ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

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

28 January 2024 - 4th Sunday (Year B)

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 (September - April)

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 the office or find information on

Facebook: credo.stpats

Email: credo@stpatscathedral.com.au



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It's all about power...

FOR ME, this week's Gospel is all about power - who has it, and how they use it.

The Gospel says that Jesus taught "with authority."

Sometimes when we say someone speaks with authority, we think that means they speak with confidence, but authority is not confidence, it implies power. It implies that there is something backing up these words.

Jesus is the Word of God incarnate. When he speaks, his words contain that power. God tells us in the first reading that when Jesus speaks, He is speaking God's words, and you cannot have any greater authority than that...



Jesus' words were powerful - they made a deep impression on the people that were listening.

Jesus also had the power to do miracles, but Jesus does not do miracles for the sake of just being a "miracle worker", their purpose is to show that he is who he says he is, so that people will pay attention to what he teaches, and his teachings are about leading people to freedom.

The evil spirit also has power, but he uses his power to dominate, to possess, to imprison.

The encounter between these two powers in today's gospel is remarkable, and there are a few aspects we should pay particular attention to:

As kids, (and if we're truthful, often as adults...) we love those big epic battles between good and evil, like Star Wars or Guardians of the Galaxy, but today's gospel is not a straightforward battle between good and evil. Firstly, the demon was not attacking Jesus. It was tormenting the poor unfortunate man that it had possessed. Jesus stepped in on that man's behalf.

Secondly, there is no real battle - Jesus speaks and the demon flees. That's how powerful His words are.

We need to understand that this same power resides in scripture - it is not just a set of words, not even a set of wise words - there is something deeper, stronger about them. They are supernatural, they have real power.

A number of years ago I visited a young girl that was in hospital suffering from anorexia. When I went in, she had words from magazines - encouraging phrases, pinned to her notice board. They were encouraging but they were no real use, they held no power. We started a journey that involved prayer and scripture, and that had real power and it changed her life, probably saved her life... Of course, it worked in tandem with her medical and psychological treatment. The physical and the spiritual are always intertwined. This condition had held her imprisoned, and God's word was a big part of what set her free.

So where does this leave all of us?

Firstly, most of us have power in some capacity or other - in our jobs, our relationships, even in our finances. Let us become very conscious of exercising our power for good.

Secondly, we should harness the power of scripture in our lives. We should make a habit of reading it, reflecting on it, using it - it will change your life.

Lastly, all of us have our demons - things that create a hold over us, and often we are not strong enough to beat them by ourselves. Always remember that Jesus is ready to step into the fight for us. If we call on Him, He will step in and there is nothing that his power will not overcome.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead.

Deacon David

THE BULLETIN

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Dean and Administrator

Very Rev Fr Robert Riedling EV 8839 8420 - frrobert@stpatscathedral.com.au

Assistant Priest

Rev Fr Tom Green 8839 8423 - frtom@stpatscathedral.com.au

Deacon

Rev Mr David Dowling 8839 8415 - 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 mili@stpatscathedral.com.au

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Assistant Director of Music: Eric Grella 8839 8400 or music@stpatscathedral.com.au

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Youth Coordinator: Parish Team 8839 8400 or credo@stpatscathedral.com.au

Gift Shop Manager: Minnie Harb

0419 153 195 or giftshop@stpatscathedral.com.au

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms are celebrated in the Cathedral on most Sundays. Contact the parish office to book or fill out the form on the website.

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!

Rite of Acceptance - 03 February

Each year before the start of Lent, we welcome those who have been enquiring and exploring the Catholic faith with us, in the Rite of Acceptance. This will happen at the 6:00pm Vigil Mass on **Saturday 03 February.** we look forward to welcoming three people: Billy, Vy and Glen. Keep them in your prayers!

Red Mass - 2024

The annual Red Mass to commemorate the commencement of the law year will again be held in the Cathedral in 2024.

This special event, celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long, is an opportunity to come together in prayer and reflection, particularly honouring those in the legal profession for their dedication to justice and service.

When: Monday 05 February at 7:00pm

Where: St Patrick's Cathedral

Please send RSVP to mili@stpatscathedral.com.au by

31 January please.



Sick and Housebound

A reminder to please let the Parish Office know if you are aware of someone living in the parish who can't get to Mass due to illness or restricted mobility and would like a visit from the clergy or from a minister of communion. It is our duty to care for ALL parishioners!

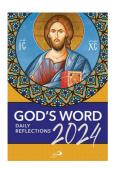
"God's Word 2024" and the Columban Calendar

Two of our annual favourites, "God's Word 2024" and the Columban Calendar, are available for sale at the Cathedral office whilst the gift shop is closed for the January break. The gift shop reopens on **30 January**.

"God's Word 2024" is an invaluable resource for daily inspiration and reflection. Filled with thoughtfully selected scriptures for each day, this book serves as a guide to deepen your connection with the Lord's teachings throughout the year. Cost is \$22.00.

Accompanying this treasure is the beautifully crafted **Columban Calendar**. Known for its beautiful artwork and meaningful religious themes, the Columban Calendar is not only a way to keep track of important liturgical dates but also a source of daily inspiration and contemplation. **Cost is \$10.00**.

We encourage you to obtain your copies soon, as they are wonderful tools for personal growth and can also serve as thoughtful gifts for family and friends.





PARISH and DIOCESAN NOTICES

Liturgical Ministry Course Completion

We would like to extend our congratulations to Doreen Sen for successfully completing the Liturgical Ministry Course conducted by the Office for Worship. This course covered the following areas:

- · Ministers of the Word;
- · Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion;
- Ministry to the Sick & Dying; and
- Ministers at the Altar.

Well done. Doreen!

Keep us up to date!

- Have you changed address recently?
- Has your mobile number changed?
- Do we have your current email?

It's important that we have your up-to-date contact information for pastoral and urgent matters. Please email to Donna, enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au

Sacraments of Initiation - 2024

Congratulations to those children who completed their Reconciliation last November.

The next stage of Christian initiation for children, Remembering Baptism, will begin shortly. **There is no need to register again.**

06 and 20 February (Tuesdays @ 7:30pm) Parents only 02 and 09 March (Saturdays @ 4:30pm) Parents & children

Please note that if you have not registered, you will need to start the 2024/2025 program later this year.

Something to look forward to...

Cloister Cafe reopens next Sunday 04 February.

After the January break, Hospitality Team members look forward to serving morning tea after 9:30am and 11:00am Masses.

For regulars, it's the chance to catch up with friends over a cuppa and also to seize the opportunity to welcome any new parishioners to St Pat's.

Bible Timeline - 2024

Our Bible Timeline Study sessions will continue on the following dates:

- 1. February 03 (Saturday) 7 pm Session 21 The Church Part 1
- 2. February 10 (Saturday) 7 pm Session 22 The Church Part 2
- 3. February 17 (Saturday) 7 pm Session 23 The Church Part 3

Concert in the Cathedral by Chamber Philharmonia, Cologne

After a successful tour of Australia last year, the Chamber Philharmonia Cologne will again perform a concert of classical sacred music at the Cathedral on Friday, 23rd February at 7:00pm.

More information regarding ticketing when it comes to hand.

St Patrick's Giftshop

The giftshop will reopen on **Tuesday 30 January.**



Looking forward to welcoming you back after our break. Gearing up for Easter so come and check out any specials that may be available.

Grab a Bible next weekend!

The Giftshop will reduce prices for all Bibles in stock by 25% next weekend in support of Word Of God Sunday.

Discount will be available from 4 February to 11 February.



Ash Wednesday - 14 February

As has already been mentioned, the early Easter Sunday this year (31 March) means an early start to the penitential season of Lent. As usual, the Cathedral will celebrate three Masses that day: the usual 6:30am Mass, 12:30pm Mass and an additional Mass at 7:30pm celebrated by Bishop Vincent. All of these Masses will be celebrated in the Cathedral. Though **not** a holy day of obligation, certainly a good way to start Lent!

Ash Wednesday - Palm Donations

If you have palms from Palm Sunday last year, please drop them into the basket in the narthex as soon as possible so that they can be burnt for Ash Wednesday Masses. Thank you!

Stations of the Cross

As always in Lent, we will be celebrating the Stations of the Cross each Friday at **6:00pm.** We will be in need of volunteers to lead these, so please contact Donna in the Parish Office to put your name down, or the name of your group, for a specific Friday in Lent. Thank you! *Fr Robert*

Social Justice Group meeting

The relatively recently formed Cathedral Parish Social Justice Group will be having its first meeting for 2024 on **Thursday 01 February** at **7:00pm** in the Cloister Cafe. We will be reviewing last year's activities and looking at a couple of ideas for the year ahead, which ought to be an exciting one as we seek to focus on this key aspect of the Church's mission.

Diocesan Tribunal

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm for enquiries regarding marriage annulments. Interviews are being conducted in person with Zoom and telephone interviews available for those unable to attend the office. Please contact the Tribunal office on (02) 8838 3480 or email tribunal@parracatholic.org.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for our beloved dead...

Recently Deceased: Romano Ghersinich, June Rodrigues, Sr Edith Angel, Laura Busletta, Moses Tikoitoga, Laura Busletta, Barbara Joass, Mark Fletcher, Francisca Olay, Maximillian Epondulan, Emile F Khoury

Deceased: Buenaventura Zafiro Jr., YT Hsu & Deanna Hsu, Karam Karam, Houda Chehade, Yolanda & Donald Muir, Bienvenido Sumagui, Fidel & Remigio Perez, Francisco Llanillo, Valentina Aguirre, Philip Guirre Jr., Benjamin Giverson, Bugsy Davao, Fr Augustus Patacsil

Anniversaries: Bernard & Grace Rodricks, Joe Dibella, Judy Gallagher, Agapito Antonio, Amelia Zanier, Paul Nguyen, June Barrett, Paul Nguyen So, Maximina Manlangit, Robert Dearie

Perpetuals: Paul Mahoney, Louisa & Arthur Baxter, Nat Fedyk, Robert Dearie, Norm Hector, Bokevar 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: Nasr Nasr, Sharon Melville, Orvil Noe M Villalobos, Olivia Harb, Nasr Nasr, Maria, Samira, Maria & Tony Obeid, Tony Chang, Baldo Polizzi, Francisca Olay, Maximilian Epondulan, Vasvi V Arcot, Stephen Borg, Nicole Slatter, Leonardo Perez Close, Vic Moran, Christopher Doughty, Fr Bob Bossini, Seini Loto'aniu, Joseph Lin, Hildegard Schulz, Fr Peter Zytka, Leonardo Close, Pina Ferrero, James Vargas, Rachael Sumagui, Sharon Webb

Special Intentions: Rebecca & Alex Mann, Zavne Bumactau, Raveen, Myrna R Santos, Roser North, Jeanette Joseph, Margaret Jerome, BVM & Infant Jesus, Clara Cabezas, Alwin & Espirito Isidro, Clara Cabezas, Hewitt Edward, Carmelita Perez, Ankica, Nikola, Mara, Stephen & Bozo Senjak, Peachy Romulo, Pedro & Sheila Romulo, James, Anastasia & Sophia Royals, Philip Lysewcyz, Lucy, Anita & Jean Claude Perrottet, Ankica, Nikola, Mara & Stephen Senjak, Ruzica Chmielewski, Tian, Kumavan Guuasagaran, Rachel & Kathleen, Tracy, Deborah L. John, N.N, Michelle Travis, Leonardo P Close, Mary Rose Perez Tito, Napoleon, Agnes & John Patacsil, Naveen, Harry Perrottet, Dra Julie Lee, Nima, Jorge & Lyn Vargas Patacsil, Franz Tito, Santiago & Antonio Tito, Mary Rose Perez Tito, Terry Joseph, Michael Perez, Tian, Kumaran Gunasagaran

BAPTISMS



We welcome into our Catholic Christian family the following children who were recently baptised here...

Christopher Russo & Dario Pediten Sonny Davis, & Ava & Jaxon Wang

WEDDINGS 🔊



We also pray for the following couple recently married here...

Mary Jeong & Danny Lee

POPE FRANCIS' Prayer Intention for January



For the Gift of Diversity in the Church

"Let us pray that the Spirit help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church."

From Pope Francis...

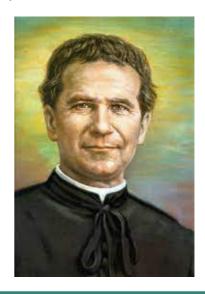
From a tweet dated 22 January

"The coming months will lead us to the opening of the Holy Door, with which we will begin the Jubilee. Let us pray together to prepare ourselves to live properly this grace-filled event and to experience the power of hope in God." #YearOfPrayer

Saint of the Week

31 January - St John Bosco (1815-1888), Priest

John Bosco was born in Piedmont of a peasant family, and he was brought up by his widowed mother. He became a priest, and his particular concern was for the young. He settled in Turin, where, as in so many cities in the 19th century, the industrial revolution was bringing enormous movements of population and consequent social problems, especially for the young men who came there to work. John Bosco devoted himself to the care of the young, first of all by means of evening classes, to which hundreds came, and then by setting up a boarding-house for apprentices, and then workshops for their training and education. Despite many difficulties, caused both by the anti-clerical civil authorities and by the opposition of some senior people within the Church, his enterprise grew, and by 1868 over 800 boys and young men were under his care. To ensure the continuation of his work, he founded a congregation, which he named after St Francis de Sales (a saint for whom he had great admiration), and today the Salesians continue his work all over the world.



Information: Universalis

"Quote of the Week"

"The Christian does not think that God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because he loves us."



Clive Staples (C.S.) Lewis (1898-1963) Christian apologist and author Mere Christianity

Did You Know...?

...that the Gospel of Mark, which will be the main focus for this liturgical year in 2024, has a few distinct features?

Mark's gospel was the first to be written, probably in Rome sometime between the years 65-70, possibly by John Mark. It is the shortest of the four gospels. Significant parts of Mark's gospel were used by the authors of Matthew and Luke when they wrote their gospels. Mark is also a fast-paced gospel, with the ministry of

Jesus being conveyed with a sense of urgency by frequent use of the words "then", "when" and "went". Mark was written for a gentile (non-Jewish) audience.





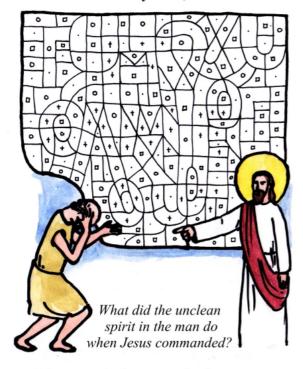


St Patrick's Giftshop will reopen on Tuesday 30 January



The Kids' Bulletin

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time January 28th, 2024



Colour in only the spaces that have crosses to find out what it did.

Unscramble: Jesus Casts out a Demon

Sort out the letters to fill in the blanks.

Use the letters in the boxes to fill in the last row of boxes

Use the letters in the boxes to fill in the last row of boxes.
And immediately there was in their synagogue a
But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and (MEOC) out of him!" And the unclean(TRSIPI), convulsing him and crying with a loud(IOCEV), came out of him.
And (YEHT) were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, (YSNIAG), "What is this? A new teaching!
With he commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."

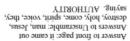
Baby Jesus is Presented in the Temple

On February second we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. That is the day that Saint Joseph and Our Lady took the baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to consecrate Him to God. The Jews were supposed to dedicate their first-born sons to God, so Mary and Joseph were obedient to the law even though their Baby was God Himself!

This was a most amazing moment, even though almost nobody noticed it: here was the great Temple where the people came to worship God, and now God had actually come into it- as a little Baby! But only Mary and Joseph and the prophets Simeon and Anna knew what had happened.

Saint Paul tells us that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. Every time you receive Holy Communion,

it's like baby Jesus entering the Temple. When you go to Communion, remember that you know that amazing secret- that even though the rest of the world might not know, you have just received Jesus! What a special moment!





www.thekidsbulletin.com

Saínd brigid of kildare february 1

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WAS A
CHRISTIAN
SLAVE AND
HER FATHER
WAS A PAGAN
CHIEFTAIN.







SHE WAS SOON JOINED BY MANY OTHER YOUNG WOMEN.

What greater happiness can there be than to give one's life to God?





SAINT BRIGID ENCOURAGED LEARNING, AS WELL AS POETRY, ART AND MUSIC. SHE WAS VERY SENSIBLE AND REGARDED BY MANY AS A SAINT EVEN DURING LIFE.

SAINT BRIGID IS HELD IN GREAT HONOUR, ESPECIALLY IN IRELAND, WHERE SHE HELPED SO MANY PEOPLE COME TO GOD. AND YET ALL SHE DID WAS WHAT SHE OUGHT TO HAVE DONESHE SHARED FOOD, TAUGHT PEOPLE ABOUT THE TRUTH AND BEAUTY AND MOST OF ALL LOVED GOD. CAN YOU DO THE SAME?



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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.

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