

St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

Cathedral Office: 1 Marist Place, Parramatta NSW 2150 (02) 8839 8400 Emergency: 0407 289 360 www.stpatscathedral.com.au Bishop of Parramatta: Most Rev. Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD

20 March 2022 - Third Sunday of Lent (Year C)

MASS SCHEDULE

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 6:10am Morning Prayer 6:30am Mass ♦ 11:15am Exposition ◆ 11:15am Sacrament of Penance (till 12:15pm) ♦ Rosary after Angelus at 12:00 noon ♦ 12:30pm Mass SATURDAY
- ♦ 7:30am Morning Prayer
- ♦ 8:00am Mass
- 8:30am Sacrament of Penance (till 9:00am)
- ♦ 9:30am Mass (Old Rite)
- 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
- ♦ Tuesday 7:30pm RCIA
- Friday 1:00pm Cenacle Prayers

MONTHLY PRAYER GROUPS

- Last Tuesday of the month Novena to Mary, Full of Grace
- First Friday Devotions: 6:30pm

OTHER CONNECT GROUPS Playgroup: Wednesdays 9:30am - 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

CONNECT WITH OUR PARISH! Download our App: SPCPP Facebook: St Patrick's Cathedral Website: www.stpatscathedral.com.au Twitter: @StParramatta

"Unless you repent..."

WE ARE NOW well into Lent and hopefully feel that we are making some progress on our journey, feeling the benefits of whatever choices we have made for the duration of this blessed time of year. The purpose of Lent is to prepare us for the most holy and sacred time of the Christian year, Easter. If we truly are to



appreciate the celebration of our Lord's resurrection, Lent must bear at least some fruit, and this fruit begins with repentance, a turning back to God. This theme of bearing fruit is found in the Gospel we hear this weekend, which includes the parable of the barren fig tree.

Before hearing this parable however, we hear Jesus speaking to an unidentified group of people about some disasters which had befallen apparently innocent people, one at the hands of another (Pilate) and the other through natural disaster (the collapse of the tower at Siloam). Jesus stresses that neither of these events was a punishment from God; these people were no more sinful than anyone else. What Jesus does emphasise however, twice in fact, is that "unless you repent you will all perish as they did." Jesus makes it clear that there is no one who does not need to repent, a timely reminder to us at this stage of Lent.

As a means of illustrating this point, Jesus tells the parable of the barren fig tree. He points out that God is waiting patiently for us to turn back to him ("leave it one more year"), though the time is not without limit ("it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.") One of the temptations that confronts us is that we may not feel a need to repent, minimising our culpability in light of the seriousness of the sins of others. This may account partly for the fact that the sacrament of reconciliation is generally poorly attended these days.

But repentance is only the beginning of the process of bearing fruit. Having expressed sorrow for our sin and a desire to once again walk in the light of the Lord, we need to start making headway on that journey. Conversion is more than a desire to change - it is taking steps to implement that change. Consider the first words of Jesus in Mark's Gospel: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel." "Believing in the Gospel" means living out the truths to which we attest in our faith, bearing fruit for the kingdom.

Let us pray that our Lenten pilgrimage will instil in us a desire to not only be contrite for our sins but also, like the saints, start afresh on the Gospel path.

After all, as the Gospel reminds us this weekend, we would be wise to grasp the opportunity as soon as it is offered to us rather than wait until it is too late.

Wishing you a blessed Lenten season, Fr Robert

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Dean and Administrator Very Rev Fr Robert Riedling 8839 8420 or frrobert@stpatscathedral.com.au

Assistant Priest Rev Fr Chris del Rosario 8839 8423 or frchris@stpatscathedral.com.au

Deacon Rev Mr Matthew Dimian 8839 8415 or deacon@stpatscathedral.com.au

Priest in Residence Rev Fr Van Xua Nguyen (Fr Joseph Nguyen) Vietnamese Community Chaplain

Office Hours: 9:00am - 4:00pm weekdays

Receptionist: Donna Missio (Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri) 8839 8400 or enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au

Parish Secretary: Pat Preca (Mon - Fri) 8839 8412 or secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au

Cathedral Parish Manager: Mili Lee (Tue - Fri) 8839 8419 or admin@stpatscathedral.com.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Meg Gale (Tue only) 8839 8400 or sacrament@stpatscathedral.com.au

Director of Music: Bernard Kirkpatrick KSS 8839 8400 or music@stpatscathedral.com.au

Liturgy Coordinator/Sacristan: Fr Chris del Rosario (see above for contact details)

Youth Coordinator: Genevieve Lee 8839 8400 or credo@stpatscathedral.com.au

Gift Shop Manager: Minnie Harb 8839 8400 or giftshop@stpatscathedral.com.au

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms are celebrated in the Cathedral on most Sundays. Check for exceptions. Family members and guests are requested to be present at the Cathedral at least fifteen minutes before the usual commencement time of 12:30pm.

Weddings are by appointment only. At least six months' notice is necessary. Contact the Parish Secretary on 8839 8412

First Eucharist and Confirmation Please contact the Sacramental Coordinator.

HIRING of ROOMS

For hire of Cloister Function rooms, call 8839 8400 or enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au

Material for Bulletin

If you have something that you would like published in the bulletin, please ensure that it is conveyed to our Parish Secretary, Pat, by **12:00noon on Thursday.** Please note that material must relate to the parish and its mission.

Don't forget that businesses can advertise on the rear page of the bulletin. For further details, please contact Pat Preca by phone on 8839 8412 or email her at secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au



Fundraising for St Patrick's Parish

POP-UP SHOP

Sunday 20th March

In collaboration with our community barbecue after the 11:00am Solemn Mass.

When: Opening after 8:00am MassWhere: Cloister Function Room (Cathedral Hall)What's for sale: Lots of new and pre-loved itemsWhy: Fundraising for a good cause — Our Parish!

Bring your money with you, but EFTPOS will also be available.

Novena to Mary Full of Grace

Our Novena resumes after a prolonged absence inflicted by Covid.

WHEN: WHERE: TIME:

Enquiries:

Tuesday 22 March 2022 Blessed Sacrament Chapel 7:00pm - 8:00pm



Everyone is welcome to join us for this period of prayer, hymns and reflection.

We will pray the Rosary's **MYSTERIES of SORROW.**

Silvana Rechichi: 0478 510 324 Marian Polizzi : 02 9630 4019 or 0418 978 730

Jesuit Refugee Service Foodbank

The JRS Foodbank serves people seeking asylum, refugees and migrants on temporary visas who are experiencing food insecurity due to financial hardship, including many who are ineligible for Centrelink and many who do not have work rights. The people we serve through the foodbank program may also have ongoing or may be experiencing additional vulnerabilities, such as health or mental health concerns, disability or mobility issues, pregnancy, and domestic and family violence. This week we are collecting:

Dried Lentils and Chickpeas

Items may be left in the Chapel. Thank you for your generosity!

Caritas - Project Compassion



Please take home a Project Compassion box and a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and *For All Future Generations.*

We are now in the third week of Lent with the Project Compassion story of Janice, <u>a Wagilak woman and traditional</u>

dancer who tells her family's stories through movements handed down over generations.

Like many remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, Janice's faces a range of challenges – low employment and

education, financial hardship, poorer health and lower life expectancy.

With your help, Caritas Australia supports Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation, which operates a centre for traditional and contemporary Aboriginal arts and culture, providing employment and generating income for local communities.

Janice believes that Djilpin Arts' work is essential to create opportunities for young people to stay on-country, to share intergenerational knowledge between elders and the younger generation - to promote healing, and to keep culture alive. Please support Project Compassion: <u>lent.caritas.org.au</u>



St Patrick's Day Celebration: Sunday 20 March

With most of the pandemic restrictions lifted, it's time to celebrate as a community!

Join in the celebration of our Parish Feast Day after the 11:00am Mass this Sunday 20 March. A barbecue lunch will be on sale for \$2.50. A white elephant stall will also be running and lots of games and a jumping castle for the kids!

Volunteers Needed - 5:00am on Holy Saturday

The annual Catholic Youth of Parramatta Good Friday walk will be held again this year. Once again our parish has been asked if we can provide pancakes for breakfast for the walkers. The St Patrick's pancakes have been very popular in past years.



To keep the tradition going, we are recruiting more volunteers to help us cook

enough pancakes to feed about 500 young people. Not a daunting feat to us experienced hands.

We have perfected the recipe and logistics so all we need is extra hands to join the production line.

Please contact the office if you can assist. We would be most grateful if you can!

Palms for Palm Sunday

As usual, we are seeking donations of palms from parishioners for Palm Sunday (10 April). Please drop them into the parish office or leave them in the narthex by the morning of Saturday, 09 April. Thank you!



Volunteers for Gift Shop

If you would like to volunteer to help out in our gift shop located in Murphy House, please call the parish office. We have a very busy shop and would appreciate some helpers, even for just a couple of hours a week.

Vocation Discernment Day



Have you considered becoming a priest? Like to know more and have some help to discern your vocation? Come along to a Discernment Day here at the Cathedral on Saturday 26 March from 3:00pm -5:00pm. For more information, contact Fr Chris at the Parish Office.

Seniors Breakfast (last Thursday)

I would like to thank Mili and the parish team and the volunteers who worked so hard to serve our seniors. It was a hugely successful launching of the Seniors' Ministry. Keep an eye out for good things to come! Fr Robert

Burramattagal Acknowledgement

This week marks the third anniversary of the installation of the plaque acknowledging the Burramattagal people. The sandstone feature sits at the bottom of the Chapel steps.

Stations of the Cross

Throughout Lent, Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday at 6:00pm. This will happen in the cloister area unless bad weather moves us into the Cathedral.

First Friday Adoration

Now that restrictions are lifted, we will recommence First Friday Holy Hour. This will commence at 6:30pm. The next Holv Hour will be on Friday 01 April.

Scrutinies

Over these three Sundays at the 11:00am Solemn Mass, our elect, James and Sasha, will undertake the scrutinies as they prepare for baptism at Easter. We will be using the Year A readings at these Masses only. Please pray for them!

Choir Recruiting Now

While recruitment is open to all we are targeting 15yrs and over at this time. We are aiming to recruit young, talented, and competent Tenors and Basses -- male voices. Paid and voluntary places are available. Paid scholarships are offered to competent singers, and they are remunerated at \$2500-\$4000 per annum, depending on attendance record. We sing at the 11:00am Solemn Mass every Sunday from February to Christmas, various major occasions on the liturgical calendar, such as Holy Week and Christmas, and major Diocesan events such as ordinations. You can see the type of music we sing on our Facebook: facebook.com/choirSPC or our YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/ UCrX0dDjt9jcPtDRRacjBZZw

Interested applicants can submit their expression of interest here: https://bit.ly/3sLep7S

All questions can be directed to the Choir Librarian, Samuel Verceluz, samuelverceluz@gmail.com

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal

We will soon be holding the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal to raise funds for the Parramatta Catholic Foundation which

finances the works of the Church in our Diocese. As we held an appeal only quite recently, we will hold off on this for a little while, but please be prepared. If you want to see a video of the appeal, please go to the Diocesan YouTube channel.





*** NOW OPEN ***

OPEN: Tuesday - Friday 10:00am - 3:00pm & Sunday 9:00am - 1:00pm **CLOSED:** Mondays and Saturdays

Contact Us

0419 153 195



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We pray for our beloved dead....

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them...

Recently Deceased: Shane Warne, Baby Lucas, Patsy Lobo, Mary Lin, Priscilla Bennett, Maria Goretti, Ante Matek, Robert Dearie

Deceased: Lauro Aldover, Basilia Dizon, Lorelaine Aldover, Catherine Aldover, Anita Dizon, Carlos & Odette Younis, Ancy Dcumha, Philomena Consalves, Houda Chehade, Karam Karam, YT Hsu, Deanna Hsu

Anniversaries: Crisanta Valdez, Marie Melide, Juan Montesco, Rufino Nubla, Juan Montesco, Ivan Pavlovec, Clemente Nilo Sr, Clemente Nilo Jr, Lourdes Nilo, Maria Teresa Ocon, Patricia Hartman, Jozef Lipec

Perpetuals: Norm Hector, Bokeyar family, David family, Japour family, Paula Loto'aniu, Peter Van Tilburg, Margaret Angela Roberts, Sally & Frank Martlew, Sherwood family, Pat & Jim Hartman, Royan & Andrews families, Don Andrews, Juliet Noronha, Dr Joseph Malouf, Abel Moses, Jimmy, Anna & Frank Grainda, Frank Agostino, Bernadette Melhen and Sally Boujandy, Jack & June Barrett, Ann O'Brien, Watson Lee, Ian

& Pat Sanders, Bill & Alice Kendall, Allan Kendall, Maria Patterson & Ellen Bancan, Hooper family, Giuseppina & Giovanni Rechichi, Mary Coady, Mary & Jack White, Vincent & Rebecca Vella, Walter Townsend, Ferris Grugeon, McInherny, White, McWilliam & McGuckin families, Mary Abela, Robert Andrews, Sylvester family, Rogan family, Adcock and McMillan families, Love family, Gabrielle Baker, Paula Cowling, McDermott & Starr families, Repose of the Souls in Purgatory, Deceased Parishioners of St Patrick's and St Monica's



We also pray for...



Sick: Merle, Pansy, Susan, Jennifer, Karlansbert, Fatima, Bala Velez, Pasquale Altamore, Kathleen, Sharon Webb, Maureen Sewell, Annette Hartman, Giuseppe Megale, Lynette de Kauwe, Jela Senjak, Nicole Slatter, Liz Koh, Francisca Olay, Sr Genny Walsh rsc

Special Intentions: Fang Jiao Fu, Tian, Naleen & Raveen, Noah Gomes, Filomena Nubla, Elvira Ronchal, Pedro Romulo, Patrick Newman, Peter Newman, Albert Soh, Kian D'Souza, Jacob Gonzales, Pedro & Sheila Romulo, Bradley & Stefani, BVM thanks, Stacey Grant

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March

A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges

"We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action."





This Sunday's Readings Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 3:1-8,13-15; 1 Cor 10:1-6,10-12; Lk 13:1-9

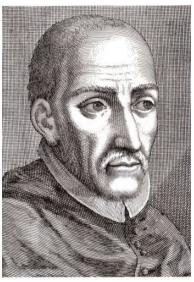


Next Sunday's Readings Fourth Sunday of Lent Joshua 5:9-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3,11-32

Saint of the Week

23rd March - St Turibius of Mogrovejo (1538-1606), Bishop

Born in Spain, Turibius studied law at the University of Salamanca. He was named bishop of Lima in Peru in 1580 and sailed to America. Full of apostolic zeal, he traversed his gigantic diocese three times, generally on foot, baptising, teaching and confirming the natives. He assembled many synods and councils to make the Church strong, organised, and above all holy; and he strongly defended the rights of the natives, who were Spanish citizens according to the law but who were nevertheless being oppressed by the colonists and the provincial governors. He died at Lima on 23 March 1606.



(Information taken from Universalis)

"Quote of the Week"

"You [God] first loved us so that we might love you. And that was not because you needed to be loved by us, but because we could not be what you created us to be, except by loving you."

William of Saint-Thierry (c.1080-1148) Abbot, theologian and mystic *On Contemplating God*



Pope Francis' Words...



Pope's Tweet on 12 March 2022:

'Never war! Think first about the children, about those who are deprived of the hope for a dignified life: dead or wounded children, orphans, children who play with the remnants of war... In the name of God, stop!'



"GREATER": Teen Credo Retreat 2022

TeenCredo are attending a weekend retreat at the Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, this weekend.

After a challenging two years, Teen Credo members are very excited to gather for a retreat at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville.

The retreat theme is GREATER and is centred around John 3:30: "He must increase, I must decrease." The weekend away allows the young people of our community to come together for a time of formation, prayer, and community.

Fr Chris and Deacon Matthew will be leading the formation assisted by guest speakers and our Youth Leaders Gen, Shefin, Rachel and Chris.

Please pray for our young people as they explore meaningful questions of the Catholic faith.



BAPTISMS

We welcome into our Catholic Christian family, the Body of Christ, these children who have been recently baptised...



Nolan Noah Oei Alana Lucia Eve Oei Antalya Pia Demetriou

Please pray for these children and their families.

A CARING for the EARTH RETREAT

We need to listen, now, more than ever, to the quiet voice of the Holy Spirit to know and accept the changes we need to make, in the way we regard Creation. Therefore, you are invited to join us for:

QUANTUM SPIRIT IN CREATION - A Laudato Si' Retreat for Adults.

To be held at 'Wooglemai', a Guntawant Environmental Bush Retreat.

Friday 01 April, 7:30pm to Sunday 03 April 2:00pm

Address: 45-55 Sheeheys Creek Road, Oakdale In the lands of the Burragorang people of the Gundungarra Nation.

Applications/Information: antiphon1@outlook.com



WEDDINGS

Let us pray for those who are preparing for marriage, will shortly be married or have just married...



Luke Rinn & Katia Rossi Samer Habibeh & Jessica Bucca Hayden Sammut & Megan Sutton Lachlan Fleming & Natalie Takchi

DID YOU KNOW...

...that fig trees feature prominently in, and are of great significance to, several major religious traditions?

According to Wikipedia, fig trees are of significance to Islam, Judaism, Hinduism and Buddhism. The Buddha is said to have achieved enlightenment while meditating under a sacred fig tree and the common fig is one of two significant trees in Islam. Of course, the fig tree is mentioned numerous times in the bible, including the use of fig leaves by Adam and Eve to cover their nakedness in the Garden of Eden and the cursing of a fig tree by Jesus for not bearing fruit.



The Kids' Bulletin

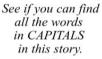
Third Sunday of Lent March 20th, 2022



What's wrong with this fig tree? See what the two men want to do with it by reading what they say in a mirror.

The Burning Bush Word-Find







tell what the Israelites in Egypt wanted: A ___ __ __ __ __

MOSES was looking after the sheep of his father-inlaw, JETHRO, on Mount HOREB. Suddenly he noticed a BUSH that was BLAZING like FIRE, but it wasn't burning up! He came FORWARD to look closer, but GOD spoke from the FLAME, saying "Come no nearer. TAKE your SHOES OFF, for this is HOLY GROUND. I am the God of your fathersof ABRAHAM, ISAAC and JACOB." Moses was AFRAID to LOOK at God, and covered his FACE. The LORD said, "I HAVE seen the MISERABLE state of my people in EGYPT and heard their cry to be FREE. I will DELIVER them from their SUFFERING and bring them to a new LAND."

What Kind of Fig Tree are You?



In today's Gospel reading, we hear a parable about a fig tree. The owner waited three years for it to grow some figs, but it still wasn't producing any. He told the gardener to cut it down. But

the gardener said he would try just for one more year to get it to bear fruit- and if it didn't give any then he would cut it down.

The fig tree is like a person who can do good things but doesn't. The owner shows the justice of God- he has given the tree enough chances so its time is up. But the gardener is like God's mercy.



He wants to give the tree one more chance. And he's going to give it extra fertilizer to try to help it.

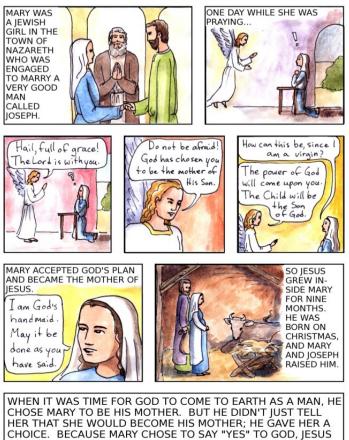


Lent is a good time to look at our own life and see if we are doing all the good things we can. Maybe there's something nice that we know we could do for someone but we just never bother

to. Or maybe we aren't praying quite as much as we know we should. God is giving us a chance to become better people this Lent, and it's your job to make it happen!

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