# 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 Jobi Payyappilly

For latest updates please visit our Facebook page



facebook.com/stpaultheapostleparish

## **Weekend Mass times**

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm

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

### **Weekday Mass times**

**Baptisms:** 

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 First and Third Sunday of each month

Baptism bookings only via our website

### Devotion to Our Lady on Saturdays of the year

This devotion goes back to the gathering of the apostles around Our Lady on that Holy Saturday after Christ's death on the Cross. With Mary as their mother, Christ declared on the cross to John: "Behold your mother". In the 13th Century, Caesarius of Heisterbach explained it like this: "Mary alone kept faith in the resurrection of her son, within the general despair of Holy Saturday, when Christ lay dead in the tomb. Marian devotion on Saturday is understood from Sunday, the day commemorating the resurrection". The custom of celebrating a Mass of Our Lady on Saturdays goes back to theologian Alcuin of York (735-804). Alcuin composed six weekday votive Masses of Our Lady, two of them for Saturday, to be used when the memorials of saints were not celebrated. Not long afterwards, the custom of praying the Little Office of Mary on Saturdays in the Liturgy of the Hours began and became widespread. In 10th Century Europe there were Saturday Masses in Mary's honour. Franciscans and Benedictines spread the devotion, and by 17<sup>th</sup> Century, Dominicans had started honouring Mary with special acts of devotion on the 15 consecutive Saturdays preceding the feast of the Holy Rosary. The Popes attached an indulgence to the 15 Saturdays for anyone who went to Confession, received Holy Communion, and prayed five decades of the Rosary. Also in the 17th century, St John Eudes and Venerable Jean-Jacques Olier began to speak about the first Saturday of the month as a day of reparation for blasphemies against the Blessed Mother. Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturdays was confirmed in modern times by the revelations of Our Lady to Sr Lucia requesting the institution of the devotion of the five first Saturdays in reparation to her Immaculate Heart. Our Lady told Sr Lucia: "Behold, my daughter, my heart encircled with thorns, with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. Give me consolation, you, at least; and make known on my behalf that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all who on the first Saturday of five consecutive months confess their sins, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for 15 minutes meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, with the purpose of making reparation to my Immaculate Heart." Source: https://catholicleader.com.au/life/ga-why-is-saturday-dedicated-to-our-lady/

## Solemnity of Our Lady Help of Christians: Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> May

Saint Mary of the Cross McKillop, together with Our Lady, under the title "Help of Christians", are our spiritual patrons and has always had a special place in the devotions of Australian Catholics. In 1844, Mary, under the title of Our Lady Help of Christians, was chosen as patroness of Australia at the First Provincial Synod of Sydney. Catholic Australia remained faithful to Mary and was the first nation to choose her under the title Help of Christians. St Mary's Cathedral was also dedicated in her honour. When Australia became the first country to have Mary Help of Christians as Patroness, it became the first country to have a mother-cathedral under the same title.

### **Parish Safeguarding**

Please refer concerns to our Parish Priest, or <a href="mailto:safeguarding@parracatholic.org">safeguarding@parracatholic.org</a> 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 lannuzzi, Bailey, Cathie Christie, Christine Coorey, David, Edgar Cruz, Ellen Wynne, Evelyn Rucda, Fermin Manuel, George El-Bayeh, Helene Barker, Jenny Goudas, John Gin, Joshua McCarroll, Krishna Premadas, Loui Ibrahim, Loy De'Souza, Lucas Le Huray, Mark Lopez, Mary McConvey, Mary Finianos, Maureen McLoughlun, Nick Galea, 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, Archbishop Brian Barnes OFM, Bishop Bonaventure Geoghegan OFM, Arnold and Mary Papali, Barbara Killick, Marie and Tim Kent, Beth Kenny, Chammouni Frangi, Charles and Josephine Clayton, George Steel, John and Kevin Young, Lynette Cain, Maria Zammit, Paul Bowman, Rita DeSouza, Roland Gonzalez.

## Moments of Mercy

"Jesus, You have allowed me to know and understand in what a soul's greatness consists: not in great deeds but in great love. Love has its worth, and it confers greatness on all our deeds. Although our actions are small and ordinary in themselves, because of love they become great and powerful before God" (Diary, 889).

### Prayer for Vocations

The more your sins are forgiven, the more love you must show what greater love than to lav down your life for others in a vocation to the priesthood or religious life?

### 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.

## Mass with Ephpheta Third Sunday at 9:30am

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

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. Assistance? 131812 (M-F 8.30-4.30) Overheads for hymns used in the Church are used with permission under ONE LICENCE No A-642251

## IMPORTANT: No Masses or Liturgies will be held Wednesday 21st to Friday 23rd May

The last time that the clergy of our Diocese held a residential conference was in May 2016, thus, it has been almost ten years since the clergy have had an opportunity to be together for any meaningful time. The clergy of the Diocese need time to be together to assist the building up of their fraternal relationships, and for some much-needed input on topics that are very relevant to parish clergy ministering in the context of our current world. That means that for three days the normal liturgical schedules across the parishes will be disrupted. In our parish of St Paul's, we apologise that during this period there will be no Masses, Reconciliation or Adoration. However, with the assistance of some retired priests and some priests from religious congregations, Masses will be available 21st to 23rd at: St Patrick's Blacktown (9am), OLQP Greystanes (9:15am), St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta (12:30pm), St Michael's Baulkham Hills (9:15am). Please pray especially for all priests and deacons of the Diocese during their time away at this important event.

### Next weekend at all Masses - Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal

Your generosity will enable our Holy Spirit Seminary in Harris Park to support the formation of our seminarians who are sowers of hope,' bringing Christ's love to our communities. In these times of fragility and despair, their mission is to spread some sowers of hope, and spiritual formation they need to remain committed to meeting the spiritual and pastoral needs of our community. Our seminarians are called to be 'pilgrims and God's love to all. Your caring and generous support will provide the education and spiritual formation they need to remain dedicated to their ministry for Christ's Church. A third collection will be taken after Communion or you can donate via QR:



### Mass of installation as parish priest - Father Abraham Kunnatholy: Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> May

Everyone is welcome to attend this special event for Father Abraham at Corpus Christi Parish, 86 - 94 Andromeda Drive, Cranebrook. Mass will be celebrated at 6:00pm followed by refreshments. There is no need to RSVP and for more information contact 4730 1249.

## Seeking volunteers to assist - Annual St Paul the Apostle Parish Feast Day: Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> June

To help make this a success, please let us know where you can help using the volunteer lists on the table as you leave Mass. Thank you! Call out for help with collection baskets at Mass

We are in need of volunteers at our weekend masses to assist in looking after the baskets for the collections. You are not expected to do it for every Mass and only when you are available to do so. If you are in a position to help out please contact the parish office. Thank you. **Sacrament of Holy Communion** 

Over 70 of our parish children have now commenced their journey for this Sacrament. Over the coming weeks, please pray for them, and their families, as they focus on their preparation. Communion masses will be celebrated at 11:00am on Sunday 15th and 22nd June.

# Interested in becoming an Altar Server? (Applications close this Wednesday, 21st May)

Please apply using the form available on the table as you leave Mass today and contact the parish office for any enquiries.

## Drop in and enjoy our Leisure Group: this Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May

A social group for the young at heart. Share a laugh and a cuppa from 10am - 12pm in the Father David Scott Parish Centre.

# Fourth Annual Nationwide Rosary to Our Lady Help of Christians: Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> May

The Rosary is being prayed around Australia from 2:00pm-4:00pm, as the people of God unite in prayer. The theme for 2025 is: "Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord." (Psalm 31:24) Information and resources: olhcrosarynationwide@gmail.com.

## Pentecost Scripture Reflection with Dr Deborah Snoddy: Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> May

What does the Holy Spirit look like in your life? How can Scripture stretch our imagination when comes to Pentecost and the Holy Spirit? Register for the Diocesan Pentecost Scripture Reflection Evening with Dr Deborah Snoddy on Wednesday 28 May at 6:30-8:30pm. RSVP via parracatholic.org/events/pentecost-scripture-night or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org

## 60 Year Jubilee Celebration, Holy Family Parish, Mt Druitt: Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> June

Mass at 10:30am with Bishop Vincent followed by a Multicultural Festival and lunch. For more details email jubilee@holyfamily.org.au Ministry of Care Courses: 4<sup>th</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup> June (Wednesday evenings)

Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course at Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. Attend all four sessions or just attend the session(s) that interest you. To register or for more information visit parracatholic.org/events/ministry-of-care-courses/

## Annual Tri-Diocesan Social Justice Evening: Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> June

A collaboration between Sydney Archdiocese of Dioceses of Parramatta and Broken Bay discussing the ACBC Social Justice Statement 2024-25 "Truth & Peace – A Gospel Word in a Violent World". St Monica's Parish Hall, 8 Daking St, North Parramatta, 6:30pm – 9:00pm.

## Position Vacant: Sacramental Program and Special Religious Education Coordinator

Permanent part-time position with 15 hours per week at St Anthony of Padua Parish, Toongabbie. Please forward applications and resumes to the Parish Secretary secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au by 9th June. For more information contact 9631 3316

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

The jubilee honours the many members of Catholic confraternities around the world, highlighting the value and their important mission.

### **Australian Catholic Youth Festival**

The Diocese of Parramatta will be joining the Australian Church for this event in Melbourne from 30 November to 3 December. The three day national Catholic festival is for young people in Year 9 through to 25 years of age. Details: <a href="mailto:parracatholic.org/connect/acyf/">parracatholic.org/connect/acyf/</a>

## **Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains - Low Cost Counselling Services**

Provides low cost and affordable counselling services for individuals seeking support. Whether you're looking for general guidance or assistance with specific challenges like grief, loss, or family matters. Call Catholic Care on 8843 2500 for a friendly chat today.

### **Upcoming Feast Days, Memorials, Solemnities**

20th Bernardine of Siena | 21st Christopher Magallanes & Companions | 22nd Rita of Cascia | 24th Our Lady Help of Christians, Rita of Cascia

Upcoming events in June: 6th – 7th: 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration | Thu 26th: Healing mass at 7:00pm (Fr Justin Torres)