



ST PAUL THE APOSTLE PARISH

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



WEEKEND 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

The Feast of the Epiphany

The word "Epiphany" comes from the Greek word meaning *to manifest, to show*. On this day Jesus was manifested, shown forth to the whole Gentile world represented by the Magi. They found Jesus by following a star and brought gifts of myrrh, frankincense and gold.

Myrrh is a dried resin used for burial.

It is also used for healing. This gift was intended to forecast Jesus' healing ministry. It also pointed to his death on the cross and burial.

The first step of the spiritual life is to bury some stuff. What is there in our life that needs to be buried? Myrrh was also used for healing. What is there in our life that needs to be healed? Besides physical ailments, are there any emotional scars or broken relationships?

Frankincense is an aromatic resin used in worship.

This gift was a sign that this child is the Son of God, a child to be adored.

Incense rises easily if the air is still. Our prayers rise easily if there is stillness within. What causes the noise within our soul? What is clamouring for our attention? Perhaps we need to ask the Lord to quiet us down and give us inner peace.

Gold is a gift that proclaimed this child deserves the very best. We can apply some of these gifts to us today.

At first we might think, "Well, that leaves me out. I don't have gold." But it's good to recall again these words of St. Augustine "People go abroad to wonder at the heights of the mountains, at the huge waves of the sea, at the long courses of the rivers, at the vast compass of the ocean, at the circular motions of the stars; and they pass by themselves without wondering."

The challenge of this feast is to rediscover the gold that is the beauty of human life, the gold that is our talents and abilities, and the gold that is our faith. Then we can ask the Lord to show us how we can enrich the world with these gifts.

If we, in the spirit of myrrh, bury selfishness, heal hurts,
If we, in the spirit of frankincense, spend time in worship,
If we, in the spirit of gold, share our gifts with all people,
Then we will be shining stars leading others to Christ.



Novena Mass to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Every Tuesday at 7pm
preceded by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6-7pm

Rosary

The intention for world peace.
Every Wednesday at 2.30pm
in the Church.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

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

Holy Hour for Vocations

Saturday 5.00-6.00pm
Mary, Mother of the Priest
Jesus, is especially Mother to all Priests. Pray to Mary to ask her guidance in your life.

Upcoming Meetings

Finance	17/01	7.00pm
SVDP	23/01	7.00pm
Leisure Group	23/01	10.00am
Liturgy	Feb TBA	7.00pm
Parish Council	4/02	7.30pm
Sacramental Team	20/02	7.30pm

12/13 January	6.00PM Vigil	8.00 am	9.30 am	6.00 pm
Acolytes	Warren D'Costa	Andrew Fernando Eugene De Souza	Mike Ryan Eric Wood	Maynard Palomares
Ministers of Communion	Elly Benkovich Gerard Fabien	Elizabeth Farrar Pat Lord	June Wood Joyce Lord	Joshua Ortiguerra Kerry Bailey
Altar Servers	J	F	L	A
Readers / Commentators	Carmel Kevill Veronica Reitano	Dilani Dhammapala Emmy Cox	Tony D'Souza Phil Ogle	Richard Houwing Michael Hruby
Presentation of the Gifts	Patrick & Louise Artup	Volunteers	Reid Family	Couples for Christ
Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy during school holidays			
Church Cleaning	Judy Hince, Eileen & Dennis Dunnachie, Gemma Martin, and Chris Leonard			
Window Cleaning	Dennis Dunacchie and Greg D'Souza			

Feast Days

7th St Raymond of Penyafort

"The preacher of God's truth has told us that all who want to live righteously in Christ will suffer persecution"
St Raymond of Penyafort

13th St Hilary Poitiers

"No matter how sinful one may have been, if he has devotion to Mary, it is impossible that he be lost."
St Hilary Poitiers

Moments of Mercy

I asked him "Do you have among our students any who are a comfort to your heart?" The Lord answered (that) he has, but their life is weak, and so I put them in your special care - Pray for them. (*Diary #288*).

Morning tea !

Will be held after both morning masses next weekend. Please stay after mass for a nice cuppa.

Catholic Weekly

Not available this weekend due to holidays.

Piety Store

Available in the Piety Store
† Gifts for all occasions †

Overheads for hymns used in the Church are used with permission under ONE LICENSE N° A-642251

Please pray for our sick

Maroun Ayoub, Brian Baker, Margaret Brennan, Danielle Brown, Tim Coakley, Gus DelVillar, Rebecca Duncum, George El-Bayeh, Josephine & Chafic Filfili, Neil Gover, Dex Habito, Piper Hastings, Ludie Irrulbandra, Jacqueline Kelly, Sonia Merhi, Charlie Micallef, Arun Papali, Silvi Perumal, Catharine Plisich & Marty Stockford.

As You are the One, and we, Your servants, we pray Oh God above to heal and support all members of our parish family who are sick. Amen

Liturgical Ministry Courses

The Office for Worship is offering Liturgical Ministry Courses in 2019, 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 Holy Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying, or Acolyte. Please register your interest by contacting the Parish Office on 9639 6516 and also advise which ministries you are interested in.

Bookings close 4th February.

Little White Box

Is available this weekend. All proceeds go to the Pregnancy Help Foundation.

Father Raning and Father Tovia wish everyone a happy and safe New Year and God's blessings on you and your loved ones



Please pray for

Jack & Gladys Scott, Fr David Scott, Therese & Noel Scahill, Louis Bayeh, Aurelio & Connie Lopez, Julia Sherman, Bern, Mary Betts, Elias & Affi 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.

Minister of the Word

We are blessed with the generosity of those who actively participate in our Liturgies. In saying that we are still in need of Readers and especially Commentators.

Our Parish will run Liturgical Ministry of the Word Renewal and Training and those interested can add their details to the registers on the table in the Church foyer. We are also encouraging our Youth to attend and become involved.

This is also a wonderful opportunity for existing Readers and Commentators to attend this short refresher/training.

It's just the one session here at St Paul's on the afternoon of 9th March. Upon completion, there will be a Mass (date tba) to welcome and acknowledge participants. The Parish Office will also work with you in terms of preferences and availability. Please register your interest on the form at the back of the church.

Children's Liturgy Leaders needed

If you would like to join the Children's Liturgy team leaders for 2019 please contact Julie on 0481 221 434. Commitment is only 4-5 sessions a year at the 9:30am mass. No experience or preparation necessary as sessions are written and ready for you each week. High school students as well as adults welcome.