

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*)

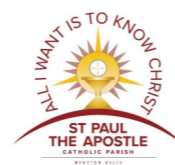
Saturday 4.00pm - 4.45pm

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



Moments of Mercy

There are souls with whom I can do nothing. They are souls that are continuously observing others, but know nothing of what is going on within their own selves. They talk about others continually. Poor souls, they do not hear My words; their interior remains empty. They do not look for Me within their own hearts, but in idle talk, where I am never to be found. (1717).

Prayer for Vocations

How much would the world be changed if everyone were completely forgiving? Probably totally! Jesus' stories of forgiveness are so loved because they are so needed. Re-tell them! Re-live them!

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

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

Farewell to Sandra Sheehan, Parish Sacramental Coordinator

Our parish bids farewell to Sandra Sheehan who recently decided to step down from her role as our Parish Sacramental Coordinator after 17 remarkable years of dedicated service. This is an extraordinary length of time in such a role. Throughout these nearly two decades, Sandra has been a cornerstone of our parish community in the Sacramental role, together with the many passionate team members, guiding countless children and families through the sacred rites of the Church with unwavering commitment and dedication. Much of this work can be without recognition especially with the behind the scenes preparation and coordination. As a parish let us thank God for Sandra and her contributions, service and patience and may God bless Sandra abundantly in the years ahead. For those interested, the next scheduled Sacrament is Reconciliation with details on registration, etc to be published in the bulletin over the coming weeks.

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 aged 18 to 30, to join this overseas mission to Cebu and Manila to help those in need. Make a tangible difference by working on projects that address critical needs and support local development, and grow and develop personally in gaining invaluable life skills. 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

Replacing our Church Monstrance

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. Some of our parishioners have financially donated already (\$2,555) towards its 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.

Important change: prayers for the deceased during Mass

The love and remembrance for those that have gone before us is evident with the many requests we receive for the names of our loved ones to be read during the Prayer of the Faithful, or Universal Prayer. The intention of this Prayer is to be expressive of the prayer of the entire community (as per the General Instruction of the Roman Missal - GIRM). As you are aware, the list of those that are deceased can be quite lengthy and may not always be known to the majority of those assembled. Being mindful of the intention of the GIRM, the Prayer of the Faithful will be limited to those that are recently deceased. This change will commence on the first weekend of October. If your intention is to acknowledge an anniversary of the deceased, or a similar significant date, their name can be included at a specific Mass of your choice during the week or weekend, however not all Masses. There is no change to the existing process of including names in our bulletin with all requests to be submitted by Wednesday afternoon.

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 purchase: 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.

Sign of the times

A big thank you to Paul Kennedy and his team for providing our parish with updated signage as you enter our driveway. The sign now provides current information for our regular liturgies and services and we are deeply grateful for his donation of time and resources.

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal: thank you

Thank you for your generous and compassionate donations in the amount of \$6,069.55 which will continue to care for our clergy's health and wellbeing especially during sickness and retirement. You can donate anytime via this link parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal.

Raffle tickets on sale next weekend

Toongabbie Legal Centre Inc is an unfunded not-for-profit community legal centre functioning from St Anthony's Catholic Church Hall. The free legal service is run by of volunteers and assisted over 12,000 clients during the 15 years servicing the community. Raffle tickets will be on sale outside the Church at all Masses next weekend to raise funds to support the service.

Holy Hour for Vocations: Friday, 20th September

Come along to Mary Immaculate Catholic Church Quakers Hill from 7pm where Deacon Menard Gaspi will be leading adoration and talk about priestly vocations. Confessions will be heard and stay for refreshments. Contact 9626 3326 or parishoffice@maryimmac.org.au For more about Priestly Vocations contact Father Galbert Albino 0450 821 812 or galbert.albino@parracatholic.org

St Padre Pio Feast Day celebrations at Glenmore Park Parish: 19th to 22nd September

Feast of St Padre Pio will be celebrated with daily Novena and Mass culminating with feast day celebration Sunday, 22nd September of solemn procession with the relic, Mass, veneration and blessing of the relic. Contact 4789 2232 or glenmorepark@parracatholic.org

Save the date for these upcoming events in our parish ...

- World Rosary Hour and Our Lady of Fatima procession: Sunday, 13th October at 4:00pm
- All Hallows' Eve Party for children: Thursday, 31st October (starting time T.B.A.)

Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross: 14th September

Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Saviour's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher on that spot. During the excavation, workers found three crosses, and legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed above Jesus' head: Then "all the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross and the inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on."

To this day, the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the September anniversary of the basilica's dedication. The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614, 15 years earlier. According to the story, the emperor intended to carry the cross back into Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he took off his imperial garb and became a barefoot pilgrim.

The cross is today the universal image of Christian belief. To the eyes of the first Christians, it had no beauty. It stood outside too many city walls, decorated only with decaying corpses, as a threat to anyone who defied Rome's authority, including Christians who refused sacrifice to Roman gods. Although believers spoke of the cross as the instrument of salvation, it seldom appeared in Christian art unless disguised as an anchor or the Chi-Rho until after Constantine's edict of toleration.

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/exaltation-of-the-holy-cross/>

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

This is being promoted in our parish first, 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 celebrations in Fatima, the walled city of Avila, Santo Domingo de Silos, Loyola and Lourdes, this will be a pilgrimage full of grace. Visit: www.harvestjourneys.com/tours/, contact Tom Lara 0417 430 949 or Father John Paul.

Parish Safeguarding

We take the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons seriously. Refer concerns to Parish Priest, or safeguarding@parracatholic.org or 8838 3419. More information 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, Joseph Aouchan, Nick Galea, Loy De'Souza, Lucas Le Huray, Mary Finianos, Peter Gamble, Mary McConvey, Nikita De Sousa, Rosa Caccamo, Sam Papallo, 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, Bishop John Ignatius Doggett, Alfred Davison, Arturo Ferrer, Axel Kupferer, Camela Arena, Charles and Josephine Clayton, David Elton Khi, Joseph Anton Maria Hellmut Kutin, Lena Pereira, Paul, Angelique, Claude and Myriam Jumeau, Saverio and Rosa Marotta, Teresa and Joseph Borg, Tom and Maureen Butt.