



# ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

1 Marist Place, Parramatta NSW 2150

(02) 8839 8400 Emergency: 0407 289 360 [www.stpatscathedral.com.au](http://www.stpatscathedral.com.au)

Bishop of Parramatta: Most Rev Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFMConv, DD

## 13 April 2025 - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

### 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/Confessions)

#### 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](mailto:credo@stpatscathedral.com.au)



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### Opportunities not to be missed...

AFTER NEARLY forty days of our Lenten journey, we come to the cusp of Holy Week, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. Though often referred to as simply Palm Sunday, omitting the reference to the Lord's Passion which occupies the Gospel reading for today is to do this day a disservice. This Sunday not only highlights Jesus' entry into Jerusalem but also the very reason he made his way there: for his Passion and, as we celebrate with joy next Sunday, his Resurrection and all that entails for us as a people who would otherwise be lost.

The readings for today's Mass are full of drama, something which has not escaped the notice of artists, film makers and musicians over the centuries. From the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem through to his burial, we experience a range of emotions that rivals just about any other day of the liturgical year. It is a story of triumph to tragedy, though the denouement, the final triumph, awaits us next Sunday on the feast of the Resurrection.

The drama is played out for us very effectively through the liturgies that occupy Holy Week. These gifts of the Church are something I would encourage you all to embrace so as to draw from them the enormous spiritual nourishment that is on offer.

Holy Week is more than the ever-popular Good Friday, which draws huge crowds to churches all over the world. Important and well known as Good Friday may be, there is so much more to Holy Week. Here at the Cathedral, we are privileged to have not only beautifully executed liturgies but also some celebrations that are not found in many other parishes in our diocese. On Monday of Holy Week (14 April) we celebrate the beautiful liturgy called Tenebrae, which sees the cathedral in darkness for the most part, paired with some beautiful readings and music. This is a moving liturgy that sets the tone for the remainder of Holy Week. If you have not yet had the chance to experience Tenebrae, I encourage you to do so. The liturgy, beginning at 7:30pm, lasts a little over an hour.

Wednesday evening sees the celebration of the Chrism Mass, in which the clergy and the faithful from around the diocese gather with Bishop Vincent. The clergy renew their ordination promises, and the oils are consecrated which will be used in various sacraments in the year ahead. This is a Mass which is open to everyone, so please come along!

The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday evening (7:30pm), marks the beginning of the Paschal (Easter) Triduum. We recall the Last Supper and Jesus' great act of servant leadership in washing the feet of his disciples. Friday is dedicated solely to the Lord's Passion, with the Stations of the Cross being prayed from 10:00am, and the Commemoration of the Lord's Passion from 3:00pm.

Holy Saturday (please don't call it Easter Saturday!) is a day of reflection as we remember our Lord's descent to the realm of the dead. This day ends with the holiest and most joyous celebration of the Easter Vigil (6:30pm), marking the beginning of the Easter season. Alleluias and a festival of light mark this Mass, and we rejoice not only in the Lord's resurrection but also the new life that will be afforded those being initiated into the Church.

Plenty of opportunities – please make the most of them!

*Wishing you a blessed Holy Week,*

*Fr Robert*



# THE BULLETIN

## STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

### Dean and Administrator

Very Rev Robert Riedling EV  
8839 8420 - dean@stpatscathedral.com.au

### 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

**Cathedral Parish Manager:** Mili Lee (Mon-Thu)  
8839 8419 or manager@stpatscathedral.com.au

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

**Director of Music:** Bernard Kirkpatrick KSS  
8839 8400 or music@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:** Fr Tom Green  
8839 8400 or assistantpriest@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 **12:00 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!



## PALM SUNDAY – THE TRIUMPH AND THE TURNING

This weekend, we enter the solemn and sacred journey of Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. As we gather, we hold palms in our hands - a symbol of Christ's kingship, but also a paradox of his impending suffering. The crowd that welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem with cries of "Hosanna!" is the same crowd that, just days later, will cry "Crucify him!"

Palm Sunday is rich in contrast: joy and sorrow, celebration and silence, triumph and betrayal. It invites us to sit within the tension of a world that does not fully understand its Saviour. As disciples today, we are challenged to do more than remember; we are invited to enter the mystery.

The liturgical colour changes to red, marking a distinct shift in tone. Red, the colour of blood and fire, signifies both the passion of Christ and the burning love that led him to the cross. It is a visual reminder that the triumphal entry is not an end in itself - it is the beginning of the road to Calvary. Red also reflects the martyrdom of Christ, foreshadowing the sacrifice he willingly embraced out of love for humanity.

This Sunday, as we hold our palms, we are called not merely to wave them in symbolic gesture, but to carry them as a sign of discipleship - to walk with Christ through his suffering, knowing that through the cross comes resurrection.

May our participation in this sacred week deepen our faith, renew our hearts, and prepare us to celebrate the joy of Easter with new understanding.

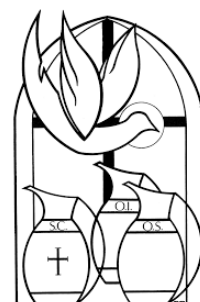
## Chrism Mass – All Are Welcome!

You are invited to attend the Chrism Mass, one of the most significant liturgies in the life of our diocese.

**Date and Time: 7:30pm on Wednesday 16 April in the Cathedral**

At this beautiful and solemn Mass, the Holy Oils used throughout the year in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders are blessed and consecrated by Bishop Vincent. It is also the moment when our priests renew their vows of commitment to priestly service.

Let us all gather in prayer and gratitude for the gift of the priesthood and the sacramental life of the Church!





PLEASE JOIN US FOR  
**HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2025**  
AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL PARRAMATTA



**PALM SUNDAY - 13 APRIL**

8:00am Mass (said Mass)  
9:30am Mass (singing led by cantor)  
11:00am Solemn Pontifical Mass of the Lord's Passion  
with the Cathedral Choir  
6:00pm Mass (singing led by cantor)



**MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK - 14 APRIL**

6:30am and 12:30pm Mass  
11:15am – 12:15pm Reconciliation  
7:30pm Office of Tenebrae



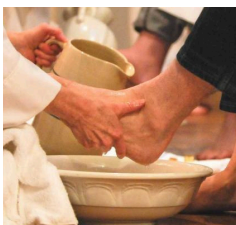
**TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK - 15 APRIL**

6:30am and 12:30pm Mass  
11:15am – 12:15pm Reconciliation



**WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK - 16 APRIL**

6:30am and 12:30pm Mass  
11:15am – 12:15pm Reconciliation  
7:30pm Chrism Mass



**HOLY THURSDAY - 17 APRIL**

9:00am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer  
11:15am – 12:15pm Reconciliation  
7:30pm Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper (Adoration until midnight)  
10:00pm Office of Compline



**GOOD FRIDAY - 18 APRIL**

9:00am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer  
10:00am Stations of the Cross  
10:45am – 12:00noon Reconciliation  
3:00pm Solemn Commemoration of the Passion of the Lord



**HOLY SATURDAY - 19 APRIL**

9:00am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer  
6:30pm The Easter Vigil



**EASTER SUNDAY - 20 APRIL**

8:00am Mass (Said Mass)  
9:30am Mass (Singing led by cantor)  
11:00am Solemn Pontifical Mass of the Resurrection  
with the Cathedral Choir  
6:00pm Mass (Singing led by cantor)

# HOLY WEEK AT ST PATRICK'S

## RCIA and the Sacred Journey into Holy Week



As we enter the most sacred days of our liturgical year - Holy Week - we do so accompanied by the quiet, courageous witness of our RCIA candidates and catechumens, who are preparing to be fully initiated into the life of the Church at the Easter Vigil.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey of faith, reflection, and deep personal transformation. For many months, these individuals have prayerfully discerned God's call, learning about the teachings of the Church, engaging with Scripture, and sharing their stories in a spirit of community. They have experienced moments of conversion, healing, and growing trust in Christ, all supported by the prayers and encouragement of our parish.

Now, as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist, they enter into the heart of Holy Week - walking spiritually with Jesus from his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, through his Passion and death, and into the glory of his Resurrection. Their journey is not simply a personal milestone, but a powerful witness to all of us of what it means to say "yes" to the Christian life.

At the Easter Vigil, the Church will rejoice as our catechumens rise from the waters of Baptism into new life, are anointed with the Holy Spirit, and receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time. Those already baptised in another Christian tradition will be received into full communion and confirmed, completing their journey into the Catholic faith.

To all our RCIA participants:

- |                     |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Amanda Donsaurith | • Ben Jeffries                  |
| • Cassandra Phoon   | • Kathleen (Kath) Hunt          |
| • Molly Yu          | • Lloyd Roach                   |
| • Binod Nepali      | • Shirlee Simmons               |
| • Rebecca Chow      | • Jenna Molesworth              |
| • Max York          | • Maneerat (Victoria) Sangsuwan |
| • Sarah Khoshnow    | • Jack Craythorn                |
| • Candy Khoshnow    | • Thomas Do                     |
| • Karez Khoshnow    | • Stefani Sinanto               |

...we give thanks for your courage, your faith, and your presence among us. Your journey has already enriched our community, and we look forward to celebrating with you as you step fully into the life of the Church.

Please continue to hold them in prayer during these final days of preparation. May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen them, and may the joy of Easter be forever alive in their hearts.

## Invitation to Tenebrae

All are warmly invited to join us for Tenebrae, a beautiful and solemn liturgy of prayer, psalms, and silence, marking the beginning of the Sacred Triduum. Tenebrae will be held on **Monday 14 April at 7:30pm** in the Cathedral.

This ancient service invites us into the mystery of Christ's Passion through Scripture and the gradual extinguishing of light, preparing our hearts for the days ahead.

Come, watch, and pray.

## Hospitality During Holy Week and the Triduum – A Shared Responsibility

*"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so some have entertained angels unaware." (Hebrews 13:2)*

As we prepare to welcome hundreds of parishioners, families, and visitors to the Cathedral for Holy Week and the Easter Triduum, we give thanks for the generous volunteers who will be stationed at the Cathedral entrances to greet and guide people.

However, hospitality is not just the role of a few - it is the responsibility of us all. The most powerful welcome often comes from the person in the pew.

If you see a new face beside you, extend a warm greeting. Offer them a parish bulletin or a liturgy guide so they can follow the celebration more fully. If we happen to run short of printed liturgy guides, consider offering yours and following along using the Holy Week App or the QR code printed on the second page of every liturgy guide. Simply share the code with others so they can access the texts directly on their phone or device.

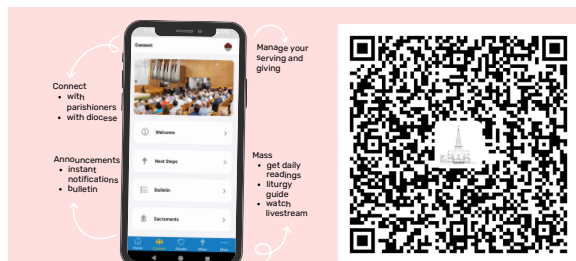
Let's make every effort to ensure that all who walk through our doors during these sacred days feel welcomed, seen, and part of our worshipping community!

## A gentle reminder: Parking during Holy Week and Easter

As we prepare to welcome larger congregations for Holy Week and Easter celebrations, we kindly ask all parishioners and visitors to exercise care, patience, and courtesy when parking on or around the Cathedral grounds.

Please follow the directions of our security guards and volunteers, who are there to ensure everyone's safety and help manage the increased flow of traffic. Your cooperation helps maintain a welcoming and respectful environment for all, especially the elderly, families with young children, and those with mobility needs.

Thank you for your understanding and support.



## 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: [www.stpatscathedral.com.au](http://www.stpatscathedral.com.au)



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# HOLY WEEK AT ST PATRICK'S

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## Calling for help: Good Friday Youth Pilgrimage Breakfast

Each year on Good Friday night, young people from across our Diocese embark on an overnight Youth Pilgrimage from St Patrick's, Blacktown to St Patrick's Cathedral, stopping at various churches along the way. It is a moving journey of faith, prayer, and public witness.

As they arrive early on Holy Saturday morning, it has become our parish tradition to welcome these pilgrims with a warm breakfast - a small but meaningful gesture of hospitality after their long walk.

The response has been overwhelming. We are nearing our targets for items called for. Thank you.

If you have put your name down to help, can you please arrive by **5:00am**. If this is a bit early for you, come later as all help is appreciated, especially at cleanup time!

Your kindness makes a real difference in supporting these young pilgrims and encouraging their faith journey. Thank you for embodying the spirit of Christian service this Easter.

## Church Decorators - Holy Saturday

Following the Pilgrims' Breakfast on Holy Saturday morning (10:00am), we invite volunteers to assist Mili and the team in preparing our sacred spaces for the Easter celebrations.

We are seeking helpers to:

- Arrange flowers
- Decorate the Cathedral, Chapel, and Baptismal Font

This is a wonderful opportunity to contribute your time and creativity in preparing our church to reflect the beauty and joy of the Resurrection.

If you are available to help, please contact Pat in the Parish Office. Your service is deeply appreciated as we ready our Cathedral for this most sacred night.

## Caritas - Project Compassion

ALL BOXES ARE NOW DUE BACK!

This Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. By taking home a Project Compassion donation box or envelope, you'll be answering the Gospel call to care for our global family and walk alongside the most vulnerable.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.



## Easter Vigil Supper - Update

Thank you to all the generous people who have already volunteered to contribute supplies for the supper in the Cloister Function Room following the Easter Vigil.

*When to 'Drop off contributions'*

1. Sweet donations: Options:

- Drop off your donations in the hall on Good Friday;
- before or after the Stations of the Cross or
- the 3:00pm Commemoration of the Passion or
- before the Easter Vigil Mass.

2. Donating trays of sandwiches: These will need to be dropped off *before* Easter Vigil Mass.

Volunteered to Help? Before the Easter Vigil: Check out if help is needed collecting donations. Supper helpers need to leave Mass early to put out the food and juice, make the tea and coffee, and be ready to serve people on arrival. Have questions? Contact the Hospitality Coordinator, Marian Polizzi.

Email: [balmapp5@bigpond.com](mailto:balmapp5@bigpond.com) or Mobile: 0418 978 730

## Special Collections Holy Thursday & Good Friday

As we enter the most sacred days of our liturgical calendar, we invite you to participate not only in prayer and worship but also in acts of charity and solidarity through the traditional Holy Week collections.

### • Holy Thursday – Collection for the Poor

This collection taken during the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday is dedicated to supporting the poor and vulnerable. In past years, these funds have been forwarded to Caritas and St Vincent de Paul, who provide essential services and emergency assistance to those in need both locally and globally. This is a practical way to live out the call to serve, just as Jesus washed the feet of his disciples in humble love.

### • Good Friday – Collection for the Holy Land

The Good Friday Collection is taken up worldwide to support the Catholic communities and sacred sites in the Holy Land. Administered by the Franciscan Custodians of the Holy Land, this collection helps maintain Christian shrines, provide education and housing, and support the dwindling Christian population in the region where Jesus lived, died, and rose again. Your generosity ensures that the Christian presence in the Holy Land remains alive and vibrant.

We thank you in advance for your prayerful support of these important causes.

## St Pat's Matters - Share Your Story

We invite you to contribute to St Pat's Matters! Whether it's a personal reflection, a parish event, or a story of faith in action, your experiences can inspire and engage our community. What may seem ordinary to you could be truly meaningful to others.

Send submissions to: [stpatsmatters@stpatscathedral.com.au](mailto:stpatsmatters@stpatscathedral.com.au)

Deadline: **Saturday, 03 May**. We look forward to hearing from you!

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# PARISH NOTICES

## Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration - 27 April

You are warmly invited to join us in celebrating the Feast of Divine Mercy on Sunday, 27 April 2025 at St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Place—a special moment in this Jubilee Year of Hope.

Program Highlights:

1:30pm – Sacrament of Confession available (until 4:00pm)  
1:30pm – 2:45pm – Chaplet of Divine Mercy & reflections from the Diary of St Faustina  
2:45pm – Silent Adoration and preparation for the procession  
3:00pm – Eucharistic Procession through Church St and Victoria Rd  
4:00pm – Holy Mass, followed by a shared fellowship meal in the Cloister Hall

Let us gather as a community to seek the Lord's mercy and share in the joy and hope of this extraordinary feast. All are welcome!

## Feast of Divine Mercy Sunday 27 April: Volunteers needed - URGENT

In order to host this event successfully, we will need the help and support of volunteers to assist with

- crowd control;
- kitchen and cleaning;
- choir and
- help with the procession.

If you are able to volunteer kindly call 0415 998 310.

We also need 60 children to hold the pictures of the Blessed Virgin Mary during the procession. It will be a solemn event. Thank you!

## Lenten Food Drive for Jesuit Refugee Service

This Lent, we are supporting Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) through a food drive to assist refugees and people seeking asylum in our community. JRS provides essential services, including emergency food relief, housing support, legal assistance, and advocacy for those forced to flee their homelands due to conflict, persecution, or hardship. Many individuals and families supported by JRS face ongoing financial insecurity and have limited access to government assistance.

Donations can be placed in the allocated space in the chapel or given in to the parish office. **Last day will be Monday 14 April.** We need:

**basmati rice, cooking oil, dried red lentils, laundry detergent, dishwashing detergent and long life milk.**



Thank you for sharing the love of Christ with those in need this Lent.

## Farewell from Mili Lee – Cathedral Parish Manager

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."— Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Dear Parishioners,

After much prayer and discernment, I have made the decision to step down from my role as Cathedral Parish Manager, with my final working day being Wednesday, 30 April 2025.

St Patrick's Cathedral has been my spiritual home for over 30 years, with 16 of those years spent in service as a member of staff. It has been a profound privilege to journey with the St Pat's community and to witness the life of faith expressed so beautifully here.

I am deeply grateful for your kindness, encouragement, and support throughout the years — through both joyful celebrations and times of challenge.

Thank you for the many ways you have shared in the mission of the Cathedral. Please be assured of my continued prayers, and I ask for yours as I begin a new season of ministry.

With heartfelt gratitude,  
Mili Lee

## Mili's Farewell - Diary claimer

Yes, after sixteen years of dedicated service, Mili Lee has resigned from the office of St Patrick's Cathedral. I will leave the details for her to share above.

In the meantime the Cathedral staff is organising a gathering in the Cloister Function room on **Thursday 24 April at 6:30pm** and you are invited to attend. We ask that you 'bring a plate' so we can feast and farewell together.

An 'event' will be created via the app where we encourage you to RSVP. We will also send out an email. Any enquiries, please call the office and speak to Donna or Pat. *Fr Robert*

## Fr Joseph Nguyen

At the risk of overdoing news about staff moving on, I wish to let you know that Bishop Vincent has appointed Fr Joseph Nguyen as Assistant Priest at the Parish of Granville. He will also be continuing his chaplaincy work with the Vietnamese community. I'm happy to say that Fr Joseph will still be with us for a little while, as this move does not take effect until 16 June. I will announce plans for a suitable farewell for Fr Joseph closer to the time of his departure.

*Fr Robert*

## 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.

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# DIOCESAN NEWS

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## Catholic Outlook Magazine Easter | Autumn 2025

The latest edition of Catholic Outlook magazine is now available! This free quarterly publication keeps you connected with news and events across the Diocese of Parramatta.

In this Lent & Easter issue, discover highlights from the Jubilee Year, Bishop Vincent's Easter message, inspiring local stories—including Project Compassion, and a parish profile from Kellyville.

Copies will be distributed by Sunday, 06 April. If you haven't received one by then, please let us know.

Take a copy home this weekend—and help spread the word!

## Positions Vacant

**Facilities Coordinator:** The Facilities Coordinator will play a critical role in ensuring the smooth operation of the Dioceses physical environment. This position involves overseeing the day-to-day management of the building, equipment, and grounds, ensuring that all facilities are maintained and compliant with AU safety regulations. The Facilities Coordinator works closely with other departments, vendors, and contractors to create a safe, efficient, and pleasant workplace for employees and visitors alike. More details at: [parracatholic.org/about/jobs/](http://parracatholic.org/about/jobs/)

## Nominations open for the 2025 Papal & Diocesan Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals—both religious and lay—who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 31 May 2025. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit [parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/](http://parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/)

## Bookings now open: Diocese of Parramatta's Adult 35 years+ Jubilee Pilgrimage

Join a life-changing 19-day pilgrimage from 07 to 25 September 2025, exploring sacred sites in Greece, Turkey, and Rome. Open to adults aged 35 and over, this journey follows St. Paul's path and the early Church, culminating in the Jubilee Year of Hope in Rome. Bookings close on 02 May 2025, with a deposit of \$800 required at the time of booking. The final payment is due by 07 July 2025. Don't miss this incredible faith experience. For more information and to register, visit [parracatholic.org/jubileepilgrimage2025/](http://parracatholic.org/jubileepilgrimage2025/).

## Bookings now open: Diocese of Parramatta's Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage

Young people (18-35 years) across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are invited to embark on an 18-day pilgrimage to the Jubilee of Youth in Rome from 19 July – 05 August 2025. The journey includes a visit to Greece, tracing the footsteps of Saint Paul, before heading to Rome for the celebration. To book your spot or for more information visit [parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025](http://parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025)

## Study of Luke's Gospel with Dr Laurie Woods: Fridays 02–30 May

Join us for an enriching study of Luke's Gospel, led by Dr Laurie Woods and hosted by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD). Sessions will take place each Friday in May from 9:30am to 1:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. All parishioners are welcome to attend. For more information or to RSVP by 30 April, contact [ccd.training@parracatholic.org](mailto:ccd.training@parracatholic.org)

## Music Workshop 'Exploring Music for the Solemnities': 08 May

Musicians from the Diocese of Parramatta and beyond are invited to attend this workshop led by MET Music Formation Facilitator Eric Grella. The workshop will outline suggested hymns and explore music new and old for the many Solemnities and Feasts that occur in the period of Eastertide. Bring any music related questions along on Thursday 08 May to the Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown at 7:00pm. Please RSVP by 02 May via [parracatholic.org/events/OFW](http://parracatholic.org/events/OFW) . For enquiries, please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) or 0488 000 211.

## 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](mailto:tribunal@parracatholic.org).

## Lenten Mission - Ascension Prayer Group

### "Christ Crucified"

*"We preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God."*

— 1 Corinthians 1:23–24

Join the Ascension Prayer Group for a special Lenten Mission evening of prayer, reflection, and renewal.

**Date:** Thursday, 10 April from 7:15pm – 9:15pm

**Location:** 45 Mount St, Bonnyrigg Heights, NSW

**Guest Speaker:** Abraham George

Spiritual Renewal Ministry, CCR, Diocese of Parramatta

All are welcome to attend this evening of deep spiritual encounter as we prepare our hearts for Holy Week.

**Contact for more information:**

Susan D'Cruz – 0415 342 672/ Trudi Simpson – 0414 608 538

## Varroville MGL Sisters Behold Day Retreat: 26 April

"BEHOLD, I am making all things new" (Revelation 21:5). Take a day to reflect on the incredible gift offered to us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and allow God's love and mercy to bring new life. To book or for more information visit, [trybooking.com/CZPVW](http://trybooking.com/CZPVW)

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# PRAYER INTENTIONS

## We pray for...

### RCIA team, elect and candidates

**Sick:** All the sick, Patricia Pinto, Joshua Neely, Jeanette Uvero, Thi Bloan Nguyen, Teresa Van Tilburg, Greg Dunn, Barbara Chaplin, Joshua & Andrea Nealy, Pat Phelan, Gabriel, Fr Paul Gurr, Rosana Lee, Pedro Romulo, Ryan I Limlingan, Gareth Huynh, Michael Lilley, Felicitas Appathurai, Martina Galea, Fr Bob Bossini, Ray Love, Sharon Webb

**Special Intentions:** Veronica, Hanne Bitar, Raveen, Naleen, Nicole & Patrick Slatter, Aaron Bugo, Tian, Maxmillian Lovett, Raveen, Pamela Coleman, Michele O'Donnell, Rose Delmar, Jundee Delmar, Bosco, Miguel Custodio, Paul Peters

**Recently Deceased:** Kit Fong Leung, George Abela, Zhilan Wu, Anthony, Madeleine & Rosalee, Phil Davies, Lydia Pallaya, Cheng Hieng Tan, Joan Brady, Ng Anie, Christine de Neve, Edward Popa, Joan Brady, Mark Tramoli

**Deceased:** YT & Deanna Hsu, Fanny F Ortiz, Eduardo Burgos, Joe Saldanha, Leti Vas, Lucy D'Mello, Philip Vas, Agapito Antonio, Danny & Chantal, Beatriz Morales, Kathleen Donovan, Elias Koura, Nancye Benzie, Jose Barredo, D Herft

**Anniversaries:** Pino, Regina Figueira, J Venancio Ramirez, Walter Xavier, Robert Hutchinson, Frank Agostino, Pasquale Altamore, Marie Melide, Germelina Montemayor, Constancio, Juan & Crisanta Valdez, Aloma Pospischil, Anita Ramirez

**Perpetuals:** Joan Brady, Rudy Rupac, Frank Agostino, 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, John Ryan, 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...

**Willow Waugh, Sime Popic  
& Kensija Popic-O'Donnell**

## WEDDINGS



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

**Bianca Sakr & James Wardan  
Hanin Saide & Fouad Semaan**

## POPE FRANCIS'

### Prayer Intention for April



### *For the use of the new technologies*

"Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times."

From Pope Francis...

*Bluesky post dated  
07 April*

"Let us pray together for peace in martyred Ukraine, in the Middle East, in Sudan and South Sudan, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, in Myanmar, tried by a recent earthquake, and in Haiti, where violence continues to rage, with two religious women killed several days ago."

## Saint of the Week

**17 April - Blessed Clara Gambacorta (1362-1419), Nun and Widow**

Blessed Clara was born in Pisa in 1362, married at the age of twelve and widowed at the age of fifteen. She longed to join a religious order, but her family objected. When at last they relented, upon the advice of Saint Catherine of Siena she received the Dominican habit at the Monastery of the Holy Cross in Pisa. In 1385 along with Blessed Maria Mancini she founded the Monastery of Saint Dominic in Pisa where regular observance was strictly maintained. She was noted for her great prudence and charity, especially in pardoning the assassin of her father and brothers. She prized study and urged her sisters to do likewise. She died on April 17, 1419.

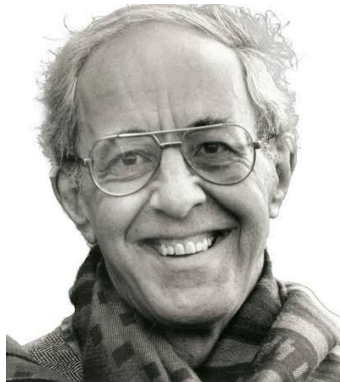


*Information: Universalis*

### “Quote of the Week”

“If prayer leads us into a deeper unity with the compassionate Christ, it will always give rise to concrete acts of service. And if concrete acts of service do indeed lead us to a deeper solidarity with the poor, the hungry, the sick, the dying and the oppressed, they will always give rise to prayer.”

**Henri Nouwen**  
(1932-1996)  
Priest, writer and  
theologian



### Did You Know...?

**...that Holy Week offers numerous opportunities to prepare for the celebration of Easter?**

You have only to look at the schedule of Masses and liturgies to see how many opportunities there are to actively participate in this most sacred time on the Christian calendar. From Tenebrae on Monday of Holy Week, to the regular Masses from Monday to Wednesday, the Chrism Mass, the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer throughout the Triduum, through to the Mass of the Lord's Supper, Stations of the Cross and the Commemoration of the Lord's Passion and the great Easter Vigil, there is no excuse not to be well prepared for the Sunday of the Resurrection!



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# The Kids' Bulletin

**Palm/Passion Sunday**  
**April 13th, 2025**



### *What did Jesus do for me?*

**Use the code to colour in the picture and find out!**

- |                 |         |         |
|-----------------|---------|---------|
| • skin colour   | red     | M blue  |
| ○ a dark colour | □ green | + brown |

# Holy Thursday Unscramble

*What happened on Holy Thursday?  
Unscramble the words to fill in the blanks  
and use the letters in circles to fill in the last blanks.*

The day \_\_\_\_\_ (EFROBF) He died, Jesus  
went to celebrate the \_\_\_\_\_  
(SPSVROEA) with His \_\_\_\_\_.  
(ISLEPSCDI)

During the meal, Jesus began to wash their feet, but Peter would not let Him. Jesus told him, "Now        (UOY) don't understand what I'm doing, but                                  (DRAWFTRAE) you will." Peter replied, "You will        (VNEER) wash my feet!" Jesus said, "If I do not wash you then you will have no part with Me." Then Peter said, "Then Lord, wash not just my feet but my head and        (DNSHA) too!"

Then Jesus took            (EADRB) and made it into His Body and took wine and made it into His Blood.

This  (STLA) Supper was the first Mass.  
Jesus wants to  (CMOE) to us in Holy  
Communion and wants us to go  (TOU) and do  
His work in the  (LWROD)

Jesus finished His work by offering His  
\_\_\_\_\_ to God the Father for us on the cross.



# Holy Week

Today is the beginning of Holy Week, when we specially remember the last days of Jesus and His death on the cross.

The Sunday before Jesus died, He came riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. All the people cheered for Him. They laid down their cloaks and palm branches on the road to honour Him. That was Palm Sunday.

On the first Holy Thursday Jesus offered the first Mass ever. He took bread and wine and changed them into His Body and Blood and gave them to His Apostles to eat and drink. The same thing happens at every Mass when the priest says Jesus' words at the Consecration. We don't see the bread or wine change, but they are still really Jesus, offering Himself to God for us.

Good Friday is the day that Jesus died on the cross. The leaders of the Jews got the people to turn against Him. After an unfair trial, Jesus was whipped harshly and made to carry a cross up a hill. Then He was nailed to the cross and hung there until He died. Only His mother and a few of His friends were with Him.

Jesus was God and could have stopped the people from killing Him, but He chose to die for you. Because we sin, we don't deserve to go to Heaven. Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins so that we could go to Heaven. That's why it's called "Good" Friday! What is something special you can do on Good Friday to make up for your sins and say "thank you" to Jesus?



Unscramble: before, Passover, disciples, you, afterward, never, hands, bread, last, come, our, world, BODY AND BLOOD.

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)

## Good Friday Word-Find

See if you can find all  
the words in CAPITALS  
in the puzzle.

Use the left over letters  
to fill in the blanks.



J C L O T H E S H E  
M A R Y D I E D I O S  
C R O W N J U N U S  
J R S I M O N E S R H  
E Y S D T H O R N S O  
W R I K I N G U A E S  
S O L D M I E R S I J A  
P D S F O H I L L E N  
E A R W H I P P E D N  
R O M A N M E M A S

On Good Friday morning, JESUS, who had been arrested the night before, was judged by Pontius Pilate, the ROMAN governor. Pilate had him WHIPPED. Then to make fun of Him the SOLDIERS made a CROWN of THORNS and put it on His head. They threw a purple cloth on Him and beat Him with RODS, saying, "Hail, KING of the JEWS!" Then Pilate had Jesus brought out in front of the people and asked them what they wanted to do with Him. The people, who had welcomed Him into JERUSALEM a few days before with their HOSANNAS, now shouted that He should be crucified.

So Jesus was made to CARRY a heavy CROSS out of the city and up a big HILL. Because He was so weak from being beaten, a man named SIMON of Cyrene was forced to help Him. The soldiers tore off Jesus' CLOTHES and attached Him to the cross with NAILS through His hands and feet.

Jesus offered His life for our SINS. He hung on the cross for three HOURS until He DIED. Nearby were His mother MARY, JOHN the Apostle, and Mary MAGDALEN. After He died a soldier stuck a SPEAR into His side to be sure He was dead.

Did you know that at every MASS we re-offer Jesus sacrifice on the cross in an unbloody way on the altar?



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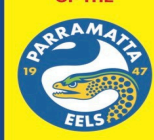


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