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 **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

Sufferings: A Pathway to Sanctity

Sufferings are reality of human existence, whether you wish it or not, it's in your life.
From time immemorial, sufferings are considered to be a path to sanctity.
A suffering in itself does not bring any merit into our lives. "If you wish to be my disciple, take up your cross and follow me". The discipleship has suffering as its natural corollary.
But how does it merit you as the disciple of the Lord? Or how can you make it meritorious?

This question takes us to the meaning and purpose of vicarious suffering. Jesus' own sufferings and death became meaningful because of its vicarious nature. He readily suffered humiliation and death at the hands of his enemies. He forgave them and prayed for the welfare of those who were against Him.
When one willingly shares in the burdens of others, one transcends self, cultivating a deeper connection to the divine and to other humans. This act of compassion can purify the soul, transforming the sufferings that one undertakes, into a source of spiritual growth.

The life of St Maximilian Kolbe resonates with people worldwide because of his enduring suffering for others and it became a direct path to his holiness. His sacrifice became a testimony of love for another through his vicarious suffering.

Vicarious suffering purifies the heart, fosters humility, empathy, and an unbreakable bond with those in need. By choosing to suffer we choose to align with a divine purpose, transforming our pain into a pathway toward sanctity. Also, we can offer our daily sufferings for the welfare of others, or for the sake of the good of the world around us. When we do this, we make our intentions universal and it will add merit to our needs as well. Let us make our sufferings meritorious with the Lord's presence and offer them to suffer vicariously and earn their merit in our sanctification.

Father Abraham Kunnatholy CMI

2025 Columban Mission Calendars available for purchase

This is an iconic Catholic Calendar, well known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information and is a major fundraiser for Columban Missionaries.
Please consider buying one for yourself or perhaps a family friend or relative and available for $9.00.

Drop in and enjoy our Leisure Group: Wednesday, 23rd October (10am - 12pm)

Where the young at heart share a laugh and a cuppa in our Parish Centre. Phone Anne on 0417 043 605.

Upcoming Feast Days, Memorials, Solemnities

22nd Saint John Paul II | 23rd Saint John of Capistrano | 24th Saint Anthony Mary Claret

Parish Safeguarding

Refer concerns to 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. We ask you to have compassion on all who are suffering so that they may be delivered from their painful circumstances. May they know that you are always with them, especially through difficult times. Amen

Aeroll Klein, Ameriza Ayoub, Anthony Iannuzzi, Cathie Christie, David, Edgar Cruz, Emily Morrison, George El-Bayeh, Helene Barker, Jenny Goudas, John Gin, Joshua McCarroll, Nick Galea, Lorraine Abrahams, Loy De'Souza, Lucas Le Huray, Mary Finianos, Peter Gamble, Mary McConvey, Nikita De Sousa, Rosa Caccamo, Sam Papallo, Sarah Sheehan, 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, Eminence Cardinal Gilroy, Charles and Josephine Clayton, Alliston Corner, Denis Edward Mulkeen

Moments of Mercy

I am more generous toward sinners than toward the just. It was for their sake that I came down from heaven; it was for their sake that My Blood was spilled. Let them not fear to approach Me; they are most in need of My mercy. *(Diary 1275)*

Prayer for Vocations

We must stop just putting band-aids on the wounds of society. We must tell the world that we are God's people. God loves us and we were created to serve God, and others in God.

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

Hearing Loop

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

Communion to the sick

Please contact parish office to make arrangements for a visit.

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

World Apostolate of Fatima (WAF) Parish Prayer Ministry

A special thank you to everyone who participated and was involved in the World Rosary Hour last Sunday. We were blessed with a large attendance, lovely weather and a breathtaking and moving Rosary and procession. Click here to view: www.worldrosaryhour.com/
You can enrol and become a WAF member where your name will be placed at Our Lady's feet in the Chapel of Apparitions, in Fatima, entrusting to her all your intentions. Sign up here: https://worldfatima.com/en/join-us . For more details: Mark Napoli 0433 119 424.

Registration for Sacrament of Reconciliation: Closes Monday, 21st October

Online registration (via our website) is open for this Sacrament and closes Monday, 21st October at 4:00pm.
If you wish to know more, please feel free to contact our parish office by phone 9639 6516 or the Contact Us page on our website.

You are invited! Faith Seeking Understanding: Thursday, 24th October

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. As part of our parish series on Faith Seeking Understanding, we are pleased to announce our next event which will be presented by Christian Stephens (Lecturer in the School of Philosophy and Theology at Notre Dame University).
Research has shown that Catholics who abandon the faith do so on average between the ages of 11 and 13. One of the top three most cited reasons is a perceived conflict between faith and reason. Sadly, even for many who do not abandon the faith, their understanding or intellectual formation does not progress. Given this state of affairs, what better way for us to mark the upcoming feast of Pope Saint John Paul II than by looking at his own magnificent encyclical, "Fides et Ratio" (Faith and Reason). In it he presents an overview of the Catholic understanding of the relationship between faith and reason, and the contemporary threats and challenges it faces.
In this talk Christian will present some of John Paul II's central points and arguments, followed by opportunity for questions and discussion.
Please join us for this special evening which commences at 7:30pm in the Father David Scott Parish Centre after the 7:00pm Mass.

All Hallows' Eve Party for children: Thursday, 31st October 4:00pm

All Hallows' Eve is the Vigil of All Saints' Day on Nov 1, when Catholics remember those gone before us to enter our heavenly home. An All Saints Party is being organised by a number of our parish parents. This is an opportunity for children and their families to come together and celebrate the lives of the Saints while enjoying games, food and fellowship. For more information, or if you may be interested in assisting, contact Beth Vila bethvila1@gmail.com . This is a free event and we kindly ask to please bring a savoury plate.

Church Access Times

During daylight saving time, the church will be open from 8:00am until 6:00pm, and toilets locked Monday to Friday 2:00pm onwards.

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

Catholic Mission - World Mission Sunday: 20th October

This day is set aside for the Catholic Church throughout the world to publicly renew its commitment to the missionary movement. Coordinated by the Pontifical Mission Societies, it was created by Pope Pius XI in 1926 as the day of prayer for missions and closely related to Society for the Propagation of the Faith. To find out more, please visit catholicmission.org.au

You're invited! Campion College Festival and Open Day: Saturday, 26th October

Free entertainment for all ages with a chocolate wheel, carnival games, children's rides, muscle car show, fire brigade, police, food stalls and farmers market and much more including a second-hand book sale. There will also be campus tours, info sessions, and musical performances! This will help raise funds for the Campion College Scholarship Fund, making our program of liberal arts education accessible to deserving students. From 10:00am to 4:00pm at 8-14 Austin Woodbury Place, Toongabbie. Info: festival@campion.edu.au

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.

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 already donated ($4,805) 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.

Mass times for Solemnity of All Saints, and All Souls Day

- Solemnity of All Saints - Friday, 1st November: 9:10am Mass; preceded by Rosary at 8:40am.
- All Souls Day (Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed) - Saturday, 2nd November: 9:10am Mass; preceded by Rosary at 8:40am.

The Vigil Mass on Saturday 5pm will be the Mass of 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time and not All Souls Day.