the school car park, in order to allow others to park closer to the Church where they may be less able bodied or have babies, etc.
- If attending the 9:30am Mass allow extra time beforehand for parking (and be cautious) as the congregation will be within the carpark.

Liturgical services in our parish during Lent - everyone is welcome to attend

- Stations of the Cross will be held at 7:00pm every Friday evening (followed by Reconciliation until 8:30pm).
- 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.

Lent and Easter program 2024 - important information

A sheet is available to take home with you and provides a detailed breakdown of all liturgical services during Lent and until Easter.

Special children's Station of the Cross - this Friday March 22nd

As you are aware, our parish holds the Stations of the Cross every Friday evening during Lent. This Friday evening of March 22nd, the 7:00pm Stations will focus on the young children of our parish. Instead of the usual powerpoint led Stations, on this evening we will be using an animated based presentation from the Brother Francis series. We encourage as many children and families to attend.

Catholic Youth Parramatta invite you to their Good Friday Night Walk: March 29th

The annual pilgrimage is attended by hundreds of youth across the Diocese. Commences St Patrick's Church, Blacktown 10:00pm and finishes the next day at 7:00am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Details and registration: parracatholic.org/events/gfnw/

Invitation to our parish youth: Come and join our various Liturgical Ministries!

If you are available to assist in any capacity at our Masses, please contact the parish office. There may be a role or ministry that may particularly interest you and so we would love to hear from you. Our parish looks forward to our liturgies being blessed with our youth.

Rosters and availability for the next quarter (April - June)

To assist in preparation of the next rosters, please advise the parish office regarding your unavailability by Monday March 18th. As always, thank you to the continued generosity of the many who assist in our various ministries.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

At last weekend's Mass "The Elect" received a copy of the Apostles Creed which they recited together with those assembled.

This weekend at the 9:30am Mass The Elect will recite the Lord's Prayer together with the congregation.

Please continue to pray for those involved in our RCIA program, especially as we all continue our journey towards Easter.

Lenten Reflection afternoon

We thank Doctor Peter Holmes and especially the approximately 50 parishioners for their attendance last Saturday afternoon. Doctor Peter Holmes showed us how regularly reading the Book of Psalms is a wonderful way to deepen our prayer life and our relationship with God. Different psalms speak to different emotions and circumstances in our lives, and comfort us on our daily walk with Christ. Opening the book of Psalms is definitely something we can enrich ourselves with this Lent!

Veiling Crosses and Statues prior to Holy Week

In general terms, crosses are removed or veiled if possible, so that the focus of the Adoration of the Holy Cross at the celebration of the Passion of the Lord, is the one cross which is processed and unveiled. The cross is the central symbol of Holy Week.

Diocesan Lent and Holy Week Scripture Reflection Evening: March 20th

Looking for ways to reflect on your experience of Lent towards Holy Week? Interested in praying with Scripture readings for Holy Week? Wednesday March 20th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. RSVP and enquiries to met@parracatholic.org

Novena Mass for St Pedro Calungsod: March 21st

The 7pm Mass on Thursday March 21st, will be the Novena Mass for Saint Pedro Calungsod.

Upcoming Feast Days, Memorials, Solemnities, Commemorations

18th Saint Cyril of Jerusalem | 20th Saint Joseph, Spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary | 23rd Saint Turibius De Mogrovejo | 25th The Annunciation Of The Lord

Feast of Saint Joseph: March 19th

Joseph is the patron saint of the dying because, assuming he died before Jesus' public life, he died with Jesus and Mary close to him, the way we all would like to leave this earth. Joseph is also patron saint of the Universal Church, families, fathers, pregnant women, travelers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers, and working people in general. We celebrate two feast days for Joseph: March 19 for Joseph the Husband of Mary, and May 1 for Joseph the Worker. March 19 is the most commonly celebrated feast day for Joseph, and it wasn't until 1955 that Pope Pius XII established the Feast of "St. Joseph the Worker" to be celebrated on May 1.

Free Online Formation on "Synodal Spirituality"

Taught by Sr Patty Andrew OSU, it offers an exploration of communal discernment, active engagement, and creative faith responses to challenges in the mission of the Church. Take part in Pope Francis's vision: pfparra.thinkific.com/courses/synodal-spirituality/

Penrith Parish Stations of the Cross for Cancer Patients, Families and Survivors: March 22nd

St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith, warmly invites cancer patients, survivors and families who have lost loved ones to cancer to participate in an Outdoor Stations of the Cross on Friday 22 March at 7pm. You can bring along a small cross / candle along with their names to be prayed for or join us to carry the big wooden cross. For further details, contact the parish office on 4721 2509.