

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

19 March 2023 - 4th Sunday of Lent (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

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 First Friday Devotions: 6:30pm

OTHER CONNECT GROUPS Playgroup: Wednesdays 10:00am - 12:00pm

Facebook: Parramatta St Pat's Playgroup

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





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"I am the light of the world."

ON THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, we are treated with a liturgical colour that doesn't often see the light of day. In fact, this colour presents itself specifically on the third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday), and today's celebration, the Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday). Why? The Church recognises that the human person cannot go on being penitent for an extended period without the risk of settling into an insincere gloom rather than an active and purposeful spiritual penance. As such, these days are a reminder of the inverse colorizations count to come



days are a reminder of the joyous celebrations soon to come; the dark penitential violet is brightened by a shaft of light which brings about a radiant rose (but most would call it pink...).

Speaking of light, our Gospel for today revolves around this reality; we read of the miraculous cure of the blind man and the very confusing ordeal following his healing. I write 'very confusing' purposefully as, at a cursory glance, there is nothing confusing about it. Jesus has restored a blind man's sight; no one can do such things unless he is of divine origins - thus it is evident that he is the foretold Messiah, the light of the world. Yet this miracle continues to flabbergast the Pharisees. Why? St John the Evangelist notes that the man was cured on the Sabbath, a day of rest. The Pharisees, zealous observers of the Law, abhor any work performed on the Sabbath. Since Jesus had cured a man from blindness on the Sabbath, a day God ordained for rest, he cannot be the foretold Messiah as he does not follow the Law. Any supporting evidence of the miracle from witnesses or relations of the man does not justify Jesus' 'crime' of working on the Sabbath. Thus, the Pharisees are unable to comprehend the sign of the Messiah; their pride and arrogance blinds them from recognising Jesus as the Christ. This unfortunate reality contrasts with the faith of the man cured of blindness. Interestingly, Jesus is the one who acts upon the ailments of the man without prompting. We do not hear of the man crying out to Jesus - in fact he doesn't say anything to Jesus at first - so one can assume he is at peace with his condition. Yet we see the man's faith and trust in action at the directions of Jesus. After placing spittle over the man's eyes, Jesus instructs him to wash in the Pool of Siloam, a simple yet profound command. Through his trust in Christ the man receives more than his sight, he receives the wonderful gift of faith for he courageously attests to the Pharisees that Jesus is from God. Furthermore we read towards the end of the Gospel his profession of faith: 'Lord, I believe', and in doing so worships Jesus. Christ enlightens those who seek him with the gift of faith.

Dear friends, with Easter drawing near we recognise the light of Christ that breaks through the darkness. Amidst the chaos surrounding the events of the crucifixion, the light of the Resurrection shines through highlighting the victory of Christ. Our Lenten penances at this point may seem quite burdensome, however we take heart knowing that the end is very near - the Passion is not the end - the light of Easter Sunday shines brightly. May we continue to journey on in our Lenten pilgrimage with a renewed faith knowing that Christ is our light in a darkened world.

Wishing you a blessed Lenten season,

Fr Chris

THE BULLETIN

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

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

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Deacon Rev Mr David Dowling 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

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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!



Thu lost his leg after stepping on a land mine in Vietnam. With the support of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Thu can now earn extra income and care for his wife as she recovers from a stroke.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting **caritas.org.au/project-compassion**, or by calling **1800 024 413**.





Food Assistance

Food assistance is available in the Parramatta local area. If you, or someone you know, is struggling to put food on the table, here are some options which may be of assistance.

St Vincent de Paul Support Centre at 72 Harris St, Harris Park (8861 9757) offers food parcels. They are open Monday - Friday from 10:00am - 3:00pm.

Karabi Community Services have a foodbank which operates on Mondays from 12:00noon - 2:00pm. Bookings are required prior to visit on 9631 6575 (9:00am - 4:00pm Monday to Friday). They are located at 41 Fyall Avenue, Wentworthville.

Turbans for Australia are located at 14 Martha St, Clyde (0432 017 000) and run a food bank where they provide hampers every Sunday – arrive at 10:00am.

The Salvation Army has commenced a 'Second Bite' program, based at 426 Church Street Parramatta (9635 6870), running Mon/Wed/Fri 10:00am – 12:00noon, across bakery items, frozen meat and veggies.

Parramatta Mission – located at 119 Macquarie St, Parramatta (9891 2277) offers breakfast and lunch on weekdays. Their hours are Monday to Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm and Friday 8:30am -3:00pm.



Preparation for First Eucharist

Preparation sessions for Eucharist for children 7 years or older who have *completed Reconciliation* will continue with "Remembering Baptism" followed by "Sacrament of Eucharist" beginning in May. See table of sessions below.

Please keep in mind that all sessions are **mandatory.**

For any other information regarding the Sacramental Process for children already baptised, please email parish secretary Pat Preca at secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au or phone 8839 8412.

Ritual to Remember Baptism	4:30pm Sat 18 March	Parents & children
Sacrament of Eucharist 1	7:30pm Tue 02 May	Parents
Sacrament of Eucharist 2	7:30pm Tue 16 May	Parents
Sacrament of Eucharist 3	4:30pm Sat 27 May	Parents & children
Practice for First Eucharist	4:00pm Sat 03 June	Parents & children
First Eucharist	9:30am Sun 11 June	Parents & children

Extra good news!

Issue 115, the first St Pat's Matters for 2023, is now available. Take a copy home to peruse at leisure and discover the wide and varied range of stories that unfold between its covers. One copy per family, please!

Cloister Cafe

This weekend we will be spending all our energy on helping the World Youth Day families raise funds for their pilgrimage.

So, unfortunately the Cafe as such will not be open but there is plenty of opportunity to buy a treat to take home. Make sure you come over and have a sticky beak.

Solemnities and Fasting

One of the paradoxes of Lent is that whilst we make some sacrifices, often giving up certain foods or drink we enjoy, in Australia the season presents us with several solemn feast days in quick succession: **St Patrick** (17 March), **St Joseph** (19 March - this year transferred to 20 March) and **The Annunciation** (25 March). A reminder that, like each **Sunday** in Lent, we are asked to relax our fasting on these days and feast instead. Enjoy!

For the diary...

Here are other upcoming Cathedral events that are worth noting in your diary:

19 March: St Patrick's Parish Feast Day Celebration **29 April:** WYD Trivia Night **27 May:** Pentecost Retreat Day







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

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St Patrick's Parish Feast Day Celebration - Journey to WYD 2023

Please PRAY for us, (Stacie, Kayleigh and Caitlin), and all the WYD pilgrims, that we will be guided by our Lord and our Heavenly Mother to make the most of this wonderful opportunity.

Please continue to SUPPORT us with our fundraising efforts. We really appreciate all the support so far you have given through our raffle and sausage sizzles.

We have planned a few more activities to help us get to WYD. On **Sunday 19 March**, as part of our parish celebration of St Patrick's Day, please support our food stalls and enjoy a bite of lunch. We will also launch our WYD big raffle.

Save the Date for **Saturday 29 April**, we will be hosting an evening of Trivia with a Silent Auction. This will be a great opportunity to meet other parishioners and see if you might be our parish's trivia champion. Time TBC. We look forward to seeing you there!

Good Shepherd Appeal

Next weekend we, and every other parish across the diocese, will be launching Bishop Vincent's Good Shepherd Appeal. The focus of this appeal is the support of the Holy Spirit Seminary, located in Harris Park, and the seminarians who are in formation to be priests for our diocese in the years to come. There are currently eleven students in various stages of formation. Please be as generous as you can with your support. You can donate online (see the ad further on in the bulletin) or use one of the envelopes available this weekend. Thank you for your support!

Cleaning of artwork

You may notice some activity around the chapel and cathedral in the coming weeks and some of our metalwork missing. Fear not! It is just getting a much-needed clean!



St Patrick's t-shirts **NEW RANGE** now in stock.

St Patrick's Day is just around the corner...





ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Parish Celebration

Sunday 19 March, St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

Q1/ The Fun

Bring your family and friends and come out to enjoy St Patrick's Day in the Cloister. Stalls include a Pop-Up White Elephant Stall, Plants, Food, Gelato, Cakes, Drinks, Books Also a Jumping Castle etc.

02/Food and drink

Food stalls will be running to support our World Youth Day pilgrims. Come and buy some Mauritian, Filipino or Italian food. Cool down with a gelato!



03/Music and dance

Irish dancers will be here to entertain the crowd @ 1pm. Dance along to Irish music.

04/ Get your clover

Wear something green and pick up a clover pin for \$2 from one of our stalls to show everyone that you are a parishioner of St Patrick's Parramatta.



www.stpatscathedral.com.au

We pray for our beloved dead...

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

Recently Deceased: Aloma Pospischil, Robert Redoblado, Zakie Baysari, Joseph J Perrottet, Leslie Riedling, Nat Fedyk, Noble Flursheim, Amelin Tino, Amaflor Youngman, Fr Paul Trong Nguyen, Joe Howard, Emmanuel Combis, Margaret McCallum

Deceased: Josefa Manubay,Lucy D'Mello,Cedric Cunningham, Purification Guillermu, Maria Villodelgado, YT & Deanna Hsu, Barbara Wood, Ma Maurice Briganza, Abe & Abe F Nozoula, Ab & Abe E Graciers, Madeline, Anthony, Patrick, Rosa, Raymond, David O'Connor, Franceska Sajn, Sr Stella, Zita Subasinghe, Gloria Wang, Margaret McCallium, McCallum & Foran families, Giuseppini Rechichi, Juliette Perrottet, Vittoria & Joseph Teuma, Helen Efimeo, Peter Burton,

Anniversaries: Juan Montesco, Ben Bautista, Pasquale Altamore, Frere A Levananu, John Baptist Lien Le, Crisanta Valdez, Ian Bronkhurst, Chad E Bool, Constancio Valdez, Leonor Quinalayo, Johannes & Maria Lelyveld, Teresa Rodrigues,

Perpetuals: Nat Fedyk, 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 & 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 & 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 also pray for...

Sick: James Murphy, Louie Wehbe, John Lowe, Baldo Polizzi, Marcel Melick, Peter Newman, Edward C, Vincent Rowan, Daniel & Alicia Altmann, Gerard Noonan, Ian Marshall, Lilian Hassin, Maria Davino, Rosa Rizak, Fatima, Cristofer Doughty, Barbera Hector, Nicole & Rita Slatter, 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, Sharon Webb, Paul Peters, Terry O'Brien

Special Intentions: Xianora D'Mello,Kristine Mae Anne, Mr & Mrs A D'Mello, Tian, Naleen, Raveen, Mary & Bernadette, Annabelle Perrottet, Celeste Perrottet, NSW Election, Pedro Romulo, Nikola Senjak, Rebecca Ramirez, Cresilda Gantuangco, Naleen, Tian, Raveen, Zuo Loong Hsu, Stephen Senjak, Patrick Newman, Nicole & Rita Slatter, Edward Border, Xueyun Lin's family, Brendan & Elise Missio, Adam, Matt & Luke Ward

BAPTISMS

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



Aribella Trevor Olivia Gaskell Juliette Balassone Owen Sini

Please pray for these children and their families.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March



For Victims of Abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

From Pope Francis...

From a tweet dated 16 March "Is your faith tired? Do you want to reinvigorate it? Look for God's gaze: sit in adoration, allow yourself to be forgiven in Confession, stand before the Crucified One. In short, let him love you."

Saint of the Week

22 March - St Deogratias (d.457), Bishop

The Christians of the diocese of Carthage, who had remained without a bishop for fourteen years, welcomed the appointment of Deogratias with great joy. He was an outstanding priest, very much loved and supported by the people because of his charity and preaching. During his ministry as bishop he cared for all the people,



especially for the many captives that had been taken to Northern Africa by the Vandal king Genseric. Bishop Deogratias was a pastoral leader, full of love for his people and ready to respond to their practical and spiritual needs. He died in the year 457.

"Quote of the Week"

"The man who is fasting may prepare his heart, cleanse his flesh, weed out his vices, and sow virtues. Nevertheless, if he does not sprinkle his plants with streams of mercy, he does not gather his harvest. O you who fast, when your mercy fasts your field fasts too. O you who fast, what you pour out in mercy comes back as storage in your barn."

St Peter Chrysologus (c.380 - c.450) Bishop & Doctor of the Church *Sermon 43*



(Information: Universalis)



Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal

DONATE NOW

yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal



LENTEN GROUPS & STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join a Lenten group and the praying of the Stations of the Cross throughout the season of Lent. Stations of the Cross - Each Friday @ 6:00pm in the Cloister/Cathedral. Lenten Groups - Each Tuesday @ 9:30am for the duration of Lent in the presbytery office.

Also on **Saturdays** (a) **7:00pm** in the Cloister Function Room -A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion presented by Charbel Raish of Parousia Media.

Pentecost Retreat I

Saturday, May 27 10:00am - 3:30pm Participants will be asked to rsvp closer to the day

Venue: Cathedral

The Kids' Bulletin

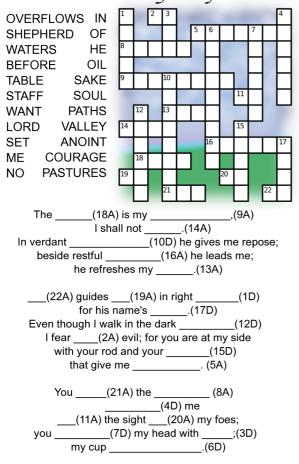
Fourth Sunday of Lent March 19, 2023

What did the man that Jesus cured say to the people who thought Jesus was a sinner? Use the code at the bottom to find out!



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The Lord is my Shepherd...



Saint Joseph

This Monday, March 20th, is the feast day of Saint Joseph. He is one of the greatest saints in the Church. The Bible doesn't tell us very much about him, but we know that he was very obedient and trusted God, and that he must have been a very holy man- God chose him to look after His own Son, Jesus!

Saint Joseph was just a poor Jewish carpenter, but God saw that he was a very good man so He chose him to be the husband and protector of Mary, who would be the Mother of Jesus. Saint Joseph provided for Mary by his hard work.



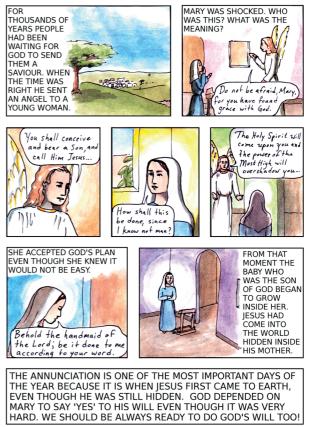
When Jesus was born Saint Joseph protected Him from the evil King Herod, who wanted to kill Him. He spent his days working to support Jesus and Mary and taught Jesus how to be a carpenter. Saint Joseph was Jesus' teacher, but he also learned from Jesus how to be holy.

Saint Joseph died a holy and peaceful death in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Now he is in Heaven, helping us when we pray to him. We should pray to him because he is a great protector and teacher for us, just like he was for Jesus.

Answer to Front: If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything. Answers to cross-word: Across: 2.no 5.courage 8.table 9.shepherd II.in 15.soul 14.want 16.waters 18.Lord 19.me 20.of 21.act 22.he Down: Mown: 15.oid 14.before 6.overflows 7.anoint 10.pastures 12.valley 15.stafte

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THE ANNUNCIATION MARCH 25



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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

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