St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta

Cathedral Office: 1 Marist Place Parramatta NSW 2150
Telephone 02 8839 8400 Web: http://www.stpatscathedral.com.au
Bishop of Parramatta, Most Rev. Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD
Sunday, 8 December 2019 Second Sunday of Advent

EMERGENCY CALLS
ANYTIME Ph: 0417 848 522

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Liturgy Coordinator/Sacristan Fr Chris del Rosario

Youth Coordinator Fr Chris del Rosario
8839 8416 or Credo@stpatscathedral.com.au

Please Note:

Baptisms are celebrated in the Cathedral on most Sundays. Check for exceptions. Family members and guests **must be present** at the Cathedral at least 15 minutes before the usual time of 12.45pm.

Download baptism form at
www.stpatscathedral.com.au

Preparation is essential and may be completed prior to the birth of the child.

Weddings are by appointment only.
Contact the Parish Secretary.

For more information regarding:
First Holy Communion and Confirmation:
Please contact the Sacramental Coordinator.

To hire the Cloister Function rooms please call
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From the Dean's Desk

Dear friends,
Of the three Theological Virtues – **Faith, Hope** and **Love,** Hope is often the one of which we hear the least. Much is heard of and admired when it comes to the virtue of Love. St Paul speaks of it in profound and admirable ways in his **First Letter to the Corinthians [13:1-13]**. In fact, he ends his ode to love by stating that ***'these three remain: faith, hope and love, and the greatest of them is love'.*** We can be captivated on hearing of people who live faith filled and heroic lives. There is very little said about the gift of hope.

Hope calls us to a different level and perhaps even to a different path. Hope looks towards a future that may be unknown and may even seem unattainable. But hope is founded in the present and reflected upon through the experiences of the past. Paul reminds us of this hope in the second reading as he states: ***'everything that has been written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives us of how people who did not give up were given help from God'*** **[Romans 15:4].** This is the type of hope to which we are called, one that allows us to ***'face our present: the present, even if it is arduous, can be lived and accepted if it leads towards a goal'*** [Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI: ***'On Christian Hope'#1***].

That goal to which Pope Benedict refers to is our redemption. The first reading today from the prophet **Isaiah [11:1-10]** looks towards the elements of that redemption – it speaks of a future that is filled with peace and harmony. It paints an incredible picture of how this harmony is viewed, as it mentions many different and opposite creatures living in close proximity: the wolf with the lamb; the panther with the kid; the calf with the lion; the cow with the bear. It all seems too unreal at first sight.

But this becomes the element and basis for Advent hope, as it calls to mind a future and an existence that may at first sight be out of reach and almost impossible to attain, but one that with God's grace can be achieved.

It is at this stage that John the Baptist is introduced into our Advent season in order to give us an idea of how we can maintain and deepen this Advent hope. Apart from celebrating his birth and martyrdom, we only hear of John the Baptist during the Advent and Lenten seasons. He stands a figure, full of hope in witnessing to, prophesising and preparing for the coming of the Messiah. His means of preparing a way for the Lord begins with an admission of our sinfulness: ***'repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'*** become John's first words to us in Matthew's Gospel. The quality and depth of our repentance are seen in the quality of our lives: ***'but if you are repentant,'*** says John, ***'then produce the appropriate fruit.'*** It is a simple process to name and acknowledge our sinfulness, our shortcomings. The hard task is then to initiate with God's grace a path – a process – that allows us to move away from those elements of sin that we have identified, and so to enable the appropriate fruit to be borne. This appropriate fruit is the peace, justice and harmony that come from living in the light of God and his values. In today's first reading Isaiah tells us that the vision he proposes was able to be realised simply because ***'the***

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
WEEKLY MASS 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
- 6.00pm - Youth led Mass (3rd Sunday)

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
- 6.15am Morning Prayer
- 6.30am Mass
- 11.15am Exposition
- 11.15am Sacrament of Penance (till 12.20pm) (Mon, Wed & Fri)
  Rosary after Angelus at midday
- 12.30pm Mass

SATURDAY
- 7.30am Morning Prayer
- 8.00am Mass
- 9.30am Mass in ExtraOrdinary Form
- 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)

WEEKLY PRAYER GROUPS
- Monday 6.30pm Legion of Mary
- Tuesday 9.30am Christian Meditation
- Wednesday 7.30pm RCIA
- Friday 1pm Cenacle Prayers

MONTHLY PRAYER GROUPS
- Last Thursday of the month—Novena to Mary Full of Grace
- 1st Friday Devotions 6.30pm

OTHER CONNECT GROUPS
Playgroup: Wednesdays9.30am-11.00am
Facebook: Parramatta St Pat's Playgroup

Credo Youth Ministries
Contact Fr Chris or find information on
Facebook: credo.stpats
Email: credo@stpatscathedral.com.au

Live Christ, Share Christ.
Monthly formation nights. Contact Michael or Marietta on email mguillema@bigpond.com

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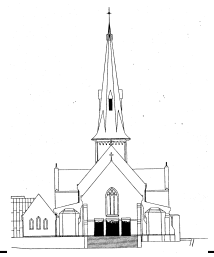

***country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord'* [11:9].** During this Advent period we are invited to deepen our knowledge of the Lord – not solely on an academic level but to know the Lord as a friend and Redeemer. On this our Christian hope is based.

Fr Bob Bossini,
Dean and Parish Priest

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

December

Sun 8	Second Sunday of Advent *Readings:* Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12
Mon 9	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (*Solemnity*)

NON LITURGICAL CALENDAR

December

Tues 10	Concert: Brandenburg NOEL! NOEL!
Sat 14	Advent Lessons & Carols - 7.30pm - Cathedral then Hall
Tues 17	Concert: River City Voices—Messiah
Fri 20	Children's Mass Practice for Christmas Eve - 4.00pm

Children's Mass on Christmas Eve, 6.00pm

Each year we invite the children to take part in this Mass. It is a wonderful opportunity for our youth to experience this special time of the year by being involved in the 'Christmas Story'.
A practice session has been scheduled for **Friday 20th December** at 4pm. We will meet in the cloister.

Cloister Café - Bush Fire Appeal - TODAY, 8 December

People coming to Morning Tea after 9:30am & 11am Masses today are encouraged to offer a donation to help people affected by the recent and current bushfires.
Thanks to Freeda Sawant and friends for suggesting the appeal and providing the food.
Felicia Figueredo will also be selling her Christmas Decorations to help in the fundraising.
Please be generous in your support of this very worthwhile cause.

St Patrick's Gift Shop

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Sunday 9am –1pm.

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Advent Lessons & Carols December 14 - 7.30pm

A day of Advent/Christmas celebration . We will start with an Advent choral and reading in the Cathedral then move to the cloister for games and festivities with a visit from Santa.
Please mark your diary - this event gets bigger every year.

Concerts in the Cathedral

St Patrick's Cathedral is fast becoming a preferred event for 'liturgical influenced concerts'. Check out dates below for companies gracing us with their music shortly.

- **Australian Brandenburg Orchestra- Tuesday 10 Dec**
  Noel! Noel!
  Bring your friends and family and surround yourself with the true spirit of Christmas in a unique and heart-warming concert. Hear divine carols and joyous noëls taken from 700 years of music inspired by the Christmas tradition.
  Tickets: www.brandenburg.com.au

- **River City Voices - Tuesday 17 Dec**
  present its own performance of Handel's Messiah for western Sydney audiences.
  Tickets: www.rivercityvoices.org.au/events

Christmas Cheer to Local Nursing Homes

A group of parishioners have banded together to bring Christmas cheer to the Nursing Homes that we serve in the Parramatta area. Fr Chris and a group of Ministers visit these nursing homes regularly to celebrate Mass, offer the Eucharist and pray with the residents.
We are visiting the nursing homes and sing Christmas carols with them on the following days:

- Marian Nursing Home - **Sunday**, **8 December** at 2.00 pm
- Arcare - **Saturday 14 December** at 2.00 pm.
- Lillian Wells - **Sunday**, **15 December** at 2.00 pm

We will meet in the car park at 1.00pm on each of the above dates to have a quick run through the music and then car pool to the nursing home. If you would like to join our group of volunteers singing carols, please email **mguillema@bigpond.com**

Andy's Christmas Lights

Each year, Andy and Carmen *(welcomers at 11am Mass on Sunday)* put on an amazing Christmas light display. They are located in 'one of those streets' where there is an array of light displays. Make sure you find the time to see them.

When: Sat 7 Dec - Sun 5 Jan.
Address: 45 Grassmere Ave., Northmead
BBQ: Sat 7 Dec & Christmas Eve.

All proceeds go to Ronald McDonald House.

Credo Youth Events

Junior Credo - *For Primary school children*
Fortnightly on Fridays 5pm-6pm in the Cloister Café *(during school terms).*

Teen Credo and Credo Young Adults

We pray for our youth who are off to Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Perth along with Fr Chris this weekend.
We hope they return 'invigorated' to further their ministry in the Catholic Church. God bless and keep safe.

Formation - Lectio Divina

Schedule is as follows:

13th Dec. (Friday) 7.00pm-8.00pm
Advent Week 3

20th Dec. (Friday) 7.00pm-8.00pm Advent Week 4
All sessions held in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Rome Pilgrimage

Look out for the new flyers. Package has been 'revamped'. Changes to dates and cost. Has been rescheduled to **3-10 Sept.**
Get your free pilgrimage kit today. Contact 1800 753 959 and email pilgrimage@sydneycatholic.org
Website: www.romepilgrimages.com

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

Help vulnerable people in crisis turn their lives around, recover and thrive. Your compassionate gifts and prayers will help CatholicCare to connect people with support and services to build strong foundations for self-sufficiency, fulfilling family relationships and brighter futures. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal via yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

For the sick: *Bernadette Jackson, Mena & George, Noeline DeSilva, Fr Kevin Walsh, Elizabeth Clark, K Donovan, Yvonne Malouf, Paul Peters, R Spinks, M Wilson & Dr Barry Wilson, S Webb (Patti M's daughter), Krha, Lucy & fam, R & L Spinks, C Larkin, J McDermott, J Uccello, Daisy, June Barrett, R Ackerman, P Clohessy, C Tan-Schriner, K & B Foo, L Clancy,*

Special Intentions: *Anita Ramirez, Nicole Slatter, Tian, Sonja Lipec, Doreen Sen, Rita Thakkar, Sien Wei, Sien Yu Phua, L. Urquia, R. Gavilla, J. Del Mar, M. Del Mar, Del; Mar family, Raveen, D'Mello, K Y Phua, A Newman, P Newman, L C Phua, L J Wong, J Cabezas, thks for Inf Jesus & BVM, Bitar family, Sr H Cooke, R & D Rodricks, A Sabine, M, L & K Raveen, D Lovett, Paul E, M Lilley, Tan & Haowe fam, Michelle & Richard, S Y Phua, Y J Wong, A Dadic, N, S & M Senjak, R Chmielewski, Rec. Dec: Yong D Chew, Therese T K Lan,*

Recently Deceased*: Judith Soso*

Death Anniversaries: *Marija & Ivan Pavlovec*

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