



**ST PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL**
PARRAMATTA

04 January 2026 - The Epiphany of the Lord (Year A)

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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Salvation brought by Jesus is for all

CHRISTMAS is here. We are celebrating the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who took flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The birth of Jesus has brought tremendous joy and gladness to the whole world. This birth, unlike all others before it, was unique and unprecedented. Mary conceived Jesus in her womb without losing her virginity. This is the mystery of the incarnation - God becoming man. This birth heralds such great joy in the world that everyone wanted to be there to greet the newborn king. This means that the birth of Jesus is for the salvation of all. Hence, the solemnity of today, the Epiphany of the Lord.



Epiphany is from the Greek word *epiphanea* meaning 'manifestation'. It is about the manifestation of Jesus to the world. The first reading from Isaiah says: the nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness (Isaiah 60:2). The response to the psalm says: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord (Ps. 71). St. Paul says in the second reading: it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel (Eph.3: 5-6). The gospel rounds it up by saying: After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east (Matt. 2:1).

The message of today's liturgy is that the salvation brought about by the birth of Jesus is for all people irrespective of their affiliations. Salvation is universal. It is not restricted to any particular people. It is for all those who believe that Jesus has come in the flesh in order to redeem the world. In the words of Pope Leo the Great, "In the persons of the Magi let all people adore the Creator of the universe; let God be known, not in Judaea only, but in the whole world, so that his name may be great in all Israel." Jesus is a universal king who has brought salvation to the whole world as John says in his Prologue: "... But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself" (John 1:12-13). We must, therefore, be welcoming to all who seek to know the truth about our faith in Jesus.

Another point that we must bear in mind in today's feast is that the Magi presented Jesus with some symbolic gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The gold refers to his divinity, the frankincense refers to his priesthood, and the myrrh refers to his burial. However, we are no longer expected to present these same gifts to Jesus but the gift of a holy life, a life lived in the service of others. We are challenged to continue to manifest Jesus to the nooks and crannies of the world. We can do this more effectively by the conduct of our lives. We must be the light of the world and the salt of the earth. In the words of St Paul, "do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind" (Rom. 12:2).

Wishing you a blessed New Year,

Fr Vincent

THE BULLETIN

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Dean and Administrator

Very Rev Robert Riedling EV
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Rev Andrew Rooney
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Assistant Priest

Rev Dr Vincent Ojo
8839 8400 - assistantpriest2@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: Pascal 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
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Director of Music: Bernard Kirkpatrick KSS HonFGCM
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Assistant Director of Music: Eric Grella
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Assistant Organist: Patrick Newman
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MC & Liturgy Coordinator: Jorel Mateo
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Assistant MC: Blake Bano
8839 8400 or liturgy@stpatscathedral.com.au

Youth Coordinator: TBC
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 Secretaries.

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 Secretaries, Pat or Donna, by **12:00 noon on Thursday**.

Cathedral carpark

As you use the carpark, you might notice (hopefully!) a couple of new signs that have been erected by way of alerting drivers to the need to drive carefully in what is a very crowded space, particularly between Masses on Sunday when there is a convergence of people leaving and others arriving. Unfortunately, we have had a couple of incidents of not just cars having a dingle but a couple of people have been hit, fortunately without the worst of consequences.

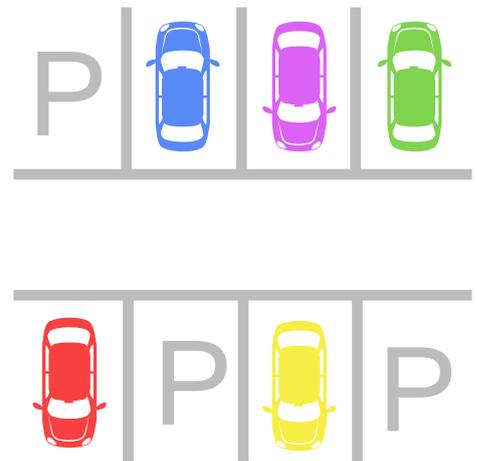
Please be patient when **arriving** and **leaving** the carpark, but also be considerate. One way we might consider alleviating some of the frustration is for people to **turn left only** when driving out from the carpark onto Victoria Road, especially if the road is not clear, meaning that a right hand turn might take some time, holding up cars and creating frustration for others. If the road is not clear to make an immediate right hand turn onto Victoria Road, please turn left and drive around the block and turn right at the lights on the corner of Marist Place. This extra minute or so of your time will help ensure the traffic leaving the carpark flows somewhat more smoothly, to say nothing of making it safer.

On this same theme, another way we can help traffic to flow better on **entering** the carpark is to always enter by turning left into the carpark from Victoria Road (from the east) rather than stopping to turn across traffic and holding up others, bearing in mind that the road is not quite wide enough to allow traffic to pass on the left of those waiting to turn right into the cathedral carpark. Again, this might mean an extra minute or so of detours for some people, but it will be time well spent if it decreases frustration and so helps ensure a safer space for all.

Thank you for helping to make our cathedral precinct a safer space for all, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, who make up a considerable percentage of our parishioners. *Fr Robert*

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.



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.

THE BULLETIN

Resumption of Masses etc.

You will be aware that we have had a limited liturgy schedule since Christmas Day, with Mass being offered only at 8:00am each weekday morning and no confessions or Adoration. Thank you for your patience and understanding over this short period of time, allowing the clergy an opportunity to have a little bit of quiet time! I am happy to inform you that our regular Mass schedule will resume as of this **Monday 05 January**, along with our regular confession times and Adoration. We look forward to continuing to serve you many ways throughout the year ahead, including with our busy liturgy schedule! *Fr Robert.*

Reopening of Parish Office

Along with the resumption of our regular liturgical schedule, please note that the Parish Office will reopen also this **Monday 05 January** with all our staff resuming work after a well-deserved break over Christmas and the New Year. The office will be open the usual hours of 9:00am - 4:00pm on weekdays.



Reopening
Wednesday, 07 January



We thank you for your support throughout 2025 and look forward to continue serving all our customers in 2026!

Red Mass - 2026

The annual Red Mass to commemorate the commencement of the law year will again be held in the Cathedral in 2026. This special event, celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long, is an opportunity to come together in prayer and reflection, particularly honouring those in the legal profession for their dedication to justice and service.

When: Tuesday 03 February 2026 at 7:00pm

Where: St Patrick's Cathedral

Please send RSVP to enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au

Epiphany Blessing

Many people like to maintain the tradition of marking their homes with blessed chalk each year at this time, as the year begins. As the Ordo states: "The ancient custom of marking the door of the home with blessed chalk is a way of incorporating the liturgical feast of the Epiphany as a domestic ritual into the prayer life of the family." Blessed chalk and a sheet with the text for the ritual are available in the narthex of the chapel.

20 C+M+B 26

Happy New Year!

The clergy and staff of St Patrick's Cathedral wish all parishioners, their families, friends and loved ones, a blessed, peaceful and happy year ahead as we embark on 2026.

May we continue to deepen our bonds with God and with one another as we carry on with our baptismal mission to build God's kingdom here in our local parish in the year ahead.

Cathedral Choir in recess till February

Our magnificent and hard-working choir will be in recess after this Sunday and will return on **01 February**.

I know I share the sentiments of all our parishioners in wishing the members of our choir, along with our organists and our Director of Music, Bernard Kirkpatrick, a restful time away from their duties here at the Cathedral. I want to thank them for all they did to enhance our recent Christmas Masses to say nothing of all they do each week in this regard.

We look forward to their return in a few weeks' time!

Fr Robert



Updating Credit Card Details for Planned Giving

The beginning of a new year is a good opportunity to update things we perhaps often don't think about. To update your credit card details, please follow these steps:

- Visit the [St Pat's website](#).
- Click Donate, then click Donate again. You will be redirected to the Pushpay website.
- Select the person icon with the padlock and log in using your mobile number.
- Once logged in, you can update your details by clicking on "Payment Methods" and then select the card details to update/change.

If you need help at any stage, please contact the parish office or coordinator for assistance where you can get a detailed "how to guide".

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for...

Sick: Elias Safadi, Hamish Perreira, Vickram & Vasvi Arcot, Rodolfo Manalo, Gretta D'Souza, Sharon Webb, Jessica Blatman, Rodolfo Manalo, Hamish J Pereira, Valentyna, Fr Michael Attard, Mary Nissan, Nadia Nissan, Silvana Rechichi

Special Intentions: Raveen, Ping Hsu, Daniel Pinto, Stephen Senjak, Romeo D'Souza, Romeo Esteves, Marianno De Arrogante, Shannen Mendoza, Jared & Hien Besant, Hilda & Gaulbert Pais, Peachy Romulo, Pedro & Sheila Romulo, Raven Seguia, Charmaine, Duy Xhang Hoang, Naleen, Tian, Shannen Mendoza, Legion of Mary Officers, Melanie

Anniversaries: Sally & Frank Martlew, Sherwood family, Paul So Nguyen, Danny Doolub, Maximena Manlangit, Jure & Maria Drazenovic, Eddie Lai, Hans Bucher & parents, Honorato & Wilhemina Dela Cruz, Maria Lelyveld, Warlito Arciaga, Divine Grace Marigomen, Pedro Obar Morales, Juan Montesco, Maximena Manlangit, Johannes Lelyveld, Frank Maccarone, Rodney Jayatilaka, Dora Kirk

Recently Deceased: Elijah Brown, Janine Burn, Fr Mario Colina CM, Peter Lewin, Paul Peters, Se Christeia Uy, Evelyn Maguire

Deceased: Lucy D'Mello, Nazar & Lewis Nissan, Jose Evangelista, Murad Andranes, Meynard V Guilles, Maria Megale, Pasquale Altamore, Flood victims in Sri Lanka, Frosing C Tullo, Felicitas B Antonio, YT & Deanna Hsu

Anniversaries: Pedro Obar Morales, Edward Muller, Juan Montesco, Maximena Manlangit, Johannes Lelyveld, Frank Maccarone, Rodney Jayatilaka, Dora Kirk, Joseph Fung, Gabriel Muniandi, Jose Ramirez, Anacorita, Jesus

Perpetuals: Thanh Hung Le, June Schembri, 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 children recently baptised here...

Alliera Eid

Milena Cardoso & Sienna Wehbe

WEDDINGS



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

Vo Thi Xuan Hien & Jared Besant

POPE LEO'S...



Prayer Intention for January

For prayer with the Word of God

"Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church."

From Pope Leo...

*"X" post dated
31 December*

"This evening, we will sing the Te Deum in thanksgiving for the many gifts we have received from God throughout the year. We are also invited to reflect on how we, in turn, have responded, and to ask for God's mercy, like the many pilgrims who have passed through the Holy Door in search of forgiveness."

Saint of the Week

07 January - St Raymond of Peñafort (c.1175 - 1275), Priest

He was born near Barcelona somewhere between 1175 and 1180. He was educated at the University of Barcelona, where he taught canon law for fifteen years. After a spell at the University of Bologna he returned to Barcelona in 1222 and became a Dominican. At the command of Pope Gregory IX he organised, codified and edited canon law, which, when he started, was nothing better than a chaotic accumulation of isolated decrees. He was elected to be General of the Dominicans and gave the order an excellent set of regulations for its better governance. He died in 1275. Among his works, the Summa casuum is noteworthy. This gives guidance as to how the sacrament of Penance may be administered justly and with benefit to the penitent.



Information: Universalis

“Quote of the Week”

“God is greater than religion.”



Rabbi Abraham Heschel
(1907 - 1972)
Teacher and Prophet

Did You Know...?

...that the “wise men” who came from the East were quite likely what we would today call astrologers or perhaps even Magi?

There is much speculation and debate around the subject of the wise men simply because there is so little detail given in the scriptures. It has often been assumed that the wise men were astrologers or perhaps Magi, priests of the Zoroastrian religion, begun in 600BCE, which still has a small following today, especially in its home of modern-day Iran. The best known Zoroastrian of modern times was Queen lead singer, Freddie Mercury, birth name Farrokh Bulsara.



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