

24 August 2025 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

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

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: Currently in recess

Credo Youth Ministries

Contact the office or find information on

Facebook: credo.stpats

Email: credo@stpatscathedral.com.au

Friends of St Patrick's Cemetery:

stpatscemeterynp.com



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Do you know Jesus or just know of Jesus...?

EVEN THOUGH she died almost thirty years ago, Princess Diana is still talked about today. It was around this time of year in 1997 that her tragic death occurred. I was living in Ireland at the time and there was this great outpouring of grief. There were people close to me that took days off work to grieve, and to be honest the extent of their grief really surprised me. She certainly seemed to be a lovely person but people acted as though they really knew her, and the truth is, they didn't know her, they just knew of her, they knew about her, they didn't really know her at all.



In today's Gospel Jesus is making a very similar point. He is saying that just because someone claims to have heard Him speak, or has had some contact with Him one way or another, does not mean that they know Him, and if they don't actually know him, then they will not be invited into eternal life.

So, what about us, do we know Jesus, or do we just know of Jesus? Well, the answer is in our lives. Is our life lived in a relationship with Jesus? When St Luke talks about a relationship with Jesus, he talks in terms of being a disciple. We need to ask: would people describe me as being a Catholic, or would they describe me as being "a disciple of Jesus"? Someone who simply attends Mass is not necessarily a disciple. A disciple is someone who follows, learns from, and is transformed by Jesus, someone who is committed to His teachings and has joined in His mission. We could have a great congregation full of people, but only a few might be disciples – as Jesus says, many will knock on the door claiming to know Him, but only a few will be invited to the feast.

So, how do we become a disciple? Well, it starts with an encounter. We must pray for a personal encounter with Jesus. Jesus will always answer that prayer, He longs to answer that prayer. Then we begin a journey together. This will be a tough journey, as Jesus tells us - the road of discipleship is narrow. We must listen carefully to His Word, strive to live out what He asks of us, and imitate His example. The second reading tells us that a degree of suffering is inevitable for any real disciples of Jesus. Along the way, Jesus will have to knock a few corners off us. The Good News is that we don't have to do any of this by ourselves or in our own strength – once we are in relationship with Him, He will guide us, comfort us, strengthen us, through His Holy Spirit. And He offers us Himself, through His Holy Eucharist, to strengthen us for the journey, and at the end of that journey is the heavenly feast, an invitation into eternal life.

This week let us ask ourselves, are we part of the many that think they know Jesus, but really only know about Jesus, or are we part of the few that are truly in relationship with Him? If we have not yet encountered Jesus, let us pray deeply for that encounter, and begin our journey of discipleship through the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Let us choose the narrow road...

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,

Deacon David

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

Priest in Residence

Rev Dr Philip Alesin

Office Hours: 9:00am - 4:00pm weekdays

Parish Coordinator: Pascarl El-Hage (Mon - Fri) 8839 8419 or coordinator(@stpatscathedral.com.au

Parish Secretary: Donna Missio (Mon, Wed, Fri) 8839 8400 or enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au

Parish Secretary: Pat Preca (Tue, Thu, Fri) 8839 8412 or secretary@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: Jorel Mateo 8839 8400 or liturgy(@stpatscathedral.com.au

Youth Coordinator: Fr Tom Green 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, at around 12:45pm. 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!

Bishop's Fathers' Day Appeal

This Fathers' Day, as we thank the father figures in our lives, let's also honour our spiritual fathers — the priests who nurture our faith. Even after stepping back from administration, they continue to serve in faithful ways: offering sacraments, celebrating Masses, hearing confessions, assisting at services, and serving as chaplains in aged care.

Your generosity helps ensure our ageing priests receive the care, comfort, and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives.

Additional collections will be taken up at the weekend Mass of 06/07 September. Please give generously at paracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan the QR code. Thank you.



Spring Bazaar - 14 September - 10:00am - 2:00pm

** Raffle tickets available after all Masses this weekend **

It would assist us enormously if you would take a book home. This will also help with the queue! Books will need to be returned by 12 September.

We are now accepting donations of pre-loved or new goods, plants, preserves, books, records or craft items for sale.

Contact the office before arrival.



Stalls will include but not limited to:

Face Painting; Plants; White Elephant; Books; Cakes, Tea & Coffee; Hot Food; Ice Cream and a few more.

Volunteers: We need plenty! Call the office to put your name down.

You can help for as little or as much as you like. Thank you! Call or text Dianne or call the parish office on 8839 8400. All proceeds go to "Open Arms".

Dianne Starkey (Group Co-ordinator, 0408161443), Sebastian Villafana (Deputy Co-ordinator), Angela Hansford, Macnos Mutano and Malcolm Freame

OPEN ARMS OF ST PATRICK'S PARISH

Thank you to all parishioners and others who have been supporting the parish initiative to sponsor a refugee family to be welcomed into the Parramatta community.

This is one way of following the path Jesus laid out for us to offer acceptance and welcome to all, providing them with dignity, stability, friendship and practical support. The fundraising has been so please continue to contribute in any way you can, either financially or with practical support. Please support the parish's efforts through the QR code.



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Liturgy Ministry Formation Courses

The Office for Worship for the Diocese of Parramatta is currently offering formation for multiple ministries including Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested in undertaking any of these Ministries please see the Liturgy Coordinator, Jorel (liturgy@stpatscathedral.com.au).

Parish Pastoral Council update

At our August meeting Fr Robert invited the team to offer comments on a draft Charter governing collaborative administrative relationships between the Parish and the Chancery. The Charter is designed to be a framework for effective communication, accountability, clear decision-making, and timely responses. It covers people and culture, information technology and communications, finance, records and archives, property and facilities, and risk management.

We also discussed the very successful Alpha program following the Holy Spirit weekend, and the various initiatives already pursued by the social justice ministry and their future planning.

Preparation is underway for a spiritual formation opportunity for ministry leaders and volunteers. We are also hoping that brief talks from ministry leaders at the end of some Masses will highlight for everyone the amazing breadth of parish activities which are putting our faith into action.

Send us your thoughts or speak with us in person: Kerry Giumelli (Chair), Claire Pospischil (Deputy Chair), Aileen Bernardo, Martin Graham (Secretary), Susanna Loto'aniu, Helena Roumanus, Anne Stanton, John Starkey, with (ex officio) Fr Robert, Fr Tom, Dn Dave, and Pascarl El-Hage.

ppc@stpatscathedral.com.au

Jam making - Join us!



A preserving night has been scheduled for **Thursday 28 August from 5:00pm** in the presbytery kitchen. The night will be making preserves for sale at the Spring Bazaar in September to support the Open Arms of St Patrick's group. All welcome!

Please contact Claire via socialjustice@stpatscathedral.com.au

Return and Earn

Many of you would be familiar with the fact that NSW has had in place for some time now a scheme to get a small refund on the return of some recyclable beverage packaging. As a parish, it would be good to get some benefit from this! Though we won't make millions, every little bit helps. We are in need of a small cage to place in the cloister area which would be specifically for this purpose. If you are someone who has the skills to fashion one of these, possibly out of a large bird cage, please contact the parish office to discuss. Thank you!



PARISH NOTICES

Playgroup at St Pat's!

For many years we have had a playgroup at St Patrick's. Due to families moving on, we have not had anyone willing to coordinate the group. So, we are now exploring the idea of restarting a regular Playgroup at St Pat's for young children aged 0-5 and their parents or carers. If you'd be interested in joining a welcoming, fun, and community-focused group, we'd love to hear from you!

What we truly need is someone willing to embrace the challenge of coordinating the group. If this resonates with you, we encourage you to reach out!

This is merely an expression of interest at this stage—no commitment required! Feel free to email us at enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au or call the parish office.





Look at our parishioner...

At the AGM of the Institute of Australian Tour Guides, **Judith Dunn** was awarded the Tour Guide of the Year!

"IATG is the peak body in Australia for professional tour guides so I was absolutely amazed and knew nothing about it until my name came up on the screen.

There was a cash prize to go with the certificate.

And a request for me to conduct a workshop for other guides."
- Judith Dunn

Very well deserved Judith - congratulations!

Jesuit Refugee Service foodbank drive

For the past several years, our Cathedral parish has generously supported the JRS Foodbank through donations of non-perishable food items. We kindly invite parishioners to continue this tradition of giving by leaving their food donations at the designated collection point in the chapel. Your support helps bring hope and nourishment to those in need. Donations accepted until **Sunday 31 August.**



RCIA - Come Journey With Us...

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 the team at rcia@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.







A note of thanks...

to our very generous parishioners who contribute anonymously on a regular basis. Your gift is received with many thanks and blessings to you all.

Stay connected with our Parish!

Don't forget to download the St Pat's Parish App to receive the latest news, event updates, Mass times, and more - right at your fingertips. If you need help, please contact the parish office. The QR code is able to be used to download the app by both Android and Apple devices. Download today to access a wealth of services connected with St Patrick's Cathedral!



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...

Sick: Hamish Pereira, Ryan Limlingan, Hamish J Pereira, Chris Doughty, Asay Furtado, Murad Andrawis, Roque D'Souza, Bradley Hughes, Hamish J Pereira, Nelka Popic, Marjorie Simpson, Fr Bob Bossini, Ray Love, Sharon Webb

Special Intentions: Eufemio Ramirez, Tian, Raveen, Rosario Antioquia, John & Aida, Nazar & Lewis Nissan, Regina & Salim, Cenam Younan, Kulee Murad, Daniel Altmann, Alicia Altmann, Brianna, Jessica, Naleen, Tian & Raveen, Lucy Thomas, Ajay Furtado, Raveen, Ankica, Mara, Nikola & Stephen Senjak, Roque D'Souza, YC Hsu, John & Aida, Frederick Jung, Dan Rodricks, Rohan Rodricks, Ken Munda Cruz, Raveen, Yi Chuien Hsu, Miguel Custodio, Paul Peters

Recently Deceased: Riet Olifiers, Alisio, Antoine Morvan, Filomena Nubla, Irene Gulferica, Shelley, Joyce & Terry McNamara, Robert Russo, Sheila Kelleher, Fr Tim Hogan, Phyllis Cross, Rosemarie Walker-Lelyveld, Dinah

Deceased: Sr Judy McLeod, Emmanuel Day, Benjamin De Vera Geminiano, Joseph Tinh Vu, Salvador & Christine Vas, Pascal & Mary D'Mello, Petra Cabezas, Juan & Pablito Cabezas, Leonila Gabonada, Ambrosia Stanley, Maria & Frank Darivo, Salvatore & Giuseppina Agostino, Pasquale Altamore, Thomas & Maria Pham, Norbert Saldanha, Pasquale Altamore, Dora & Jack Kirk, Maryanne Saliba, YT & Deanna Hsu, Emmanuel Espinosa Day, Rhiannon & Annabelle Green

Anniversaries: Angela Tantini, Irene de Silva, Estelito Fenis Jr., Marcia Machliss, Thomas Sebastian, Maria Megale, Segundo Burgos, Monica Ryan, Pua Foai, Jaime Blandon, Grga Vulic, Lynette Pau, Mathew Joseph

Perpetuals: Antoine Morvan, Leo Bardetta, Carmen Train, 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 & Peter Noronha, Vijaya Sawant, 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 child recently baptised here...

Maeve Canale-Santos

WEDDINGS



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

Leila Nehmee & Daniel Toubia

POPE LEO'S

Prayer Intention for August



For mutual coexistence

"Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons."

From Pope Leo...

"X" post dated 20 August "To forgive does not mean to deny evil, but to prevent it from generating further evil. It is not to say that nothing has happened, but to do everything possible to ensure that resentment does not determine the future."



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Since 13 October 2007, Toongabbie Legal Centre Inc. has been providing free legal assistance to vulnerable and disadvantaged persons from Parish Hall at St Anthony's Church.

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

www.tlc.asn.au

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