

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

29 & 30 November 2025
1st Sunday of Advent — Year A

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 Sundays 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:

Souraya Hassan, Paolo Cocco, Gaetano Di Carlo, Silvio Crosariol, Peter Thelander, Anjali Vieyra, Margaret Aston, Aloysius Frois

Anniversaries:

George Ghosn & Deceased Family,
Carmen Desira, Jeanette Love

Deceased:

During the month of November, only Recently Deceased and Anniversaries will be listed.



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 A



1ST READING: ISAIAH 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

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

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. **R.**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
'Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!' **R.**

For love of my brethren and friends
I say: 'Peace upon you!'
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your god. **R.**

2ND READING: ROMANS 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon - let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light.

Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

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!

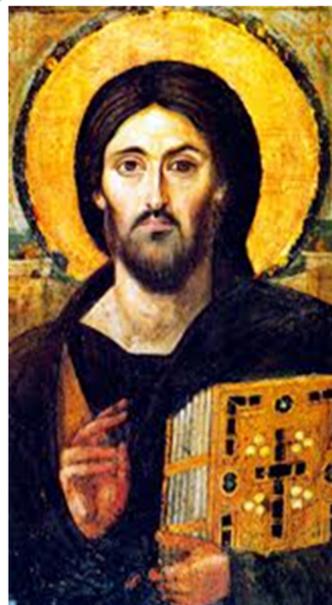
THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

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



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

'Stay awake!'

**Salvation is
near at hand.**

PARISH NOTICES



BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL – SUPPORTING CATHOLIC CARE GRIEF AND LOSS COUNSELLING:

Christmas is drawing near, and with it the promise that God is with us. For many in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, that promise is needed right now.

Many individuals and families are carrying grief, stress and uncertainty - wrestling with the rising cost-of-living, unstable work and the heartbreak of losing a loved one. Your generosity is the way to open the doors of hope for the broken-hearted ensuring that no one in our community grieves alone. **Please give generously at: parracatholic.org/appeal or scan the QR code.** Thank you.

NO MORNING TEA AFTER 10:00AM MASS NEXT SUNDAY: Please note that Morning Tea will not be held after the 10:00am Mass next Sunday.

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).*

LITURGICAL ROSTER: The new Liturgical Roster is now available to be collected from the Sacristy.

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?

SMART TAP TO DONATE DEVICE is installed inside the church near the front glass doors. The Smart Tap can be used to make donations to the parish. There are four options from which to choose when making a donation: \$5.00, \$10.00, \$20.00 or “Other Amount” (selected by the donor). This way of donating has been used regularly by parishioners and visitors. On behalf of the Parish Finance Committee, I thank everybody for their generosity.

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 PARISH, GUILDFORD

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES - 2025

Christmas Eve - Wednesday, 24 December

5:30pm Vigil Mass

11:45pm Sri Lankan Mass

Christmas Day - Thursday, 25 December

8:00am and 10:00am

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE FOR CHRISTMAS 2025

Saturday 20 December
9:30am-11:00am and
4:30pm-5:15pm

New year's Eve — Wednesday, 31 December

11:30pm Benediction

New Year's Day — Thursday, 1 January

12 Midnight Sri Lankan Mass

THE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED FROM FRIDAY, 26 DECEMBER 2025 TO SATURDAY, 27 DECEMBER 2025.

NORMAL MASS TIMETABLE RESUMES AT 5:30PM ON SATURDAY, 27 DECEMBER 2025.

THE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY, 29 DECEMBER 2025 TO WEDNESDAY, 31 DECEMBER 2025 INCLUSIVE.

NORMAL MASS TIMETABLE RESUMES FROM THURSDAY, 1 JANUARY 2026 AT 9:15AM.

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

POSITIONS VACANT:

Catholic Chaplain – Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains

Parish Secretary (Permanent Part-Time) – Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Wentworthville

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

LOW COST COUNSELLING SERVICES: Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provides low cost and affordable counselling services for individuals seeking support. Whether you're looking for general guidance or assistance with specific challenges like grief, loss, or family matters, Catholic Care is here to help. **Call Catholic Care on 8843.2500 for a friendly chat today.**

BAULKHAM HILLS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON - 25 DECEMBER: The Parish of Baulkham Hills are hosting a Christmas Lunch for anyone who will be on their own on Christmas Day. You may be in town for a visit, or just moved into the area, or may simply be unable to share Christmas Day with your loved ones. So come and share it with us. It will be held on Thursday, 25 December in and around the St. Michael's Primary School Hall, and everyone is welcome, families and individuals. But places are limited, so you will need to register to attend. **For more information, contact the Parish Office on 9639.0598 or email: baulkhamhills@parracatholic.org.**

CATHOLIC CARE SEWING AND CROCHET CLASSES: All are welcome to join Catholic Care's weekly sewing and crochet classes every Thursday during school terms, 10:00am-1:00pm at Mamre House and Farm, 181 Mamre Road, Orchard Hills. Learn new skills, connect with others, and enjoy a friendly, supportive environment. Perfect for anyone wanting to meet new people! **To register, contact Catholic Care on 8843.2500 or email: enquiries@catholiccarewsbm.org.au.**

SCAN ME



DEVELOP COMMUNITY SELF-RELIANCE AND CREATE LASTING CHANGE — DISCOVER HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED IN PALMS INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING: Discover Palms International Volunteering online in these two special sessions where you'll hear how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities in our Southeast Asian region.

1. Explore our **GAP YEAR opportunities** for (18-25 year olds) Year 12 graduates and university students, that could shape your future. **Date:** Thursday, 4 December. **Time:** 6:00pm or 9:00pm **AEDT (NSW/VIC/ACT/TAS)**
2. Join our **TIMOR-LESTE ENCOUNTER** Information session for those who would like a short taste and tour of Palms placements to Timor-Leste from 14-27 May 2026. **Date:** Monday, 8 December. **Time:** 7:30pm-8:30pm **AEDT (NSW/VIC/ACT/TAS)**. **Venue:** ONLINE - Scan the QR code or register at palms.org.au/events; 9560.5333; palms@palms.org.au.

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA TRIBUNAL OFFICE:

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm, to offer advice and assistance regarding marriage annulments and dissolution of marriages. Interviews are preferably conducted in person with Zoom and telephone interviews in special circumstances. **Please contact the Tribunal Office on 8838.3480 or email: tribunal@parracatholic.org.**

MT. SCHOENSTATT ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS CAROLS - 13 DECEMBER: Come and prepare your hearts for the coming of Christ at the Advent and Christmas Carols at Mt. Schonstatt Family Hall, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa on Saturday, 13 December from 7:00pm. All children are encouraged to arrive by 6:45pm dressed as angels or shepherds. **Contact Sr. M. Rita for more details: 0493 026 628; srrita@schoenstatt.org.au.**

BAULKHAM HILLS PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROL - 6 DECEMBER: Celebrate the spirit of Christmas with the Parish of Baulkham Hills' fun-filled Christmas Carols event on Saturday, 6 December at St. Michael's Primary School Hall from 6:30pm (after Mass). Bring a picnic and a comfy chair and enjoy a great night of music, laughter, and friendship. **For more information, contact the Parish Office on 9639.0598 or email: baulkhamhills@parracatholic.org.**

CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GLOBAL GIFTS ARE CHRISTMAS CARDS WITH PURPOSE! Every card you buy helps build brighter futures for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty. By putting your compassion into action and shopping for the Global Gifts of your choice you will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and communities, while giving your loved ones a meaningful Christmas card. **View the range of Global Gifts: www.globalgifts.org.au.**

DONATE TO JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICES THIS CHRISTMAS! As Christmas approaches, Jesuit Refugee Services is calling upon the community to support their work accompanying and serving people seeking asylum who are facing homelessness. Parishes and communities are invited to contribute to JRS' Advent Food Drive, collecting pantry staples to stock their Foodbank, purchasing supermarket gift cards for groceries over the holiday period or donate to their Christmas Appeal. **For more information about how you can help, please contact Kristen on 9356.3888 or email: kristen.lazarus@jrs.org.au.**

MOUNT SCHOENSTATT MONTHLY SHRINE TIME FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS: Join us for Monthly Holy Hour for youth and young adults at the Schoenstatt Shrine, Mulgoa, every fourth Sunday of the month for praise, worship, silence, prayer, reflection and benediction at the Shrine. There is the opportunity to go to confession and there is a small social gathering afterwards. **For further information please contact Sr. M. Rita via: srrita@schoenstatt.org.au or 0493 026 628. Web: <https://schoenstatt.org.au/>.**