

# 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 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*

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

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

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

## You are invited to attend the Chrism Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral: Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## Good Friday: Veneration of the Cross

Communal veneration will take place at the 3:00pm Passion of the Lord with individual/personal veneration available after Communion.

## Pontifical Annual Holy Land Good Friday Collection: April 3<sup>rd</sup>

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/](http://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 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!

## Caritas Project Compassion Boxes—please return these over Easter

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.

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

Nominations close on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> 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](http://stpaultheapostleparish.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/PPCGuidelinesV2023.01.pdf)

## Annual Good Friday walk

Beginning late on Good Friday and continuing into the early hours of Holy Saturday, this overnight pilgrimage invites participants to journey together in prayer, reflection and reverence as we retrace the steps of Christ during the Easter Triduum.

A \$10 donation per person at registration will help cover the cost of the pilgrimage. Visit: [parracatholic.org/events/gfnw/](http://parracatholic.org/events/gfnw/)

## Free Weekly Legal Clinic at Catholic Care

Every Thursday from 11 am at Catholic Care (11 Emert Parade, Emerton) you can visit for free legal advice on matters including: Family Law, care and protection, court matters, Wills and Estates and Traffic Offences. Walk-ins are welcome. Bookings: 8843 2500.

## Volunteer Cook Wanted for Catholic Care's Houses to Homes program

Catholic Care's Houses to Homes program is seeking a volunteer cook to lead simple, hands-on cooking sessions for a small group of women once a month. Sessions run on a Friday from 10am to 12midday, with all ingredients provided, and conclude with participants sharing the meal together. To find out more please contact [enquiries@catholiccarewbsm.org.au](mailto:enquiries@catholiccarewbsm.org.au) or 8843 2500.

## 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.

## Blacktown Parish presents 'The Witness'

The community of Mary Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown, are bringing to life the musical "The Witness" – telling the story of the life of Jesus through the eyes of St Peter. Those interested in being part of the experience to [register](http://register). Visit [Be The Witness – The Musical](http://BeTheWitness-TheMusical)

## 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)

 **Please note: ~ Daylight saving ends 3am Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> so make sure you're not too early or late for Mass!**  
~ There is no 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration in April and resumes in May

## Moments of Mercy

My daughter, during the weeks when you neither saw Me nor felt My presence, I was more profoundly united to you than at times [when you experienced] ecstasy. And the faithfulness and fragrance of your prayer have reached Me. (*Diary 1246*)

## Vocations reflection

If we can't see where we're going, we'll never get there. The Good Shepherd leads us to green pastures, refreshes our souls and brings light to a darkened world.

## 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).

*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.

## Veiling Crosses and Statues prior to Holy Week

In general terms, crosses are removed or veiled if possible, so that the focus of the Adoration of the Holy Cross at the celebration of the Passion of the Lord, is the one cross which is processed and unveiled. The cross is the central symbol of Holy Week.

## 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, 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, Monica and Jack Bowman, Iranie Perumal, Michela Grech, Kathleen Modini, Sebastian Trovato. *May the souls of our dearly departed rest in peace. Amen*