

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

**29 February & 1 March 2020
1st Sunday of Lent - Year A**

WEEKLY TIMETABLE

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am and 10:00am

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday: 7:00pm

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.**

SEASON OF LENT

[Pope St. Leo the Great, c 400-461]

“Initially, men are made new by the rebirth of baptism. Yet there still is required a daily renewal to repair the rust of our mortal nature, and whatever degree of progress has been made there is no one who should not be more advanced. All must therefore strive to ensure that on the day of redemption no one may be found in the sins of his former life.

Dear friends, what the Christian should be doing at all times should be done now with greater care and devotion, so that the Lenten fast enjoined by the apostles may be fulfilled, not simply by abstinence from food but above all by the renunciation of sin.

There is no more profitable practice as a companion to holy and spiritual fasting than that of almsgiving. This embraces under the single name of mercy many excellent works of devotion, so that the good intentions of all the faithful may be of equal value, even where their means are not. The love that we owe both God and man is always free from any obstacle that would prevent us from having a good intention.

The works of mercy are innumerable. Their very variety brings this advantage to those who are true Christians, that in the matter of almsgiving not only the rich and affluent but also those of average means and the poor are able to play their part. Those who are unequal in their capacity to give can be equal in the love within their hearts”.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

1 ST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A



1ST READING: GENESIS 2:7-9, 3:1-7

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 50:3-6, 12-14, 17

Response: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. **R.**

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R.**

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. **R.**

2ND READING: ROMANS 5:12, 17-19

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

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to

reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: MATTHEW 4:4

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

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

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



**Jesus was led by
the Spirit into
the wilderness.**

*How and when do
I recognise the
presence of the
Spirit in my life?*

PARISH NOTICES

PRACTICAL LENTEN DISCIPLINES: The traditional three-pronged approach to the penitential season is through the practice of prayer, fasting and almsgiving (Mt 6). While some sacrifice is involved on our part, it does not mean that these disciplines always have to be difficult. Consider other ways of becoming involved in good Lenten disciplines. First of all, the parish offers us many opportunities of participating in weekday Mass, Stations of the Cross after the Tuesday 7:00pm Mass, the Saturday morning Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Penance, praying with the Rosary Cenacle prayer group on Thursday mornings (8:15am) before Mass, attending the Lenten Prayer and Reflection group on Thursdays at either 10:00am or 7:00pm, and joining (temporarily or permanently) any of the parish ministry groups listed in the parish bulletin. Secondly, there are various other practices which we can do at home and in private ('When you pray, go to your private room ... and your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you', Mt 6:6). For example, private and/or family praying the Rosary, reading and praying the Scriptures, reading about the lives of the saints or simply sitting quietly with the Lord for some time. Thirdly, we can think laterally about such things as fasting. While one way to fast is to consciously decide to reduce food and drink (provided we follow the Church's rules on this matter), another way of fasting is to examine the quality of our relationships with others, from family members, friends, work colleagues and acquaintances. In this way, we are fasting (resisting) from treating such people with less than the full "love of neighbour" expected of us by God. Fourthly, we can enter into the spirit and the law of penance by taking almsgiving seriously. We have the traditional contribution to Project Compassion available to help us with this. There are various other charities to which we can contribute with both our treasure and talent. The latter would include volunteering to help these charities (e.g. House of Welcome, East Granville) in whatever way we can. When it comes to Lenten disciplines and penances, the possibilities are endless! Pope Francis said it better on Ash Wednesday: "It is the right time to turn off the television and open the Bible. It is the time to disconnect from mobile phones and connect ourselves to the Gospel. It's a time to give up useless words, idle chatter, rumours, gossip and speak intimately with the Lord" ~ **Fr. Peter Blayney**

A COMMUNAL LENTEN PENANCE: I wish to impose this on all of us when we celebrate Eucharist and other sacraments/worship in the church here. Silence! Since the beginning of the year, people are talking too much and too loud before Mass and at times during Mass. The Offertory time, as we take up the collection, is not a time for a chat. I can hear those chats from where I sit. I am disturbed and distracted by that noise. So those sitting near you must be more distracted and possibly annoyed. Why can't we use these liturgical "down times" to sit quietly, pray, think, reflect, especially given these precious moments are very few during our busy lives. "Only in silence can the word of God find a home in us, as it did in Mary, the woman of the word and, inseparably, woman of silence". (Pope Emeritus Benedict, *Verbum Domini* (2010), n 66) ~ **Fr. Peter Blayney**

PARISH RETREAT: A Parish Lenten Retreat will take place at the House of Prayer, East Kurrajong on Saturday, 21 March - 10:00am until 6:00pm. Numbers are limited to about 15 to 20. Yet another opportunity for worthwhile Lenten penance! For details see Fr. Peter or Sr. Helen.

LAY LITURGICAL MINISTRIES IN THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA: As a consequence of liturgical reforms mandated by the Second Vatican Council the Diocese will cease to install lay men to the ministry of Acolyte (with the exception of those preparing for Ordination as either permanent Deacons or Priests). A new office of Minister at the Altar will be open to men and women above the age of 18 years. A minister at the Altar will also assist in the administration of Holy Communion. Those who have previously been instituted as Acolytes will continue to Minister at the Altar. Anyone over the age of 18 who normally worships in the parish is invited to volunteer for this ministry. Contact Fr. Peter or Sister Helen.

LENTEN REFLECTION GROUPS: On the Thursdays of Lent, we will get together to reflect on the themes of Lent through the Sunday gospels for Year A. 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, Michael Tan and Deacon Richard Mulheron, taking each session in turns. 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**

KINDERGARTEN 2021 ST. PATRICK'S ENROLMENTS: Kindergarten 2021 Enrolments will commence this week. 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). An Open Day for prospective Kindergarten 2021 families will take place this Thursday from 9:15am-10:00am.



Mass Intentions



Recently Deceased:

Mautamakia Gogo, Jean Louis Tokotuu, Leogia Alikigalelei, Petelo Fuimaono, Franscisco Januario Sarmento, Wayne Sing, Blino Sakr, George Joseph Hanna, Colleen Thompson

Anniversaries:

Jacob Milad Baysari, Ray Kady Jnr., Germano, Joanico & Norberta, Rita Gonsalves, Carlos Younes,, Joseph Merlino, Lena Cincotta (nee Merlino)

Deceased:

Mary Jane Axiak, Raymond & Therese Kady, Sitalei Hakula & Family, Boutros & Annie Boutros, Joe, Taleb & Rose Nasr, Sabatino Mancini, Nello Vespa, Norm Timpson, Nayef El-Khoury, Jreige Jlalaty, George Boutros, Ghassoub & Layla Mardini & Deceased Family Members, Alma & Semaan Azar & Deceased Family Members, Joao & Tomazia Alves, Michael Remaili, alves, Moniz & Remaili Families. Holy Souls in Purgatory

GATHERING HYMN

Return to God

Refrain:

Return to God with all your heart,
the source of grace and mercy:
come seek the tender faithfulness
of God.

Now the time of grace has come,
the day of salvation:
come and learn now the way
of our God.

Refrain

I will take your heart of stone
and place a heart within you,
a heart of compassion and love.

Refrain

COMMUNION HYMN

Tree of Life

Tree of life and awesome myst'ry,
in your death we are reborn.
Though you die in all of hist'ry,
still you rise with ev'ry morn.
Still you rise with ev'ry morn.

Seed that dies to rise in glory,
may we see ourselves in you.
If we learn to live your story,
we may die to rise anew.
We may die to rise anew.

We remember truth once spoken,
love passed on through act and word.
Ev'ry person lost and broken
wears the body of our Lord.
Wears the body of our Lord.

Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit,
come inflame our hearts anew.
We may all your joy inherit,
if we bear the cross with you.
If we bear the cross with you.

Christ, you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be.
One with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river, you the sea.
We the river, you the sea.

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RECESSIONAL HYMN

Return to God

Refrain:

Return to God with all your heart,
the source of grace and mercy:
come seek the tender faithfulness
of God.

If you break the chains of oppression,
if you set the pris'ner free;
if you share your bread
with the hungry,
give protection to the lost;
Give a shelter to the homeless,
clothe the naked in your midst,
then your light shall break forth
like the dawn.

Refrain

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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