

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
18 August 2024 - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Mass Schedule

WEEKEND

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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Jesus' Body and Blood: Literal or Symbol?

THE CHURCH IN THE US recently concluded its National Eucharistic Revival, a project aimed at renewing faith and devotion to the Holy Eucharist. On the final day, a series of popular Catholic figures gave talks, one of them being Jonathan Roumie who is well known for his portrayal of Jesus in "The Chosen" TV series.



Roumie spoke passionately about his personal experience playing Jesus, and especially about the profound experience he had in acting out the Last Supper. He hinted at regret, however, that one of the most pivotal scenes in the gospels for him as a

Catholic wouldn't be featured in the series, that is, the Bread of Life discourse that we have been going through over the last few weeks. He then read from it with great zeal in his now familiar style. All the while, Jonathan was wearing a t-shirt which had printed on its front a quote from the Catholic writer Flannery O'Connor, "If it is a symbol, to hell with it."

In the States, the Protestant-Catholic divide is more pronounced than it is here in Australia, and I think this can explain the zeal in her words and why Roumie would have borrowed them as he witnessed to his Catholic faith before all of America. And while I agree largely with the sentiment of O'Connor's words - that if all we are doing when we receive Communion is some vague spiritual remembrance of Jesus - if I was her editor I would have suggested saying, "If it is *just* a symbol, to hell with it." Because, while it is true and fundamental to our faith that we really and truly eat Jesus' Flesh and drink his Blood in the Eucharist, we also do it in a symbolic, *sacramental* way. It is, as the theologians would say, a real-symbol. The symbol is the reality it symbolises.

This is important to emphasise because what is being offered in the Eucharist are spiritual goods. By sharing his Body and Blood with us, Jesus is giving us salvation, spiritual healing, wisdom, understanding, growth in virtue, faith, hope, charity etc. All these things are spiritual realities, things above and beyond the merely physical.

All this to say it is important not to be too cut and dry about these things, not to think too much in terms of *either* this *or* that. We Catholics think more in terms of *both-and*. The Eucharist is neither just symbolic, nor just literal, but it is both. We literally partake of Jesus' Body and Blood, present to us sacramentally (that is, symbolically), and the whole point of it is so that we can feast on heavenly things.

Fr 1

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,

Fr Tom

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

Priests in Residence Rev Fr Van Xua (Joseph) Nguyen Rev Fr Chinonye Akamadu

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 after the 11:00am Solemn Mass. 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!

Invitation to Join the RCIA Program

Do you know someone who is seeking a deeper relationship with God or a sense of belonging within the Catholic Church?

Perhaps you, or someone close to you, feel a call to explore the Catholic faith more fully. Our Cathedral parish will soon be recommencing the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program.



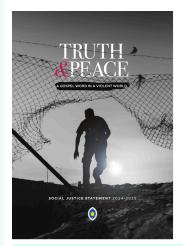
The RCIA is a spiritual journey designed for adults who are considering becoming Catholic, particularly those who have not yet been baptised. It is a time of reflection, prayer, and learning, where individuals are invited to explore the richness of our Catholic faith and discern whether God is calling them to enter into full communion with the Church.

This is not just a process, but a transformative journey that leads to a deeper relationship with Christ and His Church. We encourage you to reach out to family members, friends, neighbors, or anyone who may be searching for a spiritual home. Your invitation could be the first step in their journey toward discovering the fullness of faith in the Catholic Church.

For more information or to express interest, please contact Fr Robert on frrobert@stpatscathedral.com.au or call the Cathedral office on 8839 8400. Let's work together to extend Christ's invitation to those seeking Him, and help them embark on this beautiful path of faith.

Social Justice Sunday - 25 August

Each year the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference publishes a Social Justice Statement. This tradition goes back many decades, to 1940, in fact, and the range of topics covered by these statements is wide and varied. From issues concerning First Nations Peoples, to the eradication of poverty, to the concerns of the elderly and



through to immigration and the plight of prisoners, the Social Justice Statements leave no stone unturned in pursuing the call of Jesus and the Church to build the kingdom of God here and now. This year, **Social Justice Sunday falls on 25 August.**

The title of this year's statement is **Truth and Peace: A Gospel World in a Violent World.** It will be available online shortly at the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference website and elsewhere online. For a preview, go to

https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2024/06/26/truth-and-peace/

Notice from the Cloister Cafe

Regrettably, due to unforeseen circumstances, there will be no morning tea after 9:30am Mass this Sunday.

The good news: morning tea after 11:00am Mass will still be available!

PARISH NOTICES

Weekly Update on our ParishStaq App

We are excited to announce two new features on our ParishStaq App that will enhance your spiritual journey and deepen your connection with our faith community.

Liturgy of the Hours

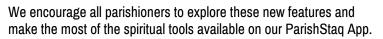
The Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office, is the official set of daily prayers prescribed by the Church, designed to sanctify the day and all its activities. By praying the Liturgy of the Hours, you join with the universal Church in offering praise and thanksgiving to God throughout the day. This new feature on our app allows you to easily access these prayers at any time, helping you to integrate prayer into your daily routine.



DIOCESE of ARRAMATT

Connect with Our Diocese

We have also added a direct link to our Diocese's website, making it easier than ever to stay informed and connected with the broader Church community in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountain. Through this feature, you can access diocesan news, events, and resources, strengthening our unity as the Body of Christ. Whether you are looking to participate in diocesan events or seeking resources for your spiritual life, this connection will enrich your involvement in our diocesan community.



Seeking Seamstresses

St. Patrick's Cathedral Music department is seeking one or two seamstresses or sewers to assist in the making of a number of additional choir robes and cassocks for the cathedral choir, cantors and organists.

Fabric and design templates will be provided. If you would like to assist in outfitting our cathedral musicians, please contact the cathedral office.



Sacrament of Confirmation 2024

We look forward to accompanying these children and their parents on this exciting faith journey. Please keep them in your prayers.

Timetable for future sessions is as follows:

- Saturday, 24 August, 4:30pm in the Cloister Hall Session 4
- Saturday, 31 August, 4:30pm in the Cathedral Practice
- Saturday, 07 September, 11:00am in the Cathedral Order of Confirmation.

Note to Parents:

If your child missed the last formation session you are required to attend the make up session at 3.30pm on the 24th of August.

The Hospitality Coordinator is all smiles...

Want to know why?

Thanks to Sidney and Fatima Rodricks supplies for Sunday morning teas have been hugely augmented by their generous donation of 3 tins of coffee, several bottles of cordial and 5 packets of serviettes!



On a regular basis Sidney approaches me, asking what items need replenishing.

How blessed is St Pat's in such parishioners!

Save the date!

Parish/JRS community lunch at St Pat's Cathedral, **Saturday 14 September 2024**. Our parish is hosting a community lunch to give parishioners and people supported by JRS the opportunity to meet, share a meal and get to know each other better. There will be free food prepared by people supported by JRS, a jumping castle, music and children's activities. Event bookings via the parish app, details to follow soon. Places are limited. We hope to see you there!

Foodbank in August

We are once again organising a foodbank drive for our Jesuit Refugee Service partners in Parramatta. This will run throughout the month of August.

We are in need of: cooking oil, basmati rice, canned coconut milk, long life milk, coffee and gift vouchers for Coles and Woolworths. Gift vouchers to the office, please! Check the sign in the chapel for



You will see the space in the chapel for donations to be placed. Please support this very worthy enterprise!

How to Download the App

quantities of these various items.

- 1. Scan QR Code below to go to Google Play Store or Apple App Store on your mobile device.
- 2. Tap the "Install" button to download and install the app.
- 3. Once installed, open the app and finish setting up your profile.







PARISH NOTICES

Gearing up for our Second Monthly Barbecue and Bazaar

Apart from slices and small cakes, we will have a range of plants (succulents), jigsaw puzzles (as new condition) and books for bargain basement prices.

If you have a fruit tree laden with a crop you can't give away, bring them and we will sell them. Hate to see good food going to waste. Andy and Carmen's grapefruit were a real hit.

The barbecue will be cranked up with sausage and bacon and egg sandwiches tempting the nostrils.

If you would like to donate items for us to sell or would like to volunteer on the day, please call the office. Although we usually are never short of helpers just turning up, it helps us allocate jobs.

Our next barbecue event will be held on **Sunday 25 August.**

Our callout for volunteers also brought in a few new faces to the parish, providing a wonderful opportunity to get to know them and build relationships. If you would like to put your name down to help out for the next barbecue, please call Donna or Pat from the office.

To those who volunteered to help out with events, we are putting together a group for this. We will contact you in the next week to check out messages and the group on our Cathedral App.

Our Lady Mercy Place Harris Park Open Day

You are warmly invited to visit our new aged care home.

We invite you to meet our welcoming community of staff and residents, tour our new home and enjoy our hospitality with light refreshments. With a variety of room options to choose from, across four levels, this purpose-built home has a café, chapel, hairdresser, wellness centre and an activities room all on offer. Come and experience first-hand, the modern facilities available and why Our Lady Mercy Place Harris Park would be the perfect fit for those looking for aged care.

Date: Saturday 31 August 2024 , 10.00am – 2.00pm Address: 128A Alfred Street, Harris Park

Clergy Support Foundation

Bishop's Fathers' Day Appeal

31 August/01 September

Please support the Father's Day Appeal in two weeks' time. Your tax-deductible donations will help care for those many aged and sick clergy who have served so faithfully for many decades. Thank you!

Envelopes will be available for you to take home and return on Fathers' Day weekend. Of course, feel free to contribute online via the Parramatta Diocese website.

Launch of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church

On Saturday 10 August, the Diocese of Parramatta launched the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church. Our pastoral plan represents the culmination of our Synod journey, where we have come together to listen, discern, and envision a path forward for our diocese over the past 16 months. To download a copy of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, visit <u>parracatholic.org/synodality</u>.



ACBC "Absent from the Table" Survey

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is undertaking a research project aimed at investigating why some Catholics do not participate in regular weekly Sunday Mass. The survey, for those who self-identify as Catholics and are 18 years and over and who do not regularly attend weekly Mass on Sunday, is anonymous and will close on **20 August.** The survey and information about the project can be found at <u>https://bit.ly/AbsentFromTheTableSurvey</u>

Position Vacant

The Catholic charity, **Aid to the Church in Need**, is seeking applications for a full time, Benefactor Support Coordinator. The role is based at the national office in Penrith. Experience in customer service and/or the processing of donations is ideal. For information visit, www.aidtochurch.org/jobs. Applications close 23 August.

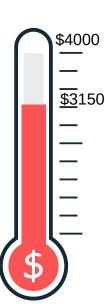
Our Commitment to Safeguarding

At St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta, we are dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing environment for all members of our community, especially children and vulnerable adults, in line with the "Parramatta Way."

The Parramatta Way of Safeguarding is to...

• Act with justice, and state that we have a zero tolerance for any form of abuse or harm to children or any person;

• Act with justice, and ensure that laws and obligations are upheld, and safety is paramount.



We pray for our beloved dead...

Recently Deceased: Jose Santos, Antonio De La Pena, Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning, Rev Te Nguyen, Sam Jao, Peter Lamberson, Vera Fernandes, Bernadette Merl-King, Peter Gale, Laarni Elegino

Deceased: Liza Khourga, Judith Soso, Narar & Lewis Nissan, Deanna Hsu,Primitivo & Estrella Distraso,Belen Distraso, Arnulfo Distraso, Ivica Stipcevic, YT Hsu, Dora Kirk, Antonio, Maria & Benjamin Fuenyes

Anniversaries: Jaime Blandon, Elizabeth Srinivasan, Margaret Russo, Alexis A Santiago, Anna Le, Paul So Nguyen, Mathew Joseph, Sophie Ellis, Eufemio Ramirez, Fe & Emy Masangkay, Harriot Kurera

Perpetuals: Louisa & Arthur Baxter, Paul Mahoney, 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: Mark Slee, Galulbut Pais, John Ryan, Maria Llave, John Wright, John Ryan, Felicitas Appathurai, Maria, Victoria, Krys, Jim, Helga, Rohan Rodricks, Martina Galea, Joey S Bugo, Baldo Polizzi, Melissa, Fred & Odette Harb, Nasr Nasr, John Ryan, Anne-Maraie Douaihy, Colleen Johnston, Melissa Carter, Kathleen, Mary Tito, Fr Bob Bossini, Fatima Rodricks, Azar Al-Ters, Melissa Carter, Terry Pumati, Leonora, Shana, Fr Peter Henry, Anthony Tran, Leonardo Close, Michael Perez, Franz Tito, Soane Kikanoi, Olivia Harb, Sharon Webb

Special Intentions: Raveen, Agnes Patacsil, Stephen & Chris, Stephen Senjak & family, Carmelita Perez, Joey Bugo, Naleen, Tian, Jake Del Mar & family, Esther Lee, Bernabe Patacsil, Juan M Cabezas, Naleen, Andrew, Kelly Berg, Joey Bugo, Cenacle Group, Ping Hsu, Sarah Khalil, Kiesie, EJ, Hoang Minh Nguyen, Fr Peter Henry, Peter Newman, YT Hsu & Deanna Hsu, Michael Perez, Sarah Ferguson, Kate Middleton, Patrick N, Madeleine Suttie, Fancesca Ryan, Helen Perrottet, Paul & Mouzel Carson, Stephen Senjak, Peter Newman, Felicitas Appathurai, Santiago Tito, Antonio Tito, Dianne Mary Tito, Elizabeth Perez, Dynes Woodrow, Nikola, Ankica, Mara & Stephen Senjak, Vera, Rita & family





We welcome into our Catholic Christian family the following child who was recently baptised here...

Georgia Pace



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

Aylin Gonzalez & Evan Adam





For political leaders

"We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs."

From Pope Francis...

From a tweet dated 12 August "Dear young people, please reflect on the wonder of God's love for us just the way we are, not the way society or we say we should be, but as we are with all our faults and our limitations. Trust in God because He is our Father who loves us."

Saint of the Week 23 August - St Rose of Lima (1586-1617), Virgin

Rose was born in Lima, in Peru. She lived a life of selflessness and devotion from an early age. She refused to marry, and became a Dominican tertiary at the age of 20. Her asceticism and her intense spiritual experiences excited the criticism of her friends and family and the suspicion of the Church authorities.

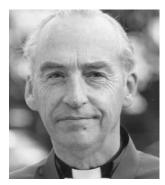
She cared for the sick, the poor, Indians, and slaves.

She was the first person in the Americas to be canonised, and is a patron saint of South America.

Information: Universalis

"Quote of the Week"

"For God is not an escape from life, not 10 or 15 or 20 minutes cut out of my life, nor a relationship to be forged afresh every time, but a regular, disciplined reminder that all life is lived in the presence of God. It's like a marriage relationship, not a flirtation carried out in a series of clandestine meetings. Prayer is marvelling at God's love as that is shown in Christ, and receiving and responding to that transcendent reality by whom we have been grasped, and whom we sense at our very centre."



Michael Mayne (1929-2006) Anglican Priest *Prayer* (2011)

Did You Know ...?

...that the belief in "transubstantiation", the changing of the bread and wine at Mass into the Body and Blood of Jesus, has always been a belief held by the Catholic Church?

Many other Christian traditions don't hold the same belief which is why there are quite strict rules about who is able to recevie Communion in a Catholic church and what Catholics can partake of in other Christian churches. Our Catholic

belief is that after consecration within a celebration of Mass, the bread and wine, though appearing as simply bread and wine, are in fact the Body and Blood of Christ, his flesh given to us to eat.







st patrick's Giftshop

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

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

www.tlc.asn.au

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