



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 April 2024 - Fifth Sunday of Easter (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: 7:00pm

OTHER 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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"No pain, no gain!"

WHEN WE HEAR today's gospel it is easy to get drawn into this beautiful imagery – a lovely vineyard maybe in the Hunter valley, strong vines with juicy grapes. And there in the middle of it all is a wise, old vinedresser skilfully pruning the vines to make them even more fruitful. Just lovely. The problem comes when we look beyond the lovely allegory and consider what this all means for us...



Firstly, it tells us that we will only ever be fruitful as long as we remain properly connected to Jesus. Vines don't have a life of their own, but we do. We can be connected to Christ one day but then become unconnected the next. We must always check that we are fully connected to Christ.

The second issue for us is this pruning! Pruning is fine for a plant, but what exactly does it mean for a person? Well, it means that aspects of our life that have naturally grown, may need to be cut off. That sounds painful. There are habits we have developed, behaviours we have engaged in, maybe even relationships we have begun, that we need to stop. And this applies to people who are already fruitful. So, the fact that we are already living well in our faith does not make us immune to needing to address certain parts of our lives.

Some of these parts of our lives may not necessarily be objectively "bad", they are just not what God has intended for us. God is the only one that sees the big picture, the whole picture, the lifetime picture. We must trust Him.

So, how will we know what needs to change? Well, Jesus tells us that we will be pruned by "means of the word I have spoken to you." In other words, scripture, and in particular the gospel. We need to listen to scripture with a view to being challenged by it. The Holy Spirit will show us the way, but we need to pay attention, and bring a humility to our listening.

Following on from our listening, we need to challenge ourselves as to whether we are living out the things we are hearing. Is Christ's word bearing fruit in our lives, in real and tangible ways?

The two fundamental commandments we have been given are to love God, and to love our neighbour. And St John makes a critical point – this love cannot just be in our words and our speeches, it has to be real, true, active. Our lives must show the fruit. If they don't, we are either not truly connected to Christ, or we are not living out our faith authentically.

That living out is where we experience "pruning". Just look at the disciples in the first reading, Saul, (Paul) the greatest persecutor of the first Christians, was now professing to be converted. Imagine the fear that the first Christians had to overcome in order to trust him. Imagine the forgiveness they had to extend for the imprisonments, floggings, and stonings he had perpetrated against their friends. Saul, for his part, had to endure rejection and mistrust from them, while at the same time risking his life by professing Christ. The fruits of these "prunings" were shown in the beautiful development of the early Christian church.

The lived experience of "pruning" will involve some pain, but it will only ever be so that we can be even more fruitful.

May the remainder of Easter be blessed,

Deacon David

THE BULLETIN

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Dean and Administrator

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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

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Assistant Organist: Patrick Newman
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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

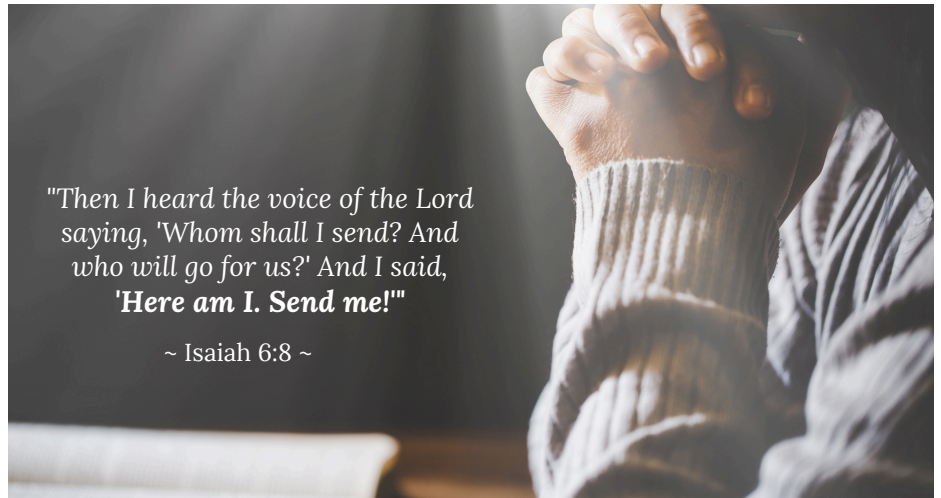
For hire of Cloister Function rooms, call the office on 8839 8400 or enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au

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!

FORMATION OF A NEW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Join Us for Discernment Night - 01 May



A Call for Nominations

Have you ever felt a deeper call to serve? Now might be the moment to embrace that call. The PPC offers a profound opportunity to impact our parish's future, whether you're a longstanding member of our community or someone looking to contribute your time and talents in new ways. We encourage you to consider stepping forward yourself, or nominating someone whose vision and dedication will help guide our parish.

Join us next Wednesday for Discernment Night

We understand the importance of discernment in responding to God's call. Therefore, we invite you to our PPC Discernment Night on **Wednesday 01 May at 7:00pm** in the Parish Hall. This evening will be dedicated to prayer, reflection, and discussing the crucial roles and responsibilities of the PPC members. It's a perfect opportunity for those who are certain or still contemplating their involvement.

Important Dates and Details

- Nominations will open on Discernment Night, 01 May, and will close at 5:00pm on 10 May.
- Nomination forms will be available during the Discernment Night and subsequently at the back of the church starting Thursday, 02 May.

This is your opportunity to help shape our future. Please consider responding to the call.

Let's unite to strengthen our parish community and illuminate our path forward, embodying our mission to be bring the light of Christ to the world.

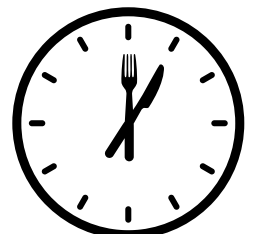
May God bless you and inspire your steps as you consider this calling.

St Pat's Seniors' Lunch

This is a friendly reminder about our upcoming Seniors' Lunch scheduled for **Tuesday, 30 April at 1:30pm**. We are eagerly looking forward to sharing this special time with all of you who have RSVP'd.

Please remember, the cost for the lunch is \$10 per person, payable on the day.

Thank you for joining us, and we can't wait to see you here!



PARISH NOTICES

Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal

Our heartfelt thanks to all parishioners who generously contributed to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal last weekend. Your tax deductible donation plays a crucial role in nurturing the vocational journey of our Seminarians.

If you were unable to participate last week and still wish to contribute, we invite you to do so by filling in the donation envelopes that available on the back of the church.

Alternatively, for a convenient and immediate way to donate via credit card, simply TEXT 'GIVE' to 0488 202 202. Follow the link provided to choose the Bishop's appeal option, or scan the QR code located in the back of the church or within this bulletin.



Thank you once again for your continued generosity and commitment to the future of our Church.

thank you!

Pentecost Sunday - 18 May

What is the main message of the Pentecost? It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. This important event in the Christian faith is described in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:1–31).

For those interested in delving deeper into the meaning of Pentecost, we are organising a special 'day' retreat. Take this opportunity to strengthen your faith.

*"A day of prayer and talks deepening the meaning of Pentecost."
"As they prayed, the house where they were assembled rocked.
From this time, they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to proclaim the word of God fearlessly." Acts 4:31*

PENTECOST RETREAT

Saturday 18 May - 10:00am - 3:00pm

- 10:00 Introduction and Opening Prayer
- 10:15 Morning session led by Fr Tom Green
- 1:45 Afternoon session led by Annette Hartman
- 3:00 Day concludes

Morning tea and lunch provided.
For catering purposes, please rsvp to:
secretary@stpatrcathedral.com.au



Diocesan Youth Sports Day

Best wishes to all the young athletes from our parish who will be representing the parish in the Diocesan Youth Sports at the Parramatta Marist school grounds.

May your efforts be rewarded with success and joy, and may this experience bring you personal growth and fond memories.

Best wishes for Term Two

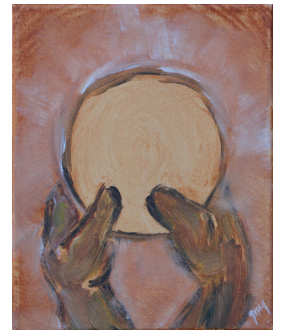
As we welcome the return of the school term, we extend our warmest wishes to all students and teachers embarking on this new academic journey. The beginning of a school term brings fresh opportunities for learning, growth, and discovery. To our students, may you approach each day with curiosity and enthusiasm, eager to acquire new knowledge and skills. And to our dedicated teachers, may you find joy and fulfilment in nurturing the minds and spirits of your students.

We pray that this term is filled with inspiring lessons, lasting friendships, and the achievement of academic goals. May the Lord guide you, protect you, and illuminate your paths with wisdom and grace.

Sacraments of Initiation - Recommencing

The first session of the Sacrament of Eucharist will take place on Tuesday, 30 April at 7:30pm in the Parish Hall.

Please note that this is a **'parents only'** session. Attendance at all sessions is compulsory for those who have registered for SOI 2023/2024. We look forward to your participation as we embark on this sacred journey together.

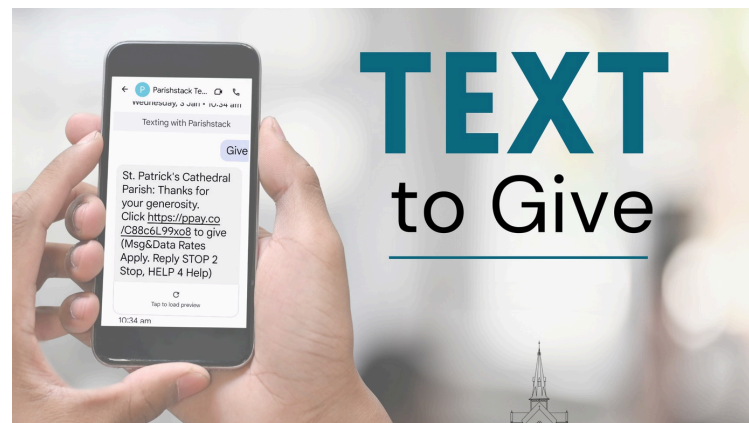


New Cathedral Employee

We are delighted to announce and welcome Antoinette, the new cook for the presbytery. Antoinette joined us earlier this week, and we are excited about the culinary skills and experiences she brings to our team.

We extend our gratitude to all the candidates who applied for this position. We deeply appreciate the time and effort you invested in your applications.

Please join us in welcoming Antoinette into our community.



Text to Donate!

Simply text the word **'GIVE'** to **0488 202 202**, and you will receive a link to contribute directly to the Cathedral. Choose your donation amount and complete your gift in a few taps.

PARISH & DIOCESAN NOTICES

Condolences and Prayers

Our sincere condolences to all the families in the parish who have lost a loved one this week. We especially send our deepest sympathies to:

- Diane Smith for the loss of her dad Kevin Smith
- Bruno Davino and the Davino family for the loss of their mum, mother-in-law and grandmother Maria Davino
- Theresa and Margaret Van Tilburg for the loss of their daughter and sister, Annette Van Tilburg. Annette's funeral will be held here on Tuesday 07 May at 10:00am.

During these difficult times, may the peace which comes from the memories of love shared, comfort you now and in the days ahead. Our community is here for you, and we pray that you feel God's comforting presence and the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Playgroup resumes this week!

We are thrilled to announce that the St. Patrick's Playgroup will be resuming this week! All mums, dads, grandparents, and their little ones are warmly invited to join us for a morning of fun and fellowship.

When: Wednesday (resuming this week)

Time: 9:30am to 11:30am

Where: Cloister Function Room

This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other families in the parish, engage in enjoyable activities, and allow your little ones to play and interact in a safe and nurturing environment.

We look forward to seeing you and your bubs there for a time of joy and community building.

Exploring music for the Solemnities following Easter: 30 April and 02 May

All are invited to the next music workshop organised by the Office for Worship and presented by Eric Grella. This workshop is perfect for all parish musicians and also for anyone who wishes to learn more about music for the Solemnities after Easter.

- **30 April** at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown from 7:00pm
- **02 May** at St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith from 7:00pm.

RSVP by 28 April to lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Young Adult Faith Formation: 05 May

Young Adult Faith Formation sessions continue on Sunday 05 May at The Hustle (Unit 4, 4-6 Purdy Rd Minchinbury) at 7:00pm. The speaker is Stephen Buhagiar who will talk about and lead discussion on 'Male' and 'Female' – a social construct? *Why our bodies matter.*

All adults 18-35 are encouraged to come along and enjoy some faith formation, pizza and fellowship! If you have any questions please call Mark on 0477004687.



First Friday Devotion - 03 May at 6:30pm

We warmly invite you to join us for our First Friday Devotion this Friday, 03 May, starting at 6:30pm in the chapel. This is a special time to come together in prayer, reflection, and devotion as we honour the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The evening will include Eucharistic Adoration, time for personal reflection, and the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It's a beautiful way to end the week and begin the month, drawing closer to God in the company of your parish family.

Whether you regularly attend or are new to this devotion, we look forward to welcoming you to this peaceful and spiritually enriching experience.

Synod 2023 Update: Local Think Tank Sessions from May-June

Parishes and other local faith communities across the diocese are holding local Think Tank Sessions, giving local leaders and anyone involved in ministry to offer feedback on the Draft of the Diocesan Plan for a Synodal Church, and contribute ideas for the practical implementation of our Diocesan Plan. Contact the parish office to inquire about our local Think Tank session, and visit parracatholic.org/synod for more.

Do you find life & faith inspiration by listening to the experiences of others?

The Mission Enhancement Team's Soul Food Podcast features life & faith stories of people from our diocesan family. Listen now for FREE via our website or on Spotify: www.parracatholic.org/resources/soul-food .

River City Voices presents Mozart's Requiem

Join us for a magnificent evening of music as River City Voices presents Mozart's Requiem right here at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

Date: Friday 17 May

Time: 7:30pm

Venue: St. Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta

Under the direction of the renowned conductor and RCV Artistic Director, Dr Sarah Penicka-Smith, and accompanied by the Western Sydney Philharmonic, this concert will showcase the talent of four fantastic soloists. This one-night-only event embodies the City of Parramatta's vision for high-quality arts experiences.

Don't miss this opportunity to experience one of the great masterpieces of choral music in our beautiful cathedral setting. Tickets are available at <https://events.humanitix.com/mozart-s-requiem>



PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for our beloved dead...

Recently Deceased: Annette Van Tilburg, Maria Davino, Kevin Smith, Adoracion Soriano, Regina Figueira, Jessica Hanna, Noreen McLean, Bridget Phelan, Hung Cheung, Valmai Costello, Dr Bill Lane, Tony Sabat, Felicidad Casenas, Moltea Iezzi, Teresa Huongle, Philip Vas, Tony Youssef Sabat, Felicidad Casenas, Romano Gherinich

Deceased: Mrs Annanas, Lucy D'Mello, Philip Vas, Leticia Vas, Jan, Ludwig, Henry K, Umbert & Fran Papagno, Juan Montesco, Buenaventura Zafiro Jr, YT Hsu & Deanna Hsu

Anniversaries: Anna-Lena Lopez, Germelina Montemayor, Doyle D'Costa, Simeona Agcaoili, Carlo Indorato, Frere Levananh, John Baptiste Lien

Perpetuals: Paul Mahoney, Louisa & Arthur Baxter, 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, Mark Fletcher, Royan & Andrews families, Don & Pat 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: Patti Murphy, Mary Tito, Fr Bob Bossini, Fatima Rodricks, Azar Al-Ters, Melissa Carter, Terry Pumati, Leonora, Shana, Fr Peter Henry, Nasr Nasr, Athony Tran, Leonardo Close, Michael Perez, Franz Tito, Soane Kikanoi, Sharon Melville, Orvil Noe M Villalobos, Olivia Harb, Maria, Samira, Maria & Tony Obeid, Tony Chang, Francisca Olay, Maximilian Epondulan, Vasvi V Arcot, Stephen Borg, Nicole Slatter, Leonardo Perez Close, Vic Moran, Christopher Doughty, Seini Loto'aniu, Sharon Webb

Special Intentions: Patrick N, Madeleine suttie, Fancesca Ryan, Helen Perrottet, Paul & Mouzel Carson, Stephen Senjak, Naleen, Peter Newman, Raveen, Felicitas Appathurai, YT Hsu & Deanna Hsu, Santiago Tito, Antonio Tito, Dianne Mary Tito, Elizabeth Perez, Dynes Woodrow, Nikola, Ankica, Mara & Stephen Senjak, Vera, Rita & family, Tian, Allwyn & Jasmine, Chris Dias, Liam D'Souza, Tian, Arthur Lopez, Rebecca & Alex Mann, Zayne Bumactau, 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

BAPTISMS



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

**Angelo Tejada Levi Morados
Sebastian Kannampuzha**

WEDDINGS



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

Sacha Abrahams and Jamie Hoban

POPE FRANCIS'

Prayer Intention for April



For the role of women

"We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognised in every culture, and for the end of the discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world."







From Pope Francis...

*From a tweet
dated 24 April*

"If we open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, He will revive the theological virtues within us. If we have lost trust, God will reopen us to faith. If we are discouraged, God will reawaken hope within us. If our heart is hardened, God will soften it with His love."

2024 Holy Hours for Vocations

Please join us across the Diocese to pray for more vocations to the priesthood.

DATE	TIME	PARISH	PRIEST
19 April 2024	7pm-8pm	St. John XXIII Parish - 160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens NSW 2768	Fr. Galbert Albino 
17 May 2024	7pm-8pm	St. Thomas Aquinas Parish - 168 Hawkesbury Rd, Springwood NSW 2777	Fr. Chris Del Rosario 
21 June 2024	7pm-8pm	St. Anthony of Padua Parish - 27-33 Aurelia St, Toongabbie NSW 2146	Fr. Matthew Dimian 
19 July 2024	6:30pm-7:20pm followed by Holy Mass at 7:30pm	Mary, Queen of the Family Parish - 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown, NSW 2148	Fr. Tom Green 
16 August 2024	7pm-8pm	St. Bernadette's Parish - 367 Old Northern Rd, Castle Hill NSW 2154	Fr. Matthew Dimian 
20 September 2024	7pm-8pm	Mary Immaculate Parish - 125 Barnier Dr, Quakers Hill, NSW 2763	Fr. Galbert Albino 
18 October 2024	6pm-7pm followed by Holy Mass	St. Aidan's Parish - 9 Adelaide St, Rooty Hill, NSW 2766	Fr. Galbert Albino 
15 November 2024	7pm-8pm	St. Patrick's Cathedral - 1 Marist Pl, Parramatta, NSW 2150	Fr. Tom Green 

If you are interested in becoming a priest or would like more information, please contact our Director for Priestly Vocations, Fr Galbert Albino. T: 02 4773 4321 M: 0450 821 812 EMAIL: galbert.albino@parracatholic.org

Taking Action to Respond to the Call of Laudato Si'

10 Things You Can Do



Reduce your energy consumption by switching off lights, appliances and computers when not in use



Use products made from recycled materials such as toilet paper and printer paper



If your superannuation fund invests in fossil fuels, ask it to stop supporting coal and oil projects



Use biodegradable detergent in your kitchen and laundry



Buy FairTrade certified products such as coffee, tea and chocolate



Grow native plants suitable for your locality in your garden



Get involved in Clean Up Australia Day on the first Sunday in March



Be aware of how much food you throw away and make a conscious effort to reduce food waste



Don't buy fruit and vegetables which are pre-wrapped in plastic

Read a few paragraphs of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, each day and use it as the basis for your private prayer and reflection.



This resource has been prepared by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace. If you would like any information about *Laudato Si'* or want help to take further action to care for our common home, please e-mail ojep@catholic.org.au



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE OFFICE FOR JUSTICE, ECOLOGY AND PEACE

Saints of the Week

04 May - Bl Angel Prat Hostench & Co (died 1936), Martyrs

During the Spanish religious persecution, culminating in the civil war of 1936-39 seventeen Carmelites from several Spanish communities gave their lives in defence and witness of their Christian faith. In July 1936, Angel Prat Hostench along with other religious were discovered while trying to escape persecution at the Tarrega railway station. Together with Prat were the priests Eliseo M. Maneus Besalduch, Anastasio M. Dorca Coraminas, Eduardo M. Serrano Buf; the students Pedro M. Ferrer Martin, Andrés M. Solé Rovina, Miguel M. Soler Sala, Juan M. Puigmitjà Rubiò and Pedro-Tomás M. Prat Colledecarrara; the lay brothers Eliseo M. Fontdecaba Quiroga, recently professed; and novices José M. Escoto Ruíz and Elías M. Garre Egea. Later in August, Carmelite nun Sister Maria del Patrocinio, after escaping her burning monastery was shot by militia. Further Carmelites were killed in October and November following inhumane interrogations and treatment. They were Brothers Ludovico M. Ayet Canós and Angel M. Presta Batlle, Father Fernando M. Llobera Puigsech and Eufrosino M. Raga Nadal, a sub-deacon. These Carmelites were among 498 martyrs of the Spanish civil war, beatified by Pope Benedict XVI in 2007.



Information: Universalis

“Quote of the Week”

“Through Christ’s resurrection, the underworld is opened; through the neophytes of the Church, the earth is renewed; heaven is unlocked through the Holy Spirit. For the underworld is opened and gives back the dead; earth is renewed and from it springs the crop of those who are risen; heaven is unlocked and receives them as they ascend.”

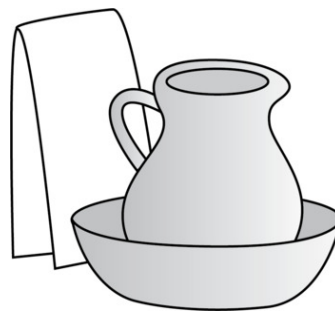


St Maximus of Turin
(Died 5th century)
Bishop and theologian

Did You Know...?

...that when the priest rinses his hands just before beginning the Eucharistic Prayer, it is not because they are dirty?

The rinsing of the priest’s hands at this point of the Mass is a symbolic gesture. It parallels the rinsing rituals used by people of other faiths such as Judaism and Islam. The priest quietly says: “Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.” Both the basin used for this purpose and the



ritual itself are referred to as the *lavabo*. This Latin word (“I shall wash”) is the first word of Psalm 26 which was the psalm that the priest used to recite in earlier times during the lavabo ritual.



ST PATRICK'S
Giftshop

OPENING
HOURS

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

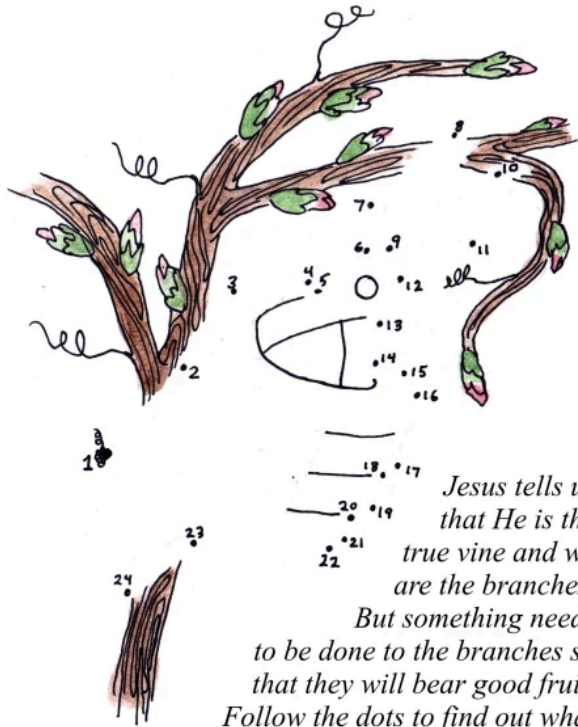
Murphy House, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta

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



The Kids' Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28th, 2024



Jesus tells us that He is the true vine and we are the branches. But something needs to be done to the branches so that they will bear good fruit. Follow the dots to find out what it is. (Start at the little grapes!)

Jesus is the True Vine

Jesus says that He is the vine and we are the branches. Branches grow out from a vine and receive their food from the main stem. They grow leaves and bear fruit.



Our souls get their life from Jesus. When we stay united with Him then our souls are healthy and able to do good works, like the grapes that grow on a healthy vine.



Doing a serious sin is like cutting oneself off of the main vine. The nutrition can't flow into the branch because it's cut off! The branch can't grow leaves or fruit and it withers and dries up. Even though you can't see it, that is what happens to a soul that doesn't have God's life coming into it.

Sometimes a branch of a vine needs to be pruned. A bit gets cut off, but then it grows even better where it was cut. In the same way, sometimes God lets us suffer, but then our souls can grow even stronger and bear more good fruit. Next time you are suffering, remember that God might be using this time to make your soul stronger!



Answers to True or False: 1 true 2 true 3 true 4 true 5 false 6 true 7 false

www.thekidsbulletin.com

SAINT PAUL: TRUE OR FALSE

How much do you know about Saint Paul when he first became a Christian?

1. Saint Paul's name used to be Saul. True or false?
2. Before his conversion, Saint Paul hated the Christians. True or false?
3. The disciples in Jerusalem were afraid of Paul when he first came. True or false?
4. Barnabas told the other Christians that Saint Paul had seen our Lord on the way to Damascus. True or false?
5. It took a long time before Saint Paul began to speak about Jesus in public. True or false?
6. When Saint Paul told some people about Jesus, they tried to kill him. True or false?
7. The other disciples would not let Saint Paul travel around to preach about Jesus. True or false?



Don't forget to check your answers on the back page!

Saint Zita

April 30

<p>ZITA WAS BORN IN ITALY IN 1218. HER MOTHER TAUGHT HER TO LOVE THE FAITH. AT AGE 12 SHE WENT TO WORK FOR THE FATINELLI FAMILY.</p> <p>"I'll miss you, Mom!"</p>	<p>ZITA ALWAYS WORKED HARD, AND DID ALL HER WORK FOR OUR LORD.</p> <p>"Lord, I'll pretend I'm sweeping your floor!"</p>	
<p>AT FIRST THE OTHER SERVANTS AND THE FATINELLIS THOUGHT ZITA WAS PROUD.</p> <p>"She won't even talk to us all day!"</p>	<p>"She's praying!"</p> <p>BUT EVENTUALLY THEY REALIZED SHE WAS REALLY HOLY.</p>	<p>EVERY DAY ZITA GOT UP EARLY AND WENT TO MASS.</p>
<p>SHE WAS HAPPY TO SEND THE MONEY SHE MADE BACK TO HER FAMILY BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T NEED IT.</p> <p>"This should help the family this winter!"</p>	<p>ZITA WAS PUT IN CHARGE OF THE WHOLE HOUSEHOLD. SHE SPENT THE REST OF HER LIFE WORKING THERE AND DIED PEACEFULLY AT THE AGE OF 60.</p>	

SAINT ZITA IS THE PATRON SAINT OF HOUSEKEEPING. WHEN THE OTHER SERVANTS OR THE FATINELLIS WERE MEAN TO HER, SHE OFFERED UP HER SUFFERINGS TO GOD. WHEN THEY BEGAN TO RESPECT HER, SHE WORKED JUST AS HARD AND REMAINED HUMBLE. WE CAN LEARN FROM HER TO WORK WELL, FOR GOD!

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