

# 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: 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

 [facebook.com/stpaultheapostleparish](https://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)*

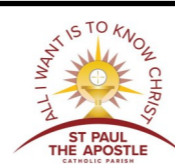
Saturday 4.00pm - 4.45pm

**Adoration:** Thursday 6.00pm - 7.00pm

First Friday 9.45am - 9.00am Saturday

## Masses livestreamed to Facebook:

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



## New Year's Mass times

- New Year's Eve Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup>: 9:10am Morning Mass (preceded by Rosary at 8:40am)
- New Year's Eve Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup>: 9:30pm Filipino Chaplaincy (Mass celebrated in English)
- New Year's Day Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>: 9:10am Morning Mass (preceded by Rosary at 8:40am)

## January 1<sup>st</sup>: Solemnity Of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God

The Solemnity Of Mary is one of the most important days of the Church calendar, however it is not a Holy Day of Obligation. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference decreed (unchanged since 2001) the only feast days to be observed as holy days of obligation are Christmas Day, the Feast of the Assumption and all Sundays of the year.

## Upcoming Feast Days, Memorials, Solemnities

1<sup>st</sup> Solemnity Of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God | 2<sup>nd</sup> Saint Basil and Gregory | 3<sup>rd</sup> Most Holy Name of Jesus | 5<sup>th</sup> Epiphany of the Lord

## Please note there is no 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration in January

The next 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration will be Friday 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February.

## Christmas Thank You

As we continue to celebrate the joy of the Christmas season, as a parish we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone involved in ensuring our Christmas Masses were truly solemn, special and meaningful. Your preparation, presence and participation and efforts enabled us to celebrate the birth of our Saviour with reverence and joy. Fr John Paul and Fr Abraham also thank you for your generous Christmas spirit and pray that the peace and joy of Christmas fill your hearts throughout the coming year.

## Parish Safeguarding Compliance and Renewal Training

*The Diocese of Parramatta is committed to being a community of safeguarding; meaning we have zero tolerance of abuse in any form. We promise to do everything we can so no child or other person in our care is harmed again. As part of this, our job is to make sure everyone who works or acts for the Church understands and recognises the Standards as an integral part of their understanding of what it means to be engaged in the life of the Church.*

Mandatory Safeguarding Compliance Training is compulsory for all staff, volunteers and ministers in the Diocese of Parramatta.

The initial training is known as Compliance Training and requires the successful completion of compulsory Modules 1,2 and 3.

- Module 1: Understanding Safeguarding and the Child Safe Standards
- Module 2: Legal Compliance, ROSH (Risk Of Significant Harm) and RC (Reportable Conduct)
- Module 3: Working with Adults at Risk and Understanding Boundaries

After a two year period, there are two further modules (known as Renewal Compliance Training) that are required to be completed.

- Module 4: Understanding Safeguarding, the Child Safe Standards & Working with Adults at Risk
- Module 5: Legal Compliance: Risk Of Significant Harm & Reportable Conduct

If it has been two years since you have completed Modules 1, 2 and 3, and you have not undertaken or completed Modules 4 and 5, you can complete this training online at home, or as part of a face to face group. Please refer to the details below for training options.

The next round of face-to-face training will be held at St Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, 40 Breakfast Road, Marayong.

Compliance Training: Introductory training modules 1, 2 and 3 - Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> to Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> January

Compliance Renewal Training: Module 4 (Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> February) and Module 5 (Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> January)

To access all online training: [learning.safeguarding.org.au/courses](http://learning.safeguarding.org.au/courses)

To register for face to face training: [parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training](http://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training)

## Parish Safeguarding Statement

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

## Pope's World Day of Peace message: 'We are all in debt to God'

Pope Paul VI announced in 1967 the world needs to be sensitised and oriented for peace and understanding, and recommended the Church play a greater role in search for world peace, and this day, was appointed to celebrate these efforts. Hope has been a constant theme in all of Pope Francis' World Day of Peace messages. This is all the more true in his message for the 58<sup>th</sup> World Day of Peace, which will be marked on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025, as the Church begins the Jubilee of Hope amid an unprecedented combination of challenges facing the world today. This year's message is entitled "Forgive Us Our Debts: Grant Us Your Peace" underscoring the deep meaning of the Jubilee tradition that reminds us that we are all "in debt" to God. Pope Francis offers the following prayer for peace:

*Forgive us our trespasses, Lord, as we forgive those who trespass against us. In this cycle of forgiveness, grant us your peace, the peace that you alone can give to those who let themselves be disarmed in heart, to those who choose in hope to forgive the debts of their brothers and sisters, to those who are unafraid to confess their debt to you, and to those who do not close their ears to the cry of the poor.*

More details: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2024-12/pope-s-world-day-of-peace-message-we-are-all-in-debt-to-god.html>

## The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions – January: For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

## Access and security during the school holidays

Now that school holidays have commenced, there will be a considerable reduction in the amount of people in the church grounds and it is important to remain vigilant. If you notice anything suspicious please phone the parish office 9639 6516 and press 5 (at any time) which will have your call transferred to a staff member or clergy. Thank you.

## Moments of Mercy

"I am not only the Queen of Heaven, but also the Mother of Mercy and your Mother . . . I am Mother to you all, thanks to the unfathomable mercy of God." (Diary 330 & 449)

## Prayer for Vocations

Many adults never grow up. They continue to traipse across the earth looking for a shining star. Tell them who lights up your life, O Christians.

## 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

## Men's Ministry St Paul's

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

Contact parish office to organise.

## St Vincent de Paul Society

2nd & 4th Mondays of the month 7pm Parish Centre conference room

## News and Information

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

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

[www.catholicweekly.com.au/](http://www.catholicweekly.com.au/)

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

## Message from our Priest

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

## Feast of the Holy Family

This beautiful occasion invites us to reflect on the importance of family life and the ways we can foster love, unity, and faith within our own families. Let us honour the Holy Family as our perfect example and seek their intercession to strengthen our relationships and guide us in living out our Christian values. The Holy Family serves as a beautiful model for all families, showing us how to live our faith in everyday life. We can sometimes overlook the importance of family. As we honour this feast, let us pray for our families, practice forgiveness and strengthen our familial bonds. This also is a reminder of the need to share faith and embrace opportunities to grow spiritually together such as attending mass and praying as a family.

## Come and join our parish family of volunteers

As we continue to gather in the spirit of community and faith, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the dedicated volunteers and ministers who continue to tirelessly contribute to the vibrant life of our parish. 2024 has again been another year where their selfless efforts have greatly humbled us.

We express our sincere appreciation to our volunteers and ministers who generously donate their time, talents, and energy to make our parish a place of spiritual growth and community connection.

This also extends to those in their family or household who support them and enable this to happen.

Their commitment to various ministries, events, and activities has not only enriches our worship experience but has also strengthened the bonds that unite us as a faith community.

Their dedication and hard work can, and does, leave a lasting impact on the lives of our parishioners.

As we express our gratitude, we also extend an invitation to all parishioners who may feel called to contribute their talents and time to our parish ministries. Your involvement is a vital part of our continued growth, and we warmly welcome new volunteers and ministers to join our community of faith.

If you are interested in becoming more involved, we have a variety of ministries and activities.

There are many opportunities for you to make a meaningful impact. Your commitment can make a profound impact on our mission to serve the vulnerable, strengthen faith, and foster a sense of belonging.

If you feel called to serve, or would like more information about our ministries, say hi and have a chat to any of our ministers and volunteers, contact the parish office, or chat with myself or Father Abraham.

We always look forward and keen to welcome new members into our parish family and continuing to build a community grounded in love, faith, and service.

May God bless each of you abundantly, and His love continue to shine upon you in the new year!

Father John Paul Escarlan

## 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, Anne Burt, Anthony Iannuzzi, Cathie Christie, David, Dominic Abate, Edgar Cruz, Fermin Manuel, George El-Bayeh, Helene Barker, Jenny Goudas, Jessica Roach, John Gin, Joshua McCarroll, Loy De'Souza, Lorraine Abraham, Lucas Le Huray, Mary McConvey, Nick Galea, Mary Finianos, Maureen McLoughlun, Peter Gamble, Rosa Caccamo, Sally Georges, Sam Papallo, Sarah Sheehan, Tashia Vergara, Valeriano Estacio Jnr, Venessa Ibrahim.

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

Jack and Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Charles and Josephine Clayton, Geraldine Senewiratne, George Steel, Lourdes Zaballa, [Brian Baker](#), Dorothy Dalberg, Rob Gordon, Mervyn Davies, Lenny Fernandes, Iranie, Anthony and Rajan Perumal, Carly Young.