



St. Patrick's Parish Blacktown

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship.

51-59 Allawah Street Blacktown 2148 Tel: 9622 1125 After Hours Emergency Number: 9621 3146 Fax: 9671 6425
Email: admin@stpatricksparish.org.au Web: www.stpatricksparish.org.au

11th April 2010

2nd Sunday of Easter

Year C

Parish Team

Fr Peter Confeggi
Parish Priest
Fr Joseph Thomas
Assistant Priest
Owen Rogers
Deacon
Claudette Cheetham
Parish Secretary
Neng Pasigna
Finance Officer
Lisa Bright (0419 418 547)

Co-ordinators

Catechists: Mrs Colleen McCunnie
RCIA: Sr Judith Lythall
Children's Liturgy: Phil Dulawan
Social: contact Parish Office
Pious Goods: Mrs Patricia Regan
Sacramental Program: Mrs Claudette Cheetham
Archives: Mrs M. Geraghty
Choir Rehearsal: 7.00 pm Thursday
Ground & Maintenance: Don McKechnie

Weekly Mass Times:

Mon - Sat 9.00am
First Friday Mass:
6.30am & 9.00am **St Pat's,**
7.30pm Mass **St Michael's Sth Blacktown**
Blacktown Hospital Mass Times:
Thursday 10am, Friday 9.30am
Saturday Vigil Mass 7pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturdays 9.30am - 10am

Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday: Vigil 5.30pm
Sunday: 7am, 8.30am, 10am,
5.30pm (Youth Mass)
Mass for the Sick: 9.00am
2nd Saturday of the month

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals

by appointment.
Please contact office for details

Office Closure

Mon - Fri: 1- 2pm (Lunch)

Contacts

Hospital Chaplain
Fr Ed Kenny - 9622 1125
Loaves & Fishes
51- 59 Allawah St, Blacktown
9621 2758
Centacare
51- 59 Allawah St, Blacktown
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St Patrick's Primary School
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Nagle Girls College
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Institute for Mission
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An Easter Message

from Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP
Bishop of Parramatta
1 April 2010

God is dead! The new atheists are more right than they realise – and more wrong. More right, because the fact is: God *is* dead, on Good Friday, dead on a cross. Yet this means there is indeed a god to kill and, despite our doing our worst, Easter shows He lives.

Last century we tried godlessness on a grand scale and the effects were devastating. Nazism, Stalinism, Pol-Pottery, mass murder, abortion and broken relationships: all promoted by state-imposed atheism or culture-insinuated secularism, the illusion that we can build a better life without God.

Yet more than a billion Christians will be mourning this Good Friday and celebrating this Easter Sunday. Christianity has proved itself both more vulnerable and more hardy than its enemies imagined. And in this our Church is the image of Our Lord: vulnerable to agony and death; yet resilient in suffering and bringing new life.

Sadly, the violence, abuse and unlovingness of many believers through the ages have driven some people away from God. Others are turned off by the tepidness of our faith, by our saying we believe in God but living as if we didn't. We can kill God for other people by our hypocrisy or half-heartedness.

On the other hand the great Christian institutions of parishes, hospitals, schools and welfare, the great art and music, philosophy, science and morality, the lives of saints, the sacrifices of our families, and the heroic love of so many ordinary believers, all have their magnetic attraction.

At Easter we retell the story of God on the cross and risen from the tomb. We speak of faith and love amidst infidelity and despair. Above all, we sing of *hope*: hope that there is more than just blind forces of nature and the imposition of human wilfulness. The One who goes down into the tomb at Easter speaks to us of the compassion of God. And he enables us to join him in making a more compassionate world. God is alive and raises us up to new life!

God bless you and your loved ones in this holy season.

Second Sunday of Easter - Year C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Like newborn children you should thirst for milk, on which your spirit can grow to strength, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acts 5:12-16

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 117:2-4. 22-27

**Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:

'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:

'His love has no end.'R.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.R.

O Lord, grant us salvation;

O Lord, grant success.

Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the Lord God is our light.R.

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:9-13. 17-19

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have
seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still
believe! **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Jesus spoke to Thomas: Put your hand here, and see the place of the nails. Doubt no longer, but believe, alleluia.

Mass for the soul of the following: Clifford Desouza, Charles Briffa, Massu & Nina Arapa, Stanley Stokes, Carl Bartley, The Schembri family, P. Camilleri, Maggie Fernandes, the abandoned souls and all souls in purgatory.

Prayer for the sick: Louise Vella, Richard Ormell, Kerry Bush, Peggy Giddey, Kim Baker, Naomi Petrie, Mary Toohey, Coral McLean, Santo Passarello, Frank Vella, Greg Hogan.

Recently Deceased: Carmel Becker, Eileen Patricia Marshall

Daily Readings

12th Apr: Jn 3:1-8; 13th Apr: Jn 3:7-15; 14th Apr: Jn 3:16-31; 15th Apr: Jn 3:31-36; 16th Apr: Jn 6:1-15; 17th Apr: Jn 6:16-21

ANOTHER VERY SPECIAL CELEBRATION

Next Sunday we will celebrate *Emmaus Sunday*. The Emmaus story (Luke 24) is one of the great Easter stories and is particularly important with the Emmaus Ministry so much at the heart of our parish.

At the 10 am Mass on Sunday members of the Emmaus community will be *up front and central* to our celebration. We will also be joined by the Ephrata community - the Church's ministry for the hearing impaired. They will be leading us in their very own way of singing.

I would like to thank members of the Emmaus and Ephrata communities for sharing their ministries with the parish and I invite parishioners to give them a warm St Pat's welcome.

THANK YOU

I know a thank you was said last weekend but I would like to record my personal thanks to all who made Holy Week a special time of prayer and devotion. As I said there are very public ministries but there are also a lot of behind the scenes preparations.

I know that in offering my personal thanks, I am reflecting the appreciation of many people who have spoken to me in recent days.



Compeer

a Special Work of the St Vincent de Paul Society

The small gift of your time can make a world of difference to someone who is lonely. Compeer is an award-winning program that matches friendly and caring volunteers in one-on-one friendship with a person of the same gender living with a mental illness.

Taking part is flexible, enjoyable and rewarding. Volunteers are asked to spend an hour a week for at least 12 months with their Compeer friend, taking part in activities such as having coffee, going for a walk, or whatever you and your friend decide to do together.

We are currently seeking volunteers aged 45+ years. Free training and ongoing support is offered. The next volunteer training session will be held over two consecutive Saturdays 10th & 17th April 2010 at the St Vincent de Paul office at Lewisham. Please phone Rhonda Wannan on 9622 2411 for more information or email: compeer.blacktown@vinnies.org.au.



**MUSIC MINISTRY WORKSHOP
for
ALL MUSIC MINISTERS**

All music groups and ministers are invited to a music workshop led by Julie Kelly

Liturgical Coordinator, Parramatta Diocese.

**Saturday, 1st May 2010
10am - 3pm
Lunch Provided**

Julie will lead us in the role of Music in the Mass and the role of the music minister.

RSVP to the parish office on 9622 1125 or youth@stpatricksparish.org.au

CRAFT STALL

2nd May 2010

In the Church foyers after Sunday Masses.

Housie ... Held every Saturday evening, in the Parish Hall commencing at 7.40pm. Come along and join in the fun!

FRIENDS IN ABRAHAM

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday 11 April at the Sikh Gurdwara (Temple).

TIME: 4.30pm - 6.00pm
DATE: Sunday, 11th April 2010|
VENUE: Sikh Gurdwara (Temple)
8 Meurants Lane, Glenwood
(visible from the corner of Sunnyholt Road and M7 Motorway, although only enter from Meurants Lane, Glenwood)
AGENDA: Initial introductions

It is noted this is a change to our usual meeting day (due to Easter Sunday falling on the first Sunday of this month), however, our usual meeting time is expected to resume in May. Please feel free to invite friends and family members to join us at the Gurdwara, who would like to part-take in the extension of friendship between Christian, Muslim and Sikh neighbors in the Western Sydney area.

If you have any questions please contact Fr. Herman on email: herman.roborgh@yahoo.com, or Mary on mobile 0419 99 44 69.

All Welcome!

From Fr. Herman S.J., for Friends in Abraham

The St Vincent De Paul Society Local Conference Needs Your Help.

We currently are unable to respond to all the calls for assistance that we receive. We invite you to join us in service of the disadvantaged and vulnerable members of our community. Would you be able to volunteer a few hours a week to the work of the Society through our local parish conference?

If you would like to find out more, come to an information night in the Parish Hall on **Monday 12th April at 7.30pm.**

Please contact the Parish office 9622-1125 to leave your name to register your attendance. We look forward to seeing you there!

Pious Goods Store

...is opened after every mass on the weekend. Lots of beautiful gifts & ideas for that special occasion. It is fully stocked and Mary Mackillop items are also available. So come and browse - you may find that special gift for that special person you have been looking for! At the same time you will be supporting your parish.

Sacramental Process

Sacramental Process continues for families preparing for Confirmation. Please pray for children and their families as they continue on their Sacramental journey.

Parents Only Session for Confirmation

Sunday 18th April 11.15am or Monday 19th April at 7.30pm

Reflection Evening for Eucharistic Ministers & Readers

**Tuesday, 18th May, 7.30pm
In the Church**

Take some time out for reflection on your ministry



BETTY AND JEAN'S BUS TRIP



Tuesday April 13th - MENANGLE RACE DAY TROTTS pick up 9am at Church. Includes morning tea at Campbell town Craft Centre, lunch Camden, Free time Trotts. Price \$39 per person. For more information please ring Jean on 9920 3401 or mobile 0425 251 754.



Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion. If you still have a box or set of envelopes, please bring them back next week. If you are wondering how you could make a difference in the struggle against poverty in your daily life then visit www.bemore.org.au and take up the challenge to **BE More!**

The Legion of Mary

... meets every Wednesday at 7.00pm in the **St Patrick's Dining Room**. Your support is welcome and all are invited. If people would like to have the statue of Our Lady in their homes please leave your name and contact details in the main foyer. Please ensure you leave the correct details.

LOAVES AND FISHES NEEDS YOUR HELP...

This week we would appreciate your help in providing the following food items for people in need: Tinned Mixed Vegetables, Tinned Peas, Tinned Corn Kernels. (420gms).
Thank you for your generosity.

**Parramatta Institute for Mission
Scripture and the RCIA Process**

Presenter: Michele Connolly RSJ

Date: Saturday 8 May 2010

Time: 9.30am - 1.00pm

Venue: 1-5 Marion St Blacktown

No Cost - Booking Essential on: 9831 4911 or ifm@tpg.com.au

AROUND THE DIOCESE ...

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:

A weekend for married couples. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . Your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!

Weekend dates: 30 July – 1 August at Winbourne, Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa, (outer Western Sydney) NSW. For bookings/details contact: 02 6379 1125 or 02 4283 3435

Information: website www.wvme.org.au

Bishops of Oceania

The Bishops of Oceania will be meeting in Plenary session in May this year. This includes Bishops from Australia, Papua and New Guinea and Pacific Islands. As part of this gathering St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta parish has been asked to host some Bishops for Mass and a meet the people session.

The Dean of the Cathedral, Fr Wim Hoekstra, is inviting you to join with Bishop Anthony Fisher and the 10 Bishops on Wednesday, 12th May with Mass at 7 pm followed by a light supper in the Hall. This event is open to all.

Among those we are expecting to attend are Bishop Chris Cardone O.P., Bishop of Auki, Solomon Islands; Bishop Paini Mafi, Bishop of Tonga, Tonga; Archbishop Petero Mataka M.o.F, Archbishop of Suva, Fiji and Archbishop John Ribat MSC, Archbishop of Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

For catering purposes could you please advise St Patrick's cathedral Office between 9.30am and 4 pm Mon to Friday on 8839 8400.

National eConference Mary – First Disciple Tuesday 18 May

It's free and will be fantastic! Fr Frank Moloney SDB will engage you as he shares his insights into Mary as disciple, woman and mother. To register go to www.bbi.catholic.edu.au and follow the links to Mary-First Disciple and be in the draw to win a pilgrimage for two to Italy in 2010 with Harvest Travel.

CERDON COLLEGE MERRYLANDS

50th Anniversary dinner for former staff, students, parents and community supporters of Cerdon College will be held at Rosehill Gardens on Saturday June 26th at 7.00pm. Cost \$90. Call 9632 8759, email cerdon@parra.catholic.edu.au or download an order form from the College website - www.cerdon.nsw.edu.au.

Entries now open for the Blacktown Mayoral History Prize

Blacktown City Council is offering \$1,000 prize money to a local individual, group or organisation for their contribution to the broader understanding of Blacktown's Aboriginal history.

Entries may be in the form of one of body of work, a written article, an exhibition, website, performance, artwork or public event. The work can be a recent piece, can date back to two years ago or be a prospective project that will be completed within six months of accepting the award. The winner will receive \$1,000 in prize money.

The prize is open to people from all levels of experience and not only for professional historians. It is simply targeted at anyone who has been involved with documenting and promoting the Aboriginal History of Blacktown. Groups, organisations and individuals are all welcome to apply. **Entries close Friday, May 7, 2010.**

For application forms contact the Blacktown City Council Customer Service Desk, Blacktown Arts Centre, Blacktown Visitor and Heritage Information Centre or download a copy off the website at www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au.

For more information on the award please contact Council on 9839 6000.

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