

# 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

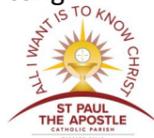
Parish Priest: Father John Paul Escarlan

Assistant Priest: Father Jobi Payyappilly

Assistant Priest: Father Pio Yong Ho Jang



For latest updates



## 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

**Adoration: (24hour)** First Friday 9.45am - 9.00am Saturday

**Baptisms:** First and Third Sunday of each month

*Baptism bookings only via our website*

## Lenten Reflection Program - you are invited

There are two sessions available and please add your details to the sheets as you leave Mass.

Wednesdays 7:00pm led by [Doctor Peter Holmes](#) in the Marian Chapel on the following evenings: Feb 25<sup>th</sup>, Mar 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>  
Each session with Doctor Holmes will focus on the upcoming weekend readings for each Sunday of Lent.

Fridays 10am led by Pauline Camilleri in Parish Centre Conference Room.

## Stations of the Cross - every Friday evening at 7:00pm (preceded by 6:30pm Reconciliation)

This Lenten season, come and share the sacred journey of the Stations of the Cross. It is a powerful time of reflection and prayer, as we follow Christ's path to Calvary and meditate on His love and sacrifice. Whether you've participated before or are new to this devotion, the Stations offer a meaningful way to grow closer to God during Lent. Join us every Friday at 7:00pm as we gather in prayer, remembering Christ's suffering and embracing His mercy. All are welcome and we encourage you to please bring along your family.

## Clergy Update

As recently announced, following are Diocesan appointments taking effect Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 which affect our parish:

- Reverend Jobi Payyappilly MS to transfer to [Rooty Hill Parish](#) for his appointment as Parish Administrator
- Reverend Pio Yong Ho Jang to transfer to [Doonside Parish](#) for his appointment as Parish Administrator
- Reverend Ambrose Owusu-Ansah to transfer to Winston Hills Parish for his appointment as Assistant Priest

The first Mass to be celebrated in our parish by Father Ambrose will be the 8:00am Mass on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Please come along!

## Drop in and enjoy our Leisure Group: this Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

Where the young at heart share a laugh and a cuppa 10am - 12pm in our Parish Centre. Please come along even if you haven't been!

## Upcoming registrations for the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Registrations for this Sacrament in our parish will open on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> and only online via our website. Please note the eligibility for children to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion: has received the Sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation and be in Year 4 or above in 2026. To find out more please submit your enquiry online via our website: [stpaultheapostleparish.org/#contactus](http://stpaultheapostleparish.org/#contactus)

## Welcome to those Baptised here recently

To Alexandra and Sophia, we pray that their faith will be an important and integral part of their lives.

## Join our Children's and Family Choir! All welcome - come sing, learn and have fun

Our choir is looking for new members! If you have a heart for serving music at the mass and love to sing, we would love to have you. Rehearsals are held on the first and last Sunday each month after the 5pm mass and our choir sings at the 5pm Mass on the second Sunday of each month. To find out more come and see us after Mass else feel free to contact Thomas 0435 473 099 or Lydia 0419 011 260.

## Catholic Youth Parramatta (CYP) 2026 Kick-Off: Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>

Young people in our Diocese are invited to an evening of celebration as we begin 2026 together. Hear testimonies from local leaders, take part in prayer, connect with others, and discover the vision for Catholic Youth Parramatta for 2026. Join us on this Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> from 7pm to 9.30pm at Holy Family Primary School, 11 Emert Parade, Emerton. Register: [parracatholic.org/events/liftedlaunch/](http://parracatholic.org/events/liftedlaunch/)

## Feast of Saint Joseph Celebration: Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

The Filipino Chaplaincy invites you to The Feast of St Joseph on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> with 10:30am Mass at St Patrick's Church, 51 Allawah St, Blacktown. Novena mass for the feast will be celebrated here at St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Winston Hills on Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. The theme for this year is: "St Joseph: Guardian of the Holy Family, United in the Mission of Christ."

## Caritas Project Compassion Boxes

In Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty. By taking home a Project Compassion box, you'll be answering the Gospels' call to care for our global family and walk alongside the most vulnerable. Visit: [caritas.org.au/project-compassion/](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion/). Boxes can be returned at Easter.

## Copies of Lenten Booklet Compassio available from the piety stall

We have spare copies of these available for free and please drop into the piety stall to pick one up.

## 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.

## Upcoming Feast Days, Memorials, Solemnities, Commemorations

21<sup>st</sup> Saint Peter Damian | 23<sup>rd</sup> Saint Polycarp | 27<sup>th</sup> Saint Gregory of Narek

## Message of the Holy Father Leo XIV for Lent 2026

Dear friends, let us ask for the grace of a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to the least among us. Let us ask for the strength that comes from the type of fasting that also extends to our use of language, so that hurtful words may diminish and give way to a greater space for the voice of others. Let us strive to make our communities places where the cry of those who suffer finds welcome, and listening opens paths towards liberation, making us ready and eager to contribute to building a civilization of love.

I impart my heartfelt blessing upon all of you and your Lenten journey.

Full message available here: [press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2026/02/13/260213d.html](http://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2026/02/13/260213d.html)

## 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)

## Reminder: 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration in March

Commences with 9:10am Mass on Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> and concludes with 9:10am Mass Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>.

This will be the last Adoration until after Easter so please mark this date. **Come ... spend some time with Him**

## Moments of Mercy

Souls perish in spite of My bitter Passion. I am giving them the last hope of salvation; that is, the Feast of My Mercy. If they will not adore My mercy, they will perish for all eternity. (*Diary 965*)

## Vocations reflection

The world tempts us to grab all we can. Even food becomes more when it is given than when it is taken.

Follow Jesus: be a giver.

## 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

## 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

## 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).

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

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

## Our Lenten Journey

The season of Lent comes with an invitation to a journey of introspection, repentance and renewal. This 40 day pilgrimage which began Ash Wednesday, which culminates in the celebration of Easter, serves as a profound opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and to align ourselves more closely with teachings of Christ.

Lent is traditionally observed through three foundational pillars: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These practices are designed to purify our hearts, foster humility, and cultivate a greater sense of compassion towards others. By engaging ourselves in these practices with enthusiasm, we prepare ourselves fully to embrace the joy of resurrection of Jesus.

**Prayer** stands at the heart of our Lenten observance. To spend time in meditation, solitude, prayer, scripture reading, and engage in a heartfelt dialogue with our creator. To make this season meaningful, dedicate specific moments of the day for practices like examination of conscience, reflective and family prayers, participate in holy mass, participate in Lenten retreat, etc.

**Fasting** is not merely an act of self-denial but is also a means of spiritual growth. Traditionally, this involves abstaining from certain meals or foods, symbolising our readiness to detach ourselves from worldly comforts to focus on spiritual growth. There are various kinds of fasts like the Daniel fast. It is a biblically inspired practise that include abstaining from meat, fish, dairy and sweets; a simpler diet. We need to consider fasting beyond food, like fasting from certain habits and addictions that may hinder our spiritual growth and thereby helping to create space for God in our lives.

**Almsgiving** embodies our call to love and serve our neighbours, particularly those in need.

This encourages us to engage ourselves in charitable activities, spending our time and talent in philanthropic activities, supporting community activities and helping those who are less fortunate. They in turn will help our own spiritual nourishment.

Let us make this Lenten journey very personal so that it may resonate with our spiritual aspirations. Let us make it fruitful, leading each one of us closer to God's infinite mercy.

## You are invited! Parish Lenten Retreat "Making the most of Lent" Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

We are pleased to announce that our parish will be holding a Lenten Retreat at which everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. [Father John Flader](#) will lead this special event commencing with 9:10am Mass (feel free to come to the 8:40am Rosary beforehand) followed by a meet and greet. Formation and discussion commences at 10.30am and conclude around midday. No need to RSVP.

## 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, Amanda Caputo, Ameriza Ayoub, Anne Burt, Arlene Diaz, Aurora Ignacio, Bailey Whou, Ben Rivera, Darrel Morrison, David Nichols. David, Declan Trainor, Edgar Cruz, Ellen Wynne, Eric Wood, Fermin Manuel, Grace Kaddissi, Helene Barker, John Gin, Joshua McCarroll, Judy Ibrahim, Krishna Premadas, Lesley Neylan, Loui Ibrahim, Loy De'Souza, Lynda Steel, Lucas Le Huray, Lynette Giri, Maria Mezzagosto, Marian Bacho, Maridel Manuzon, Mark Lopez, Mary McConvey, Michael Hall, Nick Galea, Paloma Escarlan, Peter Beck, Sam Papallo, Stella Kim, Sally Georges, Therese Garamy, Vanessa Ibrahim, Valeriano Estacio Jnr, Vincent (Vinny) Coorey.

## Please pray for the repose of the souls:

Jack and Gladys Scott, Father David Scott, Bishop Bede Heather, Brother Kevin Ryan, Beth Kenny, Charles and Josephine Clayton, George Steel, John and Kevin Young, Noel Young, Lorna and Jack Wardell, Roland Gonzalez, Doug Ewin, Jenny Lucas, Joseph Lucas, Fred Rahi, Fouad and Olga Matta, John Shepherd, George Louis El-Bayeh, Christopher Oxby. **May the souls of our dearly departed rest in peace. Amen**