



**ST PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL**
PARRAMATTA

13 Setember 2026 - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

1 Marist Place, Parramatta NSW 2150
(02) 8839 8400 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 7:15pm - Legion of Mary
Tuesday 9:30am - Christian Meditation
Tuesday 7:30pm - RCIA (September - 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

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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Forgiveness and human flourishing

"IN A WORD, live together in the forgiveness of your sins, for without it no human fellowship, least of all a marriage, can survive. Don't insist on your rights, don't blame each other, don't judge or condemn each other, don't find fault with each other, but accept each other as you are, and forgive each other every day from the bottom of your hearts."

The above quote from the martyred German Lutheran pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906 – 1945), is one I often use in wedding homilies. Not having the personal experience of married life, it is useful to give the perspective of someone who has had some experience of such intimacy, though the truth is that Bonhoeffer did not get to marry his fiancée as he was executed by the Nazis towards the end of the Second World War. His point is clear: forgiveness is essential for the flourishing of human relationships.

But this is often, perhaps usually, easier said than done. For most of us, forgiving another is not always an easy thing to do. We still feel hurt by another's actions or words, we are still suffering some tangible effects of what they have done, and so the last thing on our mind may be forgiveness. This may come in time, but we often need to sit with the hurt for some time before we can contemplate forgiveness, even if it has been requested. What is important is that we are committed to forgiveness, even if it involves a struggle over an extended period. And we are committed to it because it is part of the fabric that holds a community together and opens up the potential for human flourishing.

Not to be forgotten is that we repeatedly tell God that we are willing to forgive others. When? Every time we pray the Lord's Prayer! Let us not forget the words:

*Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

This request and declaration, found in both Matthew and Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer, show us the importance placed on forgiveness by both the Evangelists. Furthermore, in Matthew's version, Jesus, speaking hard on the heels of teaching his prayer, goes on to emphasise the importance of forgiveness, stating that "...if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." (Matt 6:14). This essentially sums up the parable in today's Gospel. Of course, there is a flipside to forgiving others: asking for forgiveness. Perhaps this is harder for some of us than forgiving. It may be that we feel we are not worthy of forgiveness, or it may be pride, not having the humility to acknowledge the full extent of our actions or the willingness to approach the one we have wronged. Pride, of course, can also be the reason we are unwilling to forgive another.

Both forgiving and asking for forgiveness are essential if we are to flourish as a society. When we look closely at many of the problems that beset us, personal and corporate, it is certain that somewhere there has been a wrong committed and no forgiveness - and so no reconciliation and no unity.

May we commit ourselves to the "forgiveness dynamic", both asking for and granting forgiveness, no matter how long it may take, for "without it no human fellowship can survive."

Wishing you a blessed week ahead, Fr Robert



THE BULLETIN

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Dean and Administrator

Very Rev Robert Riedling EV
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Assistant Priest

Rev Dr Vincent Ojo
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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/Safeguarding Champion:

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: Paula Valades (Tue, Thu, Fri)

8839 8412 or secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au

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8839 8400 or secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au

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

Holy Shroud Exhibition

You are warmly invited to visit the Holy Shroud Exhibition at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, featuring a life-size replica of the Shroud of Turin.

 Sunday 06 – Wednesday 09

September  9:00am – 6:00pm

 Thursday 10 – Sunday 13

September  9:00am – 10:00pm

Come and learn more about the history and significance of the Shroud of Turin.

White Elephant Stall – Donations Welcome!

The White Elephant Stall will be back at the Spring Fair on Sunday, 20 September! If you have good-quality items you no longer need and would like to donate, please drop them off at the **Parish Office** from **Monday, 14 September**.

*Please note that this year we are **unable to accept** electrical items or books. Thank you!*



Bishop's Fathers' Day Appeal

We give thanks for the fathers, grandfathers, mentors and spiritual fathers who have guided us with love, wisdom and faith. Among them are our priests, who have devoted their lives to serving God's people. They have celebrated the Sacraments with us, prayed with us, accompanied our families and helped bring us closer to Christ. After a lifetime of faithful service, many of our senior priests now need practical care and support as they face the challenges of ageing, illness and retirement. Your generous tax-deductible gift will help care for our retired and unwell priests and ensure they can live with the dignity, care and support they deserve. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan the QR code. Thank you for caring for those who have spent their lives caring for us.



Please, don't forget to nominate **St Patrick's Cathedral** as your parish when donating online!

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.



**ST PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL**

PARISH NOTICES

Sacramental Preparation: Penance & First Holy Communion

The Sacramental Team at St Patrick's Cathedral invites families to enrol children in preparation for the Sacraments of Penance (Reconciliation/Confession) and First Eucharist through a parish-based, family-centred process.

An **Information Evening** will be held on **Monday 19 October at 7:30pm** in the St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta Cloister Hall. **Online registration opens Tuesday 20 October**, with **enrolment at the 9:30am Mass on Sunday 25 October**.

Children must be 7 years of age by 01 July 2026 to be eligible. Parents are encouraged to prayerfully discern whether their child is ready to begin preparation.

Preparation for Penance (Reconciliation/Confession) will take place from October through November. Penance must be celebrated before First Holy Communion. First Holy Communion preparation classes will commence in February 2027. For further information, please contact the Parish Coordinator.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held on **Sunday 11 October in the Cloister Hall at 12:30pm** with a light lunch. The Annual Report will be ready to view from Sunday 27 September. All welcome!

Safeguarding Sunday: "Love Protects"

The Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday (formerly Child Protection Sunday) on the second Sunday of September each year – at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week.

On Safeguarding Sunday, we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by anyone in Church settings and acknowledge the vulnerability of some within our parishes and communities.

We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance.

This year the theme is **Love Protects** and the readings show us that real love is not passive goodwill. Rather it actively shields the vulnerable, tells the truth, and never lets silence stand in for safety.



Are you currently taking Communion to the sick and dying?

Join the Office for Worship for a day of formation for those who take Communion to the homebound, hospitals and aged care facilities and further your knowledge and understanding of this ministry.

SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER

9:30am – 2:00pm

THE BISHOP BEDE HEATHER CENTRE,

1-5 Marian St, Blacktown

Morning tea and lunch provided

Register by 14 October at parracatholic.org/events/ministry-of-communion-formation/

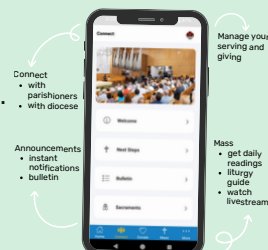
or contact the OFW team via OFW@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795



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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



PARISH NOTICES

Open Arms of St Patrick's Parish

The Open Arms core group has continued to support and spend time with Abdi, Sukare, Sifan and Somayia on behalf of our parish community. The family is continuing to do well in settling into their lives in Australia, including improving their English and finding welcome in our community. Abdi is enjoying working and is very grateful to our parishioner who facilitated his getting a job. Abdi and his family are becoming more independent and an independent income is part of this process of adjusting to a new country.

Another member of our Catholic community is tutoring Sifan once a week and this appears to be going well, adding to Sifan's success in the local primary school. Sifan has commenced attending a Tae Kwon Do school and I understand she is doing very well there too. She enjoys the activity very much.

Sifan and Somayia are very excited about the fact that their mum is having a baby soon and they will both be "big sisters". Abdi and Sukare are also looking forward to bringing up their baby safely in Australia. We continue to pray for a safe delivery and look forward to meeting their new family member. The three ladies of our group (and Samantha's 9 year old daughter) introduced Sukare and her little girls to the Australian tradition of a baby shower on Saturday 05 September. Although we almost got blown away by the extremely forceful wind, we had a good time together and shared some small gifts for the baby. We will need to help the family get more things for the baby over the next couple of weeks, so feel free to contact Dianne on 0408 161 443 if you have anything you wish to donate or give as a present. We have secured a cot but still need to get a pram and all the other necessities for a newborn.

Thank you all for your ongoing support and sponsorship
Regards from Open Arms of St Patrick's Parish
(Dianne Starkey, Coordinator, Sebastian Villafarna, Deputy Coordinator, Malcolm Freame, Angela Hansford, Samantha Rattos and Brian D'Souza)

WYD27 Seoul | 26 July – 11 August 2027 Parish Expression of Interest

Are you a parishioner aged 18–35 and interested in representing our parish at World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul?

The parish is looking to partially fund a small group of young adults to attend WYD 2027.

Complete the Expression of Interest form via this link.

<https://forms.gle/4y3HQiQH4VcxVeeb7>
or pick up a hard copy from the Parish Office. Applications close **Friday 25 September 2026**, COB.

You would also need to complete an EOI for the Diocese of Parramatta's WYD 2027, visit:
<https://parracatholic.org/celebrate/wyd/seoul2027/>



CURIOUS ABOUT LIFE, FAITH & MEANING?

Come along to Alpha!

Have you ever wondered if there's more to life?
Are you curious about Faith, God or what it all means?
Perhaps you simply have questions you've never had a chance to ask?

Alpha is a relaxed space to explore life, faith and meaning - with no pressure and no need to have all the answers.

Each session includes food, a short video and open, honest conversation. You can ask questions, share your thoughts, or simply listen.

 **Launch Night: Wednesday 23 September** 
6:45pm

 **Cloister Function Room, St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta**

Everyone is welcome - whether you're curious, questioning, returning to faith, or simply looking for meaningful conversation.

 **REGISTER NOW**

<https://stpatscathedral.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/126/responses/new>



Come curious. Bring your questions.
See where the conversation leads you.

Have you wondered what's after Alpha?

Have you experienced Alpha and would like to continue the journey of growing closer to one another and closer to God?

We are exploring a new "After Alpha" programme called Into the Deep — an opportunity to go deeper in faith, friendship and our relationship with God.

If you're interested in being part of this next step, please register your interest:

<https://stpatscathedral.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/130/response/new>

Deacon David



PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for...

Sick: Roberto Oleas, Nelson & Noelia Villada, Miguel Soto Figueroa, Orlando Chiang, Karla Villafana, Terry O'Brien, Christopher Mosely, Val Kirk, Hamish J Pereira, Christopher Doughty, Ana Castro, Melinda Abelardo, Bienvenido Peres Jr, Charles Dickins, Marica Senjak, Noelia Narciso, Sonia Villada, Fr Bob Bossini, Esther Alchiruth, Hilda Villada, Rosa Fedele-Inferra, Giovanni Inferra, Roberto Oleas, Catherine Fisher, Priscilla Newman, Sebastiao Bugo, Sharon Webb, Silvana Rechichi

Special Intentions: Jocelyn,, Raveen, Noel, Marilie, Marielle, N. Raphael Rodriguez, Ankica Senjak, John & Aida, Nida & Eric De Noroha, Michael Falzon, Rita & Cesare Paolini, Nikola Senjak & family, Siyu Gao, Tavish, Phai Phan, Haydee Rehak, France Vivien Malco, Francis Beta Velasco, David & Bella, Evan, Mate Vlastelica, Yvette Abraham

Recently Deceased: Clem Gallagher, Roberto Oleas, Hayden Panettiere, Malaekkal Thomas, Perinchery Joy, Romeo Cagujas, Jung Hun (Yagobo) Suh, Reuben Diast

Deceased: Mary Joyce, Estrella T. Manuel, Mary D'Mello, Christine Vas, Philip Vas, Leit Vas, Joseph & Lily Fernandez, Wolfgang Homer, Joseph & Lily Fernandez, Karam Houda, Ellias Koura, Ghalie Koura, Tony & Wally, Concesso family

Anniversaries: Johannus Lelyveld, Juan Montesco, Joseph Fung, Treasa Jose, Juliet & Peter Noronha, Salvatore & Rosa Loria, Pua Foai, Filomena Nubla, Josephine Farah, Mary Thottan, Angelo Tantini, Sr Petrina Sunguyen, Torcuata Diputado

Perpetuals: Clem Gallagher, Hanne Bitar, Bev Cockburn, Norm Hector, Efren de los Santos, 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, Bokeyar family, David family, Japour family, Paula Loto'aniu, Peter, Teresa & 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, George & Mary Abela, Love family, 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...

**Ollie Millauro
Lusia Solomon**

WEDDINGS



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

Sarah Chesher and James Lyons

POPE LEO'S...

Prayer Intention for September



For the care of water

"Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it."

From Pope Leo...

*"X" post dated
06 September*

"Without faith, each person might feel alone and become suspicious of others, seeing them as strangers and enemies. By grace, however, we are brothers and sisters who can live in harmony: meeting one another, forgiving one another and listening to one another in the Lord."

Saint of the Week

19 September - **St Theodore of Tarsus** (d. 690), Bishop

He was born in Tarsus, in modern Turkey. A Greek by birth, he became a monk in Italy. He was not ordained priest until at the age of 65 he was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury by Pope Vitalian. He arrived in England in 669 and spent the rest of his life reorganising and reforming the life of the Church throughout the country, holding visitations and synods, establishing new dioceses and a great school at Canterbury, and reconciling divisions between the Celtic and Roman ecclesiastical traditions. He died at Canterbury on 19 September 690. He is remembered for his scholarship and for bringing unity and organisation to a divided church.



Information: Universalis

"Quote of the Week"



"To show great love for God and our neighbour we need not do great things. It is how much love we put in the doing that makes our offering something beautiful for God."

St Teresa of Calcutta
(1910 - 1997)

Did You Know...?

...that the amounts of money mentioned in today's Gospel are of great interest?

In the Gospel today we hear of two amounts of money: ten thousand talents, and one hundred denarii. A denarius was the equivalent of one day's wages. A talent was the equivalent of 6000 denarii. Thus a talent was equal to 20 years' labour. Ten thousand talents was therefore equal to 200,000 year's labour! Quite a contrast in the cash amounts mentioned in this Sunday's Gospel!



Tuesday to Friday 10:00am to 3:00pm Sunday 9:00am to 1:00pm
Monday & Saturday Closed

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