

# **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

07 April 2024 - Second Sunday of Easter (Low 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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# Scan and connect with us

### Are you a Thomas?

I LIKE THOMAS. Thomas the Doubter. Thomas is a lot like us. He wasn't there when Christ first appeared and so he was initially expected to believe based on the other disciples' encounters. And guess what? He didn't. He basically said: "Unless I have an encounter myself, I will not believe." And there was another way in which Thomas was a lot like us - he was still hanging around. He didn't believe, and yet something kept him hanging out with the rest of the disciples, despite the extreme danger. So, at some deep level, a part of him was hoping to have that encounter. In time he did, and then he believed.



What about us? I mean we are here, but do we really believe? CS Lewis once said: If Christianity is false, then it is unimportant. If it is true, then it is of infinite importance. The only thing it cannot be is moderately important.

This is a really important point. Too many people try to take some sort of Christian*ish* middle ground, but that middle ground is nonsense. If Christianity is true, then it should change our lives. We should be living lives as radical as those early Christians in our first reading. If it's false, we should walk away.

Being a Christian is a bit like being pregnant. We either are or we are not. We cannot be moderately pregnant. The sad truth is that a lukewarm Christian, is not actually a Christian at all.

So, what about us?

Well, I think many of us are Thomases. Our lives say that we haven't really committed to Christianity, and yet here we are at Mass. While many of us have not had a personal encounter with Christ, it's as though at some deep level we keep hanging around, hoping that that encounter might just happen.

Well, we can do better than that. Jesus stands at the door of our life and knocks, but He won't push his way into our lives. We, on the other hand, can push our way, and pray our way, into that encounter. We are all different and one of the wonderful things about our faith is that we can each encounter Christ in different ways:

In prayer: Scripture says: Draw close to God, and he will draw close to you.

**In his Church:** Christ's body is his church, this beautiful collection of people of faith. There are wonderful groups within this parish, and you may experience an encounter with Christ through the love and fellowship that people in these groups offer.

**In his Word:** Christ resides in his word. If you meet his Word prayerfully and reflectively, you can have a real and tangible encounter with him.

**In Reconciliation:** Christ says: *Peace be with you.* There is a remarkable peace available in the sacrament of reconciliation. The guilt and wounds of a lifetime can be washed away.

**In the Eucharist:** every time you approach the Eucharist, Christ is offering himself to you. Before you come forward, pray your heart out that He will open your eyes to His glory.

In so many different ways Christ offers himself to us, he longs for us to encounter Him. If we desire to encounter Him, all we have to do is pray and watch. And then one day, just like Thomas, we will exclaim: "My Lord and my God!"

Wishing you a blessed Easter season,

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 (Mon-Thu) 8839 8419 or mili@stpatscathedral.com.au

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

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

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

Assistant Organist: Patrick Newman 8839 8400 or music@stpatscathedral.com.au

Liturgy Coordinator/Sacristan: Fr Tom Green 8839 8400 or frtom@stpatscathedral.com.au

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!

Congratulations

TO OUR THREE NEOPHYTES



The St. Patrick's Cathedral community rejoices and warmly welcomes our three new neophytes,

- Vy ("Vee") TRAN
- Billy OSBORNE
- Glen CAMERON

who received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil. This marks a profound moment in their spiritual journey, and we are truly blessed to witness this significant milestone.

Vee, Billy, and Glen, as you step forward into the light of your new faith, know that you carry with you the love, support, and prayers of your entire parish family. Your journey of faith is a beautiful testament to the grace of God and the transformative power of his love in our lives.

May the Holy Spirit guide you as you grow in your understanding and experience of God's immense love. Let the joy of this day be a constant reminder of the new life you've been given through Christ. As you go forth, remember that your faith is a journey, not a destination. There will be challenges ahead, but also immeasurable joy as you walk closely with the Lord.

#### THANK YOU

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to the RCIA team for their dedication and guidance in preparing Vy, Billy, and Glen for these sacred sacraments. Your commitment to nurturing the faith of our newest members is a beautiful reflection of God's nurturing love for us all.

To the godparents and sponsors, thank you for your support and for walking alongside Vy, Billy, and Glen in their journey of faith. Your role in their spiritual lives is invaluable, and we are grateful for your presence and encouragement.

Congratulations once again Vy, Billy and Glen on this joyous occasion! We look forward to growing in faith together and witnessing the wonderful ways God will work in your lives.

# **PARISH NOTICES**

# GRATITUDE OVERFLOWING Heartfelt Thanks To Our Parish Community

As we reflect on the blessings of this Holy Week and Easter season, our hearts are filled with immense gratitude for the countless acts of service, dedication, and love demonstrated by our parish community. Each of you played a pivotal role in making this sacred time a profound experience of faith and fellowship for all.

#### 1. Good Friday Walk and Breakfast Triumph

A special shoutout to everyone who contributed to the success of our Good Friday Walk and breakfast. Thanks to your generous donations of bacon, eggs, bread, and milk, and the tireless efforts of our incredible volunteers, we were able to welcome and feed over 1000 young pilgrims from across the Diocese. Even when supplies ran low, our quick dash to the shops early Saturday morning ensured that no one was left hungry. Your spirit of cooperation and commitment truly embodies the essence of our parish community. Thank you to each and every one of you for making this event a resounding success!

### 2. Floral and Decorative Marvels

Our heartfelt thanks to the wonderful mums — Cathleen, Cora, Regina, Anna, and Cecilia — whose artistic touch transformed our cathedral into a vibrant space of worship and celebration. Your long morning of arranging flowers and decorating did not go unnoticed. Your dedication and creativity added immeasurably to the beauty and solemnity of our Easter services.

### 3. Liturgical Volunteers: The Heartbeat of Our Services

To all our liturgical volunteers — Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, Altar servers, ushers, and wardens — your care, reverence, and dedication during each service were truly inspiring. A special thanks to Andy for taking care of the Easter vigil fire and to the Guillema family for looking after the candles. Your contributions ensured that our celebrations were not only meaningful but also smoothly executed.

### 4. Choir: Voices of Angels

To our Cathedral choir and organists, under the leadership of Bernard Kirkpatrick, you have truly outdone yourselves. From Palm Sunday to the Solemn Mass on Easter Sunday, your magnificent singing uplifted our spirits and enhanced our worship. Your commitment and talent are a gift to our parish, and we are profoundly grateful for the beauty you bring to our liturgical celebrations.

### 5. Masterful Coordination

A round of applause for Chris Ohlsen and Jorel, our Masters of Ceremonies, and Edward our sacristan, whose service throughout the Triduum was exemplary. Your leadership in preparing the Mass and guiding the liturgical ministers ensured that our most solemn liturgies were conducted with grace and dignity. Your behind-the-scenes efforts made a significant difference in the smooth running of our services.

# You are so much appreciated!

The success of our Holy Week and Easter celebrations is a testament to the vibrant and committed community that makes up St. Patrick's Cathedral. Each of you contributes in your unique way to the life and spirit of our parish, and for this, we are endlessly thankful. May the joy and renewal of Easter continue to inspire us all in the days ahead.











# Thank you for supporting the JRS Food Lenten Drive

Dear St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta,

We extend warm Easter greetings to you all and extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support during the Jesuit Refugee Service Lenten Foodbank Drive. Your donations have been instrumental in providing essential assistance to the 150 families we serve weekly through our Foodbank Program.

Your kindness and solidarity have brought joy and hope to those facing hardship, and we are deeply thankful for your ongoing support. Your partnership enables us to continue our vital work, empowering individuals and families to rebuild their lives with dignity.

May the blessings of Easter fill your hearts with joy and peace. Thank you for your unwavering dedication and compassionate spirit.

Also a huge thank you to Aidan Pospischil for all the work he put in organising this and being in great contact through it all for pick-ups.

With sincere appreciation, Zoe Grant



# News from the Social Justice Group

Our next Social Justice Group meeting will be held on:

### Thursday 11 April 2024 from 6:30pm

in the presbytery. All welcome! We will be discussing upcoming planned activities.

Also, we are joining a webinar on 'climate change impact on oceans': the Sisters of Mercy co-ordinated group, Coalition of Catholics for Justice and Peace, have shared details of an upcoming webinar on climate change impacts on oceans. The event will be held on **18 April via zoom**, details below.

### Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8458286068 Passcode: 42658

### **Return of Project Compassion Boxes**

Please return your Project Compassion boxes to the designated area in the cathedral or hand to a member of the clergy, a server, or straight to the parish office during business hours. Each donation is a testament to our shared commitment to compassion and charity, reflecting the spirit of the Lenten season.

Thank you for your generosity and for joining in this important act of giving. Together, we make a significant difference in the lives of others.

### **Annual Leave**

Please note that Fr Tom will be on annual leave from **14-28 April**. As always under these circumstances, there will be no interruption to the usual cathedral schedule.

### Become a Eucharistic Minister to the Sick

St. Patrick's Cathedral is warmly inviting individuals to join the compassionate team of Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick, a role that offers more than just delivering communion—it's an opportunity to bring love, joy, and the presence of our faith to those unable to attend church due to health issues. This special ministry allows volunteers to be a beacon of hope and a reminder of inclusion within our church family for our homebound friends. Offering a bit of your time can make a significant difference in someone's week, and you'll be supported every step of the way by a team of caring volunteers. If you feel called to this heartwarming service, we encourage you to let the Cathedral staff team know by calling Pat on 8839 8400 or email secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au Join us in spreading Christ's love and ensuring every member of our community feels valued and connected.

### A New Chapter for Our Parish Leadership: Forming the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

As a vibrant community of faith, we stand on the threshold of an exciting new chapter. The Cathedral's Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), has not convened in recent years, and with the natural transitions of life, several members have moved on. The time has now arrived to look forward and assemble a new PPC, reinvigorating our parish leadership with fresh perspectives and renewed vigour.

The Catholic Church views the Parish Council as an essential body for fostering growth and unity within the parish. It acts as a consultative body to the pastor, providing insights, reflections, and recommendations on matters concerning pastoral activities and the mission of the church. The council plays a crucial role in listening to the Holy Spirit and the people of God, promoting a vision of active participation and collaborative ministry.

At this pivotal moment, we invite each one of you to discern your call to service within our parish. Consider if God is calling you to step forward as a member of the PPC, to contribute your gifts and talents to the leadership of our faith community.

### Information Night: 01 May at 7:00pm

We warmly invite all interested parishioners to join us for an information evening on Wednesday 01 May at 7:00pm. This will be a valuable opportunity to learn more about the PPC's role, the expectations of its members, and how you can be a part of this vital ministry. Your presence will mark the first step in this discernment process, offering insights into how you can contribute to our parish's mission and governance.

Further details on the nomination and selection process will be shared in the coming weeks. We ask you to join us in prayer during this important time for our parish. Pray for the successful formation of the new PPC and for your personal discernment. May the Holy Spirit guide us all as we seek to fulfil our calling, serving the Lord and our community with love and dedication.

# **Good Shepherd Appeal**

Please note that the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal will take place on the weekend of **21-22 April.** More information will be posted in next weekend's bulletin.

# PRAYER INTENTIONS

### We pray for our beloved dead...

**Recently Deceased:** 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 Ghersinich, June Rodrigues, Sr Edith Angel

**Deceased:** Lucy D'Mello, Philip Vas, Leticia Vas, Jan, Ludwig, Henry K, Umbert & Fran Papagno, Juan Montesco, Buenaventura Zafiro Jr, YT Hsu & Deanna Hsu, Yolanda & Donald Muir, Bienvenido Sumagui, Fidel & Remigio Perez, Francisco Llanillo

Anniversaries: Carlo Indorato, Frere Levananh, John Baptiste Lien, Crisanta Valdez, Aloma Pospischil, Bernard & Grace Rodricks, Judy Gallagher, Agapito Antonio, Amelia Zanier, Paul Nguyen

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:** Fr Bob Bossini, Terry Pumati, Leonora, Shana, Fr Peter Henry, Nasr Nasr, Athony Tran, Leonardo Close, Michael Perez, Franz Tito, Fr Peter Henry, 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, Fr Peter Zytka, Leonardo Close, Sharon Webb

Special Intentions: Peter Newman, Stephen Senjak, 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, James, Anastasia & Sophia Rovals, Philip Lysewcyz, Lucy, Anita & Jean Claude Perrottet, Ankica, Ruzica Chmielewski, Kumavan Guuasagaran, Rachel & Kathleen, Tracy, Michelle Travis, Leonardo P Close, Mary Rose Perez Tito, Napoleon



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

Remy Estera & Matteo Pirie Scarlet & Amelia Piper

# WEDDINGS 🔊

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

Natalie Racz & Alan Khoury







# 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 03 April

"The righteous person is honest, simple, and straightforward. They do not wear masks, but present themselves for what they are. "Thank you" is a word they use frequently, knowing that no matter how generous we strive to be, we always remain indebted to our neighbour."

# Saint of the Week

12 April - St Zeno of Verona (d.371), Bishop

Zeno, a native of North Africa, was appointed bishop of Verona (Northern Italy) in 362. He ministered to his people for about nine years, distinguishing himself for his leadership skills and good pastoral approach. He was close to his people and cared for the poor. In his writings he described many liturgical practices of his Church especially during Holy Week. He preached much against Arianism and fostered the growth of missionary activity in his area. He died in 371. Sicher

Information: Universalis

# "Quote of the Week"

"Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless, and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us, and increase your mercy in us, that in difficult moments, we might not despair, nor become despondent, but with great confidence, submit ourselves to Your holy Will, which is Love and Mercy itself."



St Faustyna Kowalska (1905-1938) Diary entry n.950

# Thank you...

### ...to Mili Lee, who did so much to make Holy Week and Easter such a success!

You will note a page in this bulletin dedicated to thanking all those who played key roles in ensuring our Holy week and Easter celebrations were successful. This was written by our Parish Manager, Mili, who neglected to mention her own role in coordinating these efforts.

Thank you, Mili, for your tireless efforts at all times, but most especially for your hard work "behind the scenes" over Holy Week. Your dedication is a sign of your love for your faith and for this parish and its people. May God bless you. *Fr Robert* 









**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





