

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

Administrator: Father Jobi Payyappilly

Assistant Priest: Father Ambrose Owusu-Ansah



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

Moments of Mercy

Look into My Heart and see there the love and mercy which I have for humankind, and especially for sinners. Look, and enter into My Passion. (*Diary 1663*)

Vocations reflection

The Lord says:

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I dedicated you." Always listen to an Old Friend.

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

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).

News and Information

www.catholicoutlook.org/
www.catholicweekly.com.au/

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

You are invited to the following which concludes this week

- [Wednesday 7:00pm](#) Lenten Discussion Group led by [Doctor Peter Holmes](#) in the Marian Chapel.
- [Friday 10:00am](#) Lenten Discussion Group led by Pauline Camilleri in Parish Centre Conference Room.

Special children's Station of the Cross: this Friday, March 27th at 7:00pm

This coming Stations will focus on the young children of our parish. We will be using an animated based presentation from the Brother Francis series. We encourage as many children of all ages and families to attend. Reconciliation will be held from 6:30pm.

Palm Sunday - next weekend

- Palms will be available to blessed at all Masses next weekend and feel free to bring your own if you prefer.
- The ceremony of the Procession of Palms will **start 9:30am sharp** if the weather is suitable. Please assemble outside the Parish Centre from where the procession will commence before entering into the Church.
- When parking for the 9:30am Mass, we kindly ask where it is possible to consider parking outside, or in the school car park, in order to allow others especially those less able bodied or those with babies, etc. to park closer to the Church.
- If attending the 9:30am Mass allow extra time beforehand for parking (and be cautious) as the congregation will be within the carpark.

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

Monday 30th to Wednesday 1st	Morning Mass	9:10 am	preceded by Rosary at 8:40am
Holy Thursday 2nd	Holy Rosary	8:40 am	no morning Mass today
	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7:00 pm	followed by Reconciliation until 10pm Church closes midnight
Good Friday 3rd	(Youth) Stations of the Cross	10:00 am	followed by Reconciliation to midday
	Passion of the Lord	3:00 pm	
Holy Saturday 4th	Holy Rosary	8:40 am	no morning Mass today
	RCIA Rites (all welcome)	9:00 am	
	Easter Vigil Mass	7:00 pm	no Reconciliation today
Easter Sunday 5th	Morning Mass	8:00 am and 9:30 am	no evening Mass today

You are invited to attend the Chrism Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral: Wednesday April 1st at 7:30pm

One of the most significant liturgical events outside of Christmas and Easter, where we are reminded of our oneness in Christ through Baptism and its holy anointing. At this Mass, the Bishop is joined by every priest in the Diocese and blesses the oils that are going to be used in the sacraments in the year ahead. These are: Oil of the Sick, Oil of Catechumens and Sacred Chrism.

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/

You are invited to meet and support visiting Sisters from Belarus: this Wednesday morning, March 25th

Sister Ilaria from Sisterhood of St. Elisabeth in Minsk, Belarus will be present after the morning Mass. You will have the opportunity to support their ministries through the purchase of a wide variety of hand made religious items and goods, some of which are made in the workshops of their Convent, or feel free to make a donation. Your continued generosity towards these Sisters who have visited our parish for over ten years has enabled them to continue their work including providing for the needs of orphans and deprived people.

Drop in and enjoy our Leisure Group: this Wednesday, March 25th

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!

Feast of the Annunciation: Wednesday, March 25th

Commemorates the announcement to Mary that she would be the mother of a truly "unique" child, a celebration of the Incarnation, that Mary will bear the child-God in her womb while remaining a virgin. In her absolute trust in God, Mary accepts the divine plan (*Luke 1:38*). Believing in Mary's virginity is an act of faith, just as Mary's first characteristic is her faith as she entrusted herself to God, certain that nothing is impossible for Him. Early Christians set March 25th as the conception, linked to the choice of December 25th for Christmas.

Nominations open for the Saint Paul the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Our PPC is a representative body, collaborating in guiding the pastoral direction of our parish and also aims to enable members of our parish community to fulfill their baptismal calling to share in Christ's mission to connect their needs and strengths with the parish's plans. PPC Membership comprises our Clergy, and to be effective, a representation of parishioners, offering a diversity of age, gender, and ethnic origin; not just representing a ministry or sub-group. We are now inviting for nominations for representatives to serve on the PPC. **Nominations close on Friday, April 10th** Please refer to the Nomination Form as you enter the Church which contains further details.

Want to know more? Please contact John Valjak (PPC Chairperson) via the parish office or Father Jobi.

PPC Guidelines: stpaultheapostleparish.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/PPCGuidelinesV2023.01.pdf

Welcome to those Baptised here recently

To Hayley, Isaac and Jamie, we pray that their faith will be an important and integral part of their lives.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) update

At the Sunday 9:30am Mass this weekend, Beonce, Meghann and Matthew, our "elect", as they are now known will take part in the "Third Scrutiny" declaring their intention to receive the Sacraments of Initiation during the Easter season.

The Scrutinies are three rites for self-searching and repentance and are important steps for the elect on their journey to Easter.

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/. Boxes can be returned at Easter.

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 or 8838 3419. More information available at www.safeguarding.org.au

Background on today's Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel reading recounts another sign, or miracle, the raising of Lazarus.

As our catechumens move closer to the celebration of their Baptisms at the Triduum, today's reading invites us to reflect upon what it means to call Jesus the Resurrection and the life.

The context for the story of the raising of Lazarus is the Jewish leaders' growing animosity toward Jesus. Jesus has been in Jerusalem, taking part in the feast of the Dedication, also known as Hanukkah.

The people have been pressing him to declare plainly whether he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to his coming from God. Many do not believe Jesus, however, and some try to stone him for blasphemy.

Into this scene of confrontation, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, send word to Jesus that his friend is ill. Jesus is said to love Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, but he delays his journey for two days. The delay heightens the drama and shows Jesus' obedience to God, who is to be glorified through Lazarus's resurrection. When Jesus finally declares that he will journey to Bethany, his disciples fear for his life. Thomas declares that he and the other disciples should prepare to die with Jesus.

The scene described at Bethany is a sad one. Martha meets Jesus weeping and saying that if Jesus had been there, Lazarus would not have died. Yet she remains confident God will do whatever Jesus asks. Martha affirms her belief that there will be a resurrection of the dead in the last days. Then Martha's sister, Mary, comes to Jesus with the same confidence, saying that Jesus could have cured Lazarus.

Jesus asks to be brought to Lazarus's tomb where he prays and calls Lazarus out from the tomb.

At this sign, many come to believe in Jesus, but others take word of the miracle to the Jewish authorities, who begin their plans for Jesus' death.

Set against the backdrop of Jesus' impending death, many elements of the raising of Lazarus foreshadow the good news of Jesus' own Resurrection. Jesus, facing the conflict with the Jewish authorities, acts in complete obedience to God. In raising Lazarus, Jesus shows his power over death so that when Jesus dies, those who believe in him might remember that and take hope. Just as Jesus calls for the stone to be rolled away from Lazarus's tomb, so too will the disciples find the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb.

With our catechumens preparing for their Baptism at Easter, the Gospel today calls us to reflect on Baptism as a dying and rising with Jesus. In Baptism we die to sin's power over us, rising as children of God. In Baptism we join ourselves with Christ, who conquered death once and for all so that we who believe in him may have eternal life. With Martha and Mary, we are called to profess our belief that Jesus is indeed the Resurrection and the life.

Source: loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/fifth-sunday-of-lent-cycle-a-sunday-connection/

Please pray for our sick ...

Heavenly Father, We pray that you will lay your healing hands upon all those who are sick.

Aeroll Klein, Amanda Caputo, Antonia Maturano, Arlene Diaz, Aurora Ignacio, Bailey Whou, Ben Rivera, Bob McMillan, Darrel Morrison, David Nichols. David, Declan Trainor, Edgar Cruz, Ellen Wynne, Eric Wood, Fermin Manuel, Grace Kaddissi, Helene Barker, Irene Barry, John Gin, Joshua McCarroll, Judy Ibrahim, Krishna Premadas, Lesley Neylan, Loui Ibrahim, Loy De'Souza, Lucas Le Huray, Lynda Steel, Lynette Giri, Maria Mezzagosto, Marian Bacho, Maridel Manuzon, Mark Lopez, Mary McConvey, Michael Hall, Nick Galea, Peter Beck, Ron Locke, Sam Papallo, Stella Kim, 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, Brother Fabian Adkins, Beth Kenny, Charles and Josephine Clayton, George Steel, John and Kevin Young, Noel Young, Lorna and Jack Wardell, Roland Gonzalez, Arnold Morris, Doreen Marsh, Louis, Mary and George El-Bayeh, Mervyn Davies, Patrick and Ellen Reen, Ronald Benson, Rosie Oxley, Anna and Joseph Grdinic, Barbara and Wladyslaw Lichwala, Leonarda Jocz, George Laoulach.

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