

# 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 - 4:00pm

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

Administrator: Father Jobi Payyappilly  
Assistant Priest: Father Pio Yong Ho Jang

For latest updates please visit our Facebook page

 Find us on: [facebook.com/stpaultheapostleparish](https://www.facebook.com/stpaultheapostleparish)

## Weekend Mass times

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

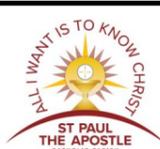
## Weekday Mass times

Monday to Saturday 9.10am (*preceded by 8:40am Rosary*)  
Thursday 7.00pm (*preceded by 6:00pm Adoration*)

**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](http://www.stpaultheapostleparish.org)*



## Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross: September 14<sup>th</sup>

Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Saviour's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher on that spot. During the excavation, workers found three crosses, and legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed above Jesus' head: Then "all the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross and the inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on."

To this day, the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the September anniversary of the basilica's dedication. The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614, 15 years earlier. According to the story, the emperor intended to carry the cross back into Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he took off his imperial garb and became a barefoot pilgrim.

The cross is today the universal image of Christian belief. To the eyes of first Christians, it had no beauty. It stood outside too many city walls, decorated only with decaying corpses, as a threat to anyone who defied Rome's authority, including Christians who refused sacrifice to Roman gods. Although believers spoke of the cross as the instrument of salvation, it seldom appeared in Christian art unless disguised as an anchor or the Chi-Rho until after Constantine's Edict of Milan and toleration.

## Upcoming Feast Days, Memorials, Solemnities

15<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Sorrows | 16<sup>th</sup> Sts Cornelius and Cyprian | 17<sup>th</sup> St Hildegard, St Robert Bellarmine  
19<sup>th</sup> Saint Januarius | 20<sup>th</sup> Saints Andrew Kim Taegon and Paul Chong Hasang and companions

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

The [Jubilee of Consolation](#) is an invitation for those who are experiencing a time of pain and affliction, due to illness, bereavement, violence or abuse together with their families and friends.

## Parish Safeguarding

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

## 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, Arlene Diaz, Bailey Whou, Cathie Christie, Darrel Morrison, David, Declan Trainor, Edgar Cruz, Ellen Wynne, Fermin Manuel, George El-Bayeh, Grace Kaddissi, Helene Barker, Jenny Goudas, John Gin, Joshua McCarroll, Krishna Premadas, Loui Ibrahim, Loy De'Souza, Lucas Le Huray, Lynette Giri, Manuel Crescini, Marian Bacho, Maridel Manuzon, Mark Lopez, Mary McConvey, Michael Hall, Natalie Caccamo, Natina Caccamo, Nick Galea, Peter Beck, Peter Gamble, Sally Georges, Sam Papallo, Stella Kim, Valeriano Estacio Jnr, Vanessa Ibrahim.

## Please pray for the repose of the souls

Jack and Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Most Reverend Bishop Arnold, Bishop Ignatius Doggett OFM, Alfred Davison, Andrew Allan Pitaia, Beth Kenny, Charles and Josephine Clayton, George Steel, John and Kevin Young, Nathalina Pereira, Patsy Mendes, Roland Gonzalez, Wesley Laikain, Vyekoslav Plisic, Ivan and Dennis Justinic, and the recently deceased Steve Piljoo Ko.

**May the souls of our dearly departed rest in peace. Amen**

## 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

"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Make a stand for mercy, empathy, forgiveness and selflessness! Re-live them!

## Communion to the sick

Contact parish office to organise.

## Mother of Perpetual Help

Novena prayed after Mass every Wednesday morning.

## Thursday Cenacles

Held in Marian Chapel after every Thursday morning Mass.

## Christ's Catholic Community

Prayer group every Friday 10am: Parish Centre Conference Room.

## Divine Mercy Chaplet

Fridays 3:30pm in Marian Chapel.

## Liturgy of the Hours

First Friday at 6:00pm

## 2SM Filipino Mass

Second Sunday at 11:00am

## 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

## St Vincent de Paul Society

2nd & 4th Mondays of the month  
7pm Parish Centre conference room.  
Assistance? 131812 (M-F 8.30-4.30)

## Low gluten hosts

Available upon request

## Hearing Loop:

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

## News and Information

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

## Registration for Sacrament of Reconciliation closes: Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>

Online registration is available only [via our website](#). To be eligible your child must be already Baptised and in Year 3 or above in 2025. The Sacrament will take place on Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> and the registration form contains all details of preparatory sessions, including additional instructions for those children who were not Baptised here at St Paul's. Registrations close September 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.

## You are invited! Faith Seeking Understanding: Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>

As part of our series on Faith Seeking Understanding, our next event which will be presented by [Christian Stephens](#) on the topic *The Archangels: their nature and their vocation in God's creation*. Every year on September 29<sup>th</sup> we celebrate the feast of the Archangels. As part of our preparation for this feast, join us as we consider questions such as, What are angels? What are archangels? How do we know they exist? What is their role within God's creation, and in its fall, redemption, and glory?

Please join us for this special evening which commences at 7:45pm in the Father David Scott Parish Centre after the 7:00pm Mass.

## Women's Ministry of St Pauls: this Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

*Special presentation: The Brown Scapular & Fatima*. Join us for a spiritually enriching evening with guest speaker Mark Napoli who will share the powerful devotion of The Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and it's connection to Fatima. Come discover how this powerful devotion invites us to a life of prayer, conversion, and hope in a world that greatly needs it. Commences with Adoration (6pm), Mass (7pm) then assemble at the Parish Centre (7:45pm). All women aged 18 and over welcome.

## Our Lady Queen of Peace (Greystanes) Festa - Pilgrimage from our parish: Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>

Bus travel is being organised from our parish for those interested in attending the 60th Anniversary of this Festa. The bus will take you to Greystanes and bring you back, leaving here at 12:30pm and returning 5:30pm. The afternoon will commence with Rosary, Festa Mass and a procession of Our Lady Queen of Peace. Following that there will be outdoor festivities, food and bands. There is no charge for the bus travel and please add your name to the list in our church foyer to confirm your attendance, noting that there are limited places.

## St Pedro Calungsod Novena: commences (with Father John Paul) here at St Paul's Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>

Father John Paul Escarlan will be co-celebrating the Novena on the first evening on Thursday October 9<sup>th</sup> here at St Paul the Apostle parish. Everyone is invited to be present for this Novena which will be preceded by Eucharistic Adoration (6pm) and Mass (7pm). The Novena continues across the Diocese and please refer to the poster in the foyer for more details.

## Toongabbie Legal Centre Raffle Tickets on sale next weekend

Toongabbie Legal Centre Inc is an unfunded not-for-profit community legal centre functioning from St. Anthony's Catholic Church Hall. The free legal service is run by of volunteers and assisted over 12,000 clients during their over 15 years servicing the community. Raffle tickets will be on sale outside the Church at all Masses next weekend to raise funds to support the service.

## Safeguarding Sunday: September 14<sup>th</sup>

A day when we pause to focus on our responsibility to protect and care for those who are vulnerable. In the Bible, we find a clear and strong message about justice, compassion, and speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves. We are called to be a safe, welcoming and hope-filled church. In our everyday lives, let's be mindful of those around us who are vulnerable or marginalised. Who are the "silent" ones in our society, the ones without a voice? Today, God may be calling you to stand up for them. Whether it's through prayer, support, or direct action, we are invited to participate in God's work of justice.

## Bishop's Father's Day Appeal: Thank you for your support

Thank you for your generous support and contributions to this year's appeal for our priests who have nurtured our faith and served in faithful ways, ensuring they receive care, comfort, and dignity. You can also donate at anytime: [parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal](http://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal).

## Available to purchase: God's Word 2026 - Daily Reflections Liturgical Diary

Your companion on the journey to pray, share, grow in God's love and be nourished by the Word of God and includes the Bible readings set down for each day, with a reflection. A life-changing companion to nourish, help make God's Word the foundation of your life, and empower you to pray, live and share your faith with others. These are available from our piety stall for \$20 until sold out.

## Grace and Truth Evening "Anchored in Hope": Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>

Men and women (18 years and older) are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters for the next Grace and Truth evening. Consist of Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers and Benediction, a light dinner, and talks by Fr Paul Rowse, OP and Sister Anastasia, OP. The event will run from 5:00pm - 8:30pm, starting in the St Mary's Cathedral Crypt and moving to the Cathedral Hall. Cost: \$20. Registration closes September 23<sup>rd</sup>. <https://www.trybooking.com/DESDN>. Details contact Dominican Sisters [sydney@op-tn.org](mailto:sydney@op-tn.org).

## Opportunities for our parish and community to engage with the St Vincent de Paul Society

*Youth Engagement Officer Role*: seeking full-time Youth Engagement Officer to build connections with young people and parishes, including within our Diocese. This role is suitable for Catholic young adults [View job details](#)

*Vinnies Service Medallion (VSM)*: A free statewide program for secondary students (Years 7-12) to explore faith in action through service, justice, and leadership. A great way to connect parish youth with practical Catholic social teaching. [Learn more](#)

*2025-2026 Social Justice Statement - "Signs of Hope on the Edge"*: Australian Bishops call us to respond to those experiencing hardship, especially facing homelessness. Parishes are encouraged to reflect, pray, and act with these themes at the heart of ministry. If you would like to explore collaboration or have enquiries about any of the above schools/youth opportunities, please contact Roydon Ng, Vinnies Membership, Youth and Community Engagement Team [roydon.ng@vinnies.org.au](mailto:roydon.ng@vinnies.org.au)

## Save the date: some upcoming events in our parish

Oct 12<sup>th</sup>: 5:00pm - Mass for HSC students. Come in your school sports jersey!  
Oct 13<sup>th</sup>: [World Rosary Hour](#) and procession around our church grounds  
Oct 30<sup>th</sup>: Faith Seeking Understanding (Topic: Seven Surprises of the Eucharist) with special guest speaker [Dr Robert Haddad](#)  
Oct 31<sup>st</sup>: [All Hallows Eve celebration](#) with rosary and activities where children can also dress up as saints or holy people  
Nov 8<sup>th</sup>: Morning Mass and parish gathering - [10 year memorial for the passing of the late Father David Scott](#) (founding parish priest).