

Welcome to St. Patrick's Catholic Church Mortlake



ST PATRICK'S PARISH
MORTLAKE

5th Sunday of Easter
10 May 2020

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THIS WEEK AT ST PAT's – 125 YEARS AGO

This week we also (quietly) celebrated our church's 125th birthday. On 5 May 1895 Cardinal Moran officially blessed and opened St Patrick's Church-School. The church in those fledgling days was turned into a school during the week. The nearest buildings were the Fire Station and the Fireman's Cottage (purchased by the parish in 1929).

The original St Pat's Church Committee consisted of Timothy O'Connor McCarthy, Michael Moloney, Clement Glancy, Martin McNeeve, Roger O'Callaghan, J. Donoghue, M. Baggott, W. Woods, and J. Casey.

Our church opened debt free thanks to the late Dean Callaghan McCarthy's £300 bequest and wonderful fundraising and support by pioneer families, illustrated by the above members of the Church Committee.

125 YEARS . . . SIGNIFICANT MAY DATES

- ❖ **5 May 1895.** Cardinal Patrick Moran blessed and opened St Patrick's Church, a chapel –of-ease attached to St Mary's Concord Parish.
- ❖ **11 May 1896.** Cardinal Moran blessed and opened St Patrick's School, Mortlake.
- ❖ **16 May 1928.** Mortlake Ferry (punt) commenced operation.
- ❖ **21 May 1929.** Parish purchased Fire Station and Chief Fireman's Cottage (now the Hall/ Office and Green Space Sites).
- ❖ **23 May 1886.** Official Opening of Mortlake Gasworks (now Breakfast Point) by the Australian Gas Light Company (AGL).

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers and motherly figures in our parish. Your love, support and encouragement means so much to us. Thank you for being our Mum's and may you be blessed with good health, peace & happiness.

In the Catholic tradition, May has been a month of special devotions to Mary the Mother of God. Your family may like to pray the Rosary this month. Rosary beads and leaflets are available in the basket outside the parish hall. As a community, we are invited to pray the rosary in May.

www.catholiccompany.com/content/how-to-pray-the-rosary

EASTER TO PENTECOST PRAYER SESSIONS

All are invited to participate from your home via Zoom, or you can receive and read the Scripture/ Prayer sessions between Easter and Pentecost. You can join the programme at any time, even if you need to miss some weeks.

The emails will be sent on Mondays and the sessions via Zoon will be on Tuesday evenings at 7pm. ***If you are interested please phone Susan Neylan on 0400 195 350 or email thejourney.smn@gmail.com***

WORLD-WIDE PENTECOST TALKS

Free virtual chat room talks led by international and acclaimed Catholic speakers until Pentecost, 31 May. Register online at pentecostpilgrimage.com

St. Patrick's parish acknowledges the Wangal people of the Eora Nation, being the traditional owners of the land on which we gather and worship.

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FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
6:1-7

They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The Word of the Lord.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
1 Pt 2: 4-9

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22

**R: Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. (R.)
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. (R.)
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to John 14:1-12

I am the way, the truth and the life.

Jesus said to his disciples:
'Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Trust in God still, and trust in me.
There are many rooms in my Father's house;
if there were not, I should have told you.
I am now going to prepare a place for you,
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,

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GOSPEL (continued)

I shall return to take you with me;
so that where I am
you may be too.
You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.
No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too.
From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,
so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?
Do you not believe
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?
The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;
believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly,
whoever believes in me
will perform the same works as I do myself,
he will perform even greater works,
because I am going to the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

THANK YOU – PARISH GARDENERS

A special 'thank you' to Stephanie Parker for working tirelessly in the parish gardens, and keeping things looking in top condition. Steph's hard work in beautifying our parish is greatly appreciated, together with parishioners Rod Cooper and Ken Edwards. Our own Trinity of the St Pat's Garden!! **Thank you.**

Garden volunteers are always welcome. If you would like to volunteer to assist in the ongoing maintenance of the parish gardens, you can contact the parish on 9743 1017 or email parish@stpatmortlake.org.au.

MOTHER'S DAY – SEEING GOD IN MY WORLD THROUGH THE "FEMININE GENIUS"

We as a society or Church need to be open to evolving and changing when we gain a greater understanding of the complexities and beauty of our human existence. We can see developments and changes in our own Church. Over the last 50 years in particular, it may be said that a greater understanding and appreciation of the "*Feminine Genius*" and spirituality, as Pope John Paul II coined the term, has taken place.

The Catholic Church has a tradition of appointing 'Doctors' of the Church. The practice started in the Middle Ages, and originally applied to the early great leaders, such as: St. Ambrose; St. Augustine; St. Gregory and St. Jerome. Doctors of the Church are individuals, who through their study and writing, have brought the Church body into a greater understanding of our faith. Currently, there are only 36 Doctors of the Church in its entire history – these are people we should seek to emulate, as in their lives they journeyed to gain a greater understanding of Christ. 4 of the 36 Doctors are female.

Interestingly, in terms of the Church's growth and development, all four female Doctors of the Church have been appointed since 1970. That is, prior to 1970, all Doctors were male. The appointed female Doctors are: St. Teresa of Avila; St. Catherine of Siena; St. Therese of Lisieux; and St. Hildegard of Bingen. It mightn't sound significant on an initial reading, but it points to a salient issue – that is, of the Church's increasing awareness of the "Feminine Genius" in our understanding of Christ.

I pray that as a Church, our understanding and appreciation of God through feminine thought, just as through masculine/ indigenous or refugee knowledge of God in our world, continues.

Recently, my attention was drawn to the below linked VERILY magazine. It is a magazine targeted at young women, emphasising female dignity and leadership potential in our world. One of the magazine's selling points is that they do not use Photoshop on any female images, embracing our reality that can sometimes be obscured in an image centred culture. The magazine's founders are women from a Catholic tradition and I think reflect those principles in their articles. I commend the magazine and articles to us all, but especially to women, in an effort to embrace and grow in an inclusive feminine understanding of Christ in my, and the Church's, life.
<https://verilymag.com/2020/04/letting-go-of-news-stress-anxiety-connection-relationships>

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

A special thank you to all who have been able to support the parish with financial assistance during this time. It is greatly appreciated and we will come out of this a closer and stronger community I am sure. **Thank you.**

PARISH PASTORAL HELP / VOLUNTEERS

In these times especially, please let the parish know if you, or anyone you know, needs assistance with: food; a prepared meal; shopping; being a 'phone buddy' to check in on each other; or general welfare.

Volunteers are always welcome.

Please call the Parish on 9743 1017 or email parish@stpatismortlake.org.au for help.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Fr. Peter Morrissey; Matthew Speers; Anita Johnson; Sr Sybille Colborne RSM; Andrew Deans; Audrey Vertannes; Jennifer McAfee; Gary Trill; Samira Hanna; John Walker; George Cepak; Michael Geoghegan; Raffaele Melizza (Italy); Maureen Johnson; John McAnelly; Gerard Lopez; Dovidio Favero; Brian Clark.

ANNIVERSARIES: Ciaran Phelan (1st Anniv - England); Julia Hutch; Gregor McInnes; Francis Collins; Thomas Gallagher; Ernest Geraghty; Edward McCarthy; Greta Manton; Edward Leo; John Gibbons; John Chesworth; Veronica Hanley; Harold Ellis; Joseph DaSilva; Pauline Espinos; Joyce Cooper; Simon-Peter Kolibac (14th anniv); Frances Gleeson (4 yrs); Renzo Trinco (1st Anniv); Carmelo Puglisi (14th anniv); Antonio Musolino (1st anniv); Vince Garcia (1st anniv).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY: Felicia Bugeja; Paul Dovico; Kevin Walker; Cecilia Kramar; Patrick Casey (Ireland); Steven Windon; Magda Cassis; Sr Judith Clark; Nanette; George; Jill; Edward Azjan; Maryellen Partlin; Tony P; Marie; Loretta; Antonietta; Bill Young; Don Khoury. *To have your petitions included, please see one of the group or phone Carmel Moliterno 9736 1718.*

PRAYER RESOURCES AND MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE

St Ambrose Parish, Concord West have an online Mass every Saturday at 5pm celebrated by Fr Brian or Fr Chaminda which can be viewed at that time or at any time afterwards. We know there are lots of online services at the moment, but if you would like to be 'involved' in a local mass, from the safety of your home, please go to stambrose.org.au and click on Online Masses and Services.

- **Black Dog Institute:**
<https://blackdoginstitute.org.au/coronavirus-anxiety-resources>
- **The Brave Program:**
<https://brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au/child-program> This is a free online anxiety program for parents and children (3-17yo)

SHARE YOUR STORIES & REFLECTIONS

Dear parishioners,

We are experiencing unusual times. What have you been doing during this period of social isolation? Who would have thought that our churches would ever be closed? We would like to hear your stories and thoughts. Maybe you have a photo or a drawing you would like to share. A special prayer or poem?

How have you found the connection with St Patrick's recently, through the [Bulletins](#), [Facebook](#) and its [website](#)? For some of us it's brought some consolation, that we have a connection to our parish, that we are part of a wider family.

Now it's your turn. Please send your stories, thoughts, prayers, photos etc to the parish via email parish@stpatismortlake.org.au