



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

11 May 2025 - Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C)

Mass Schedule

WEEKENDS

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

8:00am Mass (No Adoration or 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



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"...no one will ever steal them from me."

THE FOURTH SUNDAY of Easter is often referred to as "Good Shepherd Sunday" because, regardless of the year, we always hear an excerpt from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel, much of which is focused on the imagery of a shepherd caring for his flock. On only one Sunday in the three-year cycle of the lectionary do we hear Jesus calling himself the "Good Shepherd" but his love for his people, as a shepherd for his sheep, is evident in what we hear in the Gospel every year on this Sunday.

A shepherd is concerned with not only ensuring that the sheep have enough good pasture for grazing and access to clean water, but also that they are safe from predators, undoubtedly a concern for shepherds in times when there were no enclosures or modern weaponry for defence. Shepherds were concerned with not only animal predators seeking to harm sheep but also, one imagines, people seeking to steal the sheep.

In this context, the words of Jesus in today's short Gospel, are comforting. In summary, Jesus knows us intimately, we are given eternal life, we will never be lost, nor will we be stolen from Jesus. Yet, as we hear at the beginning of today's Gospel, this is dependent upon us listening to Jesus' voice. Though we cannot be "stolen" from Jesus' flock, this does not preclude us from leaving the flock of the Church of our own accord. We are given the gift of free will and can exercise it as we please, though there are consequences for the choices we make.

I would think that very few people actually make a conscious choice to leave the Church. I am not saying it is unknown, but I believe that many people who are no longer active in their faith have simply drifted away. It is an insidious process, not limited to matters of faith, of course. We miss a Sunday Mass, either through choice or, more likely, through circumstances beyond our control, and whilst initially feeling bad about it, the busyness of our lives pushes that feeling to the back of our minds and then one missed Mass becomes another, and another, and so on. Before long, other aspects of an active faith are abandoned and one's former life, noteworthy for its Christian character, is now indistinguishable from the lives of others. We have not hearkened to the voice of the Shepherd.

This calls for vigilance on our part. We need to regularly look at our faith lives and ask ourselves how close we are to Christ. What is the health of my prayer-life? Am I engaged when I am at Mass? How are my relationships looking? Do I have care for those in need? Is my faith life evident to others? Does it bear fruit?

If we believe that we have moved away from Christ, we need not be afraid to reverse that movement. Christ is always there waiting for us to turn towards him once again.

Let us ensure that we do what we can to stay close to Christ, the Good Shepherd. May we heed his words today: "The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me."

Wishing you and your families a blessed Easter season,

Fr Robert



THE BULLETIN

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Dean and Administrator
Very Rev Robert Riedling EV
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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

Cathedral Parish Manager: (Awaiting appointment)
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: Contact Parish Office
8839 8400 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!

A SPECIAL BLESSING FOR

Mothers' Day



To all the wonderful mothers of our parish community,

On this special day, we pause to honour the enduring love, boundless patience, and strength of all mothers, celebrating the invaluable role you play in nurturing and shaping lives. As we gather together in worship and fellowship, we extend our heartfelt gratitude and prayers to each of you.

May the Lord bless you abundantly, guiding you with his wisdom and enveloping you in his everlasting love. As you reflect his love in the daily sacrifices and the gentle care you provide, may you feel uplifted and supported in every moment of motherhood.

We also turn our thoughts to Mary, Mother of God, a beacon of obedience and faith, who nurtured our Saviour with a pure heart. May her example inspire you and her prayers uphold you as you continue the sacred journey of motherhood.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for all mothers.

Wishing you a blessed and joyous Mothers' Day!

Habemus PAPAM!



We woke on Friday morning to the news that a Pope had been elected on the fourth ballot of the conclave which had assembled the previous day. Cardinal Robert Prevost, an American who had spent much of his ministry in Peru, took the name Leo, making him the fourteenth Pope to bear that name. Pope Leo is a member of the Augustinians, the same religious order that runs the parish of Holy Spirit, St Clair, in our diocese.

Over time we will, of course, learn more about our new Pope, but in the meantime let us pray for him, that his leadership of the Church will help all Christian people to appreciate their dignity as children of God, spurring them on to live out their baptismal calling to spread the Good News of the Risen Christ.

PARISH NOTICES

New Cathedral Parish MC

It gives me great pleasure to announce the appointment of Jorel Mateo as the Cathedral Parish Master of Ceremonies. Many of you, especially those who attend the Solemn Mass on Sundays or who come regularly to diocesan events held here, will have seen Jorel and at least know his face. Jorel has a lot of experience in this role and MCs regularly at the 11:00am Solemn Mass and also helps out at larger events when Bishop Vincent is the main celebrant. Jorel is also taking over the administration side of things by putting together the rosters for the various ministries that are needed on Sundays. I thank him for graciously accepting this role and know that you will be supportive of him as he meets the challenges which are a part of this vital role in a cathedral parish like ours. *Fr Robert*

Parish pastoral council update

At our most recent meeting we have been talking about the weekly playgroup, the successful Alpha pilot program, ideas for a Marian grotto, and the Cathedral social media communication channels. We've also spent extended time discussing several initiatives of the social justice group who have been exploring how to assist people in need.

We've reviewed the responses to our survey of the parish ministry leaders and have tasked council members to liaise with them on how we can help.

One common theme from our ministry leaders has been the need for spiritual formation. Leaders are also wanting to invite more parishioners to be involved in ways suited to their gifts.

This was the last meeting attended by Mili in her ex-officio role as parish manager and the council passed a formal vote of thanks to recognise her contribution since the PPC was re-established in mid-2024. We are grateful for her vision and practical support and wish her many blessings.

We are pleased to hear your thoughts in person or by email. Please also remember us in your prayers.

Parramatta Clergy Residential: 20-23 May

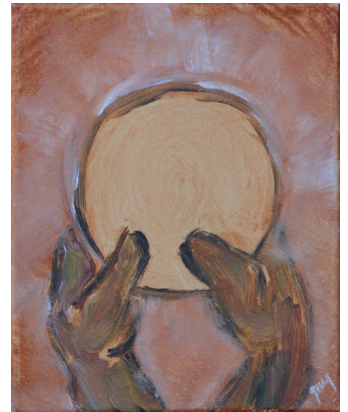
Prior notice of the Parramatta clergy residential that will be happening from Tuesday 20 May - Friday 23 May on the Central Coast. Most of the clergy of the diocese will be in attendance at this gathering meaning that for those few days, there will be restricted celebrations of Mass throughout the diocese. I hope to have some news next weekend about the best options for cathedral parishioners during these few days. Thank you for your cooperation during this time.

Sacraments of Initiation Recommencing

The second session of the Sacrament of Eucharist will take place on **Monday, 19 May at 7:30pm** in the Parish Hall.

Please note that this is a 'parents only' session. Attendance at all sessions is compulsory for those who have registered for SOI 2024/2025.

We look forward to your participation as we embark on this sacred journey together.



Parish Manager's Role

We have begun the process of putting together a job description and responsibilities for a role that seeks to replace that held by Mili Lee for such a long time. I am expecting that the process from now until a replacement for Mili is found will take a few weeks. This process is being undertaken by members of the Parish Pastoral Council in conjunction with the HR personnel from the Chancery. In the meantime, please be patient as we do without Mili for a few weeks! Pat and Donna are doing a wonderful job "filling in the gaps" for the interim and I know that you will be understanding if there are any hold ups or difficulties during the process to find a new person for this role. *Fr Robert*



Concert in the Cathedral

Friday 23 May | 8:00pm - 10:00pm
St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

Experience an evening of breathtaking sacred music in the stunning surrounds of St Patrick's Cathedral.

Join River City Voices and the Western Sydney Philharmonic for a one-night-only performance featuring the Australian premiere of Amaral Vieira's Stabat Mater — a deeply moving and powerful work by the acclaimed Brazilian composer.

The program also includes Vivaldi's beloved Gloria (RV 589), a choral masterpiece, performed with sparkling orchestral colour.

Tickets: <https://events.humanitix.com/vivaldi-and-vieira/tickets>

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.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

Low Cost Counselling Services

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provides low cost and affordable counselling services for individuals seeking support. Whether you're looking for general guidance or assistance with specific challenges like grief, loss, or family matters, Catholic Care is here to help. Call Catholic Care on 8843 2500 for a friendly chat today.

Commissioning Mass for Liturgical Ministers: 13 May

In this Jubilee Year of Hope all liturgical ministers - readers, servers and extra ordinary ministers are invited to join us for our Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers. Families and friends are also invited. This celebration will take place at **7:30pm on Tuesday 13 May**, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. To register your attendance and guests please visit parracatholic.org/events/liturgical-ministers-commissioning-mass/

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.

Campion College introduces The Compass Program

Campion College is proud to introduce The Compass Program. Through workshops, mentoring, and industry connections, students will integrate their liberal arts education with practical skills and career discernment, ensuring a confident transition from tertiary study to career. Learn more at <https://www.campion.edu.au/why-campion/career-prospects/>

Abortion Bill - NSW Parliament

You may be aware that there is a bill before the NSW Parliament that will have negative impacts on Catholic-based healthcare in our state. It will affect the careers of those whose consciences do not permit them to carry out abortions, as well as institutions such as Catholic-run hospitals. Should you wish to make your voice known in opposition to this bill, contact the State Member for Parramatta, Donna Davis. As I understand it, this bill is due to come before the Lower House shortly, having passed the Upper House a few days ago. *Fr Robert*



Pentecost Retreat: A Day of Spiritual Renewal

In celebration of Pentecost, we invite you to join us for a special day-long retreat designed to deepen your understanding and experience of this profound feast. Pentecost marks a pivotal moment in our faith — the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles, empowering them to spread the Gospel fearlessly.

“As they prayed, the house where they were assembled rocked. From this time, they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to proclaim the word of God fearlessly.” (Acts 4:31)

This year we are changing the format to include an endorsement of a Pentecost Retreat called “UNLEASHING THE POWER OF PENTECOST: A RETREAT GUIDE ON THE HOLY SPIRIT.” The retreat format will be as follows:

1. Introduction (4-minute video)
2. 1st Meditation (15-minute video) plus group discussion/reflection
3. 2nd Meditation (15-minute video) plus group discussion/reflection
4. Conference (25-minute video) plus personal reflection time.

The resources are presented via media by Fr John Bartunek (spiritual supporter on the movie ‘The Passion of the Christ’.

Date/Time: Saturday, 07 June from 10:00am to 3:00pm.

Venue: Cloister Function Room.

Come and experience a day filled with prayer and enriching talks to explore the meaning of Pentecost more deeply. Let us gather as a community to invite the Holy Spirit into our lives anew.

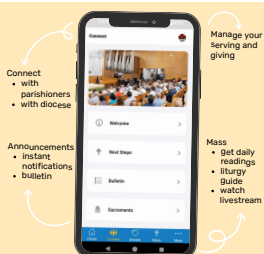
We look forward to sharing this day of spiritual renewal with you.

Morning tea and lunch will be provided. To help us better prepare for the day, please RSVP to secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au by **03 June**.

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



PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for...

Sick: Rita Paolini, Nelka Popic, Marian Polizzi, all the sick, Patricia Pinto, Joshua Neely, Jeanette Uvero, Thi Bloan Nguyen, 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: Mili Lee & family, Tian, Naleen, Raveen, Victor Rex, Veronica, Hanne Bitar, Nicole & Patrick Slatter, Aaron Bugo, Maxmillian Lovett, Raveen, Pamela Coleman, Michele O'Donnell, Rose Delmar, Jundee Delmar, Paul Peters

Recently Deceased: Anne Marie Barrett-Brown, Pope Francis, Rodrigo M. Valencia, Teresa Van Tilburg, Kit Fong Leung, George Abela, Zhilan Wu, Anthony, Madeleine & Rosalee, Phil Davies, Lydia Pallaya, Cheng Hieng Tan, Joan Brady, Ng Anie, Christine de Neve

Deceased: Patricia Pinto, Noelene Saldanha, Daisy Menezes, 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

Anniversaries: Aidrian O'Domhnaill, Maria Davino, Doyle Dcosta, Pino, Regina Figueira, J Venancio Ramirez, Walter Xavier, Robert Hutchinson, Frank Agostino, Pasquale Altamore, Marie Melide, Germelina Montemayor, Constancio

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...

**Javier Sioson, Aubrey Crofts
Skyler Valdez, Jamison Phuah &
Lexi Woods**

WEDDINGS



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

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

POPE LEO'S

Prayer Intention for May



For working conditions

"Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanised."

From the Vatican...

*"X" post dated
09 May*

Pope Leo XIV: "Peace be with you! Dearest brothers and sisters, this was the first greeting of the risen Christ, the good shepherd, who gave His life for the flock of God. I, too, would like this greeting of peace to enter your hearts, to reach your families and all people, wherever they are; and all the peoples, and all the earth: Peace be with you."

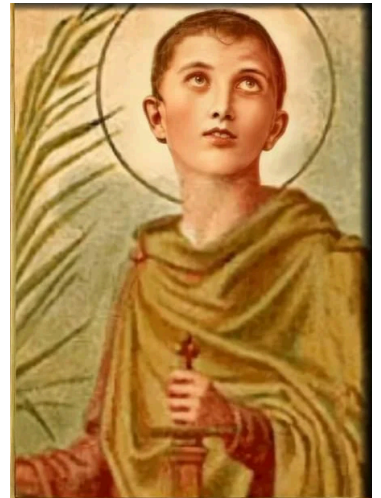
Saint of the Week

12 May - St Pancras (c.289 - c.304), Martyr

This Roman martyr is buried on the Aurelian Way just outside Rome. Some legends say that he was born in the East, orphaned, brought to Rome by an uncle, and martyred at the age of fourteen, but there is no particular reason to believe them.

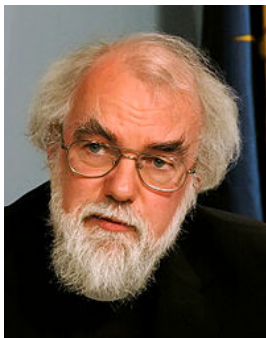
The cult of St Pancras spread widely in the sixth century: in England, the first church that St Augustine built in Canterbury was dedicated to him.

Information: Universalis



“Quote of the Week”

“The real problem in prayer is not the absence of God but the absence of us. It’s not that God isn’t there; it’s (nine times out of ten) that we’re not. We are all over the place, entertaining memories, fantasies, anxieties. God is simply there in unending patience, saying to us, “So when are you actually going to arrive? When are you going to sit and listen, to stop roaming about, and be present?”

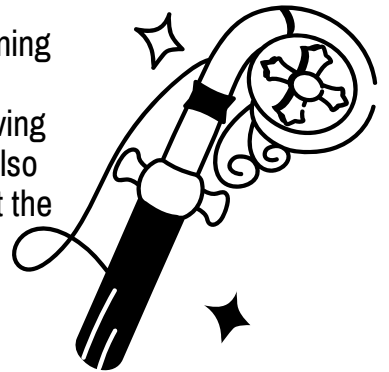


Rowan Williams
(b.1950)
Former Archbishop of
Canterbury
*Being Disciples: Essentials of
the Christian Life*

Did You Know...?

...that the crozier used by bishops in many Christian churches is shaped like a traditional shepherd’s crook?

The crozier, also called a pastoral staff, is the sign that the bishop is the shepherd of the flock of God, and there are regulations about when and how it is to be held in religious celebrations. For example, the bishop only holds the crozier in processions, when listening of the Gospel, when preaching, and while giving blessings. The bishop also holds the crozier so that the open side is facing the congregation.



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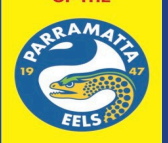


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