



ST PAUL THE APOSTLE PARISH

40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills NSW 2153

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Parish Priest: Fr Raning Creta Assistant Priest: Fr Tovia Lui Fr Shinto Francis



SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday Evening Vigil 6.00pm (Exposition 4.30pm - 5.45pm)
Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am and 6.00pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4.30pm - 5.30pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday 9.10am
Tuesday 7.00pm (Exposition 6.00pm - 7.00pm)
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.10am
Saturday 9.00am

FROM FATHER RANING

Half a century ago, a new bride received as a gift a little bottle of very special perfume. The bottle itself was a thing of beauty, delicate green ceramic with a long, slender neck. It reminded her of pictures she'd seen of ancient ware. Her new husband begged her to open it, but she demurred. "No, I'm going to save it until later." And so she did.

In her old age, she gave the bottle, still unopened, to her granddaughter, on the day of her marriage. The young woman was delighted, for she'd admired that little bottle on granny's dressing table as long as she could remember. So on that wedding day, she opened it to wear the perfume in granny's honour. There was nothing inside but dust. The porous clay bottom of the bottle was unglazed, and the perfume had seeped away long ago. No one, across three generations, had ever enjoyed even the slightest whiff of its precious scent.

There's something of that old woman in all of us, looking every day at something quite familiar, never really getting into it, never discovering what it has inside. Specifically, think of our relationship with Jesus. He's been at our side since the day we were born. We've known his name since we were two or three. We've said prayers to him all our lives. But have we ever really searched him out and got to know him close up, on the inside?

Jesus has come into our midst. He's here, however, like the three kings, we have to search for him, get close to him, listen to him, and give him our full attention, if we ever hope to get what he wants to give us.

Open your heart and let him give you the gifts he's been waiting so long to give. He's the one who comes to us bearing gifts, all the things we most desire: Peace of heart, communion, a larger meaning and purpose for our lives, and finally, joy. He can't give those gifts if we stay at a distance and don't get close to him.

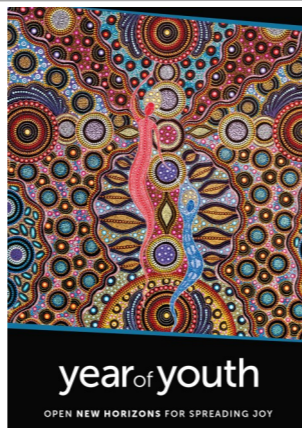
Look for him, as those three kings did.

LITTLE WHITE BOX

Is available this weekend. All proceeds go to the Pregnancy Support Foundation. A small contribution could make a big difference in the life of a little one and her mother.

MOMENTS OF MERCY

To comprehend, experience and offer The Divine Mercy of God we must first adore the Most Holy Trinity. If we could but fathom just a glimpse of true adoration of the Most Holy Trinity, we'd be left speechless, silent, overwhelmed with peace, contentment and joy (Diary #5).



FEAST DAYS

7th St Raymond of Penyaforte

NOVENA MASS to OUR LADY of PERPETUAL HELP

Every Tuesday at 7pm in the Church.
Preceded by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6-7pm.

ROSARY

For the intention of world peace. Every Wednesday at 2.30pm in the Church

NEXT MEETING

Parish Council	TBA	7.30pm
SVDP	TBA	7.00pm
Leisure Group	17/01	10.00am
Finance	18/01	7.00pm
Liturgy	07/02	7.00pm
MOSJ - W/hills	08/02	7.00pm

13-14 January	6.00PM VIGIL	8.00 AM	9.30 AM	6.00 PM
ACOLYTES	Jhun Javier	Fidel Zaballa	Warren D'Costa	C Fitzsimons & T Anthony
MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	Jan Francis Chris Leonard	Veronica Fry Emmy Cox	Dianne Stocks Ken Abrahams	Sean Trainor Carmel Kevill
ALTAR SERVERS	A	C	G	F
READERS COMMENTATORS	Aurea Javier Pauline Knowler	Dilani Dhammapala Lourdes Zaballa	Natalie Mifsud Michael Mifsud	Kate Fitzsimons Michael Hruby
PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS	Patrick & Louise Artup	Volunteers	Brogden Family	Couples for Christ
CHILDREN'S LITURGY	No Children's Liturgy during school holidays			
CHURCH CLEANING	Isabelle Badaoui, Eileen & Dennis Dunnachie, Judy Hince, Chris Leonard & Gemma Martin			
WINDOW CLEANING	Nereo and Rosa Fabrello			

HOLY HOUR for VOCATIONS

Saturday 5pm-6pm
Many adults never grow up. They continue to traipse across the earth looking for a shining star. Tell them who lights up your life, O Christian.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Every Friday at 3.30pm in the Marian Chapel. All welcome

CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Rome: the pilgrimage you'll never regret

The bad (but popular) maths of celibacy and abuse - Fr Flader

The genealogy, the family skeletons and the joy of Christmas: Archbishop Fisher

Chant's timeless beauty CW series

Mighty little fundraising parish

Francis in 2018



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Liturgical Ministry Courses

The Office for Worship is offering Liturgical Ministry Courses in 2018, open to all parishes and individuals seeking formation and training for serving at the altar. Held at the Diocesan Assembly Centre in Blacktown on Mondays and at St Nicholas of Myra in Penrith on Thursdays, the formation courses are for anyone who is interested in becoming a Minister of the Word, Holy Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying or Acolyte. Please register your interest by contacting the office on 9639 6516. Also advise what ministries you are interested in.

Bookings close 8 February 2018.

Volunteers for the homeless needed

The Order of Malta requires volunteers to visit 'homeless hotspots' around Parramatta. Volunteer drivers, nurses and paramedics are needed to provide this service to Parramatta's homeless. If you would like to learn more, please email info@smom.org.au

Columban Art Calendar

There a still a few 2018 Columban Art Calendar available in the Piety stall for \$8.00. When you purchase the calendar, you are participating in God's Missions and assisting Columbans in meeting the needs of the poor.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

We are in need of parishioners to take part in the Procession of the Gifts particularly at the 8am Mass. Please contact the office on 9639 9516

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Jack & Gladys Scott, Fr David Scott, Therese & Noel Scahill, Louis Bayeh, Aurelio & Connie Lopez, Julia Sherman, Bern, Mary Betts, Elias & Afifi Younis, Frank Whiting, Ted Church, Josephine Clayton, Elizabeth & Allan Ward, Frank Borg, Stella Borg, Fabri Family, Suzanne Portelli, Pasquale & Maria Paoletti, Ross Nelson, Edna Fernandez, Adrian Coppolino, Marie & Claude Strange, Nellie Rodrigues, Brian Hollings, Franco & Lucia Paoletti, Joe Mangion, Sebastian Pereira, Therese Farrugia, Noel May, William Wilson, Sam & Lily Vella, Paul Gove, Noel & Trudy Millett and Mario & Maria Coppolino.

Prayer for the New Year

O sacred and adorable Trinity, hear our prayers on behalf of our holy Father the Pope, our Bishops, our clergy, and for all that are in authority over us. Bless us all during the coming year, convert heretics and unbelievers, soften the hearts of sinners so that they may return to you, give prosperity to our country and peace among the nations of the world, pour down your blessings upon our friends, relatives, and acquaintances, assist the poor and the sick, have pity on the souls of those whom last year were taken from us. May all our actions and works be inspired by you. Amen.

Altar Server Ministry

If any children are interested in joining the Ministry of Altar Servers here at St Paul's, we are intending to recruit and train over a number of weeks in February/March 2018. It is expected they will commence serving April onwards.

More details will be available later in January in the Church Bulletins and the Parish School newsletters.

"Look then on Jesus, the author and preserver of faith: in complete sinlessness he suffered, and at the hands of those who were his own, and was numbered among the wicked. As you drink the cup of the Lord Jesus (how glorious it is!), give thanks to the Lord, the giver of all blessings." (Saint Raymond of Penyafort)