

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Parramatta

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EMERGENCY CALLS
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November 12

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

From the Dean's Desk

Dear Friends,

In the final three Sundays of the Church's liturgical year, the Gospel is taken from **Chapter 25** of Matthew's Gospel. This chapter comes from the final sermon in Matthew (Chapters 23-25), with the basic theme of Jesus' criticism of the religious leaders, the final coming of the Kingdom of God and the characteristics we need to possess to be part of this Kingdom. These chapters parallel and mirror Matthew 5-7, the Sermon on the Mount, which outline and emphasise the new teaching of Jesus, based on the Mosaic Law. Taking its lead from Matthew 24:29 [***'Immediately after the distress of those days, the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light and the stars will fall from the sky and the powers of heaven will be shaken'***], which introduces and continues the theme of watchfulness until the coming of the Kingdom of God at the end of time, Chapter 25 gives us three parables on the virtues every believer needs to have while awaiting this Kingdom. Matthew 25 is divided as follows:

32nd Sunday (Nov 12th) ~ *The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Bridesmaids (25:1-13)*

33rd Sunday (Nov 19th) ~ *The Parable of the Talents (25:14-30)*

34th Sunday (Nov 26th – Christ the King) ~ *Parable of the Last Judgement (25:31-46)*

These readings have the overall theme of the **unexpected** and **sudden** appearance of Jesus.

The **Parable of the Wise and Foolish Bridesmaids**, which makes up today's Gospel has three characters: The Bridegroom, the virtuous maids and the foolish maids. The image of the Bridegroom is one, that in the Old Testament has been ascribed to God [***See Isaiah 54:5; Jeremiah 31:32 and Hosea 2:16***]. In the New Testament, it is an image given to Jesus [***Matthew 9:15***]. The issue here is the delay of the Bridegroom in arriving for the marriage ceremony. The awaiting maids fall asleep in the meantime. The difference between the wise and foolish maids, is that the former have brought extra oil for their lamps and so are prepared to go and welcome the Bridegroom, whose arrival



has been finally announced. The central themes of the Parable are: the **ability** of the individual **to be prepared** and the **unexpected arrival** of the **Bridegroom**.

We need to realise the importance and centrality of the oil in this parable. The oil is central to the working of the lamp. Its absence has the same result as a torch without batteries. It symbolises in this parable the elements necessary for the encounter of the individual with the Bridegroom. It would be foolish, if not fatal to venture into the dark with lamps without sufficient oil, no matter how important it is to meet the Bridegroom. The supply of this oil is the one thing that differentiates the two groups of women. It becomes a reminder that we cannot be in a position to 'borrow' from another person's good works. We cannot utilise the spiritual gifts of others for our own benefit. We need to ensure that we have enough 'oil' in order to keep alive our spiritual lives, and so not to be caught wanting when our hour comes.

Ultimately, the parable urges us to be continually ready and prepared for the delayed and surprising arrival of the Bridegroom. Our lives need to be lived in such a way that we should not be found wanting when the Bridegroom arrives. We do not know the time, day or the hour of His Second Coming. We only live in hope and expectation of it.

We should therefore be able to ensure that we are living lives that allow us to be prepared for Jesus' unexpected and sudden coming. As the wise Bridesmaids brought extra oil while they awaited the coming of the Bridegroom, we can ask ourselves: what is it that we need to have in order to be prepared for Jesus' coming? The First Reading today reminds us that **Wisdom** becomes an important factor in all this. For us to acquire or to live with this type of wisdom means being prepared for God's reign. Readiness that comes from Wisdom, is then an attitude, a commitment and a lifestyle. It means living in ways that conform to the character of God's Kingdom by our being faithful to its values and demands.

*Fr Bob Bossini,
Dean & Parish Priest*

**ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
WEEKLY TIMETABLE**

SUNDAY
 ♦ 6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass
 ♦ 7.30am Morning Prayer
 ♦ 8.00am Mass
 ♦ 9.30am Mass
 ♦ 11.00am Solemn Mass *with Cathedral Choir*
 ♦ 6.00pm Mass

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
 ♦ 6.30am Morning Prayer
 ♦ 6.45am Mass
 ♦ 11.15am Exposition
 ♦ 11.15am Sacrament of Penance (till 12.20pm)
 (Mon, Wed & Fri)
 Rosary after Angelus at midday
 ♦ 12.30pm Mass
 ♦ 5.15pm Evening Prayer of the Church

SATURDAY
 ♦ 7.30am Morning Prayer
 ♦ 8.00am Mass
 ♦ 9.30am Mass in ExtraOrdinary Form
Latin
 ♦ 8.30am Sacrament of Penance (till 9am)
 ♦ 5.00pm Sacrament of Penance (till 5:30pm)

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS
 Mass at 8.00am (No Adoration or Confession)

Download our App: SPCPP on Android or Apple
Facebook - St Patrick's Cathedral
Website: www.stpatscathedral.com.au

Weddings by appointment only.
Cloister Function Room - For bookings call Parish Office on 8839 8400 or visit our website

Baptisms are celebrated in the Cathedral on Sundays. **Download baptism form** at www.stpatscathedral.com.au

Credo Ministries
 Facebook: Credo Young Adults
 Email: credostpats@gmail.com



St Vincent de Paul Society
 Family Assistance - 1800 606 724



Legion of Mary - every Saturday at 9.45am at Murphy House.

Playgroup
 Facebook: Parramatta St Pat's Playgroup



LITURGICAL CALENDAR

November

Sun 12 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: Wis 6:12-16; 1 Thess 4:13-18, Mt 25:1-13

NON LITURGICAL CALENDAR

November

Tues 14 Christian Meditation - 9.30 am—Murphy House
 RCIA - 7.00pm - Murphy House
 SVdP - 7.00pm - Murphy House

Wed 15 Playgroup - 9.30 am - Cathedral Hall

Fri 17 Junior Credo - 5pm-6 pm - Cathedral Hall

Fri 24 Formation - Spiritual Gifts - presenter Mr Stan Lobo

Sat 25 Legion of Mary - 9.45am - Murphy House
 Sacrament of Penance 3pm - 4pm - Cathedral Hall

Thur 30 Novena to Mary Full of Grace - **7.00pm** - Followed by light supper

December

Sat 2 Christmas Carols in the Forecourt

St Pat's Quarter

For details see: <http://stpatricksquarter.org>



Last Monday, a meeting was held for parishioners with representatives from the Diocese of Parramatta and Catholic Education Office of the Diocese (CEDP) to discuss the St Patrick's Quarter (SPQ) project which is being planned by the Diocese of Parramatta. Thank you to all those who attended and their valuable input to the meeting. It was a large turnout and it is testament to the passion of St Patrick's Parishioners.

The following points were raised at the meeting:

- Parishioners' objection to the demolition of the Cathedral Hall and Presbytery to make way for the SPQ. Both buildings belong to the parish.
- Objection to the building of 71 units on the overflow carpark site, to include provision for parish clergy and Bishop is not in the best interest of the Parish. Security for the clergy was also raised.
- Concerns raised for traffic around the Cathedral if the new St Patrick's Cathedral College is built. Suggestions were made for CEDP to find another site for the school
- Concerns for the disruption to the parish community if the project goes ahead. Loss of the hall, carpark, parish office and even parishioners were also raised.
- Acceptance of the Diocese's proposal for a steering committee to include three members from the Cathedral parish to consult on the SPQ project.

The discussion with the Diocese continues. I ask parishioners to send me any questions or concerns they have regarding the SPQ project to frbob@stpatscathedral.com.au

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

During the month of November, we remember all our deceased loved ones. A Book of Remembrance is placed in the chapel with a list of the names of all those whom our parishioners wish to pray for. November Mass envelopes are available in the narthex. Please print the names **CLEARLY** as we like to print the names correctly in the Book of Remembrance. Envelopes may be placed on the collection plate or in the mail box at the presbytery. Individual intentions for the dead are not prayed for during November, rather all souls are prayed for at all masses. Special intentions for the living, however, can still be made. Only the names of the recently deceased will be published in the bulletin during the month of November.



For the sick: Maria Jup, Kathleen Biondi (nee Barrett), Patrick Soh, Fatima Jafri, Raouf Gerges, Pat, Amihan King Pableo, James Murphy, Slavko Markovic, Radhika, Jude Muttiah, Army Sosa, Paul Fung, Jess Arranz, Hanna Doueih

Special Intentions: Sien Jie Phua, Naleen, Raveen & Tina, Dylan, Vanessa, Dwayne and Kieve, Anna Dadic (Senjak), Joseph, Kim & Annie, Freda, Ain, Nikhil, Anamika, Paul Morian, Sarah Ackerman, Paul Peters, Carmela Then, Jeremy Kho, Xinyuan & Augela Huang, Arriola Fave, Linda Morgan, Karam Kara, Ross Lester, Gabrielle Clayton

Recently Deceased: Lorenzo Acuna, Mrs Sherman, Bernard McCormack, Madam Tam Man-Yin, Phyllis Tubman

Sacraments of Initiation: Reconciliation and Eucharist 2017-2018

Upcoming sessions of preparation:

Sacrament of Penance 3: Saturday 25th November, 4 pm - Parent and Children Session.

Reception of the Sacrament of Penance: Tuesday 28th November, 7:00pm.

Jesuit Refugee Service Christmas Appeal

Don't wait till the Epiphany to bring your gifts to the stable for a family in need.



This Christmas, the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) based in Arrupe House, right opposite the Cathedral carpark, is calling upon the generosity of our parish to contribute a gift to the individuals and families they work with.

As part of the Appeal, we are asking for donations of gift cards for adults and presents for children. **The gifts will need to be collected by December 5 so that they can be distributed at their Christmas gathering.** Pop a gift card in your trolley this weekend and it's done! Gifts can be dropped off at the stable that has been beautifully set up in the Chapel for this purpose.

The appeal will continue till December 5 and presents for children and gift cards for adults would be most welcomed.

Gifts don't need to be wrapped.

The mission of the Jesuit Refugee Service, is to accompany, serve and advocate for the rights of refugees and people in the process of seeking asylum.

If you would like more info, please contact the Cathedral Office. Let's spread a message of love and generosity this Christmas. To learn more about the Jesuit Refugee Service, visit their website: www.jrs.org.au

Novena to Mary Full of Grace

Holy Season of Advent -

Longing for Light in the Darkness.

Date: Thursday 30 November

Time: 7.00pm

Where: Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Followed by refreshments in the Cathedral Parish Hall.

Please bring a plate to share.

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION LAUNCH-November 11-12

The new look *Catholic Foundation* will be launched next weekend when it will officially replace the Diocesan Works Fund (DWF) as the central charity for the good works of the Diocese of Parramatta.



The *Catholic Foundation* will support the Seminary, CCD, the Ephpheta Centre and Catholic Care.

In support of the *Catholic Foundation*, our parish will be holding a special collection next weekend. Appeal envelopes will be provided at the Masses and will also be available from the narthex.

Donations over \$2 to the Catholic Foundation will be tax deductible as was in the DWF.

CREDO MINISTRIES

Connecting with our Youth - credostpats@gmail.com

	Junior Credo: EDGE	Yrs 4-6 Fortnightly on Fridays - school terms only - 5pm-6pm
	Teen Credo	High School Students 2nd & 4th Sunday - 4.00pm-5.30pm
	Credo St Pats	18-35 Years of Age 1st Fri of the month - 6.30pm

Junior Credo:

Fortnightly on Fridays. Next meet is on 17 November.

Teen Credo - Next Teen Credo is 19 November.

Credo Young Adults - Friday 1 December at 6.30 pm.

Please email credostpats@gmail.com for more details on Credo Youth Ministries.

Carols in the Forecourt - December 2

Thank you to those few people who put their hand up. If we could have just a few more volunteers to help us run the 2017 Cathedral Christmas Carols that would be wonderful.



Our first meeting will be in the hall TODAY at

12.30pm. If you can't be at the meeting but could assist us in the following ways, a phone call to the parish office indicating your help, would be most welcomed.

We need Sound technician, Photographer, BBQ chefs and servers, Musicians (choirs/bands/soloists etc), Christmas gifts stalls, Santa's helpers, security. If you are new to the parish this would be a great opportunity to become involved and meet other parishioners.

Proceeds from the BBQ will go towards the Jesuit Refugees Service Christmas Appeal.

2018 Columban Art Calendar - \$9.00

Pick up your calendar after most Masses. They will be on sale this weekend, then they will be available from the parish office.

All proceeds go to Columban Mission.

Go to <https://www.columban.org.au> to find out their story.

Thank You

To W.N. Bull Funerals for loaning the cathedral a coffin to be used for All Souls Day.

OLMC Parramatta Open Morning Tour

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on Wednesday, November 15, 2017- the last tour of the year.

Tour the College and discover how a Mercy Education empowers girls to expand beyond what they know they can be and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team.

Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au to reserve your place or contact the Registrar 8838 1222 to discuss how your daughter can become a Mercy Girl.



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