

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

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

25 & 26 July 2026

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time — 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,



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



Mass Intentions



Recently Deceased:

Jenny Pedavoli, Nathan Madden, Emma Rosell Ponla, Katherine & Harry Tha, Wilhelmina Vanderdeyl (Janmaat)

Anniversaries:

Arturo Enriquez, Benedict Le, Hien, Francis Xavier Le, Hoang Nguyen, Mr. Peter Court, Julian Attard, Gaetano Di Carlo, Danielle Lee Abaquita, Abaquita & Pamalia Families, Michael Barakat, Marie Santa Maria, Norman Cordeiro, Lucy Frois, Calvin Cordeiro

Deceased:

Abiwahab & Bechara Families, Gwendaline Vogt, Sebastian Lobo, All those who have passed in Mazrat El Toufeh, Edgar Montclar, Maria Nguyen Thi Xuyen, Giuse Luu Minh Ngoc, Modesta Padillo, Arquipo Padillo, Jason Hermosa, Jeanette Love, Eleuterio Abaquita, Estepania Abaquita, 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

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A



1ST READING: 1 KINGS 3:5, 7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

PS 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130

Response: Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. **R.**

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. **R.**

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. **R.**

Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. **R.**

2ND READING: ROMANS 8:28-30

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

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: CF MATTHEW 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 13:44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



Jesus said:

**The kingdom
of heaven is
like treasure
hidden in
a field ...**

**Loving God,
may we have
the wisdom
to know
that we find
our treasure
in you.**

PARISH NOTICES

FIRST COMMUNION: The Church teaches that children should be prepared to receive Holy Communion as soon as possible after their coming to the age of reason or discretion, i.e. about the age of seven. *It is primarily the duty of parents and of those who take their place, as it is the duty of the Parish Priest, to ensure that children who have reached the age of reason are properly prepared and, having made their sacramental confession, are nourished by this divine food as soon as possible.* [Code of Canon [Church] Law, Can. 914]. **Parents may collect an Enrolment Form for First Holy Communion, after Sunday Masses – Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am.** The Eucharist is the memorial of Christ's death and resurrection. Let us pray for each other and especially for the families who will be preparing our young parishioners to receive Jesus, for the first of many times, in Holy Communion.

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.

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.

CUMBERLAND COMMUNITY PRAYER DINNER: The Cumberland Community Prayer Dinner is an annual gathering of people united by a shared commitment to prayer for our community. This special event brings together local churches, civic leaders and community members to reflect, give thanks and seek God's guidance for our region. Through heartfelt prayers and meaningful fellowship, we aim to strengthen the bonds of Christian unity and hope within the Cumberland area. We invite you to join us on 7:00pm, Tuesday, 25 August at Merrylands RSL Club Swan Room with our Guest Speaker Jude Simion from Philoi Global. — "Building Bridges: Celebrating Our Neighbours". **Tickets:** \$55.00 per person including two-course meal and soft drinks. RSVP and dietary requirements by 12 August. **More information:** www.cumberlandchurches.org/prayer-dinner. **Tickets available from:** www.eventbookings.com/b/event/2026-cumberland-community-prayer-dinner. Please see flyer on Church noticeboard.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE: Will be held in the Confessional Room every Saturday from 4:30pm to 5:15pm.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Will be held on Fridays, after the 9:15am Mass, for one hour, concluding with Benediction. This hour will be a quiet time of prayer and reflection.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

ANNUAL WALK ON THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION - 15 AUGUST: Join the Annual pilgrimage walk on the Solemnity of the Assumption, beginning with 11:00am Mass at the Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents, Kellyville, followed by a 14km walk to St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Refreshment stops will be held at St. Michael's, Baulkham Hills, and St. Monica's, North Parramatta. The pilgrimage concludes with prayers at approximately 6:00pm. Banners and statues are welcome and you may join the walk at any point. **For enquiries, contact Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Office on 9629.2595.**



GET #ACTIVE4VOCATIONS - SPUR ON OUR CITY2SURF TEAM AND HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARIANS: This National Vocations Awareness Week, Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv and our Holy Spirit Seminarians will get #Active4Vocations in City2Surf on Sunday, 9 August. Please pray for vocations and support our seminarians as they take on the 14km journey from Sydney to Bondi to promote priestly vocations. **Spur them on with a donation at:** tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations. **If you feel called to the priesthood, visit:** parracatholic.org/contribute/discern-my-vocation/priesthood.

NEW BOOK – FREE TO FLOURISH: Free to Flourish, Father Stephen Onyekwere's warm new book on healing, marriage and faith, gently guiding people from surviving to flourishing. Written with our Bishop's blessing and subsidised at just \$20.00. **For copies, call Mary Queen of the Family Parish Office on 9622.1125 or email sonyekwere@mqofblacktown.org.au.**

FROM STORIES TO SOLIDARITY – A TABLE TALK ON HOMELESSNESS - 9 AUGUST: Join us for an afternoon of conversation, connection and community as we explore how relationships can inspire meaningful action on housing insecurity and homelessness. *What is the call to us as members of the Diocese of Parramatta? What strategies can we put in place? What to Expect:* Light refreshments, Table conversations in mixed groups, Practical action we can take together. All are welcome! **Please register at:** <https://parracatholic.org/events/pje-table-talk-homelessness/>.

**Positions
Vacant**

POSITIONS VACANT:

Sacramental Co-Ordinator – St. Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith. **More details at:** parracatholic.org/jobs

ST. CARLO ACUTIS'S EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBITION: Designed by St. Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint, this exhibition documents reported Eucharistic miracles from around the world and it is touring parishes right across our Diocese. Next, it comes to Our Lady of the Angels, Rouse Hill, from 9-23 August. Students, teachers and parishioners are invited, entry is free and no bookings are required. **To see where the exhibition is heading next across the Diocese, visit:** <https://parracatholic.org/iec2028/>.

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

BAULKHAM HILLS PARISH GALA DINNER - FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER: Join Baulkham Hills Parish for a memorable evening in support of their treasured heritage-listed church on Friday, 18 September at 6:00pm at Fontana Amarosa, 49 Balmoral Street, Blacktown. The evening includes a three-course dinner, live band and DJ, raffles and auction prizes. **To buy tickets, call 9639.0598 or email admin@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au.**

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA WORLD YOUTH DAY SEOUL 2027 LAUNCH - 12 AUGUST: Come and discover the pilgrimage to the 17th International World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea (26 July–11 August 2027), themed "Take courage! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Join us for an inspiring evening to learn about the pilgrimage, hear testimonies from past pilgrims, explore the faith and culture of the Korean Church and enjoy fellowship with other young people. **Date:** 12 August 2026. Doors open at 6:30pm. **Venue:** Nagle College, 58A Orwell Street, Blacktown **Register today at:** parracatholic.org/events/wyd27-launch/. We look forward to welcoming you!

MARRIED COUPLES' RETREAT – REFLECT, RENEW AND RECONNECT - 5 SEPTEMBER: Married couples are invited to a special retreat day, *Reflect, Renew and Reconnect*, on Saturday, 5 September 2026 at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1 Marion Street, Blacktown. The day runs from 8:30am–4:30pm and includes Mass with Bishop Vincent, light refreshments, and lunch. Couples will explore topics including Expressions of Love, Living Your Vocation of Marriage, 7 Principles of Making Marriage Work, Creating a Marriage First Aid Kit and a Couple Prayer and Commitment Ceremony. Cost is \$45.00 per couple. Places are strictly limited. Bookings are essential. **Register now at:** <https://parracatholic.org/marriedcouplesretreat/>.

BAULKHAM HILLS PARISH GROW IN FAITH PROGRAM FOR ADULTS - FROM 10 AUGUST: The Baulkham Hills Parish community will be hosting a new series of Catholic talks every Monday and Thursday at 7:30pm starting Monday, 10 August. These evenings are open to everyone aged 14 and above — for those who have been practising their faith for years, those who have drifted away from the Church, and anyone simply curious about the Christian faith. Sessions will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Baulkham Hills in the Parish Hall (underneath the church). **For more information, call Lucas 0428 813 256.**

ANNUAL AFRICAN MASS 2026 - 27 SEPTEMBER: The African Catholic communities of the Diocese of Parramatta, in collaboration with the Diocesan Office for Migrant Chaplaincies and the Nigerian and Ghanaian Chaplaincies, warmly invite you to the African Mass 2026. Join us on Sunday, 27 September from 1:00pm–5:00pm at Mary Queen of the Family Parish (St. Patrick's Church), 51–59 Allawah Street, Blacktown, for a vibrant celebration of faith, culture and community. Refreshments and entertainment will be provided following Mass. All are welcome.



BE THE WITNESS — THE MUSICAL: Over the past few months, the chorus of **Be The Witness** has visited parishes across the Diocese, sharing a glimpse of this powerful Catholic musical. Now the full production is coming to **Riverside Theatres Parramatta from 10–13**

September 2026. **Be The Witness** brings the story of Jesus to life through the eyes of St. Peter, using music, drama and storytelling to create a moving encounter of faith, hope and witness. Groups of 50 receive around **20% off standard tickets**, plus one complimentary ticket for the Parish Priest. Bring your parish group, ministry, family or friends. Scan the code to book your group.

CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP: Join the Sisters of Saint Joseph and Mary MacKillop Place as we celebrate the Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop on **Saturday, 8 August**. Make a pilgrimage to Mary's tomb, spend time in prayer in the Chapel, and celebrate the Eucharist with us at one of our Feast Day Masses: **8:00am and 6:00pm** – Chapel; **10:00am and 1:00pm** – Glen Roy Green (Outdoors). The **10:00am and 1:00pm Masses will be AusLan interpreted** and the **10:00am Mass will be livestreamed** for those unable to attend in person.

OTHER WAYS TO CELEBRATE MARY'S FEAST:

WALK WITH MARY IN HOPE AND WONDER – ONLINE NOVENA - 30 JULY–7 AUGUST — 7:30PM –8:00PM (AEST) | VIA ZOOM: Wherever you are, you're invited to make an online pilgrimage through Mary's life. Across nine evenings, we'll journey through the significant moments that shaped her faith, courage, and hope, discovering how her story can inspire our own pilgrimage of life. Whether you're joining from interstate, overseas, or simply unable to travel, all are warmly welcome! Join us on Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/92816949299>.

CARE CART APPEAL: Inspired by Mary's call to "never see a need without doing something about it," support our Care Cart Appeal for the Aboriginal Women's and Children's Crisis Service. Donations of new, unopened women's toiletries, sanitary products, blankets, children's books, toys, and reusable water bottles can be placed in the Chapel until 8 August. You will see the Care Cart inside the Chapel with a love heart on it.

PRAYER AND ADORATION – HOLY HOUR FOR YOUNG PEOPLE: Before the **6:00pm Feast Day Mass**, join us for **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** from **4:30pm–5:45pm**. Take time to step away from the busyness of life and rest in prayer, silence, and the presence of Christ.

For the full Feast Day program, information and more, visit: www.marymackillopplace.org.au or contact: ministries@mmp.org.au.