

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

19 & 20 December 2020
4th 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:

Tony, Lamia & Antonio Farah, Sushila Pakoor, Elias Abou-Mehrez, Luka Matkovic, Katalina Liogi, Logalei Pakihimailagi, Johnn Clark

Anniversaries:

Joe Nasr, George Boutros, Rose Watts, John & Dean Lane, Kapelieli Vakalepu, Malino Nau, Alberto Ramundi

Deceased:

Mary Jane Axiak, Leila Mitchell, Ghasoub & Layla Mardini & Deceased Family Members, 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, Kathleen Fatu, Holy Souls in Purgatory



LITURGY OF THE WORD

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B



1ST READING: 2 SAMUEL 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

A reading from the second book of Samuel

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.' But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 88:2-5, 27, 29

Response: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R.**

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' **R.**

He will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
for him my covenant shall endure. **R.**

2ND READING: ROMANS 16:25-27

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

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith.

This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: LUKE 1:38

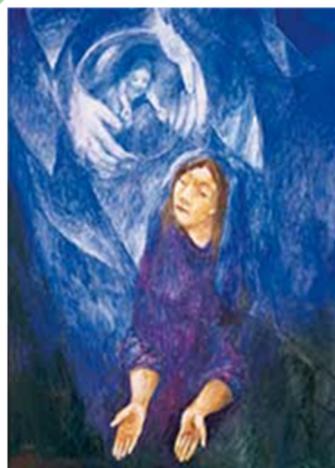
Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.
Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: LUKE 1:26-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

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



***'I am the
handmaid
of the Lord',
said Mary
'let what you
have said be
done to me'.***

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

PRE-RECORDED SUNDAY MASS will cease on the last weekend of December, Feast of the Holy Family, 26-27 December. There will be no pre-recorded Mass offered during the month of January 2021. The reason is that the technical team needs a break. We have been pre-recording the Sunday Mass since the lockdown began at the end of March this year. We attempted a live-stream during November when I was away. For technical reasons the live-streaming did not work well. Depending on the pandemic, restrictions and protocols relevant to churches, we will decide at the beginning of February 2021 whether the pre-recorded Mass will continue. I wish to pay tribute and heartfelt thanks to Patricia Mitchell and Leonie Lane who ran the technical side and to Sr. Helen who prepared and managed each Sunday liturgy for filming. Without them, there would have been no pre-recorded Mass each Sunday.

~ Fr. Peter Blayney

THANK YOU TO PARISH WORKERS for 2020, our COVID-19 year. In lieu of our customary get together with a little bit of prayer and a big bit of party for those who give of their time and talent to the parish community, I wish to offer all those people (numbering almost 200) who do assist Sr. Helen and myself in running the parish a debt of gratitude for what you do and who you are. While much of our parish activities were cut out or reduced this year, we still relied on a number of people to help us operate on a day-to-day basis. It's an understatement now to say this has been a difficult year. However, for those who chose to and could attend Mass in the Church over these past months, there has been a positive spirit of co-operation amongst those who were asked to help out in any way. At the wider parish level, we have continued to operate at a reduced level. Many have helped out here too. We would certainly like to see all the parish workers back in 2021 if and when we can resume normal operations. May the Lord bless you and your families this Christmas.

~ Fr. Peter Blayney

THANK YOU to all Parishioners and the St. Patrick's School community who generously donated food items during the Advent season. Your contribution will be put to very good use by the Manning Foundation. Many blessings be with you during this Christmas season.

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

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.

ST. PATRICK'S SENIORS CLUB: The President Shirley called a Committee Meeting and due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) it was decided to re-open the Club on Monday, 1 February 2021. Hoping everyone is well. See you in the new year. Any enquiries please call Shirley on 9721.1875.

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

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.

BISHOP VINCENT'S 2020 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE can be viewed online at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLi8lZtSXdo> or www.parracatholic.org.

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

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