

Welcome to
St. Patrick's Catholic
Church Mortlake

Celebrating 125 Years



ST PATRICK'S PARISH
MORTLAKE

Seventeenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
26 July 2020

1895 – 2020

Parish Administrator: Fr. Tom Stevens
Parish Secretary: Brenda Johnston

Address: 33 Gale Street
Mortlake NSW 2137

Postal Address: PO Box 145
Concord NSW 2137

Parish Office: Open Tuesdays & Fridays (9am-3pm)
Phone: (02) 9743 1017
Email: parish@stpatsmortlake.org.au
Website: www.stpatsmortlake.org.au

Sunday Mass Times: Saturday Vigil: 6pm.
(from 2 August) Sunday: 9am; 10.30am; 6pm.
Limit of 50 people. (See note in
bulletin on how to book).

Weekday Services:
• Communion Services: Monday 8am and Saturday 9am.
• Weekday Masses: Tuesday to Friday at 8am.

Reconciliation: By appointment.

Baptisms: 11.45am on 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays of the
month. Please call parish secretary with
enquiries. Limit of 15 people per family.

Facebook:  www.facebook.com/stpatsmortlake

YOUTH 'ALPHA' IS COMING

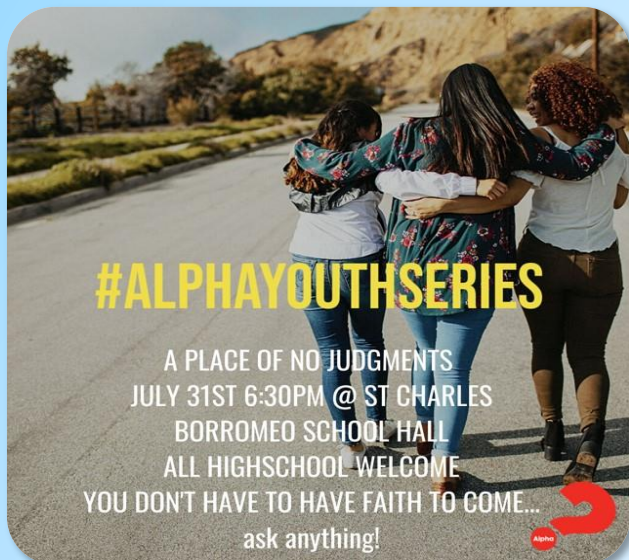
What is it?? It's not a youth group,
it's a free meal, a video, discussion, dessert,
place of no judgement, ask anything, a journey
with fellow young people.

Everyone Welcome. Invite Friends!

Begins: Friday 31 July 6:30pm – 8:30pm
at St Charles Borromeo School Hall Ryde.
Goes for 4 Friday evenings. Age guide: 14-20yo.

BOOK & WATCH CLIP: <https://bit.ly/3iCaZ09>

For more information: contact Ryde parish youth coordinator
Jemille West on: 0405 739 444 or youth@rgcp.org.au



NEW SUNDAY MASS BOOKING SYSTEM

REGISTER FOR SUNDAY MASS ONLINE

A new automated online booking system is now
available for Mass bookings, starting next week

Sunday 2 August

- <https://www.trybooking.com/641739>
- **New Mass times available:**
 - Saturday Vigil 6pm.
 - Sunday 9am; 10.30am; 6pm.
- **Numbers remain limited to 50 people** per Mass
Bookings can be made up to 2 wks in advance.
- No need to bring your ticket to Mass as your
details will be pre-registered.
- Bookings can also be made by telephone with
the Parish Secretary on Tuesday and Friday's in
office hours, for those unable to book online.
Telephone bookings must be made by Fri. 2pm

WEEKDAY PUBLIC MASSES & COMMUNION

SERVICES REMAIN unchanged. Please register
on the sheet upon entry, no need to pre-register.

- **A General Dispensation** from attending
Sunday Masses remains in place.
- **Online Masses:**
<https://www.stambrose.org.au/on-line-masses/>

FIRST READING**A reading from the first book of the Kings**

1 Kgs 3:5.7-12

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.

The Word of the Lord.**SECOND READING****A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

Rom 8:28-30

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The Word of the Lord.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom

Alleluia**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. (R.)
2. Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. (R.)
3. That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. (R.)
4. Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. (R.)

GOSPEL**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Mt 13:44-52

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use.

GOSPEL (continued)

This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

WHERE IS GOD'S REIGN / GOD'S TREASURE IN MY WORLD?

As we have heard over the last few weeks, Matthew's Gospel uses numerous parables seeking to describe the nature of God's reign and where we might be able to find it. He uses images of: the seed and a sower; yeast and a woman; treasure hunters and merchants looking for a treasure and pearls. In reading Matthew's Gospel, we understand that *the kingdom of heaven is not about places, but rather relationships.*

Fr Mostovic in his reflections on treasure recounts the famous story of St Lawrence:

"That treasure is God's Reign but it is not just to be found, it is to be embodied by us. It is not an abstraction. This outlook enabled St Lawrence and other Christians (3rd century) to respond, in the face of persecution, at an edict to hand over the church's treasures - treasures earmarked for the poor. Lawrence sold the Church's vessels and gave the money to widows and the sick and distributed other property to the poor. On being summoned to hand over the treasures, Lawrence entered the palace, stopped, and gestured to the door where, streaming in behind him, were crowds of poor, crippled, blind, and suffering people, and proclaimed, 'These are the true treasures of the Church.' This act of defiance led to his immediate execution."

Matthew's parables over these weeks don't give us simple/ easy solutions for understanding who God is, or where I can find God in my life. The parables inspire extreme behaviour, behaviour which turns human thinking on its head. God's reign is a reign that seeks out justice, and sees mercy over power. God's reign is found in the unexpected – in the woman at the well; in the leper; in the publican; in the convicted crucified criminal!!

In this sense, aspects of God's reign is certainly not beyond us here on earth. Wherever we see injustice, poverty, discrimination and oppression – then we have the opportunity to engage in the reign of God. The treasure Matthew speaks of in today's Gospel is the treasure as God sees it, which can be largely hidden from my self-centred and materialistic mindset of my humanity. The 'treasure' of God's reign is found in the: strength to endure a troubled relationship; the patience to hold my tongue when I'm caring for a difficult loved one; the generosity to give of my own wealth to another who is struggling; the courage to tell a bully to treat others with respect. This is where true Treasure lay.

Fr Tom

Parish Youth Ministry – Leader Position

The Parish Youth Ministry is looking for a volunteer candidate who is interested in taking on the very important role of our parish Youth Ministry Leader.

The role's main focus is to encourage the youth of the parish to become involved in the life of the church and build relationships with other youth around the same age. Some of the key activities include: organising social events for the youth group (such as pizza and movie nights); organising Sunday Masses in which the youth group participate; as well as representing the Youth Ministry at the Parish Council meetings.

If you are interested in learning more about the role, or wish to apply, please contact Fr Tom on 9743 1017 or send an email thomas.stevens@sydneycatholic.org

We would love to hear from you!

RECENTLY DECEASED: Peter Brunicle; Michele Vella; Peter Doyle; Noeleen Smith; Maria Ow; Denise Kazanuk; Baby Pasquale Romeo; Jose Teran; Lam S Chan O'Young; Josephine Grech; Marion Edwards; Annette Sidgreaves; Bill Young; Carrie Gatt; Michael Gay; Patrick Noone; Thorcuato Herrero; Maddalena Ciacciarelli; John Healy; Lynette Monaro; Pamela Ryan; Maria Luisa Segui; Fr. Peter Morrissey; Matthew Speers; Anita Johnson; Sr Sybille Colborne RSM; Andrew Deans; Audrey Vertannes; Gary Traill; Samira Hanna; John Walker; George Cepak; Michael Geoghegan; Raffaele Melizza (Italy); Maureen Johnson; John McAnelly; Gerard Lopez.

ANNIVERSARIES: Antonio Mandile; Silvana Criscione; Giuseppe De Meio (41st anniv); Pina Bianca (2nd anniv); Favero and Peruzzi Families; Joe Dennis; Angelo Falgiatori; Eyvonne Hurrell; Giuseppe De Meio; : Gil Cocco (13th anniv); John Coulson (1st anniv); Angelo Piccin; Alexis & Walter Goh; George, Gregory & Brian Clarke; John Abrahams; Frank Snr & Frank Jnr Arcella (8th anniv); Maria Gioello (19th anniv).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY: Nico Relton; Billy Brandt; Brian Flynn; Sandra Riley; Damian King; Mihael Novacic; Magda Cassis; Jean Morton; Robert McAdam; Felicia Bugeja; Kevin Walker; Cecilia Kramar; Patrick Casey (Ireland); Sr Judith Clark; Jill; Edward Azjan; Marie; Loretta; Antonietta.

To have your petitions included, please phone Carmel Moliterno 9736 1718.

BAPTISM BOOKINGS

Parish Baptisms will re-commence from Sunday 9 August at 11.45am. Baptisms will be limited to 15 people in each family, including the child, parents and godparents. Baptisms will be at 11.45am in either the Church or in the parish gardens. Please contact the Parish Secretary for all enquiries.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020

First Holy Communion will be celebrated in St Patrick's Church Mortlake this year at two 10:30am Sunday morning Masses on the **13th and 20th of September.**

There will be four weeks of compulsory instruction, to prepare the candidates which will commence on **Monday 10th August** in the parish hall in Gale St Mortlake from 4.15pm – 5.15pm.

The instruction and Masses will be conducted strictly with social distancing and other Covid-19 requirements.

If you wish to nominate a candidate, please contact Robert Mayor via email at mayor2411@gmail.com or Phone 0418 228 689.

<https://www.stpatismortlake.org.au/sacraments/holy-communion/>

THANK YOU - PARISH FINANCES

Thank you to all Parishioners who have supported our Parish during the **2019-2020** financial year. Parishioners who contribute through the **Planned Giving envelopes, you will be receiving your envelopes by Thursday 30 July.**

Please contact the Parish Secretary if you HAVE NOT received this year's envelopes and last year's receipts by Thursday 30 July 2020.

For Parishioners who wish to commence Planned Giving, please email parish@stpatismortlake.org.au and envelopes will be supplied to you or the credit card/direct debit process will be advised. Receipts are issued at the end of each Financial Year with Parishioners able to claim 30% of their Planned Giving contribution as a tax deduction. Giving by Direct Debit can be done via:

BANK TRANSFER

BSB: 062 784

Account Number: 5015 001

Reference: <your name>

At St. Patrick's Parish Mortlake, the welfare and wellbeing of our children and vulnerable members of our Parish is of utmost importance. The Safeguarding Office can be contacted on 9390 5810 if you wish to speak on any issue.