

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 - 4:00pm

Emergencies or Anointing of the Sick:
call 9639 6516 and press 5

Parish Priest: Father John Paul Escarlan
Assistant Priest: Father Abraham Kunnatholy

For latest updates please visit our Facebook page



Weekend Mass times

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm
Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am and 5:00pm

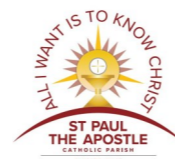
Weekday Mass times

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

Baptisms: First and Third Sunday of each month
Baptism bookings only [via our website](#)



Liturgical and Reconciliation services in our parish during Holy Week - everyone is welcome to attend

Monday 14th to Wednesday 16th	Morning Mass	9:10 am	<i>preceded by Rosary at 8:40am</i>
Holy Thursday 17th	Morning Prayer	9:10 am	<i>no morning Mass today</i>
	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7:00 pm	<i>followed by Reconciliation</i>
	Night Prayer	9:45 pm	<i>Church closes 10:00pm</i>
Good Friday 18th	Stations of the Cross	10:00 am	<i>followed by Reconciliation</i>
	Passion of the Lord	3:00 pm	<i>followed by Reconciliation</i>
Holy Saturday 19th	Morning Prayer	9:10 am	<i>no morning Mass today</i>
	Easter Vigil Mass	6:00 pm	<i>no Reconciliation today</i>
Easter Sunday 20th	Morning Mass	8:00 am & 9:30 am	<i>no evening Mass today</i>

Diocese of Parramatta - Holy Week Mass Times for all parishes

Holy Week Mass and Reconciliation Times for all parishes are available on the Diocesan website parracatholic.org/connect/find-a-mass/

Pontifical Annual Holy Land Good Friday Collection: April 18th

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in every Catholic church to support the people and places of the Holy Land.

The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility of caring for the Holy Places as well as caring for the Christians living in the Holy Land. Your donation is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of people who are keeping alive the Christian presence in the land of Jesus, often in the face of great difficulty. Due to the ongoing war, the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance globally. Please remember Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday. If you are unable to donate at this time, or to find out more: holylanfranciscansaustralia.org/good-friday/

Call out for help with moving chairs this Thursday and Easter Sunday

We are kindly seeking the help of some volunteers to carry across chairs from the Parish Centre and School playground and place them under the Church foyer this Thursday 17th at 4:00pm in preparation for our Holy Week and Easter services. We will also be grateful for any help after the Easter Sunday 9:30am Mass to return them back. Many thanks!!

Call out for help with cleaning after the Easter Vigil Mass

We expect there will be some cleaning and tidying after the Easter Vigil Mass and we would be deeply grateful for any assistance. This includes removing any wax on the chairs and floor and vacuuming. Many hands will hopefully enable a quick clean up! Thank you!!

Come along and celebrate 'Salubong': Easter Sunday, 20th April

The Filipino Chaplaincy invites you to join the traditional Easter celebration of 'Salubong' - a commemoration of the meeting of Blessed Mother Mary and Jesus Christ after his resurrection. Commences at 4:30am here at St Paul's and followed by Mass.

ANZAC Day Mass and Scroll

A special Dawn Mass will be celebrated on ANZAC Day at 6:00am with morning tea to follow. Feel free to bring a plate. Please also note:

- you are invited to bring a photo and place it on the Sanctuary steps prior to Mass.
- a scroll will be placed on the Altar during this Mass and will be offered for all those listed, and you are invited to include names on the scroll which is on the table as you enter the Church.
- the regular Thursday morning Mass at 9.10am (and preceding Rosary) will still be celebrated.

Divine Mercy Sunday - April 27th (and Novena)

Saint Faustina's Diary (Divine Mercy in My Soul), contains many passages in which Our Lord is quoted as requesting that a "Feast of Mercy" be officially established. At the canonisation of Saint Faustina, Pope John Paul II announced "It is important that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church will be called 'Divine Mercy Sunday'." Leading up to this most special celebration we will be praying a **daily** Novena at 3:30pm in the Marian Chapel here at our Church. Novena commences Good Friday (immediately after the Passion) and continues Saturday April 26th. If you are unable to attend, you can pray the Novena using the resources from this website: thedivine Mercy.org/message/devotions/novena

Welcome to those Baptised here recently

To Charlotte, Edward, Olivia and Reina, we pray that their faith will be an important and integral part of their life.

Interested in becoming an Altar Server?

Our parish is inviting interested children to join our Altar Server Ministry and commence in July of this year with all training provided. Children must have already received the Sacrament of Holy Communion and regularly attend Mass, and children are welcome from any school to join. Please apply using the form available on the table as you leave Mass today and contact the parish office for any enquiries.

CYP Annual Good Friday Night Walk: 18th April

An annual pilgrimage attended by hundreds of young people across the Diocese. To register visit: parracatholic.org/events/gfnw/

2025 Jubilee Year: this week the focus is on ... Jubilee of Teenagers

For those aged 13-19, recognising those years as vital in the formation of the person, highlighting the joy and enthusiasm of teenagers.

Caritas Project Compassion boxes

Your generous support will provide life-changing support to communities facing poverty, food insecurity, lack of education, water shortages, while building resilience. We kindly request that all boxes be returned during Holy Week and Easter time. Thank you.

Coming up:

27th April to 7th May: Father Abraham will be on leave to Uganda

Sunday, 11th May: Farewell morning tea for Father Abraham after each morning Mass and for Mothers' Day too!

Moments of Mercy

God of unfathomable mercy, embrace the whole world and pour Yourself out upon us through the merciful Heart of Jesus. (Diary, 1183)

Prayer for Vocations

Father, You send us forth to build up Your kingdom. to serve the church as priests, deacons, sisters and brothers. Help them to hear and answer Your call to discipleship.

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

Women's Ministry St Paul's

Third 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).

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

The significance of Palm Sunday as we enter Holy Week

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, during which we journey with Jesus through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection. The joyous procession on Palm Sunday gives way to the solemn reading of the Passion narrative, reminding us of the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made for our salvation.

Palm Sunday finds its roots in ancient Jewish tradition, specifically the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot) and the Feast of Dedication (Hanukkah). During these festivals, people would wave palm branches as a symbol of victory and deliverance, echoing triumphs of their ancestors. In ancient times, palm branches were associated with victory, peace, and royalty. By welcoming Jesus with palms, the people acknowledged him as the long-awaited King who would bring deliverance to Israel.

The Gospel narratives today resonate deeply with Old Testament prophecies (Zechariah 9:9) which foretold of the Messiah: "Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

As Jesus rode into the city on a humble donkey, crowds hailed him as the long-awaited Messiah, spreading their cloaks and palm branches on the road before him shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Matthew 21:9). This event symbolises Jesus' kingship and the fulfilment of ancient prophecies, underscoring his role as the long-awaited Messiah.

The word "Hosanna" expresses praise and adoration, derived from the Hebrew phrase "hoshiya na," which means "save, please." However, their understanding of salvation was temporal, seeking deliverance from Roman oppression, whereas Jesus came to offer eternal salvation from sin and death.

Palm Sunday serves also as a poignant reminder of the fickleness of human allegiance and the depth of Christ's sacrificial love. The same crowds that hailed him as King would soon cry out for his crucifixion.

We are invited to reflect on the paradox of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem amidst the backdrop of humility. In a world that often values power, prestige, and self-promotion, the image of Jesus riding on a humble donkey serves as a profound reminder of the true nature of greatness – one rooted in humility, service and sacrificial love. Let us reflect on the ways in which we welcome Jesus into our lives.

Do we acknowledge him as our King and Saviour, or do worldly distractions cloud our vision?

May today inspire us to be open to Christ, welcoming him with humility, reverence, and unwavering faith.

Palm Sunday thank you

We extend thanks to the Parish Adornment Ministry members and other volunteers who generously gave of their time in preparing the palms and especially fashioning the palm branches into crosses. These palm crosses are reminders of Jesus' sacrifice and our call to discipleship through the year.

Parish Safeguarding

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

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

Aeroll Klein, Amanda Caputo, Ameriza Ayoub, Anne Burt, Anthony Iannuzzi, Bailey, Cathie Christie, David, Edgar Cruz, Evelyn Rucda, Fermin Manuel, George El-Bayeh, Helene Barker, Jenny Goudas, John Gin, Joshua McCarroll, Krishna Premadas, 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, Stella Kim, 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, Alliston Corner, Beth Kenny, Charles and Josephine Clayton, Charlotte Dos Remedios, Eric Balagtas, George Steel, John Bowman, Margarete Collimore, Monica Bowman, Joseph Ng Swee Teck and Audrey Ng Mei Yen, Roland Gonzalez.