



ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, PARRAMATTA

Cathedral Office: 1 Marist Place, Parramatta NSW 2150
(02) 8839 8400 Emergency: 0407 289 360 www.stpatscathedral.com.au

27 November 2022 - First Sunday of Advent (Year A)

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 of the Blessed Sacrament
11:15am Reconciliation (till 12:15pm)
Rosary after Angelus at 12:00 noon
12:30pm Mass

SATURDAY

7:30am Morning Prayer
8:00am Mass
8:30am Reconciliation (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

Tuesday 9:30am - Christian Meditation
Tuesday 6:30pm - Legion of Mary
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](https://www.facebook.com/credo.stpats)
Email: credo@stpatscathedral.com.au



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Living "in-between..."

WHEN YOU THINK about it, much of our life is spent between one thing and another. Put bluntly, our life as a whole is essentially what occurs between our birth and our death. As teenagers, we are between childhood and adulthood; we might spend some considerable time between one job and another, between one relationship and another, or feeling peckish between one meal and the next. Most people's lives are spent doing the comparatively mundane tasks that make up much of life between its intermittent, and perhaps rare, highs and lows.



As Christians, we are also in his "in-between" zone. We are living between the Incarnation, the "God-made-flesh" event of history that we celebrate in a few weeks' time, and the return of Christ at the end of time. There was no Christianity before the Incarnation and there will be none necessary when Christ returns. Seen like this, we are a very fortunate group of human beings, living in a privileged time in history. With that privilege, as with all privileges, there is an attendant responsibility.

On a sidenote, this weekend marks the beginning of the Advent season and the start of the new liturgical year, moving now to Year A in which our focus will be the Gospel of Matthew, written for a Jewish audience with Jesus being depicted as the new Moses. Our attention this weekend is not the beginning of the Gospel but rather somewhere towards the end as we hear Jesus speak of the coming of the Son of Man, reminding us to stay awake as we don't know when this event will happen.

Not knowing when Jesus will return means that our lives as disciples need to be constantly attuned to signs of Jesus' presence in the here and now. The return of Jesus at the end of time is popularly referred to as the "Second Coming", (with the "First Coming" being his birth in Bethlehem), but the problem with such language is that its logical conclusion is that Jesus is absent during this "in-between" time. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. And as Christians, our responsibility, alluded to above, is to recognise Jesus' abiding presence in everyday living and respond to it accordingly.

Advent gives us the opportunity to reflect on this aspect of our faith a little more deeply. How do I understand the presence of Christ in my life? Am I able to recognise Christ's presence in contexts that aren't exclusively "religious"? Yes, I believe in the presence of Christ in the Eucharist, but do I emphasise this above and beyond Christ's presence in other people, in the scriptures, in the various circumstances that occur in my life, favourable and unfavourable? Do I seek not to engage with the divine here on earth because I am focused almost exclusively on the "world to come"? How do I understand the kingdom of God?

Over the next few weeks, in the lead-up to Christmas, we will hear of the mission of John the Baptist, the one who calls us to prepare a way for the Lord, to make way for Emmanuel, "God-is-with-us." If we truly believe God is with us, then let us ensure that we are not focused only on the past or what we wait for in hope, but on responding to God, here and now.

Wishing you a blessed Advent season,

Fr Robert

THE BULLETIN

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

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Very Rev Fr Robert Riedling
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Rev Fr Chris del Rosario
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Deacon

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

Priest in Residence

Rev Fr Van Xua (Joseph) Nguyen
Vietnamese Community Chaplain

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

Receptionist: Donna Missio (Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri)
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Youth Coordinator: Parish Team
8839 8400 or credo@stpatcathedral.com.au

Gift Shop Manager: Minnie Harb
8839 8400 or giftshop@stpatcathedral.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 12:45pm.

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 Parish Secretary.

HIRING of ROOMS

For hire of Cloister Function rooms, call the office on 8839 8400 or enquiry@stpatcathedral.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 too!

World Youth Day Raffle

Last week we introduced Caitlin, Kayleigh and Stacey, our WYD pilgrims. To help fund their trip, the girls will be joined by other young people from the parish who have been to WYD, to help with the sale of raffle tickets. The girls have served the parish for at least eight years as altar servers and now add singing, reading, Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist etc, to their volunteering roles.

Please support them as they look to learn more about their faith at WYD 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal.



Bishop's Christmas Appeal

No one should be homeless or without support. Your Christmas gift today will enable Catholic Care to give homeless people practical and emotional support, and a safe place to call home. Please stretch out your hand to the poor and give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal envelopes, at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan the QR code below. Thank you for stretching out your hand in compassion for our homeless community.



Advent Groups

Advent, the season of preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord, begins this weekend. Apart from decorating your homes, we encourage you to join an Advent group being organised in the parish to help prepare for this holy season. Join a group at any time!

Advent groups will be held on:

- Mondays at 6.30pm and
- Tuesdays at 9:30am in the Presbytery meeting room.

This year we will be using the Diocese of Wollongong's Advent program.



“

For too many disadvantaged people, 'home' is a damp, mouldy garage. A mattress on the floor. Or a piece of cardboard on the street. Please help Catholic Care provide safe, secure shelter, and end homelessness in our community.

”

Bishop Vincent Long
OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta

Novena to Mary Full of Grace

Date: **Tuesday, 29 November**

Time: **7:00pm**

Place: **Blessed Sacrament Chapel**

This will be the last Novena for the current year.

Come! Join us in welcoming the new Church Year and prepare for Christ's coming.

Enquiries: Silvana 0478510324

Mass for those grieving suicide victims

The Cathedral will be celebrating a Mass this **Monday 28 November at 7:30pm** for those people who are grieving the loss of a loved one to suicide. This Mass is open to all people, family members, friends, work colleagues and so on, whether the loved one was lost to suicide recently or in the distant past. It is hoped that this Mass will bring some peace and comfort to those left behind after the tragedy of suicide.

The Sound(s) of Silence...

As well as being a hit Simon and Garfunkel song from the 1960s, this is something we should seek to maintain in our cathedral and chapel before and after Masses. Many people come to our parish to connect with our Lord in the silence that they crave. If you feel a need to converse, please do so outside the confines of the cathedral or chapel. Thank you!

Concert @ St Pat's Cathedral

After a two-year absence, the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra is returning to St Patrick's Cathedral for a Christmas Concert this year. The Noel! Noel! Christmas concert will be held in the Cathedral on **Monday 12 December at 7:00pm**.

Tickets available on <https://www.brandenburg.com.au/live-concerts/>
Flyers are available at the entry to the church.

Diary Claimers



- **10 December:** Advent Festival - A Night of Carols and Festivities and
- **13 December:** Seniors' Ministry Christmas Lunch
Catered event - RSVP's required by **Fri 9.12.22**

Thank you...

To Claire Pospischil for organising the preserving class last Thursday and to all who came along, to all who supported the WYD raffle and barbecue last Sunday, and to all who assisted at the Volunteers' Thank You dinner on 18 November - to say nothing of those who give their time and talent to assisting this remarkable parish. Thank you all!

Giftshop - Christmas Sale

Up to 50% off!

The Giftshop's **Christmas Sale** is now on!

Visit the shop for quality gifts at a bargain price.

You can also browse for items via the giftshop website, Instagram and Facebook page. Scan the QR code at the bottom of the page to connect.

JRS Christmas Food Drive

This year, we are again holding a food drive for the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) during the first three weeks of Advent (until 15 December). You can help refugees and people seeking asylum celebrate Christmas by donating non-perishable food items, toiletries and Coles or Woolworths gift cards. A list of items is available at the back of the cathedral and in the narthex.

Please drop off your donation under the Christmas tree which is located in the Chapel. Gift cards to the office, please!

"QUO VADIS?" Pilgrimage to Israel and Rome: 05 – 23 September 2023

At the request of many of his previous pilgrims, Fr Wim Hoekstra is leading a pilgrimage to Israel and Rome next year. The pilgrimage will be following in the footsteps of St Peter. Details can be found at www.olivetreetravel.com.au under "Upcoming Tours", or please contact Fr Wim on 0409 908 361 or you may email wim.hoekstra@parracatholic.org

Sydney Alliance Assembly with NSW Treasurer Matt Kean

You are invited to join people from across the Diocese of Parramatta to participate in a Sydney Alliance Assembly. At this event, we will discuss the issues of housing, cost of living, energy, and climate change with NSW Treasurer Matt Kean.

- Wednesday 30 November
- 6:00pm - 8:00pm (dinner provided)
- Parramatta Mission, 119 Macquarie Street, Parramatta
- Registration is essential: Please register at www.bit.ly/3hHJQNv
- Questions? Please contact Quyen Nguyen at qnguyen@sydneyalliance.org.au or call 0451 018 808

Friends of St Patrick's Cemetery

A reminder that there will be a free guided tour of the cemetery this **Sunday 27 November at 2:00pm** to highlight the areas that are in need of attention. Please wear covered shoes. Parking is available on Castle Street. Just look for the group when you arrive, most likely gathered near St Francis Chapel. All welcome!



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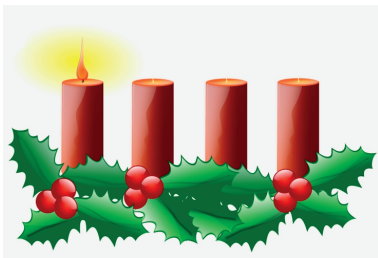


Prayer Intentions

Sacraments of Initiation

Reconciliation and Eucharist 2022-2023

Congratulations to those children who received the Sacrament of Penance for the first time last Tuesday. Please pray for them and their families as they journey to be fully initiated into the Church. Many thanks to all who have assisted over the past few weeks, especially Kerry Giumelli and Deacon Matthew, Pat Preca for her administrative skills, and to the clergy who gave of their time to lead the children through the sacrament.



Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses - 2023

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence next year in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

We pray for...

Sick: Ishander Singh, Poh Yeen Log, Maria Kipek, Mounira Epenian, William Peropert, John Fajarao, Diosdada Penollar, Flor Ocampo, Christie Penollar, Merle Bailie, Teresita Zafiro, Joshua Peric, Fatima, Lou & Sue Tantini, Miriam Jayatilaka, Joshua Peric, Sharon Webb, Maureen Sewell, James McMasters, Praxedes Torres, Pedro Romulo, Maria Vernich, Bp Kevin Manning, Tony Meldrum, Paul Peters, Terry O'Brien

Special Intentions: Firela Kamille Gonzales, Paul E, Raveen, Tian, Noel, Marilie, Marielle & Raphael, Luise, Napoleon & Patria Yanua, Habib Worait, Harry Perrottet, Fr Peter Henry, Lucia & Bonifacio, Allwyn Lobo, Finela & Reejem Gonzales, Holy Father, Jake & Emilia Smith, Mariam, Elizabeth, Elsa, So Tin Thio, Johnny Del Mar, Sidney & Fatima Rodricks, Stephen & Melorie Roth, George & Penny Roth, Ostelio Tantini, Poor & Homeless



BAPTISMS

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



**Feona Dofredo
Lucas Slodkowski**

Please pray for these children and their families.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November



Children Who Suffer

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

From Pope Francis...

*From a Tweet
dated
23 November*

"Spiritual consolation is an experience of interior joy that allows us to see God's presence in everything. It strengthens faith, hope, and the ability to do good; it helps us never give up in the face of difficulties because it gives us a peace that is stronger than any trial."

Saint of the Week

01 December - Blessed Clementine Anuarite

Nengepeta Anuarite was born in the Belgian Congo (now in North Zaire) on 29 November 1939. In 1955 she joined the Religious Institute of the "Holy Family" (Jamaa Takatifu) where she became known as Clementine. She trained as a primary school teacher and for a few years was the matron of a boarding school. In 1964 she, and the whole community, were kidnapped by the Simba rebels. Anuarite was killed on 01 December 1964 having refused to be the wife of the Colonel.

(Information taken from Universalis)



“Quote of the Week”

"At the first coming he [Jesus Christ] was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. At his second coming he will be clothed in light as in a garment. In the first coming he endured the cross, despising the shame; in the second coming he will be in glory, escorted by an army of angels."



St Cyril of Jerusalem

(c.313 - 386)

Bishop and Doctor

Instructions to Catechumens

GETTING TO KNOW...

The Mercado Family

Kamusta! We are the Mercado family. We have been very blessed to be part of the parish for over 22 years. We enjoy getting involved and giving back to a parish that has given so much to us, from being involved in the hospitality group, choir, Credo youth groups, serving at Mass and running the gelato stall as a family during previous spring fairs. We were regular Sunday 6:00pm Mass parishioners but now attend the Sunday morning Masses, depending on our serving schedule. We enjoy coming together and sharing a meal as a family – something we truly treasure with our differing schedules.

L to R: Van, Maria, Jesusa, Cora, Usman, Madden, Renato, Mindy, Azaleyah



Did You Know...

...that each of the candles on the Advent wreath has attributed to it a particular symbol or theme of Advent?

Depending on your source of information, there may be some variation on these themes, but a popular way of understanding the four candles is to attribute **HOPE** to the first candle, **FAITH** to the second, **JOY** to the third, and **PEACE** to the fourth. The white candle, lit on Christmas Day and throughout Christmastide, represents, of course, the life of **CHRIST**.



The Kids' Bulletin

First Sunday of Advent
November 27th, 2022

Sort the letters to fill in the blanks at the bottom

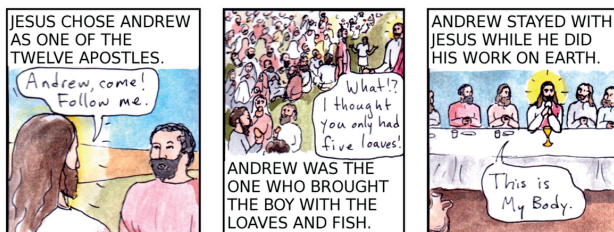


Romans 13:11-14

In today's second reading
Saint Paul tells the Romans to throw off the
works of darkness and put on the

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

SAINT ANDREW NOVEMBER 30



WE DON'T KNOW VERY MUCH ABOUT THE LIFE OF ST. ANDREW EXCEPT THAT HE WAS A FAITHFUL APOSTLE OF JESUS AND ONE OF THE FIRST MISSIONARIES OF THE CHURCH. HE BEGAN AS A POOR FISHERMAN. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIS STORY THAT JESUS CALLS US ALL TO BE SAINTS, NO MATTER WHERE WE'RE FROM.

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

It's Time to get Ready for Christmas!

Advent is here! In a few weeks it will be Christmas, so it's time to start getting ready!



During Advent we remember Jesus' first coming, and get ourselves and our homes ready to celebrate His birthday. Lighting the candles on an Advent wreath helps us to remember that Jesus, the light of the world, is coming. We start with one candle, and every week light one more, so that the closer we get to Jesus' coming the brighter it gets.



In Advent we also think about Jesus' second coming. In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the people to be prepared for that time. We must never let ourselves forget that this world and this life are only temporary and that we have something much greater to look forward to: Jesus and Heaven!



Answer to puzzle on front page: Be ready!

www.thekidsbulletin.com

Fill in the Blanks: The Lord is Coming!



Use the words in the list at the bottom to fill in the blanks in today's Gospel reading. Use the letters in the boxes to fill in the blanks at the end.

Matthew 24:37-44 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

In those days _____ the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah

_____ the ark.

They did not know until the flood came and _____ them all away.

So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.

Two _____ will be out in the field;

one will be _____, and one will be left.

Two women will be

_____ at the mill;

one will be taken, and one will be left.

Therefore, _____ awake!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.

_____!

STAY ENTERED MEN BEFORE GRINDING TAKEN CARRIED





Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday, 24 December - Christmas Eve

6:00pm

Vigil - Family Mass

9:00pm

Vigil

Midnight Mass

(11:30pm Readings)

Solemn Pontifical Mass with Cathedral Choir
(Carols service with readings starts at 11:30pm)

Sunday, 25 December - Christmas Day

8:00am

9:30am

11:00am

Solemn Pontifical Mass with Cathedral Choir

6:00pm



Carols Service

This year we will once again be hosting an Advent Carols Service. It will be held here at the Cathedral at **7:15pm** after the Vigil Mass on **Saturday 10 December**. The service should last approximately one hour. More details next week. All are welcome!



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Saturday 26 November 2022

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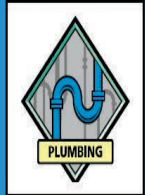
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