

Catholic Parish of St Patrick Guildford

Est. 1933

Fr. Peter Blayney - Parish Priest

Sr. Helen Cunningham OP

Pastoral Associate

Parish Office: 32 Calliope Street
Guildford NSW 2161

Phone: 9632.2672

Email:

admin@guildfordcatholicchurch.org.au

Website:

www.guildfordcatholicchurch.org.au

Manning Foundation: 0497 973 311



**To Live, Love and Act
Like Jesus**

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30am to 3:00pm

Friday: 8:30am to 2:00pm

Closed daily: 12:30pm to 1:00pm

St. Patrick's Primary School

Principal: Mr. Steven Jones

Phone: 8728.7300

Email:

stpatsguildford@parra.catholic.edu.au

Website:

www.stpatsguildford.catholic.edu.au

**1 & 2 May 2021
5th Sunday of Easter — Year B**

WEEKLY TIMETABLE

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:00am

Weekday Masses:

Wednesday: 9:15am

Thursday: 9:15am

Friday: 9:15am

Confessions:

By appointment only.

Please call the Parish Office on phone:
9632.2672



Baptisms: Please contact the Parish Office by telephone to arrange a Baptism. Baptisms are held every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 11:15am, or during any Sunday Mass, to be negotiated with the Parish Priest. Baptism preparation will be explained when you contact the Parish Office. **Booklets need to be obtained from the Parish Office prior to the preparation.**



Mass Intentions



Recently Deceased:

Hamid Chamacham, Magdalena Hamaivao Heafala, Mikaele Valugofulu, Sulieta Fetaulaki, Savelio Felomaki, Margaret Dunn, Gertrude Lucy D'Souza, Susana Tupou, Violette Achkar, Phil, William Tuikalepa

Anniversaries:

Giuseppina Carapella, George Mansour, Annie Josephine Badcock, Max Lane, Joan Turner, Palatina Faupala Falelavaki, Fabiola Lavasele Pooi, Ferruccio Palombit, Josephine Meli

Deceased:

Ghasoud & Layla Mardini, Mary Jane Axiak, Rima, Majed & Hanna Families, Kamilo Kalala Gata & Family, Michael Grima, Helen Farrugia, Emilia Apap, Joseph Kusitino Tukana & Family, Tokavahua, Falaeo & Faupala Families, Fuka Holeva Leone & Family, Nada & John Achkar, Members of the Bongco Family, Holy Souls in Purgatory

PARISH PRAYER

Loving God we thank you for being with us always. Open our hearts to hear your voice.

Help us, Lord, to make this Parish a place of mercy and hope, where all feel welcomed, loved, respected, forgiven and encouraged.

In your love and wisdom, help and guide all of us to be good ambassadors for Christ, both in service to others and in proclaiming the Gospel.

Send your Holy Spirit among us Lord so that we may be filled with your grace and peace as we go about our lives in this world.

We pray in the name of Jesus.

Amen



LITURGY OF THE WORD

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER—YEAR B



1ST READING: ACTS 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 21:26-28, 30-32

Response: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! **R.**

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **R.**

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.' **R.**



**I am the
vine,
you are the
branches.**

**Make your
home in
me, as I
make mine
in you.**

2ND READING: 1 JOHN 3:18-24

A reading from the first letter of St. John

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him.

We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: JOHN 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 15:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more.

You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you.

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away - he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

PARISH NOTICES

THANK YOU LETTER FROM THE HOLY LAND COMMISSARIAT: On behalf of the Holy Land Custody of the Franciscan Friars and the Christians of the Holy Land, I would like to thank you and your parishioners most sincerely for your generous contribution of \$1,157.35 to the Good Friday Holy Land Collection for 2021. Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been a particularly difficult time for the Church and people of the Holy Land and the countries that make up the Franciscan Custody. As with so many around the world, the pain has been on several levels, personal, physical, social, mental and financial. Your contribution will go some way to alleviate this, and for this, we are grateful. Please continue to remember the Holy Land in your thoughts and prayers. **Fr. Mario Debattista ofm, Commissary of the Holy Land — Australia**

“TAP & GO” DONATION POINT: The opportunity is now available for parishioners and visitors to donate to St. Patrick’s Parish using a credit or debit card. The majority of parishes in the Diocese now have this facility. Following advice from both the Parish Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee to install this new donation point, it will be available for use at the weekend Masses, at least initially. The donation is pre-programmed for \$5.00 per tap of the card over the tap symbol. If you wish to donate more than \$5.00, tap again. It takes a few seconds to record your donation. The Diocese’s encouragement to use this facility is a response to the trend where most people carry little if any cash these days. Also, in these COVID-19 safe times, there is no handling of cash. The donation point does not take the place of the First and Second collections or the weekly envelope offerings which will, until COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed, still be in the bowls placed on the organ at the front of the Church. St. Patrick’s is very grateful for your donations, however you wish to make them.
~ Fr. Peter Blayney

LEGION OF MARY: Invites you to the Rosary Cenacle every Thursday morning at 8:15am to pray for the sick, Holy Souls, the dying, Priests and so on. Please join us as the world needs more prayer.

MASS INTENTIONS: To prevent confusion and assumptions, could parishioners clearly identify if a Mass intention, for publication in the Bulletin, is either **Recently Deceased, Anniversary or Deceased.** Printed envelopes are available at the back of the Church. Thank you.

ST. PATRICK’S SENIOR CITIZENS: Hello everyone! **St. Patrick’s Senior Citizens Club** is for anyone over **55**. We have been functioning for 43 years and new members are always welcome. We meet in the Hall next to the Church every Monday at 9:30am. Bingo, bowls and cards are some of our activities. For general information please ring President Shirley Fenton on 9721.1875 or Trips Officer Jim Newell on 9632.5049.

HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENT FORMS: Parents of children going into High School in 2022 may need Fr. Peter Blayney to sign their enrolment forms. He will be able to sign these forms after the following weekend Masses: **Saturday Vigil 5:30pm, Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am.**

DIOCESAN NOTICES

POSITIONS VACANT:

Head: Formation for Mission – Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close Monday, 10 May**
Head: Mission Engagement – Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close Monday, 10 May**
More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

COMMUNITY VISITORS SCHEME VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

The Community Visitors Scheme, a program with CatholicCare, is looking for volunteers to provide a friendly visit to residents in local Aged Care Facilities who are lonely or isolated from their family and friends. If you feel you could spare one hour a week or a fortnight to help a person feel more valued and respected, please contact the Manager, Deb Woolacott on 0418 114 055 or email: deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au.

INTRODUCTION TO SAFEGUARDING TRAINING:

The Diocese of Parramatta is launching new online Safeguarding training for all parish staff and volunteers. Zoom sessions to introduce the training will be held 2:00pm-3:00pm on 5 May. More information to follow or email Sonia Fingleton at the Diocese at: sonia.fingleton@parracatholic.org.

‘THE WELL’ OFFERS NEW REFRESHMENT IN 2021:

‘The Well’ is back in 2021. The team are hoping to drip-feed new and relatable content every 72 hours that supports your ministry with family, friends, students, colleagues and strangers. **Check it out on:** www.thewell.org.au.

OFFICE FOR WORSHIP RESOURCES AVAILABLE:

The Office for Worship has a range of resources available for purchase for individuals and parishes. Resources such as parent material for a child’s baptism and a collation of prayers can be purchased from the Office for Worship by contacting 8838.3457.

GET VACCINATED FOR THE COMMON GOOD:

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. **More information is available at:** <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>

SAVE THE DATE — LAUNCH DATE OF THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC MEN’S GATHERING — 31 JULY:

The National Catholic Men’s Gathering for 2021 will be launched online on Saturday, 31 July. Join a diocesan group with your Bishop, or with your Men’s Ministry/Parish group or individually. Three sessions will be provided online, along with reflection questions for group discussion or individual reflection. The gathering aims to inspire and encourage all Catholic men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish/diocese and the world. **Register for free at:** www.catholicmensgathering.com.au.





PASTORAL LETTER TO THE PASTORS, PARENTS AND THE FAITHFUL OF THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA ON THE PROPOSED PARENTAL RIGHTS BILL

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta recently made a submission to the NSW Legislative Council's inquiry into the *Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020* (introduced by the Hon. Mark Latham, NSW State Leader of Pauline Hanson's One Nation party). I felt it was important to write to reassure you that the decision to oppose the Bill was guided both by our strong Catholic faith and teachings, and concern for the wellbeing of our students and their families.

Our Catholic schools remain resolutely committed to our Catholic values which are at the heart of teaching children and young people. This means approaching these matters with sensitivity, compassion and truth, acknowledging at all times the dignity of each person. Dedicated staff respond to the needs of each student in an age-appropriate way.

As the Bishop of Parramatta, with oversight of Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta, I take seriously the trust you have placed in us to educate your children and will uphold that trust with an education based on Catholic Scripture, Tradition and Values. Parents' role in education is vital, necessary and sought after at all times because parents are their children's first teachers (Canon 793 §1). This is made very clear in Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta's submission to the parliamentary inquiry.

At issue is whether or not certain sensitive or challenging topics such as consent, sexuality, gender et cetera can be discussed in the classroom. Some have quickly made a judgment that our Catholic education system panders to dangerous ideology. I can assure you that we take all the vital questions of our culture seriously and reflect on them through the prism of Jesus' solidarity with the marginalised.

As a Catholic community, we believe that all students - including those who identify as gender diverse - should have the opportunity to reach their potential, to learn with their peers and feel a sense of belonging in their school. The Bill prohibits the schools from affirming and supporting these children who are already at risk of marginalisation. We have to remember that at times the teachers are the only people these children might trust in helping them in these sensitive matters. By banning their discussion, the school community is unable to address unhealthy and discriminatory attitudes that may exist in their learning environment.

I emphatically reject the notion of gender ideology. What I advocate for is a compassionate, respectful, inclusive, Gospel-centred learning environment and a deep commitment to the wellbeing of all students, particularly those at risk. Their lives must not be made more intolerable by unjust laws such as elements of the "Latham" Bill that I have articulated above.

We have nothing to fear from a respectful and intelligent dialogue with our sons and daughters, with our deeply committed teaching staff, and in a caring Catholic environment. Life can be complex; but the Church is not a cult that refuses to engage and challenge our contemporary culture. I believe when faced with a choice, we need to acknowledge and stand with those who are ostracised rather than consigning them to the margins of society.

Catholics believe all people are made in the image and likeness of God. As our Holy Father, Pope Francis, reminds us, the Catechism of the Catholic Church invites us to accompany all people. As the parable of the Gospel's Good Samaritan tells us, we are called to walk with and care for everyone in our community.

As always, I welcome respectful discussion and acknowledge the good intentions of many of those with an interest in this important issue. Yet I ask that the dignity of each person be maintained at all times, regardless of the view being expressed. Thank you for working with us in partnership for the best outcomes for children and young people.

Yours in Christ

**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta**

*Given at Parramatta on 27 April 2021
Tuesday of the 4th Week of Easter*