

Catholic Parish of St Patrick Guildford

Est. 1933

Fr. Peter Blayney - Parish Priest
Sr. Helen Cunningham OP
Pastoral Associate
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**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

16-17 March 2019
2nd Sunday of Lent - Year C

WEEKLY TIMETABLE

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm
8:00am and 10:00am

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 9:15am
Thursday: 9:15am
Friday: 9:15am
Saturday: 9:00am

Confessions:

Saturday: 9:30am to 10:15am
5:00pm to 5:45pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

- ◆ Every Saturday following the 9:00am Mass until 10:30am, including Prayer for Priests (Vocations).
- ◆ Every 1st Sunday of the month from 11:00am to 12:30pm.



Baptisms: Please contact the Parish Office to arrange. Baptisms, 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 is held on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm in the Parish Office. **Booklets need to be obtained from the Parish Office prior to the preparation.**

SILENCE IN THE CHURCH: At last weekend's Masses I asked that we agree to a communal penance during the weeks of Lent. The penance is that we pay far more attention than we have been to the value of silence in the church. This applies primarily before and during Mass. We live in a fast-moving and noisy world which is simply a characteristic of the era in which we find ourselves. So, it becomes more important to the health of the human spirit that we find times for ourselves which are less busy, less noisy and more reflective. So it is with the sacred liturgy. The following extracts come from the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (2000). This Instruction gives detailed principles, guidelines and recommendations for the way we should properly celebrate the Eucharist. On silence, it has this to say:

Sacred silence also, as part of the celebration, is to be observed at the designated times. Its purpose, however, depends on the time it occurs in each part of the celebration. Thus within the Act of Penitence and again after the invitation to pray, all recollect themselves; but at the conclusion of a reading or the homily, all meditate briefly on what they have heard; then after Communion, they praise and pray to God in their hearts. Even before the celebration itself, it is commendable that silence to be observed in the church, in the sacristy, in the vesting room, and in adjacent areas, so that all may dispose themselves to carry out the sacred action in a devout and fitting manner [45].

The Liturgy of the Word is to be celebrated in such a way as to promote meditation, and so any sort of haste that hinders recollection must clearly be avoided. During the Liturgy of the Word, it is also appropriate to include brief periods of silence, accommodated to the gathered assembly, in which, at the prompting of the Holy Spirit, the word of God may be grasped by the heart and a response through prayer may be prepared. It may be appropriate to observe such periods of silence, for example, before the Liturgy of the Word itself begins, after the first and second reading, and lastly at the conclusion of the homily [56].

In his General Audience in Rome on 15th November 2017, Pope Francis spoke of the value of silence. He said, "Mass is the highest form of prayer and not an appropriate moment for small talk. At church, Catholics should spend their time in silence before Mass, preparing to meet with Jesus instead of engaging in "chitchat". Silence is so important. We are not going to a show. Silence prepares us and accompanies us. The Eucharist is a form of prayer that is the highest, the most sublime and, at the same time, the most concrete way of encountering God's love. This is the greatest grace: to experience that the Eucharist is the privileged moment to be with Jesus and, through him, with God and with our brothers and sisters. In the Gospels, Jesus teaches his disciples that the first thing needed to pray is to know how to say "father" and to trust in God with the humility of a child. Christians also must allow themselves to be surprised by the living encounter with the Lord, and not simply talk to God like a parrot, repeating the words of prayers without thinking. The encounter with God is a living encounter. It is not an encounter of a museum, it is a living encounter. And we go to Mass, not a museum! We go to a living encounter with the Lord." ~ Fr. Peter Blayney



LITURGY OF THE WORD

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C



1ST READING: GENESIS 15:5-12, 17-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. 'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off. Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 26:1, 7-9, 13-14

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink? **R.**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.' **R.**

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help. **R.**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! **R.**

2ND READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:17 - 4:1

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

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ.

They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe. So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: MATTHEW 17:5

Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

THE GOSPEL: LUKE 9:28-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him'. And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

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



**'This is my Son,
the Chosen One.
Listen to him.'**

***How do I make
time to listen
to Jesus?***

PARISH NOTICES

DAYS OF PENANCE: Abstinence means not eating meat. Abstinence applies to everyone from age 14. Fasting means having one main meal and two lighter meals. Abstinence and fast are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The law of fasting requires a Catholic from the 18th Birthday to the 59th Birthday (i.e. the beginning of the 60th year) to reduce the amount of food eaten from normal. The Church defines this as one meal a day, and two smaller meals which if added together would not exceed the main meal in quantity. Such fasting is obligatory on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

SPIRIT OF PENANCE: The reason for various practices of penance is expressed well by the Prophet Joel (2:12-13): "Now, now – it is the Lord who speaks – come back to me with all your heart, fasting, weeping mourning. Let your hearts be broken not your garments torn, turn to the Lord your God again, for he is all tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in graciousness, and ready to relent". External observances such as abstinence and fasting only have value for us if they remind us to change ourselves within. This change is called conversion to the Lord at a deep level. Furthermore, the Church deems it sensible and reasonable not to impose fasting on those over the age of 60. The spirit of penance also means that those with certain health conditions, children under 18 and the frail aged are not bound to fast.

LENTEN REFLECTION GROUPS: On the Thursdays of Lent, we will get together in the Parish Office to reflect on the themes of Lent through the Sunday gospels for Year C. Two one-hour sessions will be offered each Thursday, at 10:00am and 7:00pm (a repeat of the 10:00am session). The sessions will be led by myself, Sister Helen, Julie Gorman and Deacon Richard Mulheron, taking each session in turns. In previous years, we have relied on set programmes from other dioceses. Last year, we wrote our own programme which we felt was relatively successful. So, again this year, we're leading the sessions ourselves and creating our own reflections. Please consider attending these sessions as part of your Lenten discipline. This does not have to be hard or a sacrifice. There are various forms of "penance" we can do. Everybody is welcome.

~ Fr. Peter Blayney

ST. PATRICK'S DAY 2019: The traditional date for St. Patrick's Day is 17 March, the legendary day of his death in either 460 or 493 AD. As 17 March this year is this Sunday, the Second Sunday of Lent takes precedence. So, from a liturgical point of view, the Church is making this coming Monday, 18 March the celebration of St. Patrick. It is a Solemnity in rank (same as each Sunday). There will be a parish Mass with our primary school at 9:15am on the Monday. However, as our patron is St. Patrick, we will celebrate after the 10:00am Mass this Sunday by having a special morning tea. All welcome to celebrate our Parish Feast Day.

~ Fr. Peter Blayney

REQUIEM MASS: A Requiem Mass for Yvonne Wisbey will be held at St. Patrick's Church, Guildford on **Friday, 22 March 2019 at 1:00pm**. All welcome to attend.

ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER: The Altar Society Roster for April 2019 to September 2019 is now available for collection from the Sacristy.

KINDERGARTEN 2020 ST. PATRICK'S ENROLMENTS: Kindergarten 2020 Enrolments have commenced. Please let family and friends know that packs can be collected between 8:15am and 3:30pm from the school office or are available via the school website: www.stpatsguildford.catholic.edu.au (enrol now).

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT: Will be held every Tuesday night following the 7:30pm Mass throughout Lent up to and including Tuesday, 16 April of Holy Week.

PROJECT COMPASSION THROUGHOUT LENT: Available at the back of the church are money boxes, which are to be returned at the end of Lent, and Lenten Sharepacks which contain envelopes for your weekly donation that can be placed on any collection plate throughout the six weeks of Lent. Caritas Australia thanks you for your generosity.

HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENT FORMS: Parents of children going into High School in 2020 may need Fr. Peter Blayney to sign their enrolment forms. These forms can be signed after the following weekend Masses: **Saturday Vigil 6:00pm, Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am.**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Will be held every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, during the 10:00am Mass, except during school holidays or when otherwise advised.

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

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

CALLED TO THE NEW EVANGELISATION:

St. Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta invites you to spend an evening with Mr. Frank Padilla, Author, Live Christ Share Christ Movement Moderator and Founder of Couples for Christ. **Date:** Monday, 15 April. **Time:** 7:00pm to 9:00pm. **Where:** Cathedral Cloister Hall.

SAFEGUARDING SUPERHEROES - 28 MARCH:

Ensuring a safe environment for young people is an essential requirement of any ministry initiative. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. The Diocese of Parramatta is hosting an evening for 'on the ground' volunteers who are predominantly present at activities or ministries that involve young people. Let's build a network of safeguarding officers for the future! 28 March from 6:30pm-9:00pm at the Novotel Hotel, Norwest.

More details at:

parracatholic.org/cyp-keeping-our-young-people-safe/

BISHOP VINCENT'S PASTORAL LETTER: Bishop Vincent's pastoral letter to the people and clergy of the Diocese of Parramatta can be found at: catholicoutlook.org/bishop-vincents-pastoral-letter

"YOUNG BEREAVED SPOUSES" SUPPORT

GROUP: The Young Bereaved Spouse (YBS) Support group offers monthly support to men and women whose spouse or partner has died. Age guideline of under 55 years old, whether a parent or not. This group is held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

First Gathering for the year: Tuesday, 19 March

Venue: 13 Buller Street, North Parramatta

Time: 6:45pm for 7:00pm start to 9:00pm. **Cost:** \$5.00.

Registration Essential: Contact Rita on 8843.2575 or email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au.

POSITION VACANT:

Transition Housing Worker - CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains

More details at: ccss.org.au

Parish Ministries

Parish Pastoral Council: Meet bi-monthly on a Thursday evening (6:00pm-8:00pm) in the Parish Office.

Social Justice Group: Meet monthly on a Wednesday evening (6:30pm) in the Parish Office.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): For enquiries, please call the Parish Office on 9632.2672.

Music for Worship: Meet once a month at 10:00am in the Parish Office.

Welcome Committee: Meet Bi-Monthly on a Monday at 9:30am in the Parish Office.

The Manning Foundation: Meet 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00pm in the Parish Office - Mobile Number: 0497 973 311.

Catechists: Meet 2nd Tuesday of each term at 9:30am in the Parish Office.

Children's Liturgy: Every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, during the 10:00am Mass, except during school holidays or when otherwise advised.

Legion of Mary: Meet every Wednesday (after the 9:15am Mass) in the Parish Office.

Sacred Heart Society: Meet 1st Sunday of each month at the 8:00am Mass.



Mass Intentions



Recently Deceased:

Yvonne Wisbey, Doumit Hanna Nakhoul, Fr. Graham Kings (former Parish Priest of St. Peter Chanel, Berala), Pasquale Civello, Lena Cincotta (nee Merlino)

Anniversaries:

Ida Dialoisio, Eric Dunn, Doris Borg, Rita & Dominic Gonsalves, Debbie Abrahams, Medardo Tungul Senior, Joseph Lister

Deceased:

Mary Jane Axiak, John Canjuga, Franciska Jakubin, Alfred Xuereb, Members of Muscat Family, Fadalah & Tony Aflak, Joseph Gittany, Edward Frois, Tokavahua, Falaeo & Faupala Families, Jane & Ann Matheus & Families, Vincent Johnsos & Family, Adolph, Fluri & Ida & Families, Alma & Semaan Azar and Deceased Family Members, John & William Lucas & Families, Susan Stafford & Family, Marie & Carmelia McKeown & Families, Eillen & Margaret Brown & Families, Nina & Ruth Deid & Families, Ghasoub & Layla Mardini & Deceased Family, Albert Gray & Dawson Family, Simon & Sussane Yazbeck & Family, Hanna & Majed Families, Mary Foley & Family, James, Dorothe, Frederic & Families, Ernest, James, Ellen, Shirley & Families, Agnes, Mary, Jurotte & Families, Holy Souls in Purgatory

ST. PATRICK'S SENIOR CITIZENS

Hello everyone! **St. Patrick's Senior Citizens Club** is for anyone over **55**. We have been functioning for 40 years and new members are always welcome. We meet in the School Hall next to the Church every Monday at 10:00am, except for the 4th Monday which is our day bus trip. Bingo, bowls and cards are some of our activities. For general information please ring President Shirley Fenton on 9721.1875 or Trips Officer Jim Newell on 9632.5049.