

# 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.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:

Monday to Saturday 9.10am, Sunday 9:30am



## 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration - May

**Commences: 9:10am Mass Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> | Concludes: 9:10am Mass Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>**

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**



## Upcoming funeral services at St Paul the Apostle Church

☩ For the late Reginald Thompson Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am

## Remembering our Mothers who are no longer with us

At all Masses on Mothers Day, a scroll will be placed on the Altar where Mass will be offered for all those listed. You are invited to include names of those mothers who are no longer with us on the scroll which is on the table as you enter the Church.

## Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible: starting here in our parish from Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup>

This is an eight-part Bible study, helps uncover the story woven through Scripture, to get the "big picture" of the Bible and help you pick up the Bible with confidence and understand how you fit into God's plan. Commences Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup> evening and be held over eight consecutive Tuesdays (each 7:00pm to 8:30pm) in the Father David Scott Parish centre. Please note that attendance is not required for every week. For those interested in attending, please record your details on the registration sheet as you enter the Church.

## Interested in becoming an Altar Server?

Our parish is intending to prepare and train interested children to join our Altar Server Ministry and commence in July of this year. Children must have already received (by July of this year) the Sacrament of Holy Communion and regularly attend Mass. Please refer to the sheet with all dates and information on the table as you leave Mass. Children are welcome from any school to join. For any enquiries please contact the parish office or Peter Samson on 0422 448 206.

*As an altar server, to serve God is a wonderful way to grow in their faith as well as in responsibility, friendship, and other virtues.*

## Baptisms welcome

To Alexander, Amelia and Harrison who were baptised here recently. We pray that their faith will be an important and integral part of their lives.

## Invitation to the Diaconal Ordination of Menard Gaspi

We are blessed to announce the upcoming Ordination to the Diaconate of Menard Gaspi. Menard was in our parish as a Seminarian placement in late 2021. The Ordination will take place on Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm at Saint John XXIII Parish, Stanhope Gardens. All are welcome to attend, and no RSVP is required. This is a special moment for Menard in his journey and calling as a Priest and please continue to pray for Menard and for young people to be open to God's call to holiness, whatever that vocation may be.

## You are invited to join the Saint Paul the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Our PPC also aims to enable members of our parish community to fulfill their baptismal calling to share in Christ's mission. To be effective, it must be representative of parishioners, offering a diversity of age, gender, and ethnic origin; not just representing a ministry or sub-group. The commitment is for a term of three years (with monthly meetings) with the next term commencing July 2024. Nominations close on Tuesday May 14<sup>th</sup> and please refer to the Nomination Form as you enter the Church which contains further details. Want to know more? Please contact Peter Rood (PPC Chairperson) [pro05364@bigpond.net.au](mailto:pro05364@bigpond.net.au) or Father John Paul.

## Church Closing time on weekdays

As it is getting dark earlier, the church will close at 5:00pm, being one hour earlier, primarily to ensure safety and security of everyone.

## Upcoming Feast Days, Memorials, Solemnities, Commemorations:

May 1<sup>st</sup> Saint Joseph the Worker | 2<sup>nd</sup> Saint Athanasius | 3<sup>rd</sup> Saints Philip and James

## Diocesan Pentecost Scripture Reflection Evening: Wednesday May 15<sup>th</sup>

What does the Holy Spirit look like in your life? How can Scripture stretch our imagination when it comes to Pentecost and the Holy Spirit? Register for the evening with Dr Michele Connolly RSJ on May 15 6:30pm to 8:30pm. RSVP or queries to [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

## Parish Safeguarding

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

## Schoenstatt Annual Marian Pilgrimage: Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>

Amongst other liturgies, the day includes Holy Mass, Eucharistic Procession and Anointing of the Sick. Commences with Reconciliation at 9:30am and ends with Benediction at 3:00pm. Located at 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa. No need to RSVP. Visit [schoenstatt.org.au/](http://schoenstatt.org.au/)

## Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal for our Holy Spirit Seminarians - thank you

Your compassionate generosity and prayers will help our future priests cast their nets wide to nurture faith and meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of our community. Thank you for everyone who has contributed and if you missed out last week, you are able to donate at any time via this link: [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/bishops-good-shepherd-parish-appeal-24/](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/bishops-good-shepherd-parish-appeal-24/). Thank you.

## Synod Update: Local Think Tank Sessions from May-June

These will be held across the Diocese giving local leaders and anyone involved in ministry to offer feedback on the Draft Diocesan Plan for a Synodal Church, and contribute ideas for the practical implementation of our Diocesan Plan. Visit [parracatholic.org/synod](http://parracatholic.org/synod)

## Moments of Mercy

My daughter (to St Faustina), do whatever is within your power to spread devotion to My mercy. I will make up for what you lack. Tell aching mankind to snuggle close to My merciful Heart, and I will fill it with peace. (*Diary, 1074*)

## Prayer for Vocations

The harvest is great but the labourers are few. Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send more labourers into the Harvest.

## 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 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

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

## Parramatta Diocese

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

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

## It's not an intermission during Mass!

Let us take the time to dwell and reflect on the Presentation of Gifts (formerly the Offertory Procession). Unfortunately some of us may be distracted especially as the collection is in progress at this time! Is it something that is a routine and transactional event? Is it simply a ceremonial ritual within the Mass? If anything, it stands as a poignant reminder of our call to stewardship and communion. It solemnly bridges the earthly and divine, inviting congregants into a deeper understanding of sacrifice and unity.

At the heart of it, lies the act of offering: a tangible expression of our gratitude and commitment to God. As the faithful approach the altar bearing gifts of bread and wine (and at times monetary offerings), they symbolically present their lives before the Lord, acknowledging His providence and grace. In this act of self-surrender, we emulate Christ's own offering of Himself, laying bare our hearts in humble obedience. It extends beyond ritualism and embodies the essence of Christian community.

Offerings merge with those of their brothers and sisters in Christ, forming a collective offering of love and service. We are presenting ourselves to be blessed, broken open and given for the life of the world. It also demands our full conscious and active participation. We must watch and listen if we are to join ourselves – all our relationships, our work, our joys and sorrows and griefs and anxieties, indeed the whole world – to the offering of Christ. In this shared journey towards the altar, we affirm our interconnectedness as members of the Body of Christ, bound by a common faith and purpose.

*"Pray, sisters and brothers, that our sacrifice" — not only bread and wine, but what they symbolise: our work, struggles, joys, money, our very lives — "may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father."*

It also takes up the gesture of Melchizedek and commits the Creator's gifts into the hands of Christ who, in His sacrifice, brings to perfection all human attempts to offer sacrifices. From the very beginning, Christians have brought, along with the bread and wine, gifts to share with those in need.

Through our gifts, we participate in the redemptive work of Christ, offering ourselves as living sacrifices for the sake of the world. In this act of self-emptying, we are invited to relinquish our attachments to worldly possessions, embracing instead the eternal treasure of God's kingdom. Our offerings become a tangible expression of love and solidarity, reflecting the boundless generosity of our Heavenly Father.

The Presentation of Gifts holds a sacred place within the liturgical tapestry of the Catholic Church, inviting believers into a deeper experience of worship, community, and discipleship. As we approach the altar with hearts open and hands extended, may we be reminded of the profound privilege and responsibility entrusted to us as stewards of God's gifts.

Let us each share and participate actively in presenting these gifts when at Mass. To ensure someone is always present to take the gifts of wine and bread for each Mass, there is a list as you enter the Church. Please note your details for any of the upcoming Masses you are available. Everyone is invited and encouraged to share in this powerful expression of the assembly's participation in the Eucharistic.

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

Aeroll Klein, Anthony Iannuzzi, Cathie Christie, Daniella Younis, David, Eddy Kusuma, George El-Bayeh, Helen Facione, Helene Barker, Herlina, John Gin, Kayla Ho, Loy De'Souza, Lucas Le Huray, Mary Finianos, Nick Galea, Nikita De Sousa, Peter Casey, Peter Gamble, Rosa Caccamo, Valeriano Estacio Jnr.

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

Jack & Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Alliston Corner, Carole McCabe, Charles and Josephine Clayton, Charles Thornton, Concetta Signati, Gioacchino Lombardo, Guiseppe Di Mauro, Giuseppina Spata, Joseph & Malcom Berenger, Josephine Angelito, Marcelo Senior and Junior, Mervyn Davies, Mort Christian, Nirmala & Kewal Puri, Norma Casamento, Rodrigo Lindo, Rosa Marotta, Rosario Sciara, Salvador Cruz, Thomas Beck, all the holy souls in purgatory and the recently deceased Reginald Thompson.