

St Paul the Apostle Parish

40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills NSW 2153

T: 9639 6516 W: www.stpaultheapostleparish.org

Office hours: Monday 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)

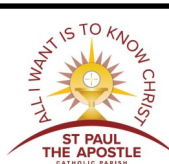
Saturday 4.00pm - 4.45pm

Adoration: Thursday 6.00pm - 7.00pm

First Friday 9.45am - 9.00am Saturday

Masses livestreamed to Facebook:

Sundays 9:30am, except 3rd Sunday of the month at 5:00pm



Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mother Mary: September 8th

The Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated on September 8th, commemorates the birth of Mary, the mother of Jesus and is an important event in the Catholic Church's liturgical calendar.

The exact date of Mary's birth is not recorded in the Bible, and with no specific historical documentation. The earliest recorded celebration was in the Byzantine Rite as early as the 6th century, particularly in Jerusalem. The feast was adopted in the Western Church, and by the 8th century in the Roman calendar.

The feast is one of the most ancient Marian feasts and falls exactly nine months after the Immaculate Conception, celebrated on December 8th, highlighting the belief Mary was conceived without original sin.

Theologically, the celebration emphasises Mary's role in salvation history as the one chosen to bear the Son of God. Mary's birth is seen as the beginning of the fulfillment of God's promise of salvation through Jesus Christ. It is also a day to honour her purity and her unique role in God's plan. The feast is a celebration of the beginning of a life that would profoundly impact Christian history, honouring her as a model of faith and devotion. It underscores the Catholic Church's belief in Mary's unique position in the history of salvation. Her birth is seen as a prelude to the coming of Christ, making it a joyful event that anticipates the redemptive work of Jesus and the fulfillment of God's promises.

St Augustine tells us to rejoice and shine forth at her birth *"She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is changed."*

The above has been sourced from a number of websites including: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nativity_of_Mary
<https://www.thecatholictelegraph.com/the-nativity-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary/69017>
<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/nativity-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary/>

2024 Safeguarding Sunday

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that respects the dignity of all children and adults at risk, and empowers and listens to all people, especially those vulnerable. To find out more: <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Safeguarding-Sunday-2024>

Rosters for October to December

Please advise parish office by email of any extended unavailability by Monday September 9th. Thank you.

Welcome to those Baptised here recently

To Georgia, we pray her faith will be an important and integral part of her life.

Parish Safeguarding

Refer concerns to our Parish Priest safeguarding@parracatholic.org or 8838 3419 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. Amen

Aeroll Klein, Ameriza Ayoub, Anthony Iannuzzi, Cathie Christie, David, Edgar Cruz, Emily Morrison, George El-Bayeh, Helene Barker, Jenny Goudas, John Gin, Nick Galea, Loy De'Souza, Lucas Le Huray, Mary Finianos, Peter Gamble, Mary McConvey, Nikita De Sousa, Rosa Caccamo, Tashia Vergara, Valeriano Estacio Jnr, Vanessa Ibrahim.

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

Jack & Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Aaron Apikota, Ajay Kullukalam, Anna Mary, Austin Griffiths, Beth Kenny, Charles and Josephine Clayton, Charlotte Dos Remedios, Christine Scanlon, George Khodeir, George Steele, Gioacchino Lombardo, Iranie Perumal, Joe and Joan Athaide, John Buggy, Lou and Amy Burbridge, Ratnam John and Maria Segar Joseph, Saverio and Rosa Marotta, Tessie Micallef, Paul, Angelique, Claude & Myriam Jumeau, Frank, Teresa and Joseph Borg, Joseph Anton Maria Hellmut Kutin.

Moments of Mercy

Look into My Merciful Heart and reflect its compassion in your own heart and in your deeds, so that you, who proclaim my mercy to the world, may yourself be aflame with it. (Diary 1688).

Prayer for Vocations

Don't run away from what you are called to be. Christians take the less travelled road. "What does it profit us if we gain the whole world but ruin ourselves in the process?"

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

Communion to the sick

Please contact parish office to make arrangements for a visit.

Low gluten hosts

Available upon request

Hearing Loop

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

www.parracatholic.org/

www.catholicoutlook.org/

www.catholicweekly.com.au/

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

Father John Paul's Priestly Anniversary: Holy Mass, Friday, 13th September

Please come and join Father John Paul as he celebrates the special occasion of the 11th Anniversary of his Priestly Ordination.

As Father John Paul continues to serve God and the parishioners of Saint Paul the Apostle, we kindly and humbly ask you to keep him in your prayers. Mass will be celebrated at 6:00pm, noting there is no refreshments or fellowship afterwards. For those who are interested, you are welcome to stay and join us for the 7:00pm World Apostolate of Fatima Parish Prayer Ministry (see article below)

World Apostolate of Fatima (WAF) Parish Prayer Ministry: Friday, 13th September

Approved by the Holy See, the World Apostolate of Fatima (WAF) with millions of members worldwide, live the message of Fatima and try to give witness of God's love, imitating also the little shepherds of Fatima, Saint Francisco and Saint Jacinta Marto and Sister Lúcia. The WAF recognises and supports our own Parish Prayer Ministry, including our World Rosary Hour to be held on Sunday, 13th October 4pm. The St Paul The Apostle Parish Prayer Ministry is a response to Our Lady's call for prayer, penance and sacrifice. The intention is to meet once a month for a holy hour to pray, learn and live the message of Fatima. It is recommended to enrol and become a member of the WAF (free to join) where your name will be placed at Our Lady's feet in the Chapel of Apparitions, in Fatima, Portugal, entrusting to her all your intentions. **The first event will be on Friday, 13th September at 7:00pm in the Marian Chapel.**

Sign up here: <https://worldfatima.com/en/join-us> To find out more contact Mark Napoli 0433 119 424. *Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!*

Youth In Mission 2025 in the Philippines with Father John Paul Escarlan!

Our parish of St Paul's and the Filipino Chaplaincy of Parramatta Diocese are excited to invite young, passionate individuals to join this overseas mission to Cebu and Manila to help those in need. The target group are young adults aged 18 to 30. This is a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in a new culture while contributing to meaningful projects that make a real impact where your efforts will directly benefit communities in need. You can make a tangible difference by working on projects that address critical needs and support local development, grow and develop personally in gaining invaluable life skills and even build lasting friendships. This experience isn't just about giving; it's also about growing and learning. You'll return home with a renewed sense of purpose and a deeper understanding of global issues. Book now! For more details please contact Father John Paul on 0420 310 771 or johnpaul.escarlan@parracatholic.org

Marian Pilgrimage (September 2025) with Father John Paul Escarlan!

This is not being promoted elsewhere at this time, in order to give our parishioners preference and first opportunity to join Father John Paul as he leads this wonderful pilgrimage. Participate in the world's most requested Marian journey featuring villages of some of the Church's most renowned saints. From the celebrations in Fatima, the walled city of Avila, Santo Domingo de Silos, Loyola and Lourdes, this will truly be a pilgrimage full of grace. Visit: www.harvestjourneys.com/tours/, contact Tom Lara 0417 430 949 or Father John Paul.

Come and Join us at The Feast: every Friday evening here at St Paul's

The Feast is a weekly gathering of the Light of Jesus Family. It's one of the happiest places in Sydney on a Friday evening where we can grow as a community, enriching our lives not just spiritually. It is called The Feast as it is where we gather to celebrate God's love for us and for our brothers and sisters. Every week, we gather as a family and begin with praise and worship followed by a talk given by our Feast Builders and a fellowship meal. The Feast refreshes and recharges us, preparing us for the week to come. It is also through the Feast that we participate in other activities—outreach programs, retreats, marriage weekends where we meet and bond with members of our community. We meet every Friday evening at the Father David Scott Parish Centre starting at 8:00pm. We hope to see you there!

Replacing our Church Monstrance

An essential element of Eucharistic Adoration is the monstrance, in housing the Blessed Eucharist contained within. Eucharistic Adoration is the opportunity for the faithful to pray to Jesus in His very Presence on display, to enter the Presence of Jesus and adore the Eucharist fully and without distraction. Eucharistic Adoration is possible for today's Catholics because of the Monstrance. Our Parish Finance Council has supported and approved \$7,500 for the purchase of a Monstrance and Lunette. Some of our parishioners have financially donated already (\$1,850) towards their costs. Our parish is intending to purchase this shortly and if you wish to financially help, please contact the parish office or Father John Paul. Thank you.

Please come along: Men's Ministry of St Paul gathering this Thursday, 12th September

This group gathers on the Second Thursday of each month. It commences with Adoration (6pm), Mass (7pm) then assemble at the Parish Centre (8pm). All men aged 18 and over are welcome. More details: Parish office 9639 6516 or mensministryofstpaul@gmail.com We aim to have a different theme each month and the talk this month is Part Two of the "Universal call to holiness" with Tony Montgomery.

Parish Young Adult (FIAT) Ministry: next gathering Sunday, 15th September

We encourage and invite young adults (aged 18 and over) to attend our next gathering after the 5:00pm Mass, Sunday, 15th September. To find out more, please contact Josette Khater 0452 220 561, Keenan Fitzsimons 0426 060 156, Father John Paul or Father Abraham. The topic for this gathering will be 'Youth Ministry and Enquiry Night re: Youth in Mission 2025'. Please come along!

You are invited! Faith Seeking Understanding: Thursday, 26th September

We are pleased to announce this special event being presented by Father John Rizzo with the topic for the evening: *Mariology*. Mariology studies not only the life of our Blessed Mother Mary, but also the veneration of her in daily life, prayer, hymns, art, music, etc. Saint Anselm, a great thinker in Church history, quoted "fides quarens intellectum", which literally means "faith seeking understanding." We may begin with the virtue of faith, which is paramount, but we must absolutely seek deeper understanding. Please join us for this special evening which commences at 7:30pm in the Father David Scott Parish Centre after the 7:00pm Mass.

Available to order: God's Word 2025 - Daily Reflections Liturgical Diary

Your companion on the journey to pray, share, grow in God's love and be nourished by the Word of God and includes the Bible readings set down for each day, with a reflection. To order, record your details on the table as you leave Mass and payment of \$20 can be made when the books arrive. For more about the diary: secure.stpauls.com.au/strathfield/god-s-word-2025-daily-reflections-liturgical-diary.html All proceeds from the sale of these books will aid our Youth In Mission to the Philippines in early 2025!