



**ST PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL**
PARRAMATTA

23 November 2025 - Christ the King (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](https://www.facebook.com/credo.stpats)

Email: credo@stpatscathedral.com.au

Friends of St Patrick's Cemetery:

stpatscemeterynp.com



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Christ our King

ISN'T IT INTERESTING that the Jewish authorities and the Roman soldiers are at complete odds with Christ about what would constitute power befitting a king? For those who condemned and crucified him, Jesus would prove his kingly authority by miraculously untethering himself from the nails and stepping down from the cross. "Let him save himself if he is the Christ," the Jewish leaders jeer, and they are backed up by the Roman soldiers who mock, "if you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." For these, the ability to avoid death, the sidestepping of that inevitable fate, would apparently be proof enough of someone who has an other-worldly power.



But there is Jesus, who claims for himself the authority of the Messiah, willingly surrendering his life in a shocking death.

In St Paul's wonderful hymn that we hear in his letter to the Colossians, Christ is proclaimed as one through whom and for whom and in whom *all things* are made. What this means is that Jesus has power over everything because all is his. In him there is nothing lacking. And this is true even while he was hanging there upon the cross. Because he has power over all, and he lacks nothing, he doesn't need to justify his existence by avoiding death. He can look at it in the face and submit to it, because even over this he has power. If he was to run away from it, that would be a demonstration of a lack of power in him, it would show that he feared it, was in some way subject to it.

Today, we proclaim Christ as King of the universe, because in dying and rising once more, he demonstrates that all things are subject to him. If he lives even though he has died, then there is nothing over which he does not rule. But he also demonstrates the nature of that authority. It isn't through "lording it over" people as he would say to his disciples, but through saving others, through coming to their aid and lifting them up in their need, and even giving them a share in his own royal privileges – "I promise, today you will be with me in paradise." How willingly, then, can we surrender our lives to him, who takes nothing from us, but indeed gives us everything.

On a personal note, I am very grateful to him for having given me so many good gifts in the two years I have spent here at St Patrick's. It is here, with you and for you, that I have first served as his priest and it has been a privilege to have done so. When St Peter asks the Lord what will come to him and his companions who have left everything to follow Jesus, Jesus responds by telling him that they will receive a hundredfold in return. You, the people of the parish of St Patrick's Cathedral, are certainly part of the hundredfold he is storing up for me. Although I won't be here anymore, I'm not going far and will count on your prayers as I seek to imitate our good King in serving his people wherever he leads me.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,

Fr Tom

THE BULLETIN

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Dean and Administrator

Very Rev Robert Riedling EV
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Assistant Priest

Rev Tom Green
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Assistant Priest

Rev Dr Vincent Ojo
8839 8400

Deacon

Rev Mr David Dowling
8839 8415 - deacon@stpatcscathedral.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@stpatcscathedral.com.au

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

Parish Secretary: Pat Preca (Tue, Thu, Fri)
8839 8412 or secretary@stpatcscathedral.com.au

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

Director of Music: Bernard Kirkpatrick KSS HonFGCM
8839 8400 or music@stpatcscathedral.com.au

Assistant Director of Music: Eric Grella
8839 8400 or music@stpatcscathedral.com.au

Assistant Organist: Patrick Newman
8839 8400 or music@stpatcscathedral.com.au

Liturgy Coordinator: Jorel Mateo
8839 8400 or liturgy@stpatcscathedral.com.au

Youth Coordinator: Fr Tom Green
8839 8400 or credo@stpatcscathedral.com.au

Gift Shop Manager: Contact Parish Office
8839 8400 or giftshop@stpatcscathedral.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 Secretaries.

Hiring of Rooms

For hire of Cloister Function rooms, call the office on 8839 8400 or enquiry@stpatcscathedral.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 Secretaries, Pat or Donna, by **12:00 noon on Thursday**.

Volunteers' Thank You Dinner

Last Friday, 14 November, our parish gathered for a joyful evening to honour the heart of our community—our wonderful volunteers. Hosted by Fr Robert and the parish staff, the Volunteers' Thank You night welcomed more than 140 parishioners, from our youngest altar servers to our longest-serving members. It was a warm celebration of gratitude, friendship, and the vibrant spirit that fills St Patrick's.

During the evening, we expressed our deep appreciation to all who share their time, gifts, and dedication in service to our parish. Special thanks were offered to our ministry leaders and to those whose faithful contributions keep our community strong. The Social Justice Ministry acknowledged Dianne for her significant work across RCIA, refugee support, and parish events, while the Bellingring Ministry thanked their leaders for guiding weekly practices and Sunday ringing with great skill and generosity. A shout out to Pamela and Mary who have been part of the SRE Ministry as Catechists for 25 and 30 years respectively.

As we reflected on the many ways our volunteers bring life to St Patrick's, the night was a reminder of the faith, love, and hospitality that define our parish. We are truly blessed by each person who says "yes" to serving God and our community. Thank you to all who make St Patrick's a place of welcome, compassion, and joyful service.

To all our volunteers - thank you for embodying the love of Christ in your service. Your devotion and selflessness allow us to fulfill our mission as a parish and bring God's light into the lives of so many.

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit strengthens us to keep saying "yes" - just as Mary did - to the call to serve with humble and joyful hearts.

Thank you to everyone for the joy, generosity, and love you bring to our parish community. May God bless each of you for your faithful service.

Let us pray for all our volunteers, asking God to bless them abundantly and to continue guiding their service.

"Well done, good and faithful servant(s)!" (Matthew 25:21)



THE BULLETIN

Parish Pastoral Council update

At our meeting earlier in the week we farewelled Fr Tom with appreciation for his contribution and we welcomed Fr Vincent. Mike Schembri and Rachel Kama, Diocesan Pastoral Plan facilitators, attended our meeting. They spoke about how the plan is being implemented across the Diocese in various ways. Often, parishes focus on one or two of the five pastoral objectives. They helped us understand the support and assistance available to the PPC and the parish in implementing the plan. Using quotations from St Paul we were encouraged to reflect on 2025 with gratitude. Mike, Rachel and the Mission Enhancement Team (MET) will help us in 2026.

What did we do this year (and late 2024)?

- Formulated a Vision and Mission statement in the light of the Diocesan plan;
- Participated in retreats and formation for ourselves and parishioners;
- Identified parish strengths and challenges;
- Focused on supporting existing ministries;
- Attended to improving Cathedral communications;
- Discussed the parish coordinator responsibilities and the Chancery Charter;
- Developed our appreciation of working in a more synodal manner and
- Supported the first public Alpha group and the Open Arms of St Patrick's.

We are preparing for the launch in February of a new initiative and will further develop our goals for the year to come at our next formal meeting.

We welcome your prayerful support and contact: 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 Vincent, Dn Dave, and Pascal El-Hage.

ppc@stpatscathedral.com.au

22nd Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral - 29 November

Next Saturday, 29 November, we will celebrate the 22nd anniversary of the Dedication of our Cathedral. This is a significant milestone in the life of our parish and Diocese.

The present Cathedral, built in 2003 after a devastating fire, stands as a powerful symbol of faith, hope, and renewal. It is not merely a building but a sacred space where God's people gather to worship, celebrate, and grow in faith.



Let us come together to give thanks for our Cathedral, a house of prayer and beacon of faith for 22 years. All are welcome to join us in acknowledgement at the 8:00am Mass.

Vinnies Christmas Food Bank Drive

The St Vincent de Paul Society is once again calling on our parish's generosity this Advent season to help bring the spirit of Christmas to many families and individuals in our community. We welcome your donations:



Festive Food Items: Small Christmas puddings, mince pies, long-life custard, and other holiday-specific treats to add a touch of festivity to our hampers.

Non-Perishable Foodstuffs: Help stock our pantry with canned goods, breakfast cereals, fruit drinks, dry foods, and other essentials that can sustain families over the holidays.

Toiletries & Bathroom Items: Donations of soaps, shampoos, conditioners, toothpaste, and toothbrushes are essential for personal care and dignity.

Cleaning Supplies: Kitchen cleaners, washing up liquids and laundry powders are vital for maintaining clean and healthy homes.

Gifts for Children: Bring smiles to young faces with toys and books suitable for ages 5-10 years, making their Christmas truly special.

It may seem early but we need all donations by **15 December**. This allows for packing and distribution to people's homes before Christmas.

Every item you donate contributes to a brighter Christmas for an individual or family in need. Let's share the warmth and love of the season through our collective efforts.

Donations can be placed adjacent to the stable in the chapel from **Thursday 27 November**.

Advent Reflections with Fr Robert

As we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ this Advent, parishioners are warmly invited to join Fr Robert for a series of Advent reflections held on **Wednesday** evenings via Zoom, beginning 26 November.

Each week, Fr Robert will lead us in prayer and reflection on the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday, helping us enter more deeply into the meaning and message of Advent.

 Dates: Each Wednesday, 26 November - 17 December

 Time: 8:00pm - 9:00pm

 Zoom: Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653795537?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653795537?pwd=eaxWjssuj1mFGExlBuXfW9EhEdNiDR.1)
[pwd=eaxWjssuj1mFGExlBuXfW9EhEdNiDR.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653795537?pwd=eaxWjssuj1mFGExlBuXfW9EhEdNiDR.1)

Meeting ID: 876 5379 5537 Passcode: 805489

Take a quiet pause in your week and journey together with our parish community in hope and anticipation of Christmas.



PARISH NOTICES



Vale Paul Peters

Sadly we have lost a long time parishioner. Paul was well known for his vocal cords, leading the Alleluia at the 12:30pm Mass. He was 97 years of age.

A Requiem Mass will be held on Thursday 27 November at 10:00am at St Patrick's Cathedral. Viewing at 9:30am. We pray for Paul and his family at this difficult time.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him.

St Pat's Matters

The next issue is taking shape but we need more from you! If you've agreed to write already, please send it in. If some event or experience related to the parish or your faith has touched you recently, please share it.

Send inquiries or contributions to stpatsmatters@stpatscathedral.com.au

Martin Graham

*Read
all
About it*

Bishop's Christmas Appeal this weekend

The Bishop's Christmas Appeal – supporting Catholic Care Grief and Loss Counselling. Christmas is drawing near, and with it the promise that God is with us. For many in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, that promise is needed right now. Many individuals and families are carrying grief, stress and uncertainty - wrestling with the rising cost-of-living, unstable work and the heartbreak of losing a loved one. Your generosity is the way to open the doors of hope for the broken-hearted ensuring that no one in our community grieves alone. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/appeal or scan the QR code. Thank you!



Stay connected with our Parish

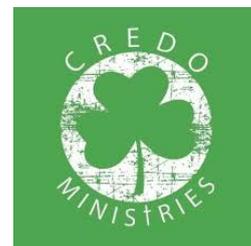
Don't forget to download the St Pat's Parish App to receive the latest news, event updates, Mass times, and more - right at your fingertips. If you need help, please contact the parish office.



Credo Ministry

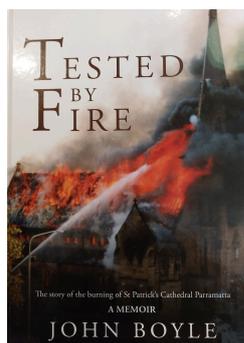
We have a thriving group of young adults who are enjoying the social and liturgical aspects of this ministry. Do consider joining us for...

- Bible Study - Fortnightly Monday - 7:00pm - Cloister Hall. Next session **24 November**
- Faith & Fellowship - every third Sunday of the month
- Oz Tag - Wednesday evenings @ Ollie Webb Reserve. Even if you don't wish to play, spectators are very welcome!



Celebrate the Feast of Christ the King

All parish Youth Ministry Leaders, incoming Year 12 School Leaders, and pilgrims attending the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Melbourne are invited to a Diocesan celebration Mass of the Feast of Christ the King on **Sunday 23 November, 6:00pm**, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. The Mass will include a commissioning and blessing of youth pilgrims and ministry leaders, followed by refreshments. Please RSVP with any dietary requirements to cyp@parracatholic.org



"Tested by Fire"

Monsignor John Boyle, former Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral, and well known to many of you, will be at the Cathedral this weekend to sign and sell copies of his recent book, "Tested by Fire", launched recently here on 31 October. The book tells the story of events surrounding the fire that burnt the cathedral down in February 1996.

Copies of this hardcover book can be purchased for \$60.00 after this Sunday's Masses or from St Patrick's Cathedral Giftshop. The book is a mixture of fascinating narrative and excellent photos. A great Christmas gift for yourself and those you love!

Social Justice Group Prayer Hour

The parish Social Justice Group will be hosting a prayer hour in the chapel on **Thursday 27 November** from 7:00pm. This will give the group an opportunity to ensure that all that it does is grounded in prayer and reflection. There will be some readings, music and quiet time. All are welcome!

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 Ferreira, Fr Michael Attard, Mary Nissan, Nadia Nissan, Nabil Makdessi, Ghalie Koura, Tom L, Jacqueline Laguidao, Silvana Rechichi, Patrick Condon, Vincent Chan, Hamish J Pereira, Vani Jhunjhunwala, Marjorie Simpson, Fr Bob Bossini, Ray Love, Sharon Webb, Pete Berg, John Gassami, Jessica Blatman, Rosette Dureza, Lusia Solomo

Special Intentions: Shannen Mendoza, Legion of Mary Officers, Raveen, Tian, Peachy Romulo, Melanie, Magpayo, Victims of Typhoon in the Philippines, Gladys Uy, John & Aida, Freeda, Ani, Nikh, Anna & Pringles, Hilda & Gaulbert Pais, Elijah, Ryan & Ethan Walter, Y S Hsu, John & Aida, Zayne Bumactao, Raveen, Naleen, Averil Sampey, James Sampey, Andrea Bernabey, Cáceres, Rios, Alonso, SantaCruz families, Girish Fernandez

Anniversaries: Eddie Lai, Hans Bucher & parents, Honorato & Wilhemina Dela Cruz, Maria Lelyveld, Warlito Arciaga, Divine Grace Marigomen, Pedro Obar Morales, Edward Muller, Juan Montesco, Maximena Manlangit, Johannes Lelyveld, Frank Maccarone, Rodney Jayatilaka, Dora Kirk, Joseph Fung, Gabriel Muniandi, Jose Ramirez, Anacorita

Book of Remembrance

Throughout November each year, a 'Book of Remembrance' is displayed in the Chapel and Cathedral during the celebration of Mass.

If you would like to have your deceased family and friends included, please fill in a November Mass Offering envelope and either leave on the collection plate or hand in at the office. We will update the Book of Remembrance regularly throughout November to reflect new names that are requested for inclusion.



BAPTISMS



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

Sebastian Clarke Aspen Constable
Cohen Constable Nixon Constable

WEDDINGS



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

Quinn Truong & Keno Edmilao

POPE LEO'S

Prayer Intention for November



For the prevention of suicide

"Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life."

From Pope Leo...

*"X" post dated
19 November*

"If we allow it, Christ's salvific act can transform all our relationships: with God, with other people, and with creation. As followers of Jesus, we are called to promote lifestyles and policies that focus on the protection of human dignity and of all of creation. Let us ask for the grace to see our struggles through the gaze of the Resurrection, and may we influence the world with hope and Easter joy."

Saint of the Week

25 November - St Catherine of Alexandria (d.305), Virgin, Martyr

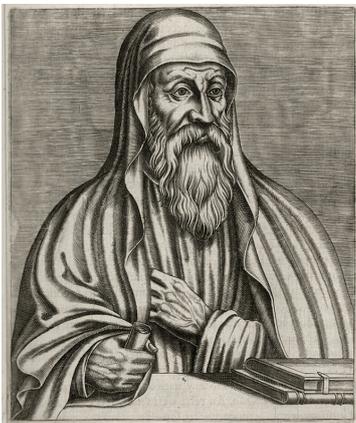
Legends coming from a number of sources say that St Catherine was very outspoken at the time of the persecutions of Christians. She even protested openly to the emperor Maxentius who had her arrested, tortured on the wheel and decapitated in 305. St Catherine's courage is a great challenge to all African Christians in their struggle for justice and peace. The witness of her life and her readiness to die for the faith encourages us to be brave witnesses to the Lord and to speak out on behalf of all those who suffer.



Information: Universalis

“Quote of the Week”

“We must understand this about the kingdom of God - as there is no partnership between righteousness and iniquity, no fellowship of light with darkness, no accord of Christ with Belial, so the kingdom of sin cannot co-exist with the kingdom of God.”



Origen of Alexandria
(c.185 - c.253)
Theologian
On Prayer

Did You Know...?

...that the Feast of Christ the King is a relatively recent addition to the Catholic liturgical calendar?

Wikipedia notes that this feast was “instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI for the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church. In 1970, its Roman Rite observance was moved from October to the last Sunday of Ordinary Time and thus to the end of the liturgical year. The earliest date on which the Feast of Christ the King can occur is 20 November and the latest is 26 November.”



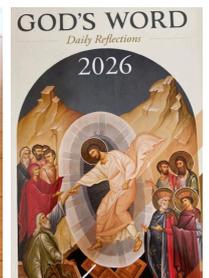
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