

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
25 August 2024 - Twenty-first 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

Tuesday9:30am - Christian MeditationTuesday6:30pm - Legion of MaryTuesday7:30pm - RCIA (Sept - April)Friday1:00pm - Cenacle Prayers

MONTHLY PRAYER

First Friday Devotions: 7:00pm in Chapel True Life in God: Last Friday (a) 6:00pm in the Cloitser Cafe

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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Many of his disciples left him...

WE COME TO the fifth and final excerpt from our little dip into chapter six of John's Gospel this weekend. Next weekend we return to Mark's Gospel, where we once again find Jesus in conflict with some Pharisees and scribes, this time over the issue of religious tradition and ritual purity.

But this weekend we hear the conclusion of Jesus' "Bread of Life" discourse. Jesus has concluded his words, and we hear the response of those who had been listening. For the most part, it is not positive.



Perhaps this is to be expected. After all, Jesus is once again revealing something of his divinity to those listening and this is hard for them to accept. Presumably, they want to recognise Jesus as a great and learned rabbi, one to be revered, someone whose teaching is reliable and life-giving. Instead, they hear Jesus speak about giving them his flesh and blood to drink so that they might live for ever! No one had spoken like this before and so it is hardly surprising that they reject not only the words of Jesus but Jesus himself.

But some of the disciples remain, namely the Twelve. Jesus, however, is not reluctant to allow them to go should they so wish, and makes this clear in his question: "What about you, do you want to go away too?" As is usually the case, it is the ever-impulsive Peter who speaks up, with a response which seems to indicate that the Twelve are absolutely committed to following Jesus, calling him "the Holy One of God."

Of course, it will not be long before the disciples desert Jesus; Peter most notably and infamously denied knowing Jesus three times on the night before Jesus' crucifixion. The fickleness of the disciples is clearly echoed in the First Reading today from Joshua as Israel renews its covenant, once again, with God.

Hearing this, our own fickleness is highlighted this weekend. As I have often said, taking the Christian faith seriously means having to endure considerable periods of time when God seems absent and unconcerned with our struggles. We may echo the sentiments of Peter when things are going well, feeling very committed to following Christ, but then at the slightest hint of a struggle, maybe believing that God is challenging us beyond our endurance, we simply give up.

Most often, the fall away from faith is far more gradual than the sudden rejection of Jesus we hear about in today's Gospel, and thus more insidious. We start to feel less and less enthusiasm for our faith, devotional practices start to peter out, our attendance at Mass lacks any sort of enthusiasm, and before we know it, we have abandoned the practice of our faith, ("...but I still believe in God!")

When we come to this realisation, it is a good practice to remind ourselves of what used to enthuse us about our faith. Rather like a couple in a stale marriage needing to remind themselves of what brought them together so many years ago, doing this can revitalise our love for Christ and Christ's people, and so revitalise our faith.

And then whatever words Jesus utters will not deter us in following him.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,

Fr Robert

THE BULLETIN

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

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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 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!

Social Justice Sunday

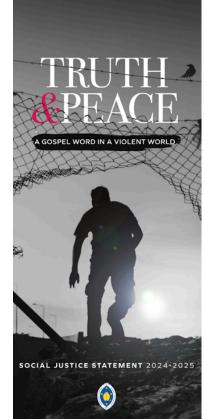
TRUTH AND PEACE: A GOSPEL WORD IN A VIOLENT WORLD

Each year the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference publishes a Social Justice Statement. The title of this year's statement is *Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World.*

Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World highlights the urgent need for peace from a Gospel perspective, addressing alarming global and local violence. The statement points out that the 20th and early 21st centuries have been marked by significant conflict, including 55 statebased and 82 non-state conflicts in 2022 alone, affecting two billion people worldwide.

The document also discusses the erosion of truth in public life, warning of a post-truth culture where misinformation and fake news undermine civil society and democracy. It calls on Catholics to be active peacemakers by embracing dialogue, truthtelling, and collaboration with all people of goodwill.

Theologically, Jesus is presented as the embodiment of truth and peace, with the fullness of peace being both a divine gift and a human task. The statement encourages practical actions such as building relationships with those affected by violence and engaging in interfaith dialogue, urging a collective effort towards a peaceful world rooted in the Gospel.



Call to Action: In responding to this call, we are urged to actively pursue the mission of Jesus and the Church to build the Kingdom of God here and now. Let us commit ourselves to being instruments of peace, truth, and reconciliation in our families, communities, and the world. Together, let us work to bring about the peace that Christ offers, building a world that reflects God's love and justice.

A full copy of the Social Justice Statement is available on the Cathedral app.

Bishop's Fathers' Day Appeal

31 August / 01 September

Please support the Fathers' Day Appeal next weekend. 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 are available on the pews or at the doors for you to take home and return on Fathers' Day weekend. You may also contribute via the Cathedral App and website using the QR code inside the bulletin.



PARISH NOTICES

Weekly Update on our Parish App

Outreach - Social Justice Missions

This week we added a Social Justice Missions section in the App.

To find the Social Justice Mission resources, simply click on "More" in the blue banner at the bottom of your screen, then go to the Outreach section.

In here you will find the full statement of the recently launched Social Justice Statement for 2024-2025 and watch the launch video.

You will also find information on the Food Drive for JRS and the Community lunch in September.

St Pat's Matters

The latest edition of the St Pat's Matters is now added to the 'Connect' section of the App. All future editions of this wonderful record of our parish life will be added here.

Events

An invitation to the Community lunch with JRS as organised by the Social Justice Group was sent out this week. Please RSVP via the email link or in the App.

We encourage all parishioners to explore these new features and make the most of the spiritual tools available on our ParishStaq App.

Seeking Seamstresses

St Patrick's Cathedral Music department is seeking one or two seamstresses or sowers 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.



Invitation to Join the RCIA Process

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) process.

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, neighbours, 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.

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, 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 formation session on 24 August, you are required to attend the make up session at 3:45pm on 31 August.





How to Download the App

- 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

Mini Bazaar - Babecue Fundraiser



We are almost there! We are hoping to raise the \$900 needed to buy our barbecues this weekend. Join us after the 9:30am and 11:00 am Masses this weekend for our exciting bazaar and barbecue fundraiser!

Come and enjoy a delicious sausage sizzle or bacon and egg sandwich fresh off the grill and a cuppa \Im cake while browsing our selection of plants (succulents), nearly new jigsaw puzzles, and books - all at unbeatable prices!

Don't miss this chance to grab some great bargains, enjoy tasty treats, and spend time with your fellow parishioners. It's a wonderful way to support our community and have fun together. We look forward to seeing you there!

Parish and JRS Community Lunch

Parish/JRS community lunch at St Pat's Cathedral, **Saturday 14 September.** 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. 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 quantities of these various items.

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



Diary Claimer

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 21 September at 12:30pm (after the 11:00am Mass) in the Cathedral Hall.

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Update



Parishioners at the launch of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan

1. Launch of Diocesan Pastoral Plan: 10 August Members have been busy this month! Several Council members went to the new convention centre near Panthers on Saturday 10 August for the official launch of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan 2024-28.

We heard from Fr Ormond Rush and Dr Myriam Wijlens, attended workshops, shared at the famous round tables, witnessed Bishop Vincent officially launch the plan, and discussed with those present from our parish what we might do next to implement the plan.

2. Retreat with St Patty Andrew: 17 August

A week later we spent an afternoon with St Patty reflecting on how our walking together in synodality is expressed in communion, participation, and mission. We shared something of our own backgrounds, both culturally and religiously, and ended our retreat with Mass celebrated by Fr Robert.

3. Meeting: 19 August

We shared our retreat and diocesan launch experiences with each other, affirmed our desire to work in consultation with parishioners, started discussing simple things to make the parish more welcoming, while figuring out which bigger projects we could take on.

Please let us know your thoughts by speaking with PPC members or drop us an email at ppc@stpatscathedral.com.au. And pray for us too!

Kerry Giumelli (Chair), Claire Pospischil (Deputy Chair), Aileen Bernardo, Martin Graham (Secretary), Susanna Loto'aniu, Helena Roumanus, Anne Stanton, John Starkey

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."

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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: Raymond Robinson, Jose Santos, Antonio De La Pena, Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning, Rev Te Nguyen, Sam Jao, Peter Lamberson, Vera Fernandes, Bernadette Merl-King

Deceased: Lucy D'Mello, Liza Khourga, Judith Soso, Narar & Lewis Nissan, Deanna Hsu,Primitivo & Estrella Distraso,Belen Distraso, Arnulfo Distraso, Ivica Stipcevic, YT Hsu, Dora Kirk, Antonio

Anniversaries: Agnes Nethercott, Jaime Blandon, Elizabeth Srinivasan, Margaret Russo, Alexis A Santiago, Anna Le, Paul So Nguyen, Mathew Joseph, Sophie Ellis, Eufemio Ramirez

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-Marie 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, 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 children who were recently baptised here...

Jaxon Mieth Micah Sorromero Mostoles

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

Rachel Takchi & Cyrus Daruwalla





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 21 August "The fragrance of Christ emanates from the "fruits of the Spirit," which are "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" (Galatians 5:22). How wonderful it is to meet someone who possesses these virtues!"

Saint of the Week 26 August - Blessed Dominic Barberi (1792-1849), Priest

Dominic Barberi was born near Viterbo, Italy, in 1792 and joined the Passionist Order, urged on by an inner assurance that God called him to work as a missionary in England. He was ordained a priest in 1818 and worked in Italy and Belgium before coming to England in 1841. His first foundation was at Aston Hall in Staffordshire; he established four Passionist houses in all, and received many Anglicans into full communion, the most famous being John Henry Newman, who was received at Littlemore near Oxford on 9 October 1845.

Blessed Dominic was noted for the personal warmth of his approach to non-Catholics and for his zeal in preaching; he drew crowds in spite of his strong Italian accent. He favoured a higher profile for the small Catholic body in England; he went around in his Passionist habit and, while at Aston Hall in 1844, organised a Corpus Christi procession through the streets of the neighbourhood, which is believed to have been the first public procession of its kind in England in modern times. Blessed Dominic died at Reading on 27 August 1849 and was beatified by Pope Paul VI in 1963.



Information: Universalis

"Quote of the Week"

"I'll give you one piece of advice: don't neglect his name 'Jesus'. Meditate on it in your heart night and day as your personal and precious treasure. Love it more than your life. Root it in your mind. Love Jesus because he made you and bought you at a very high price. Give your heart to him because it is the debt you owe him."

> Richard Rolle (c.1290-1349) English hermit The English Writings



Did You Know ...?

...that despite Jesus speaking of himself as the Bread of Life in chapter six of the Gospel of John, this Gospel does not depict the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper?

In John's Gospel, the focus of the Passover is the washing of the feet of his disciples (13:1-20). It is this event, of course, which is highlighted at the Mass of the Lord's Supper each year on Holy Thursday.









OPENING HOURS 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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