

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 OFMConv DD

09 February 2025 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

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)

5:00pm Reconciliation (till 5:30pm)

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Mass at 8:00am (No Adoration or Confession)

WEEKLY PRAYER GROUPS

Monday 6:30pm - Legion of Mary

Tuesday 9:30am - Christian Meditation

Tuesday 7:30pm - RCIA (Sept - April)

Friday 1:00pm - Cenacle Prayers

MONTHLY PRAYER GROUPS

First Friday Devotions: 7:00pm in Chapel True Life in God: Last Friday @ 6:00pm in the Cloister Cafe

OTHER GROUPS

Playgroup: Wednesdays 10:00am - 11:30am 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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Going out into the deep

IF YOU GET the chance to look at the plaque on the stand behind the bishop's seat in our cathedral, you will see the Latin phrase "Duc in altum," the motto chosen by Bishop Vincent. This means "Put out into the deep," the words we hear Jesus speak in this Sunday's Gospel.

Putting the phrase into context, we encounter Jesus at the beginning of his ministry in Galilee. He has been baptised, spent forty days in the desert where he was tempted by the devil, rejected by his own people in the synagogue at Nazareth and effected a couple of healings, including the mother-in-law of



Simon Peter. Jesus is today standing on the shore of the Sea of Galilee when he gets into an empty boat and asks Peter to row out a little from the shore so that he, Jesus, can teach the large numbers of people that have gathered. It is then that Jesus tells Peter to let down the nets into deeper water, with the remarkable result that ensued.

Perhaps the most surprising thing that happens is not the huge catch of fish but the response of Peter to it. One would have thought that he would thank Jesus profusely and hug him with joy and gratitude. Instead, Peter says, humbly, "Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man."

Peter clearly feels that, because he is a sinner, he is unworthy to stand in the presence of the Divine. Yet Jesus makes Peter the leader of the apostles, all of them sinners, and all of them given the responsibility to spread the Good News, to become now fishers of people, to catch vast numbers as symbolised in the recent catch of fish.

Putting out into the deep is what we are called to do as Christian missionaries too. We can feel, as Peter did initially, that we are unworthy, but we cannot remain in that space as it only leads to inactivity and failure.

Rather, we are called to take risks and be bold in our proclamation of the Gospel, however that may look for us. The apostles "left everything and followed Jesus" - risk-taking by any definition! Putting out into the deep means, amongst other things, putting aside our pre-conceived notions of who God is and opening our minds and hearts to new possibilities of living out the Gospel in our world today. This means not understanding the Gospel as a dead text with everything set in stone, but as an entity that is vibrant and seeking new and vital ways to be lived. This means being open to the challenges that our society poses, rather than seeking easy answers that allow us to make quick, pre-determined decisions which may alienate people and make them hostile to the message of life that Jesus embodies.

Yes, we are unworthy carriers of the Good News, like Peter and every other disciple of Jesus. But that should not mean that we are timid bearers of it. The fact that we are a redeemed people ought to make us bold in the proclamation of the Gospel, to do exactly as Jesus told Peter and the others to do - to put out into the deep.

Will you "put out into the deep"? What have you to fear? Wishing you a blessed week ahead, Fr Robert

THE BULLETIN

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

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Assistant Priest

Rev Tom Green 8839 8423 - assistantpriest@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

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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 12:00 noon on Wednesday. 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!



Brothers and sisters, on the Sunday devoted in a special way to the word of God, let us thank the Father for having spoken to us by his own Word, made flesh for the salvation of the world. All the Scriptures, which have human writers and the Holy Spirit as their true authors (cf. Dei Verbum, 11), point to this event. The whole Bible speaks of Christ and his work, which the Spirit makes present and active in our lives and in history. When we read the Scriptures, when we pray and study them, we do not simply receive information about God; we receive his Spirit, who reminds us of all that Jesus said and did (cf. Jn 14:26). In this way, our hearts, inflamed by faith, wait in hope for the coming of God. Brothers. sisters, we must become more familiar with reading the Scriptures. I would like to suggest that all of us get a small, pocket-sized copy of the Gospels or the New Testament. We could always have it with us in a bag so that we can read it at various points throughout the day. One verse, two verses so that throughout the day we will have contact with the Lord. A small copy of the Gospels is enough.

Let us respond with enthusiasm to the good news of Christ! For the Lord has not spoken to us as silent listeners, but as his witnesses, called to evangelise at all times and in every place. Today, forty brothers and sisters from various parts of the world have come to receive the ministry of Lector. Thank you! We are grateful to them and we pray for them. We are all praying for you. Let us commit ourselves to bringing the good news to the poor, proclaiming release to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, letting the oppressed go free and announcing the year of the Lord's favour. Then yes, sisters and brothers, we will transform the world in accordance with the will of God, who created it and redeemed it in his immense love. Thank you!

Extract from homily of Pope Francis on 26 January 2025

Credo Young Adults Upcoming Events

Bible Study

This **Monday, 10 February at 7:00pm,** we will be beginning our fortnightly bible study course for our young adults. We will be using the Bible Timeline series by Ascension Press. If you intend on joining, please contact Fr Tom (a) assistantpriest(a) stpatscathedral.com.au.

Bushwalk

In lieu of our normal Sunday evening gathering this month, Credo will be gathering for a bushwalk on **Saturday**, **22 February**. More details to follow.

PARISH NOTICES

Olive wood items for sale

On the weekend of **15 - 16 February** there will be handcrafted olive wood biblical items for sale before and after Masses. These items are hand crafted in Bethlehem the Holy Land by the Catholic families there. Any purchase will help support the Catholic community in the Holy Land and improve their livelihood and also support maintaining the holy sites there. Thank you for your support!

Audio system update

As you can clearly see, work has started on the overhaul of the cathedral audio system. As with any major physical work to a building, there will be inconveniences and disruptions as a result, but please bear with us. It is hoped that the work will be finished in about five weeks' time, depending on the usual factors that might affect a scheduled series of work. Thank you for your patience and support. *Fr Robert*

Media Ministry Teams - Thank you for answering the call!

Many thanks to all who have responded to our call for volunteers in the Media Ministry Teams! We are grateful for your enthusiasm and willingness to share your talents in storytelling, content creation, and communication.

We will be contacting you this week to confirm the date of our first meeting. We look forward to working together to bring these exciting initiatives to life and strengthen our parish community through media and outreach.

If you're interested in Social Media or St Pat's Matters Magazine, contact Mili at manager@stpatscathedral.com.au

Thank you again for your generosity in serving our parish!

Social Justice Group meeting

The first meeting of the parish Social Justice Group for 2025 will be held on **Thursday 13 February** from 7:00pm in the Cloister Cafe. Our guest speaker will Rita Hakkoum from CatholicCare. Rita will be speaking on the Community Refugee Integration & settlement pilot (CRISP). All are very welcome!

Some parishes are already involved in CRISP. There's a diocesan podcast from the St Andrews Marayong parish discussing their parish journey with the CRISP program and a refugee family: tinyurl.com/soul-food-72





After a month of cleaning and rearranging, our Gift Shop is open for business this week! We're excited to welcome you back and invite you to explore our refreshed space.

Each week, we'll be marking select items on sale, so be sure to check in regularly for discounted religious goods. We've also set up a clearance shelf with deeply discounted items. Our Lenten and Easter stock is still on its way, but in the meantime, we have special back-to-school items available.

To celebrate the Jubilee of Hope, we're also introducing a Year of Hope display, featuring meaningful devotional items to help us reflect on this special time of grace.

This is your Cathedral parish Gift Shop, and every purchase directly supports the ministries of St Patrick's Cathedral. Please consider supporting us - not just by shopping, but also by spreading the word to friends and family about where to find us.

Come in, say hello to Susanna, and check out our new look! We look forward to seeing you.

Sacraments of Initiation

Continuing from last year, the sacramental journey for children wishing to make their First Holy Communion, will start up again on Monday, 10 February.

If your child is registered from last year, they will need to re-affirm their registration. A link will be sent to you from next Monday. If your child made their Reconciliation elsewhere, they can join our program but will also need to register. For these people, please send an email to secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au and a link will be forwarded to you. Alternatively, the link will be available on the Parish App.

Sessions for 'Remembering Baptism' are as follows:

Session 1 - 7:30pm Monday 10 February - Parents only Session 2 - 7:30pm Monday 24 February - Parents only Session 3 - 4:30pm Saturday 08 March - Parents & Children Ritual - 4:30pm Saturday 22 March - Parents & Children



2025 Sacramental dates for your diary:

Sacrament of First Eucharist - Sunday 22 June @ 9:30am Order of Confirmation - Saturday 06 September @ 11:00am For enquiries and eligibility, secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au





How to Download the App

- 1. Scan QR Code 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.

The App can also be downloaded via the Cathedral website:wwwstpatscathedral.com.au

PARISH & DIOCESAN NOTICES

Morning tea is back!

Finally we are back for 2025! Feels like an age since we have been able to congregate after Mass and enjoy a cuppa.

You may notice a lot of changes due to the construction works for the audio refit in the cathedral and the hall. So, as this impedes on our morning tea, we will be having it in the Cloister Function Room (the large hall). Look ing forward to welcoming you all back!

Word of God Sunday: 09 February

The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God this Sunday. Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God. Visit catholic.org.au/wordofgodsunday to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.

Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings online gathering: 13 February

"Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings" are quarterly online gatherings for everyone interested in social justice, care for creation, or global peace. They are an opportunity to connect, meet like-minded people, and discuss what's currently happening in the Peace, Justice & Ecology space. In February, the PJE Sharing will focus on raising the age of criminal responsibility in NSW and Caritas' Project Compassion. You are invited to join **Thursday 13 February**, 6:30pm-8:00pm. To receive a zoom link, please RSVP to met@parracatholic.org

Memorial Mass of St Josephine Bakhita: 16 February

All are welcome to attend the Memorial Mass of St Josephine Bakhita, the Patron Saint of South Sudan and Sudan, and Victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking at St Patrick's Church,

Blacktown on **Sunday 16 February** at 12:30pm. We hope you will join us to commemorate the victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking in Australia and worldwide and thank God for the gifts that the South Sudanese and Sudanese communities contribute to our society.



Diocesan World Day of Prayer for the Sick: 11 February

A World Day of Prayer for the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11:00am on **Tuesday 11 February** at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Allawah Street, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 06 February via parracatholic.org/world-day-prayer-feb11

Music for Lent Workshop: 13 February

Musicians and Liturgy Planners are invited to attend an evening exploring Music for Lent on **Thursday 13 February** from 7:00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. The session will be presented by Eric Grella, Music Formation Facilitator, Mission Enhancement Team. Registrations are essential, please RSVP by 11 February via parracatholic.org/music-workshop

FaithLIFE scripture short courses for adults: 12-26 February

Are you looking to read the Bible more in 2025 but don't know where to start? Consider the FREE FaithLIFE Scripture Short Course guided by Scripture scholar, Dr Michele Connolly RSJ on Wednesdays, 12, 19, & 26 February. 6:30pm - 8:30pm, 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown - Bishop Bede Heather Centre. RSVP via https://parracatholic.org/faithlife OR email met@parracatholic.org

Diocese of Parramatta Tribunal Office

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm, to offer advice and assistance regarding marriage annulments and dissolution of marriages. Interviews are preferably conducted in person with Zoom and telephone interviews in special circumstances. Please contact the Tribunal Office on (02) 8838 3480 or email tribunal@parracatholic.org.

Women's Lenten Retreat at Mount Schoenstatt: 21-23 February

Join us at Mount Schoenstatt for a reflective retreat inspired by 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. The retreat runs from 7:00pm on 21 February to 4:00pm on 23 February. Costs are \$240 per person for a shared room, \$290 per person for a single room (limited availability), or \$60 per person per day for day attendance. Accommodation and meals are included, or lunch for day attendees. Register by **12 February** by contacting Sr M Elizabeth Foley at bookings@schoenstatt.org.au or 02 4773 8338.

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.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for...

RCIA team and enquirers

Sick: Pedro Romulo, Ryan I Limlingan, Gareth Huynh, George Abela, Susan Jhun Jhun Uwala, Emerlinda Sarreal, Bernardo Dado, Monica, Sam Galea, A J Thomas, Apo Policarpio, Michael Lilley, Fred Harb, Shirley, Patrick Slatter, Felicitas Appathurai, William Lelyveld, Martina Galea, Chris Doughty, Antoinette Bourchdan, Ramza Ibrahim, Fr Bob Bossini, Fatima Rodricks, Ray Love, Sharon Webb

Special Intentions: Emilyn & Mahar, Raveen, Ann McKee, Tian, Naleen, Stephen Sensak, Clara Cabezas, Espirita Isidro, poor & needy, Miguel Custodio, Mouzel Del Mar, all poor & sick, Franz Tito, Leonardo Close, Michael Perez, Paul Peters

Recently Deceased: Leila Farah Ghasempour

Deceased: YT Hsu & Deanna Hsu, Danny & Chantal, Beatriz Morales, Kathleen Donovan, Elias Koura, Nancye Benzie, Jose Barredo, D Herft, Lucy D'Mello, Jose Barredo, all souls, Michael Phong Huynh, Karam Karam, Houda Chehade

Anniversaries: Kanayo Dibia, Marcelina Rasalan, Leonardo Revilla, John & Danny Doolub, Les Riedling, Rachael Sumcall, Watson Lee, Bernard & Gracie Rodricks, Judy Gallagher, Thuy Huynh, Paul So Nguyen, Marie Saldanha, Danny Doulub

Perpetuals: Wendy A Smith, Louisa & Arthur Baxter, Paul Mahoney, Nat Fedyk, Robert Dearie, Norm Hector, Bokeyar family, David family, Japour family, Paula Loto'aniu, Peter & Annette 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, 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

BAPTISMS



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

Isaiah Encarnacion Charlie Hadfield Roger and Raymond Molesworth

WEDDINGS 🚫



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

Emma Awad & Jayden Haddad

POPE FRANCIS'

Prayer Intention for February



For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

"Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life."

From Pope Francis...

Bluesky post dated 04 February "Children who are denied their childhood are a silent cry denouncing the inequality of our economic system, the criminality of war, and the lack of medical care and education. These injustices weigh most heavily on all little ones and on the weakest."

Saint of the Week

13 February - Blessed Jordan of Saxony (c.1185-1237), Priest

Blessed Jordan was born at Burgberg, Westphalia, around the year 1185. While studying in Paris he was attracted to the Dominican Order by Blessed Reginald and received the habit from him in 1220. On the death of Saint Dominic the friars elected him Master of the Order. For fifteen years he ministered to his brothers and sisters by his preaching, his letters, his edition of the Constitutions, his frequent visitations and the example of his life. More than one thousand novices were attracted to the Order during the tenure of his office. He directed Blessed Diana and her community in the way of perfection and governed all his subjects with gentleness and kindness. His love for Mary, the Mother of God, expressed itself by his decree that the Salve Regina was to be sung after compline. Blessed Jordan was shipwrecked and drowned on 13 February 1237.



Information: Universalis

"Quote of the Week"

"I call them beasts more than men who say life should be led so that they need not console anyone nor occasion distress or sorrow to anyone, who take no pleasure in the good of another, nor expect their failures to distress others, seeking to love no one and be loved by none."



St Aelred of Rievaulx (1110-1167) Abbot of Rievaulx Abbey, England Spiritual Friendship

Did You Know...?

...that there are seven petitions in the Lord's Prayer which we pray each time we attend Mass?

These seven petitions are outlined in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (2803-2806). The first three petitions carry us towards God (thy name, thy kingdom, thy will), whilst the second series offers up our own expectations ("give us...forgive us...lead us...deliver us".)

These petitions go up from us and concern us at this present time in the present world, in recognition of our need for the loving mercy of God.





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