

# 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

**9 & 10 December 2023**  
**2nd 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:

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

### Anniversaries:

Thomas Lay, Dyan Rivai, George Ghosn, Gertrude Santa Maria, Anoir Khoury, Maketalena Taufana Sione

### Deceased:

Mary Jane Axiak, John Violet, 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

## 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B



### 1ST READING: ISAIAH 40:1-5, 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

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.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
 a voice that speaks of peace,  
 peace for his people.  
 His help is near for those who fear him  
 and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
 justice and peace have embraced.  
 Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
 and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

The Lord will make us prosper  
 and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
 Justice shall march before him  
 and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

### 2ND READING: 2 PETER 3:8-14

A reading from the second letter of St. Peter

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

The word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: LUKE 3:4, 6

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
 all people shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia!**

### THE GOSPEL: MARK 1:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

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

**A voice cries  
 in the  
 wilderness:  
 Prepare a way  
 for the Lord.**

***How do I  
 prepare a  
 way  
 for the Lord?***



## PARISH NOTICES

### 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.



### THANK YOU FOR GIVING COMFORT, FAITH AND HOPE TO DISTRAUGHT PEOPLE THIS CHRISTMAS:

Fr. Fernando Montano, Parramatta Catholic Foundation, and Catholic Care

thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support for people in hospital and prison who might otherwise feel abandoned. Because of your compassion, our Bishop's Christmas Appeal raised \$1,965.20, which will provide pastoral, spiritual, and sacramental support to people in times of darkness. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) or scan this 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).

**"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

**CHURCH PARKING:** The teacher's car park behind the school will be open from next weekend (16-17 December) until Christmas Day.

**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.** It would also be helpful if names were printed clearly on the envelope. Printed envelopes are available at the back of the Church. Thank you for your co-operation.

**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.

**CHURCH CLEANLINESS:** A friendly reminder to keep the house of the Lord clean by taking all your rubbish with you at the conclusion of Holy Mass — this includes all used tissues. Thank you for your co-operation.

## ADVENT REFLECTION

*One way of really enriching our Advent journey is to keep in mind the three comings of Jesus, and how they relate to one another.*

Jesus was born into our history - at a fixed point in time in the past. Jesus come to us now, in a whole variety of ways. Jesus promised that he will come again in glory, at the end of time.

Blessed be he who in his love stooped to redeem mankind!

Blessed be the King who made himself poor to

enrich the needy!

Blessed be he who came to fulfil

.....the types and emblems of the prophets!

Blessed be he who made creation rejoice

.....with the wealth and treasure of his father!

Blessed be he whose glory the dumb sang with hosannas!

Blessed be he to whom little children sang new glory

.....in hymns of praise!

Blessed be the new King who came

.....that new-born babes might glorify him!

Blessed be he unto whom children brought faltering songs

.....to praise him among his disciples!

**St. Ephraem the Syrian, 306-373**

# DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

## POSITIONS VACANT:

Facilitator: Catholic Youth Parramatta – Mission Enhancement Team, Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 12:00pm Monday, December 2023 (see description below).**

Governance, Risk and Compliance Administrative Support – Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 10:00pm Tuesday, 12 December 2023.**

**More details at:** [parracatholic.org/employment](http://parracatholic.org/employment)

**JOIN OUR CYP TEAM!** The Diocese of Parramatta's Mission Enhancement Team (MET) is looking to expand and deepen the work of Catholic Youth Parramatta in 2024. You have the opportunity to impact the lives of thousands of youth and young adults in our ever-growing ministry, especially in schools. Forward your current CV, refer to the position description, and record a 2-3 minute video addressing your passion, skills and experience for the role to [parracatholicjobs@parracatholic.org](mailto:parracatholicjobs@parracatholic.org).

## DIOCESAN WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS -

**10 FEBRUARY 2024:** A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11:00am on Saturday, 10 February 2024 at St. Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2024 to [mary.gale@parracatholic.org](mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org).

## MUSIC FOR LENT WORKSHOP - 12 FEBRUARY

**2024:** Musicians and Liturgy Planners are invited to attend an evening exploring Music for Lent on Monday, 12 February 2024 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. The session will be presented by Eric Grella, Music Formation Facilitator, Mission Enhancement Team. To RSVP, please contact [mary.gale@parracatholic.org](mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org) by 5 February 2024.

## 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/>.

## 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.

## 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](http://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org).

## 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 *Noël! Noël!*. 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](http://brandenburg.com.au) or call 1300 782 856 to book your tickets now.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@holymary.org.au).

## MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES IN 2024:

Getting married in 2024? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit [www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://www.parracatholic.org/pmp) to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via the website. For more information, email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org) or phone Marisa on 0412 280 017.

