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

11 December 2022 - Third 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

Email: credo@stpatscathedral.com.au







Scan and connect with us

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice!

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.' (Phil 4:4-5)

What does it mean to rejoice? The term "rejoice", according to the dictionary, is a verb describing great joy or delight of a person towards someone or something. In the scriptures this is expressed in the joy of King David as the Ark of the Covenant is



welcomed into Jerusalem, and Mary's song of praise, the Magnificat.For the Third Sunday of Advent, the Church celebrates Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word for joy which comes from the opening word of our Entrance Antiphon for today's Mass. We are called to let up on our spiritual preparation for the Nativity of the Lord in order to rejoice at his imminent arrival. As wonderful as this is, our Gospel, at a cursory glance, evokes an alternative thought; Jesus and his coming is not the primary focus but John the Baptist. However, when one considers the message of John the Baptist it becomes clear that this Sunday is one of rejoicing.

What kind of Messiah were the Jewish people expecting? Scholars argue that the Jews expected a military figure similar to Alexander the Great. The Jews expected the Messiah to lead a resistance against the Roman Empire and so reign supreme in the ancient world. Jesus, however, was not sent to do battle with the forces in this world, but to save humanity from sin. Jesus, speaking to the disciples of John, states this as he says 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offence at me.' Whilst Jesus speaks of various healings from physical affliction, he actually speaks of the spiritual restoration of the human person; God will make all things new. No more sorrow. No more suffering. No more sin. This reality, the coming of Jesus and his saving work, is the message John the Baptist seeks to preach in order to stir the hearts of the people towards renewal in Christ.

Dear friends, imagine a world without sorrow, suffering or death. Imagine a world where peace and joy are eternal. This world is that which John the Baptist preaches with the coming of the Messiah. The Christ of God is the one who takes away the sins of the world. His coming brings about perfection beyond comprehension. As such, his words are just as relevant today as they were then. As we celebrate Gaudete Sunday, may we rejoice at the imminent coming of the Lord. May we recognise like John the Baptist the saving power of the Lord and rejoice at his coming.

Wishing you a blessed Advent season.

Fr Chris

THE BULLETIN

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 (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, Tue, Thu, Fri) 8839 8412 or secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au

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

Sacramental Coordinator: Parish Team 8839 8400 or secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au

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

Liturgy Coordinator/Sacristan: Fr Chris del Rosario 8839 8423 or frchris@stpatscathedral.com.au

Youth Coordinator: Parish Team

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 12:45pm.

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@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 too!

Christmas - A Time To Give

This week, on 06 December, the Church celebrated the memorial of St Nicholas, famously known as the inspiration for Santa Claus, the man in the red suit that secretly brings Christmas presents to children worldwide. Santa, the modern-day bringer of gifts, also reminds us that Christmas is as much about giving as it is about receiving. It is wonderful that in the present Advent season, we are preparing for Christmas by ticking off our list for Santa so that those we love will unwrap our gifts of love at Christmas. However, there are people in our community who, through no fault of their own, cannot tick off their Christmas list this season. Are you prepared to transition to be a Santa Claus to one of these? Can you be Santa or Santa's helper to these brothers and sisters of ours? Can you spread love? Help the Christmas initiative below, the JRS Christmas Food Drive, that we may bring love to others in our community....

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!

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.



Scan the QR code to donate by credit card to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal.





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

World Youth Day Raffle

Thank you to everyone who supported our wonderful young people by purchasing raffle tickets. We understand how you are called to support many organisations and this is why we are especially grateful. If you are attending the 6:00pm Vigil this weekend, you have one last opportunity to buy your ticket. It could be 'the one'!

The draw will take place on Saturday evening (10 December) at the Carols Festival and the winners will be published next week.





St Patrick's Giftshop

EXTENDED TRADING HOURS

Great opportunity now exists to get in your Christmas shopping at the giftshop before Christmas. Hours are extended on the following days:

Saturday 10 December: 10:00am - 8:00pm Monday 12 December: 10:00am - 8:00pm Monday 19 December: 10:00am - 3:00pm

The extended hours above are in addition to the normal operating hours. Last day of trading is Friday 23 December and we will reopen on 16 January.



Cloister Cafe

If you joined us last Sunday, you would have been treated to a very special morning tea mainly compliments of the Loto'aniu family. Thank you!

Morning tea is on again today, 11 December, as usual so please come and say hello. But, on 18 December, next week, we will be supplying morning tea to the 9:30am parishioners only as there is a special celebration happening after the 11:00am Mass (see below). We do hope you can join us for Fr Chris' birthday!

Birthday Celebrations

Fr Chris is shortly turning 30 (an old man!) Come and join us for lunch in the Cloister Hall following the 11:00am Mass on **Sunday 18 December.** Please bring a plate to share!

Diaconate Ordinations

Congratulations to the five married men ordained as permanent deacons here in St Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday morning. They are Charles Abela, David Dowling, Jerome D'Rozario, Batsirai Maringehosi, and Alan Skofic. Let us pray for them as they enrich the Church's mission in our diocese with their unique gifts and talents.

Priestly Ordinations

We've had plenty of good news lately about diaconate ordinations and now for some wonderful news about priestly ordinations. We can confirm that Bishop Vincent will ordain three men to the priesthood here at St Patrick's on **Thursday, 02 February at 7.30pm,** including our own **Deacon Matthew Dimian.** Mark your diary and please pray for them!

Christmas Light Spectacular

After a bit of a hiatus, thanks to Covid, Andy & Carmen (two of our very generous parishioners) are lighting up their house again. If you like to travel around looking at highly decorated homes, this will not disappoint. Please pay them a visit. Proceeds go to support children's cancer research.

Address: 45 Grassmere Ave, Northmead.

Date: 01-26 December



Skoolbag App

Please note that circumstances beyond our control mean that the parish is no longer using the Skoolbag app to communicate news and bulletins etc. The parish bulletin is available digitally via the Cathedral website and Twitter account, usually late each Friday afternoon. Should you wish to receive the bulletin via email, please contact the parish office with your email address and you will be added to the mailing list. We are currently exploring options for another app for administrative purposes which we hope to have up and running early next year.

Parking on weekends

Thank you to all those who are being considerate and using the parking facilities here correctly for weekend Masses. A gentle reminder to NOT park in the turning circle as it is used not only by those who need to quickly turn and exit the car park but also by **emergency vehicles**. Please make use of the overflow car park, parking within the marked spaces or on the grassed area on the left as you enter the overflow parking area. Thank you!

Thank you...

...to all those who took on board the recent notice about maintaining a spirit of silence and reverence before and after Mass in the cathedral and the chapel. Our places of worship ought to be oases of stillness and contemplation in a world of noise and bustle. Thank you again!





OPENING HOURS TUESDAY TO FRIDAY - 10:00AM TO 3:00PM SUNDAY - 9:00AM TO 1:00PM MONDAY & SATURDAY - CLOSED

Murphy House, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta

Web: www.stpatricksgiftshop.com | Phone: 0419 153 195 | Email: giftshop@stpatscathedral.com.au



Prayer Intentions

We pray for our beloved dead...

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

Recently Deceased: Guindina Garcia, Francis Catlin, William Richardson, Edmond Matta, Rev Joachim Tan, Rocco Volona, Jamir A Divinagracia, Louisa P Garcia, George Anokotta, Sr Mary Thomas Aquinas, Violet Wong, Peggie Napier, M Mariaachiriam, Filomena Nubla, Jose V Ramirez, Angela Ferfolja, Giuseppe Caccaro

Deceased: YT & Deanna Hsu, Michel Tuyan, Danny Doulub, Percy & Philip Deguara, Renato Dela Cruz, Cedric Cunningham, Sr Joan Keogh, Salim Khamo, Nazar Nissan, Lewis Nissan, Marie Perera, Leo Lobo, George, Ante & Perina Bartulovic, Ana & Jozefina Tomasevic, Ivan & Vlado Tomasevic, Lucy D'Mello, Queen Elizabeth II, Judith Gatty, Charmaine Li, Flory Rodricks, TJ Kuriakose, All Souls, Nide & Erlic De Noronha, Lucy D'Mello

Anniversaries: Joe & Hannah Joseph, Honorato & Wilhelmina Dela Cruz, Claudio Varudo, Jennifer Tellis, Deonisia Antonio, Agnes Nethercott, Vincenzo Sorgiovanni, Vic Care & Anton Basa, Jose Ramirez, Charles Ramirez, Keesan Hui, Maximo Salazar, Marian G Ermac

Perpetuals: Robert Dearie, 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 and all deceased parishioners of St Patrick's and St Monica's.

We pray for...

Sick: Richard Gosling, Lester Dunnetio, Renish & Rita Pasanah, Ishander Singh, Poh Yeen Log, Maria Lipec, 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, James McMasters, Praxedes Torres, Pedro Romulo, Maria Vernich, Bp Kevin Manning, Tony Meldrum, Paul Peters, Terry O'Brien

Special Intentions: Luise, Peter, Priscilla & Patrick Newman, Naleen, Tian & Raveen, Paul Elogious, James Royals, Philip Lysewcyt, Lucy Perrottet, Sophia royals, Anita Perrottet, Jean Claude Perrottet, Anastasia Royals, Anne-Marie Kutasi, Mary & Bill Perrottet, Raveen, Firela Kamille Gonzales, Paul E, 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

BAPTISMS

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



Gonzalo Solis Tallulah Mansour Jayden Jardo

Please pray for these children and their families.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December



Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

From Pope Francis...

From a Tweet dated

02 December

"We are all together called to develop a renewed society oriented towards freedom, justice and peace so as to overcome every kind of inequality and discrimination so that no one can make another person a slave."

Saint of the Week

16 December - Blessed Mary of the Angels

Born in Turin, Italy, in 1661, Mary died, after spending her whole life there, in 1717. In 1675 she entered the Discalced Carmelite Convent of St Christina, and several times filled the offices of Prioress and Novice Mistress. She underwent continual spiritual trials, but was constant in her ardent love of God. She was outstandingly faithful to prayer and particularly devoted to St Joseph, in whose honour a convent was founded through her good offices at Moncalieri.





"Quote of the Week"

"Those in hell enjoy forever the horrible freedom they have demanded, and are therefore self-enslaved: just as the blessed, forever submitting to obedience, become through all eternity more and more free."

Clive Staples (C. S.) Lewis (1898-1963) Author and Christian Apologist The Problem of Pain



Getting to know... the AGUILERA family

Hi, we're the Aguilera family! Oscar, Kirrily, Ben (14), Tom (13), Zac (11) and Zoe (7). Oscar grew up in Mexico and moved to Australia when he was 12 and KIrrily has been in the parish her whole life. Pictured in the photo are Kirrily's parents - Joan and John McDermott, who many long-time parishioners will recognise. For the past six years, we have all lived together in a multigenerational home in North Parramatta, although last year Dad moved to Courtlands Nursing home as his Parkinsons has worsened.

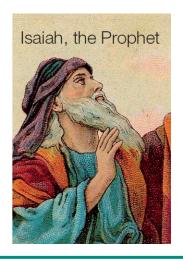
You will find our family at 9:30am Mass each Sunday. We coordinate the Children's Liturgy, take Communion to a number of housebound and sick parishioners (including Kirrily's parents), and the boys are on the servers' roster. On Fridays, our children also attend the Credo Youth Group run by Fr Chris. This is always a great night for the kids... and the adults!! We usually all stay around for a chat and have met so many lovely young families this way. We feel very blessed to be part of our beautiful and welcoming St Pat's Cathedral community. Oscar and Kirrily even have the privilege of saying they met at Church... literally! Back in 2005, Oscar and Kirrily attended a Diocesan Youth event here at the Cathedral and the rest, as they say, is history! Thank you to the many priests, parish staff and parishioners for the spiritual nourishment, friendship and support you have provided our family for many years. We are so grateful. God bless!



Did You Know...

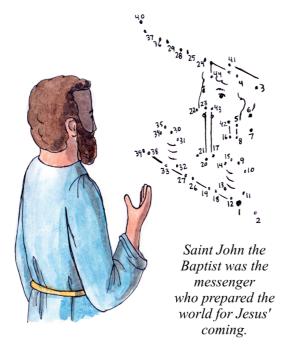
...that the Book of Isaiah, that we hear from throughout most of Advent, was written over several centuries by various authors?

Most scholars agree that chapters 1-39 were written by the Prophet Isaiah in the eighth century BCE. It is likely that chapters 40-55 were written by an anonymous author during the Exile (sixth century BCE), and chapters 56-66 written sometime after the return from Exile. Christians hold the book of Isaiah in high regard and sometimes refer to it as the "Fifth Gospel".



The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday of Advent December 11th, 2022



Where was he in today's Gospel reading?

Connect the dots to find out!

Then you can finish colouring in the picture.

What Happens When Jesus Comes?

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the disciples to tell John the Baptist what He does.

What happens to whom?

Match up the people with what happens to them.

the blind • are raised up

and the lame • have good news preached to them

lepers • hear

the deaf • • are cleansed

the dead • • receive their sight

and the poor • • walk



Advent is Half Over!

Today is the third Sunday of Advent. That means that half the wait is over! If you have an advent wreath, this is the week to light the pink candle. Pink is a symbol the joy we have because we're halfway to Christmas.



In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the people that John the Baptist was a prophet and messenger. A prophet is someone who tells the truth. In the Old Testament the prophets told God's people the truth about God. Saint John was a prophet because he told the people that the Messiah, or saviour, was coming soon, and that they needed to repent of their sins.

Saint John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus by calling people to repentance. You can help prepare for

Christmas by thinking and talking about how Jesus came to earth on the first Christmas. Can you tell somebody the story of the first Christmas today?

Answer to front page: St. John was in prison. Answer to match up puzzle: the blind receiver their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the dead are raised up, and the dead are preached to them.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

Saint Lucy December 13







LUCY WAS TOLD TO









THEN THEY
TRIED TO
BURN HER,
BUT THE
FLAMES
WOULDN'T
TOUCH HER
BODY,
FINALLY
THEY KILLED
HER WITH A
DAGGER.

SAINT LUCY IS A GREAT EXAMPLE FOR US BY HER PURITY AND DEDICATION TO GOD. SHE DID NOT LET ANY TORTURE STOP HER FROM DOING WHAT WAS RIGHT. BECAUSE SHE WAS BLINDED SHE IS THE PATRONESS OF SIGHT AND OF BLIND PEOPLE. WE CAN PRAY TO HER IF WE HAVE PROBLEMS WITH OUR EYES.



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

Weekday Mass

26 December - 14 January

8:00am

Public holiday timetable to be observed No adoration or confession

Weekend Masses as normal during this time.

Normal weekday Masses resume on Monday, 16 January.



Australian Owned

6 Pitt Street Parramatta 2150

Tel: 9687 1072 Fax: 9687 1074

Email: wnbull@wnbull.com

Member, Australian Funeral Directors

Anthony Lette & Sons

All Piano Services

32 Cornelia Rd Toongabbie 2146
Since 1958

- GRANDS PIANOS •
- PIANOLAS REED ORGANS •
 Tuned Restored Repaired
 Bought & Sold
 P.T.T.G. Members

Phone: 9631 3582 allpianoservices@gmail.com



Since 13 October 2007, Toongabbie Legal Centre Inc. has been providing free legal assistance to vulnerable and disadvantaged persons from Parish Hall at St Anthony's Church.

With no recurring government financial assistance, this free legal service relies on your generous support.

www.tlc.asn.au



SPEEDY LOCK, BAG & SHOE REPAIRS PTY LTD

KEYS CUT FROM \$2.50 (Cheapest In Sydney)

Professional Shoe & Bag Repairs

Car key & Watch battery replacements Key cuts & Car key programming/cutting Computer Engraving

Simon 9891 2229

Shop 12 Queensland Arcade,

181 Church Street, Parramatta

MCAULEYLAWYERS.COM.AU

Email: speedykeysparramatta@gmail.com

CHEMIST

3 MEGASTORES

NORTH PARRAMATTA NOW OPEN

458 CHURCH ST (CORNER OF FENNELL & CHURCH ST) (02) 8381 4566





OPEN 7 DAYS 8AM - 9PM

Westfield PARRAMATTA LEVEL 1 FOOD COURT 9673 8056

> **PARRAMATTA** 202 - 214 CHURCH ST 9635 0488



PRESENT THIS VOUCHER TO RECEIVE A

FREE GIFT

ONLY REDEEMABLE AT GRANVILLE, EASTWOOD, EPPING, CARLINGFORD,

NEED a CLEANER?

- · Home cleaning
- Strata cleaning
- Commercial cleaning
- · Grounds keeping

Cleaning to suit your needs

KCM Brothers' Property Maintenance

Servicing Parramatta & surrounding areas

Call Mick on 0405 309 826

www.kcmbrothers.com

Personal Injury
Commercial &

Property Disputes

MAULEY

LAWYERS

Deceased Estates

T (02) 9633 1826 | M 0413 853 331

LICENSED PLUMBER

DRAINER





HOT WATER HEATERS
LEAKING TOILETS
GAS LEAKS
BURST PIPES
GUTTERING
ROOF VENTILATION
WATER SAVING DEVICES

E. MAGRI PLUMBING SERVICES PL

STEPHEN MAGRI Licence No L 11703 Mobile: 0412 926 185

e.magriplumbing@bigpond.com Ph/Fax:(02) 9625 3353

GASFITTER

CALLERIA PIETRA NATURAL & ENGINEERED STONE DOMESTIC - COMMERCIAL - MONUMENTAL DESIGN - SUPPLY - INSTALL - REPAIR

GEORGE GITTANY 0418 288 377 stone@galleriapietra.com.au









