

Catholic Parish of St Patrick Guildford

Rev. Fr. Peter Blayney - Parish Priest
Rev. Fr. Treesen Silva - Sri Lankan
Chaplain and Assistant Priest
Sr. Helen Cunningham OP - Pastoral
Associate

Parish Office: 32 Calliope Street
Guildford NSW 2161
Parish Office Telephone: 9632.2672
Email:
admin@guildfordcatholicchurch.org.au
Website:
www.guildfordcatholicchurch.org.au
Manning Foundation: 0497 973 311

Est. 1933



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

2 & 3 December 2023
1st Sunday of Advent — Year B

WEEKLY TIMETABLE

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm
Sunday: 8:00am and 10:00am

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday: 9:15am
Wednesday: 9:15am
Thursday: 9:15am
Friday: 9:15am

Sacrament of Penance:

Saturday: 4:30pm to 5:15pm

Eucharistic Adoration:

Friday: After the 9:15am Mass, for one hour,
concluding with Benediction



Baptisms: Please contact the Parish Office by telephone (9632.2672) 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.



Mass Intentions



Recently Deceased:

Telesia Luiluifenua Selui, Ana Kikanoi, Soane Mauvaka, Paula Mohu'onalea Kaviki, Rosa Bova, C.J. Jones, Nadia Kavakava Filimoehala, Ana Malia Lakafialavasele

Anniversaries:

George Ghosn, Gertrude Santa Maria, Anoir Khoury, Maketalena Taufana Sione

Deceased:

John Violet, Mary Jane Axiak, Rima & Bassima Hanna & Family, Peter, Janette & Eid Majed & Family, Joseph Kusitino Tukana & Family, Tokavahua, Falaeo & Faupala Families, Kathleen Lea'Kina Fatu, 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

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B



1ST READING: ISAIAH 63:16-17; 64:1.3-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down - at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours is like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. **R.**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see,
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. **R.**

2ND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: PS 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: MARK 13:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

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



**Jesus said to his disciples
and says to us today:**

'Stay awake!'

PARISH NOTICES

MORNING TEA AFTER 10:00AM MASS TODAY:

We would like to invite everyone to join us for morning tea today and on the following first Sundays. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. Kids corner!
When: After the 10:00am Mass. **Where:** At the Parish Hall.

ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL — CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE — A JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM: **Date:** Tuesday, 5 December 2023. **Time:** 5:30pm-7:00pm. All parishioners welcome to attend.

PARRAMATTA MEN'S ROSARY MOVEMENT:

As of last month a number of men who met at the Parramatta Diocese Synod have gotten together to begin a Men's Rosary Movement. The initiative is an independent gathering which takes place every first Saturday of the month and is dedicated to offering reparations for the blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Our goal is to unite men in prayer, fostering a deep sense of devotion and commitment to our Blessed Mother and in turn ignite the hearts of men to grow closer in union with her Son our Lord Jesus Christ. **Date:** Every first Saturday of the Month. **Time:** 10:30am. **Location:** Prince Alfred Square (opposite Parramatta Cathedral). For additional information, please feel free to contact Antonio Serbati on 0424 629 366.



BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR CATHOLIC CARE CHAPLAINCY SERVICES: Will you support our chaplains to listen with the ear of the heart? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will help our 15 Catholic

Care chaplains to provide pastoral, spiritual, and sacramental support to seriously ill, lonely, and distraught people this Christmas. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan the QR code. Thank you.

MANNING FOUNDATION CHRISTMAS APPEAL:

Once again Christmas is almost here, and as always, it is a special time for families. This, therefore, is your opportunity to help others in our parish who are in need. One way is by bringing food donations to Mass during Advent and placing them in the baskets under the Christmas Tree. **Some examples of food items are:** breakfast cereal, long life milk, tinned fruit/vegetables/soup, pasta, rice, jam, honey, coffee, tea, sugar, etc. Please check that the items you donate are in date. Due to health regulations please **NO ITEMS THAT CONTAIN NUTS OR TRACES OF NUTS.** *"The Lord is with you and has greatly blessed you"* (Luke 1:28).

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED — THAT CATHOLIC SHOP — CHRISTMAS CATALOGUE:

Copies of the **Christmas Catalogue of That Catholic Shop** are available at the back of the Church. All proceeds assist the work and mission of Aid to the Church in Need. You can visit www.thatcatholicshop.com to see the entire range and order online.

"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 donation point, it is available for use at the weekend Masses. 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. The donation point does not take the place of the First and Second collections or the weekly envelope offerings. St. Patrick's is very grateful for your donations, however you wish to make them.

~ Fr. Peter Blayney

ST. PATRICK'S SENIOR CITIZEN'S CLUB is for anyone over 55. We meet every two weeks in the Parish Hall at 9:30am. All welcome. For more information, please contact Keith on 9632.5379.

ADVENT

The journey we make in Advent --- which means, of course, approach or coming --- is a patient descent into the depths to discover the "hidden seed" that has already yielded so much fruit in the "soil" of women and men.

The "hidden seed" -- how do I find that within myself? In Advent we celebrate the hope of a whole people. Liturgy is, after all, never an individual activity. In that celebration, however, we may, like our ancestors exiled on the banks of the rivers of Babylon, "sit down and weep" [see Psalm 137:1].

"Hope" --- how is this gift of God part of the fabric of my daily life?

The way in the Bible becomes narrower and narrower the more closely it approaches its end, Jesus. This is because Jesus comes closest to the poor in the heart of the desert.

Do I recognise that there are times when I am in the desert?

How do I make this desert fertile within me?

ADVENT has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight.

General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar 39

How then, may we pray and reflect throughout Advent? One way is to take time each day to pray and reflect on the Advent Mass readings. Let us pray for one another and for our world during this time of Advent as we remember the first coming of Jesus the Christ and look forward, in hope, to his second coming.

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

GLENBROOK PARISH CHRISTMAS CONCERT - 10 DECEMBER: St. Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook invite you to their annual Christmas concert event on Sunday, 10 December at 7:30pm in the Parish Church. The evening will include choir and musical performances alongside themed readings for Christmas. Suggested donations for entry are \$15.00 for individuals and \$35.00 for families. For enquiries, please contact 0421 105 017.

'EUGENE STOCKTON — BLUE MOUNTAINS HERMIT' BOOK LAUNCH - 3 DECEMBER: The Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust cordially invite you to our Book Launch of 'Eugene Stockton: Blue Mountains Hermit' at 2:00pm on Sunday, 3 December at Mid Mountains Community Centre, 9 New Street, Lawson. Additional books at \$20.00 for contributors can be ordered in advance and picked up on the day or posted. Please direct any enquiries to contact@bmert.com.au. We hope to see you at the launch.

AUSTRALIAN BRANDENBURG ORCHESTRA ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL CONCERT - 12 DECEMBER: Reel in the festive season with the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra and Choir on Tuesday, 12 December, 7:30pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral for their annual Christmas concert *Noë!! Noë!!*. Gather your loved ones and join us for this beloved festive tradition, as the Brandenburg perform stunning choral works and Christmas classics, conducted by Artistic Director Paul Dyer. **SPECIAL OFFER: Get four tickets for just \$149.00!** There are less than 200 tickets remaining, so head to brandenburg.com.au or call 1300 782 856 to book your tickets now.

EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE AND FIESTA 2024: Commit the first fruits of your new year to Christ with the 2024 Epiphany Pilgrimage (2-9 January 2024). Enjoy 7 days of bushwalking, fellowship and prayer as we journey from Emu Plains to the top of the Blue Mountains, experiencing the wonderful hospitality of parish communities along the way. Day 1 is a family-friendly day, with the option for a children's pilgrimage finishing with the Finnies Fiesta at St. Finbar's Glenbrook. **For more information and to register for all or part of the journey, visit:** www.epiphanypilgrimage.org.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY COURSE RETURNS IN 2024: The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in February 2024. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at: <https://officeforworship.org.au/>.

BE PART OF OUR SYNOD JOURNEY - DIOCESAN SYNOD REPORT NOW AVAILABLE: The Diocesan Synod Report is now available for download. The newly released Diocesan Synod Report offers a summary of our first Diocesan Synod assembly, held from 13-15 October 2023, its preparatory stages, in-depth details of the proceedings, and insights from delegates. Download your copy from the Parramatta Synod website now: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>.

YOUNG ADULT FAITH FORMATION - 3 DECEMBER: Young Adult Faith Formation sessions continue on Sunday, 3 December at The Hustle, 4-6 Purdy Road, Minchinbury at 7:00pm. Fr. Tom Green will talk about and lead discussion on Religion and Politics. We encourage all adults 18-35 to come along and enjoy some faith formation and fellowship! Call Mark on 0477 004 678 for more information.

60TH YEAR OF THE CONSTITUTION ON THE SACRED LITURGY COMMEMORATIVE MASS — 4 DECEMBER: Bishop Vincent invites all to join him in a commemorative Mass to mark the 60th Anniversary of *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy) to be held at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta on Monday, 4 December at 7:30pm. Please RSVP for catering purposes to 0460 037 795 or Hannah Portelli: hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org.

RYDALMERE PARISH PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL: Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere, has an Adoration Chapel that is open to the public 24/7 located at 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere. The Parish welcomes everyone to the Chapel. For after-hours access, please contact the Parish Office on 9684.1541 or admin@holymary.org.au.

RYDALMERE PARISH WEDNESDAY EVENING ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND MASS: Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere, invites you to join us for our Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 6:00pm every Wednesday. During Adoration, Fr. John is available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 6:00pm to 6:45pm. Holy Mass is then celebrated at 7:00pm. For further information, please contact the Parish Office on 9684.1541 or admin@holymary.org.au.

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA TRIBUNAL AVAILABLE FOR IN-PERSON, TELEPHONE AND ZOOM APPOINTMENTS: The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm for enquiries regarding marriage annulments. Interviews are being conducted in person with Zoom and telephone appointments available in certain circumstances. Please contact the Tribunal office on 8838.3480 or email tribunal@parracatholic.org.