

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

Manning Foundation — 0497 973 311



**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

**12 & 13 December 2020
3rd Sunday of Advent — Year B**

WEEKLY TIMETABLE

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:00am

Weekday Masses:

Wednesday: 9:15am

Thursday: 9:15am

Friday: 9:15am

Confessions:

By appointment only.

Please call the Parish Office on phone:

9632.2672



Baptisms: Please contact the Parish Office by telephone to arrange a Baptism. Baptisms are 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 will be explained when you contact the Parish Office. **Booklets need to be obtained from the Parish Office prior to the preparation.**

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



Mass Intentions



Recently Deceased:

Sushila Pakoor, Elias Abou-Mehrez, Luka Matkovic, Katalina Liogi, Logalei Pakihimailagi, Johnn Clark

Anniversaries:

Rose Watts, John & Dean Lane, Kapelieli Vakalepu, Malino Nau, Alberto Ramundi, John D'Silva, Damiano Ingraio

Deceased:

Mary Jane Axiak, Joseph Kusitino Tukana & Family, Tokavahua, Falaeo & Faupala Families, Malia Lani Nau & Family, Joao & Tomazia Alves, Michael & Noeleen Remaili, Stephen Neil Smith, Joana Conceicao, Sarkis & Honni Karam, Semen & Sussan Yazbek & Family, Odette & Tony Chabchoul & Family, Majed & Hanna Families, Edgar Montclar, Michael & Paul Grima, Emilia Apap, Haber Family, Alfred Xuereb, Bernard Colecliffe, Albert Vella, Members of the Muscat Family, Souls of Christian Brothers of St. Patrick, Kathleen Fatu, Holy Souls in Purgatory



LITURGY OF THE WORD

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B



1ST READING: ISAIAH 61:1-2, 10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;
to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.
'I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.
'For as the earth makes fresh things grow,
as a garden makes seeds spring up,
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise
spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: LUKE 1:46-50, 53-54

Response: My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R.**

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. **R.**

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. **R.**

2ND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24

A reading from first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.
Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything - hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.
May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ISAIAH 61:1 (LUKE 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.
This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you unknown to you the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

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



Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT MASSES AT ST. PATRICK'S, GUILDFORD

The following provisions apply to gatherings in our parish church:

- 140 persons are permitted for Mass or other liturgical services

However, the COVID-19 health conditions still apply:

- Persons entering the church must use the hand sanitizer provided.
- Persons entering the church must record their names and other contact details..
- Persons must keep the "2 square metre" rule.

WEEKEND MASSES

Masses will be celebrated in the Church:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:00am and 10:00am

Bookings are no longer required to attend Mass each weekend.

WEEKDAY MASSES

The weekday Mass timetable is: Wednesday 9:15am, Thursday 9:15am and Friday 9:15am.

There will be no Masses on Tuesday at 7:00pm or Saturday at 9:00am until further notice.

Sacrament of Penance

Due to physical distancing provisions, it is not possible to celebrate the Sacrament in the Confessional Room. Please telephone the Parish Office (9632.2672) for an appointment with the Parish Priest who will meet with you within a reasonable time.

Pre-Recorded Sunday Mass

Will be available on the parish website after midday Saturday.

PARISH NOTICES

CHRISTMAS EVE — THURSDAY, 24 DECEMBER:
There will be **NO** 9:15am Mass on 24 December 2020.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. CHRISTOPHER MALEY OAM: Pope Francis has honoured 21 members of the Diocese of Parramatta with Pontifical Honours, presented on Monday, 7 December, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. The honours recognise significant service of members of the Diocese and are approved by the Secretariat of State of His Holiness, Pope Francis. Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, in presenting the awards said it was appropriate that the Christian community affirms those, who through their contribution, inspire others. "We thank them sincerely for their discipleship and dedication to building up the body of Christ which is the Church, and especially in this part of the world," he said. Among the recipients was former parishioner and still current member of the Parish Finance Committee, Mr. Christopher Maley. He received the papal award as a Knight in the Order of St. Gregory the Great. This is awarded for *conspicuous service to the Catholic Church, without regard to religious affiliation. Apart from his membership of the Parish Finance Committee, Chris is also the Chairman of the Diocesan Finance Council. For many years he has served on numerous boards and committees in a wide range of apostolates for the Church. On your behalf I warmly congratulate him for his generosity, skills and dedication to building the body of Christ.*
~ Fr. Peter Blayney

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

CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR THE MANNING FOUNDATION: Once again Christmas is almost here, and as always, it is a special time for families. This, therefore, is our opportunity to help others who are in need. One way is by bringing food donations to Mass on the Sundays of Advent and placing them in the baskets. Some examples of food items are: weet-bix, long life milk, tinned fruit/vegetables/soup, spaghetti, 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).

EASING OF COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS: Beginning Monday, 7 December 2020, the distancing regulation changed. The current one person per four-square metre ruling will become two-square metre ruling. This means that we can have 140 people in the Church at any one time. Booking for Mass will be discontinued. Every weekend each person - adult, child, baby — will be counted at the church door. The name of each person and phone number must be written on the sheets provided on the table as we have done previously. This is required by Law for contact tracing purposes. Let us continue to pray for one another and all people throughout the world as we journey through this time of pandemic.

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH, GUILDFORD

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES - 2020

Christmas Eve - Thursday, 24 December

5:00pm Vigil Mass
6:30pm Vigil Mass

PLEASE NOTE: NO MIDNIGHT MASS

Christmas Day - Friday, 25 December

8:00am and 10:00am

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE FOR CHRISTMAS 2020

Saturday 19 December
9:30am-11:30am

CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY, 28 DECEMBER 2020 TO SATURDAY, 2 JANUARY 2021.

NO WEEKDAY MASS, COMMUNION SERVICE OR CONFESSIONS BETWEEN MONDAY, 28 DECEMBER 2020 AND SATURDAY, 2 JANUARY 2021.

NORMAL MASS TIMETABLE RESUMES AT 5:30PM ON SATURDAY, 2 JANUARY 2021.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

CHRISTMAS MASS AND RECONCILIATION TIMES: Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times from parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are available now on the Diocese of Parramatta website (www.parracatholic.org), on Catholic Outlook (www.catholicoutlook.org) and on our Diocesan social media channels. Merry Christmas from the Diocese of Parramatta!

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK MAGAZINE SUMMER 2020/21 EDITION: Catholic Outlook Summer edition is out now and free to all parishioners. Read about our amazing HSC students, the new bells of St. Patrick's Cathedral and how the new Vatican Ambassador who originates from Castle Hill is settling in. Plus what the symbols of Advent really mean. Pick up your free copy from the back of the Church today.

THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE 2021: The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. From 2–9 January, pilgrims walk through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland and spend time in prayer and fellowship. Limited overnight registrations are available, and day walkers are welcome. For more information and to register, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org. To follow the journey see <https://www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage/>.