

Catholic Parish of St Patrick Guildford

Est. 1933

Fr. Peter Blayney - Parish Priest

Sr. Helen Cunningham OP

Pastoral Associate

32 Calliope Street

Guildford NSW 2161

Phone: 9632.2672

Email:

admin@guildfordcatholicchurch.org.au

Website:

www.guildfordcatholicchurch.org.au



**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

**21 & 22 December 2019
4th Sunday of Advent - Year A**

WEEKLY TIMETABLE

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm

Sunday: 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.**

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.

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:

Dean Lane, Alfred McNamara, John D'Silva, Regina (Bonny) Taylor, Mary Ann Mercado, Anthony D'Silva

Anniversaries:

Joe Nasr, John Ellson, Rose Watts, Tom Adams, Edna Adams, Dante & Serafina Letta, John Lane, Joseph Mizzi, Joseph Portelli, Faye Khattar, Alberto Ramundi, Tina Conti, Rosa Mancini, Dalzotto Family, Maria Guisa, Maria Terrisi, Carmen Desira

Deceased:

Mary Jane Axiak, Les Romero & Family, McQuillan Family, Albert Gray & Dawson Family, Nayef El-Khoury, Jreige Jlalaty, Joseph Antaki, Edgar Montclar, Maria Nguyen, Tokavahua, Falao & Faupala Families, Maria & Dominic, Mariana, Vicente, Adelina & Jaime, Deceased Members of the Palmano, Palombit, Skordilis & Di Michiel Families, Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary, Holy Souls in Purgatory



LITURGY OF THE WORD

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A



1ST READING: ISAIAH 7:10-14

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 23:1-6

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

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **R.**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **R.**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

2ND READING: ROMANS 1:1-7

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

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: MATTHEW 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

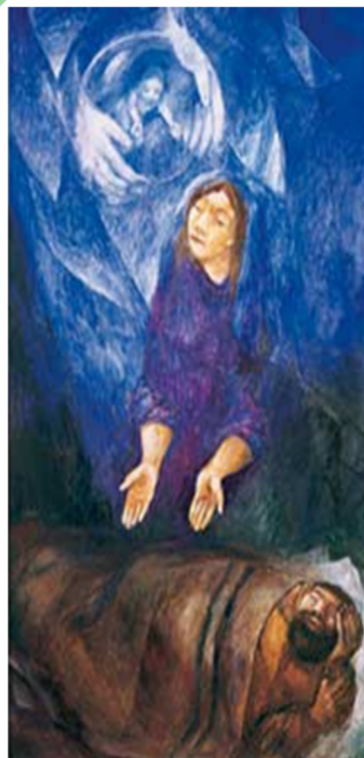
A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 1:18-24

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

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



**Joseph,
do not be
afraid to
take Mary
as your
wife.**

**She will
give birth
to a son,
Emmanuel:
God-
is-with-us.**

PARISH NOTICES

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S VIGIL MASS - CHILDREN'S LITURGY: All primary school aged children are invited to attend St. Patrick's Christmas Vigil Children's Mass [at 6:00pm](#) on Christmas Eve. Children will be seated on the floor at the front of the church, fully supervised by the Children's Liturgy teachers. At this Mass we will attempt to include as many children as possible in the ceremony. So that we are able to allocate jobs for the night we would ask you to text 0404 369 542 to let us know that your child(ren) is/are attending this Mass. Please indicate your child's age so that we know which jobs will be appropriate for them, e.g. reading, carrying candles, etc. **PLEASE NOTE: If your child is allocated a job on the night you will be informed by text message.** Children who are allocated jobs on the night will be required to be at the church [at 5:15pm](#) for costumes and practice. If you do not hear from us regarding jobs then please be at the church [by 5:45pm](#). All children are encouraged to come dressed as shepherds or angels. This will add to our Christmas celebration.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY ROSTER: The new roster for all liturgical ministries has been emailed. There are copies in the Sacristy for those who require a printed copy.

THANK YOU to all parishioners who generously donated food items during the Advent season. Your contribution will be put to very good use by the House of Welcome and Jesuit Refugee Services. Many blessings be with you during this Christmas season.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES: Envelopes are available at the back of the Church for parishioners who would like to make a Christmas offering.

MORNING TEA - SUNDAY, 22 DECEMBER: Will be held after the 10:00am Mass in the Hall.

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.

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.** Printed envelopes are available at the back of the Church. Thank you.

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.

LEGION OF MARY — PARISH VISITATION: Anyone who would like the Legion to call on them or if you know of anyone you think might appreciate a visit by our Legion Ladies, please call Tina on 0432 043 365 or the Parish Office on 9632.2672.

THE ADVENT-CHRISTMAS-EPIPHANY SEASON that we Christians celebrate is not simply the observance of events from the past nor is it a sentimental birthday of 'baby Jesus'. It is much more. It is a celebration of God's self-revelation in Jesus the Christ, *Emmanuel* – God who was with people in the past, with us in the present and for all time into the future. God's love is made visible to us in and through Jesus. Our celebration of Christmas cannot be separated from the Paschal Mystery – the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, his ascension into heaven and the sending of the Holy Spirit. For three hundred years the Church only celebrated this Paschal Mystery. The crib, the cross and the crown are interwoven and cannot be separated. Let us pray for one another during this holy time and for all our brothers and sisters throughout the world.



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

BISHOP VINCENT'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE: Bishop Vincent's Christmas message can be viewed online at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zqtMPFd06Y4> or www.parracatholic.org

Happy Christmas from Bishop Vincent and the Diocese of Parramatta.

GREYSTANES PARISH BIBLICAL STUDIES PART 2 - FEBRUARY 2020:

Throughout the month of February, Fr. Joseph Lam from Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes, will run a series of biblical studies on Prophetic Literature in the Old Testament. Sessions will be held at the parish every Thursday in February and on 5 March from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. **Registrations are essential** via parishoffice@olqp.org.au, where you can also obtain the recommended reading list.

ANNUAL RED MASS - 28 JANUARY 2020: Bishop Vincent Long and Fr. Bob Bossini warmly invite members of the judiciary and legal community, public service officials, law students and their families to the annual Red Mass on Tuesday, 28 January at St. Patrick's Cathedral at 7:30pm. Refreshments will be served after Mass. Confirm attendance and any dietary requirements by 20 January to 8839.8411 or events@stpatscathedral.com.au.

PASTORAL PLANNING ALPHA TEAM TRAINING WORKSHOP - 9 FEBRUARY 2020:

The Pastoral Planning Office is running a training day in the Alpha Catholic program at the Institute for Mission, Blacktown, Sunday, 9 February, 9:30am–4.30pm. The workshop will look at where Alpha fits in the faith formation process in a Parish. To register, and for more information, please contact Lisa in the Pastoral Planning Office on 8838.3497 or lisa.bright@parracatholic.org.

THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE: The Epiphany Pilgrimage, through the Blue Mountains, is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. Beginning at Emu Plains on Thursday, 2 January 2020 and finishing 7 days later at Bell, pilgrims walk 110km through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland, celebrating the Christmas season with each parish along the way. Registration and details at epiphanypilgrimage.org and facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage.

POSITION VACANT:

Volunteers – Mamre Creche - CatholicCare

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS -

11 FEBRUARY 2020: A Mass for the World Day of the Sick will be celebrated in the Diocese of Parramatta on Tuesday, 11 February 2020, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes at 10:30am at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, St. Patrick's Church, 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown. The Mass will be an acknowledgment of carers and those for whom they care and will include the Sacramental Rite of Anointing of the Sick and Prayers for Healing. Please RSVP to Marisa VanderHout at the Diocesan Ministry Centre on 8838.3460 or marisa.vanderhout@parracatholic.org to assist with seating and catering.

UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS PARISH SANTO NIÑO CELEBRATIONS - 19 JANUARY 2020:

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish in the Upper Blue Mountains is celebrating the feast of Santo Niño at St. Canice's Church, Katoomba. Mass will be held on Sunday, 19 January at 12:00pm, with refreshments served afterwards. For more information, please contact the Parish Office on (02) 4782.2804 or mmparishubm@gmail.com

LALOR PARK PARISH WEDNESDAY EVENING DEVOTIONS:

St. Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park, is hosting weekly devotions to Mary Immaculate and St. Bernadette and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Wednesday evening at 7:00pm, followed by Mass at 7:30pm. All are welcome. For more information, contact the Parish Office on 9672.4037 or admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au.

KELLYVILLE PARISH MASS OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS - 28 DECEMBER:

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Kellyville is holding their annual Mass of the Holy Innocents on Saturday, 28 December at 11:00am. Fr. David Blowey OFM Conv will celebrate Mass, followed by a Rosary procession to the Shrine of the Holy Innocents. Lunch will be available and please bring a plate to share. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office on 9629.2595.

NIGERIAN MASS IN IGBO: The Nigerian Catholic community come together to celebrate Mass every second and fourth Sundays of the month at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes. For more information, please contact Nigerian chaplain Fr. Chinonye Akamadu via the Parish Office on 9631.8135 or Stella Nwosu 0405 478 472.

ST. PATRICK'S SENIOR CITIZENS

Hello everyone! **St. Patrick's Senior Citizens Club** will be closed from Monday, 9 December 2019 and will resume on Monday, 3 February 2020. We wish you all a merry and holy Christmas and happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all in 2020.