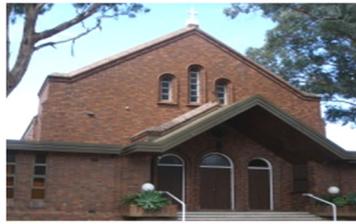


Catholic Parish of St Patrick Guildford

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

6 & 7 December 2025
2nd 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:

Susan Rowan, Daniel Tui, Souraya Hassan, Paolo Cocco, Gaetano Di Carlo, Silvio Crosariol, Peter Thelander

Anniversaries:

John D'Silva, Felix Gonsalves, Edy Hitanaya, Albert Hitanaya, George Ghosn & Deceased Family, Carmen Desira

Deceased:

Margaret & Hugh Munro, Francis Oliver, Edgar Montclar, Rima & Bassima Hanna & Family, Peter, Janette, Eid, Katia & George Majed & Family, Elias, Tony, Peter, Tony & Family, Tokavahua, Falaeo & Faupala Families, Joseph Kusitino Tukana & Family, Soane & Doris Kikanoi & Family, Katalina Lea'Kina Tuini Fatu & Family, Petelo Sanele Tui & Family, Sononefa, Falakiko, Leaha, Joselito & Keletaona Families, Eukalio, Palemila & Tokavahua Families, Kalala Kamilo Gata & Family, Eukalio, Palemila, Suliana & Fugolei Families, 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 A



1ST READING: ISAIAH 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless; his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

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

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **R.**

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails:
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R.**

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **R.**

May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **R.**

2ND READING: ROMANS 15:4-9

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

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord

Jesus Christ. It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

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: MATTHEW 3:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



PARISH NOTICES



THANK YOU FOR HELPING HEAL BROKEN-HEARTS

THIS CHRISTMAS: Because of your compassion, our Bishop's Christmas Appeal raised \$1,331.50 to support Catholic Care's counsellors to continue bringing comfort and hope when it's needed most. Your

kindness provides professional counselling, tailored care plans and the training that equips our team to serve with wisdom and compassion. **If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit: parracatholic.org/appeal or scan this QR code.** Thank you.

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL for Susan Rowan will be held at St. Patrick's Church, Guildford on **Wednesday, 10 December at 10:30am.** Parishioners are most welcome to attend.

NO MORNING TEA AFTER 10:00AM MASS — SUNDAY, 7 DECEMBER: Please note that Morning Tea will not be held after the 10:00am Mass today.

GRAB YOUR FREE COPY OF THE CATHOLIC OUTLOOK MAGAZINE! The latest quarterly edition of the *Catholic Outlook* Magazine is out now, keeping you connected with exciting news and events in the Diocese of Parramatta.

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

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).

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 NOTICES

MIGRANT JUBILEE CROSS VISITS THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA:

To mark the end of the Jubilee Year, the Vatican's Migrant Jubilee Cross will be visiting several parishes in the Diocese of Parramatta from 5-11 January. For one week, the Diocese of Parramatta will come alive with celebrations that recognise the faith, gifts and resilience of migrant communities who have enriched our parishes, schools and communities. Bring your friends and family to experience the Migrant Jubilee Cross Pilgrimage at a parish near you. **Learn more at: parracatholic.org/migrant-jubilee-cross.**

POSITION VACANT:

Catholic Chaplain – Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

CHRISTMAS CAROLS: A variety of parishes are hosting Christmas carols over the next few weekends. **Please visit: parracatholic.org/events to find times and locations.**

MOUNT DRUITT COMBINED CHURCHES CHRISTMAS DAY COMMUNITY LUNCH - 25 DECEMBER: Don't spend Christmas alone. A free Christmas Day lunch hosted by Mt. Druitt Combined Churches on Thursday, 25 December from 11:00am, with Holy Family Parish, Mt. Druitt as the venue host. All are warmly welcome. **Registration is essential. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/MtDruittChristmasLunch>.**

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.**

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.**

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. Schoenstatt 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.**

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.**



**A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord.
*How do I prepare a way for the Lord?***

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. Another way, for those of us who have access to the internet, is to use sites that help us to journey through Advent.

There are a number of sites, two are listed below:

Sacred Space – Your Daily Prayer Online:

This is a ministry of the Irish Jesuits
<https://www.sacredspace.ie>

Advent Resource – Lead Kindly Light – Sunday Readings:

A ministry of the Columban Mission Institute, Sydney
<https://www.columban.org.au>

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.

