

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

 [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



24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration - March

Commences: 9:10am Mass Friday 7th | Concludes: 9:10am Mass Saturday 8th

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



It's not just 24 hours of silent Adoration

During the 24 hours of Eucharistic adoration, there are other ways one can participate in prayer or reflection and everyone is invited:

- 3:30pm - Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be sung in the church in front of the Blessed Sacrament (feel free to assemble at 3:00pm)
- **Please note for March and April only there will be no 6:00pm Evening Prayer/Vespers or 6:00pm Reconciliation**

Count of attendances at Masses over the next two weekends

At all weekend Masses on 8th/9th and 15th/16th March, there will be a count of those in attendance. The last count undertaken in our parish was 2021, and as you may appreciate, the (residual) impact of COVID was still evident. At these counts, no identifiable information will be collected and will be purely a head count. This is being undertaken to better inform our parish planning and strategies.

Feast of Saint Joseph in March - Novena and Mass times (including here at St Paul's)

The Filipino Chaplaincy invite you to celebrate the Feast of Saint Joseph, A Pilgrim of Hope Novena. There will be novena masses held across the Diocese and please join us here at St Paul's on Sunday, 9th March at 7:00pm for a special novena mass. The Feast Day Mass will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral Blacktown at 10:30am on Saturday, 15th March, followed by lunch and entertainment.

For those attending 2SM Filipino Mass, on Sunday, 9th March, please note for March only it will instead be held (in English) at 7:00pm.

Parish Youth Ministry - Joint FIAT and PYT gathering: Sunday, 16th March

We are excited to announce a joint gathering for the Youth Faith In Action Team (FIAT) and Parish Youth Teen (PYT) Ministry.

This event is open to all young adults aged 18 to 30 and youth in Year 7 to Year 12. The gathering will take place on Sunday, 16th March.

Commences with 5:00pm Mass. Please join us after in the Father David Scott Parish Centre for food and discussion on the topic:

Lent: What's the Point? Discovering the Purpose and Meaning of the Season.

We look forward to seeing you there and come along to meet and connect with your fellow parishioners and learn something new!

Please RSVP by Wednesday, 13th March (for catering) via WhatsApp chat (for young adults) or the parish office.

Save the date: 'The Seven Last Words of Christ From The Cross' on Saturday, 29th March

Presented by Charbel Raish (Parousia Media). Main talk from 2:00pm-4:00pm, followed by Eucharistic Adoration and 5pm Vigil Mass.

Caritas Project Compassion

This Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. By taking home a Project Compassion donation box, you'll be answering the Gospels' call to care for our global family and walk alongside the most vulnerable. Your generous support will provide life-changing support to communities facing poverty, food insecurity, lack of education, and water shortages, while building resilience against future challenges. Together, through faith and action, we can bring compassion and opportunity to those most in need. To find out more, or donate online: caritas.org.au/project-compassion/ Project Compassion boxes can be returned at Easter.

Pregnancy Help Sydney and "The Little White Box"

The work of supporting women with unplanned pregnancies is still an urgent need in our community. On the first weekend each month we put out "the Little White Box" at the Church at all masses. Donations raised allow the Pregnancy Help Sydney support group to continue supporting women and their families 24 hours a day on the telephone or with other assistance as needed. If you or anyone you know needs support or assistance, to know more, or to contribute, visit <https://www.pregnancyhelpsydney.com/>. Thank you.

Come along and join us Monday nights for ALPHA!

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that create a safe and honest space, where people can explore life, Christian faith and meaning, ask questions, and share their point of view. Alpha is free and all welcome to attend. **Registration to attend is necessary** and be done via this link: bit.ly/alphastpaulwinstonhills. There is no requirement to attend every session and you only need to register once.

Alpha will run every Monday from 7:30pm to 9:00pm, through to 14th April in our Father David Scott Parish Centre. Visit: alpha.org.au/

Safeguarding the Elderly Project: Thursday, 13th March

Are you interested in sharing and listening to ideas about how we can meet the needs of older people in our Parish communities?

You are invited to 'Share a Cuppa' from 10am-12pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Those involved in ministries

such as Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Pastoral Care Groups, are invited to share their experiences and reflections.

RSVP by Monday, 3rd March with any dietary requirements to: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Parish Safeguarding

Please refer concerns to our Parish Priest, or safeguarding@parracatholic.org or 8838 3419. More information www.safeguarding.org.au

Holy Father's monthly intentions for March: *For families in crisis*

That broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in differences.

Interested in knowing more? All enquirers welcome

Are you, or is someone you know, not Catholic but may be interested in finding out more about what Catholics believe and understanding Catholic Teachings? Please leave your name with the Parish Office to arrange a quick chat.

Reminder: Morning Tea after the 8:00am and 9:30am Masses next weekend - please come along!

Moments of Mercy

I desire that you would all have more faith at the present time. How great is my joy at the faithfulness of my spouse in the smallest things. Jesus (352)

Prayer for Vocations

"There are different gifts, but the same Spirit." Each of us has been graced with certain gifts of the Spirit. They are active, if we utilise them for building up of the Church. Name the way the Lord has gifted you.

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

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

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

Ash Wednesday Masses: March 5th at 6:30am, 9:10am and 7:00pm.

Includes distribution of Ashes. Wearing of ashes on the head and symbolise the dust from which God made us and marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. Penance, reflection, and fasting.

Lenten program and discussion groups

There is no need to register and everyone is invited to attend any or all sessions.

- Held every Wednesday evening during Lent in the Marian Chapel commencing Wednesday, March 12th.
- Christ's Catholic Community will focus on Lenten prayers and reflection instead of their usual prayers and discussions. Every Friday morning at 10:00am in the Parish Centre Conference Room.

Stations of the Cross - every Friday evening (followed by Reconciliation)

Please come along to the Stations of the Cross - held Friday evenings during Lent at 7:00pm

It is also known as Way of the Cross, a devotion that reflects on Jesus' final days. It developed when knights and pilgrims began to follow the route of Christ's way to Calvary, spread throughout Europe, promulgated by the Franciscan friars from the 14th century. It became an important catechetical tool and this devotion is to "walk" in Jesus' shoes by praying and meditating on each of the events Jesus experienced. Artistic renderings of the Stations in churches didn't begin until around 1686, when Pope Innocent XI allowed Franciscan friars to adorn their churches with the different stations. In 1731, Pope Clement XII allowed all churches to have stations and fixed the number at 14.

Praying the Nicene Creed during the season of Lent

There are two creeds that are used for the Profession of Faith: the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed. In the majority of instances, the Apostles Creed is prayed, however during the season of Lent, there is an option to use the Nicene Creed. The "Nicene" Creed is actually not the creed from the Council of Nicea in the year 325, but a summary of the faith expressed by that council and the Councils of Constantinople in 381 and Chalcedon in 451. The creed was originally used only in the celebration of baptism. Proclaiming the creed is not about reciting a long list of what we believe but rather a vibrant, life-filled glorification of God, and of God's love for us. Its structure, its every word, is a proclamation of God's goodness.

Other changes in Mass during Lent

During Lent, the Gloria is not said (or sung) nor is the Alleluia verse used before the Gospel. The Gloria is a hymn that celebrates the coming of the Lord using words from the angels at Christ's birth. The Church during Lent returns in spirit to a time when the people of God were in exile, waiting for the Messiah to come and save them. It is a time of agony and purification, one where the faithful join together in saying, "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?" which is why "Alleluia", the word is rooted in a Hebrew expression "praise the Lord", is thus omitted during Lent. Our Lenten focus is not in rejoicing, but in mourning our sins, looking at how they prevent us from an authentic relationship with God. Once these are removed through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we are able to rejoice again at Easter.

Please pray for our sick ... Heavenly Father, lay your healing hands upon all those who are sick. Amen

Aeroll Klein, Ameriza Ayoub, Anne Burt, Anthony Iannuzzi, Bailey, Cathie Christie, David, Edgar Cruz, Fermin Manuel, George El-Bayeh, Helene Barker, Jenny Goudas, John Gin, Joshua McCarroll, Krishna Premadas, Lorenzo Agostino, Loy De'Souza, Lucas Le Huray, Mark Lopez, Mary McConvey, Nick Galea, Mary Finianos, Maureen McLoughlun, Peter Gamble, Rosa Caccamo, Sally Georges, Sam Papallo, Sarah Sheehan, Valeriano Estacio Jnr, Vanessa Ibrahim.

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

Jack and Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Beth Kenny, Charles and Josephine Clayton, Domenico Abate, Eddie Ocampo, Fouad and Olga Matta, George Steel, Giustino Carnevale, Irene Navarrete-Antonio, Joseph Lucas, Laurence Scott, Lenore Dabrera, Mervyn Davies, Richard Pascual, Roland Gonzalez, Rosa Marotta, Theresa Borg, and recently deceased Charles Grima and Norma Sinclair.