



# 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](mailto:admin@stpatricksparish.org.au) Web: [www.stpatricksparish.org.au](http://www.stpatricksparish.org.au)

**19th July 2009**

**16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Year B**

### Parish Team

**Fr Peter Confeggi**  
Parish Priest  
**Fr Joseph Thomas**  
Assistant Priest  
**Claudette Cheetham**  
Parish Secretary  
**Neng Passigna**  
Finance Officer  
**Lisa Bright** (0419 418 547)  
Youth Minister

### Co-ordinators

**Catechists:** Mrs Colleen McCunnie  
**RCIA:** Sr Judith Lythall  
**Little Miracles:** Meg Stone  
**Social:** Mrs Len Cruz  
**Pious Goods:** Mrs Patricia Regan  
**Archives:** Mrs M. Geraghty  
**Choir Rehearsal:** 7.00 pm Thursday

### Weekly Mass Times:

Mon - Sat 9.00am  
**First Friday Devotion:**  
9.00am Mass, 7.00pm Mass  
**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

### TEAM MEETING

Every Thursday 11.15am - 12.15pm(**office closed**)

### Contacts

**Hospital Chaplain**  
Fr Ed Kenny - 9622 1125  
**Loaves & Fishes**  
51- 59 Allawah St, Blacktown  
9621 2758  
**Centacare**  
51- 59 Allawah St, Blacktown  
9671 2011  
[admin@centabtn.ngo.org.au](mailto:admin@centabtn.ngo.org.au)  
**St Patrick's Primary School**  
51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown  
9621 4122  
[stpatblacktown@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stpatblacktown@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
**Patrician Brothers College**  
100 Flushcombe Rd, Blacktown  
9671 3000  
**Nagle Girls College**  
58A Orwell St, Sth Blacktown  
9622 0022  
[nagle@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:nagle@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
**Institute for Mission**  
1-5 Marion St, Blacktown - 9831 4911  
[ifm@tpg.com.au](mailto:ifm@tpg.com.au)

## **TOWARDS SPIRITUALITY FOR COLDS, FLUS AND OTHER WINTER WOGS**

*Some of you would know* that I have the habit of rising early and wandering off to the gym for some exercise. Keeping fit and having energy for involvement in some good hard work are important to me. *What all of you would know* is that in recent weeks you have been subjected to my hacking cough and fading voice - not at all the way I like things to be!

Well, unlike many Australian males, I did go off to the doctor within a day or so of getting sick. I expected a quick fix, a round of antibiotics and a return to health in a day or two. Men love to fix things! Three weeks later I visited my doctor again with a sense of pleading to do something. He told me if he could do anything, he would do it for his eight year old son who had exactly the same complaint. He assured me that I had a virus and no antibiotic could help and proceeded to tell me that he thought it would be another two weeks before the virus would resolve itself.

In all of this I know I am not Robinson Crusoe - *there are plenty more like me out there* - and so what do you do with the experience. Furthermore, **where do colds, flus and other winter wogs fit into our faith journey?**

In a culture of quick fixes, the persistent cold or cough reminds us that we are not masters of all we survey. It has often been said, that with all the advances of modern medicine, there is still no cure for the common cold. Our body is telling us to just stop and let nature take its course. The unexpected pandemic flus - *this year it is swine flu* - humble the greatest medical researchers and leave the ordinary folks vulnerable. Across our community the common cold, and our inability for a quick fix, can keep us a little humble. More than this, the sudden emergence of pandemics like swine flu can remind us that we are not, as we often like to think, masters of the universe.

On a more personal level, one good friend who has observed me in winters past, commented on my affliction this year and how it seemed to be more serious. Trying to pass off her comment she reminded me that I was *getting older* and it might well be expected that recovery would be slower. Just twelve months from a senior's card I am not sure that I wanted to hear that! However, the truth is that I don't have the physical energy I had ten years ago and perhaps I don't have the same capacity for recovery. That is probably true for many in our community.

**So what can colds, flus and winter wogs teach us about life and what spirituality can we bring to that experience?** I can of course only speak for myself but the weeks of coughing, fading voice and disrupted sleep have been a humbling experience. They have reminded me, in a world of quick fixes, that life is often more complex and we need to wait for real healing. There has also been a sense of solidarity with some 22% of our workforce and up to 50% of some schools students who have been laid low. Furthermore, there is the harsh reality of the aging process, which may mean that the powers of recovery aren't what they used to be. The experience can be a humbling one and even a reminder of our own mortality. These are realities I would love to anaesthetise with a quick fix antibiotic, get back to the gym and lots of hard work. However, **there are some learnings for life and faith at the heart of our colds, flus and other winter wogs!**

Fr Peter

## 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - YEAR B

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: God himself is my help.  
The Lord upholds my life. I will offer you a willing sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness.

FIRST READING: **Jeremiah 23:1-6**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: **Ps 22**

**The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit. R.

He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort. R.

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. R.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. R.

SECOND READING: **Ephesians 2:13-18**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: **John 10:27**  
**Alleluia, alleluia!**

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;  
I know them, and they follow me.  
**Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: **Mark 6:30-34**

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.



The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord keeps  
in our minds the wonderful things he has done.  
He is compassion and love; he always provides  
for his faithful.

### Daily Readings

20th July: Mt 12:38-42; 21st July: Mt 12:46-50, 22nd July: Jn 20:1-2, 11-18,  
23rd July: Mt 13:10-17, 24th July: Mt 13:18-23, 25th July: Mt 20:20-28

**Mass for the soul of the following:** Emma Sammut, Jannena Attard, Socrates, Cesare, Alfred John Stephens, Carmen Soriano, Lonza, Aguis & Galea families, Charlie Azzopardi, Paulina Micallef, Carl Bartley, The Schembri family, P. Camilleri, the abandoned souls and all souls.

**Prayer for the sick:** Peggy Giddey, Peter White. Naomi Petrie.

**Recently deceased:** Stephen Hall (Michael Hall's dad)

**Mass for special intention:** Judy & Raj Sahnt

## FROM FR PETER.....

### WHOSE NOTICES ARE THEY?

Starting this weekend the brief notices that accompany the final collection will be read by one of the readers. After all they are announcement that belong to the community!

### PROPOSED ALTERATIONS

On the notice boards you will see concept drawings for proposed alterations to the parish offices. Anyone who has sat in the waiting area will know how limited the space is. Furthermore, there simply isn't a space to sit with a family in planning a funeral. The proposed alterations aim to create a greater welcome as well as providing a meeting room attached to the parish offices. They will mean that the original Blessed Sacrament Chapel will be absorbed into the parish centre. Quotes are presently being sought to create a similar glass brick Marian chapel in the other foyer.

It is proposed that this work will be done at the same time that additions are made to Centacare. Mr John Spillane, the Diocesan Finance Director, will join with the Finance Committee this coming Tuesday evening to advance these proposals.

**STEPPING BEYOND:  
SUPPORT GATHERING FOR  
THOSE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED**

The Solo Parent Ministry offers monthly gatherings at the Diocesan Assembly Centre, 1-5 Marion St Blacktown on the last Wed of each month, for those who are working through issues following the breakdown of their marriage or long term partnership. We meet again on Wed 29<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm. The focus question this month is: "What have you done to bring healing into your life, following your separation or divorce?" Two facilitators lead the discussion and input and you in turn have the opportunity to share your questions and learnings, and benefit from the support and friendship of others who have been through a similar experience as your own. All welcome. Ring Eileen on 9890 2968 or eileen.quade@ccss.org.au.

**Cancer Council  
Blacktown Relay For Life Launch**

**Come and see John Paul Young live at Blacktown Workers Club on Friday August 28 2009 at 7.30pm. Tickets are \$25.00 with finger food. For more information please contact Kathie Collins 0414194052. Proceeds from the concert will go towards the Blacktown Relay For Life fundraiser.**

**FROM THE PARISH OFFICE.....**

- DWF and Project Compassion receipts for financial year 2008/2009 are now available to be picked up in the main foyer.
- Notes taken from the Parish Pastoral Gathering which was held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July are on the notice board in both foyers.
- Please note the office will be closed every Thursday from 11.15am till 12.15pm for our Team Meeting.
- Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Fire Safety and Child Protection workshops scheduled for 1st August 2009, have been postponed for a later date. We will keep you inform when more details come to hand.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

The next meeting of our Finance Committee will be held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 7.00pm in the dining room. John Spillane, Diocesan Financial Administrator, will join us for that meeting and it is hoped that we can advance issues of maintenance for the building at that meeting.

**CRAFT STALL**

A craft stall will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> August after the 8.30am and 10.00am masses. Money raised will go towards the purchase of another electric candle for the Marian Shrine. Donations can be dropped off at the 8.30am and the 10.00am masses and even on the morning of the Craft Stall. A box marked "CRAFT STALL DONATIONS" will be in the church. For more information please ring Edna Hession on 9671 1955. Thank you for your generosity.

**MARRIAGE SUNDAY 26TH JULY**

Our Diocese has designated Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July, to celebrate Marriage Sunday. Married couples from all parishes are invited to attend an afternoon to celebrate and reflect on the strengths of your relationship achieved during the different life phases of your marriage.

The reflection will be held at St Patrick's Parish Hall, Parramatta, Bishop Kevin Manning will begin the afternoon with a short talk and then speakers from Centacare and married couples will share some information and experiences of enriching their marriages. The afternoon reflection will start at 3pm, include afternoon tea and conclude with mass 6pm at St Patrick's Cathedral.

Please take a flyer from the church's foyers with further details on Marriage Sunday Reflection Afternoon, or call 9630 7788 to register. There is no cost for attendance.

**BLACKTOWN RELAY FOR LIFE**

The Blacktown Relay For Life is over the weekend Saturday 31 October and Sunday 1 November. It commences at 10.00am on Saturday and goes through to 10.00am on Sunday. Interested parishioners can contact: [kathie.collins@blacktown.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kathie.collins@blacktown.nsw.gov.au) or mobile 0414194052. More information to follow in the next few weeks. Proceeds to go to the Cancer Council.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2010**

**The time has come to commence the 2010 Sacramental Program. If you have a child who is 8yrs old in years 3-6 in 2009 AND BAPTISED, please call Claudette at the Parish Office on 9622 1125 during business hours to register your child.**

**There will be an Enquiry Session for PARENTS ONLY on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009 in the Church at 7.00pm. If you have registered your child, a letter will be sent out closer to the date inviting you to the session. An enrolment form will be attached to the letter. If your child was baptised in another parish, could you please attach a PHOTOCOPY OF THE BAPTISM CERTIFICATE TO THE FORM. The form MUST be handed in together with the baptism certificate at the Enquiry Session.**

There will be ONLY ONE ENQUIRY SESSION and all the information regarding the program will be given on the night.

**SACRAMENTAL TEAM**

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT FORUM  
Have your say on public transport**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2009  
10am - Nirimba Room, Level 5  
Administrative Centre, Blacktown City Council**

Public Transport Providers will provide information on their services, The Ministry of Transport, Local Bus Companies, City Rail, Council and others have been invited to assist with any enquiries.

For more information contact Council on 9839 6014 or visit [www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au](http://www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au) where you can 'have your say'

## In Our Parish ...

**Housie ...** Held every **Saturday** evening, in the Parish Hall commencing at **7.45pm**. **Come along and join in the fun!**



**Church Cleaning ...** This ministry is very important. Extra helpers can contact the office to be placed in one of the teams. **Volunteers sought...**

**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.

**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.



**Loaves and Fishes needs your help ...** this week we would appreciate your help in providing food items for people in need:

**Tea Bags (URGENT), small and large tinned fruit.**  
*Thank you for your generosity.*



**MORE NOTICES** and information can be found on the notice board in both foyers.

## YOUTH NEWS

**Sunday 19th July, 6.30pm:**  
**SPY NIGHT - "You will be my witnesses..."**

How does the theme of World Youth Day 2008 still impact on us one year on: 6.30pm - 8.30pm in Parish Hall, Years 10 and over

**On this occasion, anyone who was involved in World Youth Day as a volunteer, Home stay family, animation team member etc are welcome to join us for this reflection and discussion evening.**



**WITNESS 09 - PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN YOUTH CAMP**  
**"UNITED 2 GATHER"**  
**MEROO CHRISTIAN CENTRE, KURRAJONG**  
**7th - 9th August**

Meet other young people from different parishes, make new friends, share ideas & experiences, grow spiritually and more! Invite your friends to come...includes a variety of inspiring talks, workshops, music, art, games and fun activities, reflection time, daily Mass and Reconciliation. Registration and information available from Church foyer or contact Lisa on 9622 1125 or youth@stpatricksparish.org.au

**PROCLAIM THE WORD: Become a reader 23rd July, 10am-12pm.** A formation opportunity for you to take an active role in your parish and become a reader, especially for our Youth Mass. Call Lisa on 9622 1125, SMS 0419 418 547 or email youth@stpatricksparish.org.au to register.

### BETTY AND JEAN'S BUS TRIP



The next trip will be on 11th August Way Way to Davistown Cruise. The price is \$41pp which includes morning tea, cruise and lunch at Davistown RSL and visit Sarah Lee shop. Departs 8.30am at the church. Come, meet other parishioners and make new friends. For more information please ring Jean on 99203401 or mobile 0425 251 754.

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