

24 SEPTEMBER  
25 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR A

# BULLETIN



Welcome to St Patrick's Mortlake Parish



## DISCERNMENT FOR THE UPCOMING REFERENDUM

**Our Catholic tradition is a dynamic truth-seeking tradition.** It invites us to use both Faith and Reason to uncover ever-better versions of truth, wrestling with perspectives, ideas and decisions.

**The upcoming referendum gives each of us an opportunity to make a decision for Australia.** It's easy to be put off by the amount of conflicting 'noise' and simply vote according to gut feel or intuition. But there might be some better ways:-

1. Recognise that we are all capable of making good decisions and lousy decisions. In general, good decisions require us to recognise the influence of emotions, our unintentional biases, the impact of time pressure, our assumptions about society, and the expectations of friends, colleagues and family.
2. **Identify and consider the key issues.** Give yourself time to sift through the noise, personalities and opinions to identify the 2-3 most significant issues for you.
3. Maintain charitable scepticism – **see the best in the reasoning put forward by opposing arguments.** Seek out reliable and, where possible, independent information to fact check opposing claims.
4. In addition to hearing the arguments from the politically powerful and wise, seek the views of the quietly-spoken and least powerful. **Listen with courage.**
5. Consider how your vote for either yes or no sits with your:
  - **Personal values** – the things that are most important to you in living a meaningful life, lived well;
  - **Deepening knowledge of Australian history and hopes** for a future Australia;
  - **Reading of Listen, Learn, Love - the Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference Social Justice Statement 2023-24** (link below) and,
  - **Prayerful discernment.**

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2023/08/22/social-justice-statement-2023-24/>

*Riddle:* I am something people celebrate or resist. I change people's thoughts and lives. I am obvious to some people but, to others, I am a mystery. What am I?

## CONTACTS:

Parish Priest: Fr. Tom Stevens

Parish Secretary:  
Brenda Johnston  
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Emma de Barry

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Parish Office: Open  
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Phone: (02) 9743 1017

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[parish@stpatsmortlake.org.au](mailto:parish@stpatsmortlake.org.au)

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[www.stpatsmortlake.org.au](http://www.stpatsmortlake.org.au)

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## SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil: 6pm  
Sunday: 9am; 10.30am; 6pm

## WEEKDAY MASSES & SERVICES:

Monday & Saturday  
8am Communion Service

Tues to Friday 8am Mass  
**Please note: The First Friday of each month Mass time will be 9.15am**

Reconciliation: Saturday 5.30pm

Baptisms: 11.45am on 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays of the month.

Please call parish secretary with enquires.

## First Reading

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF  
ISAIAH 55:6-9

### *My thoughts are not your thoughts*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,  
call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way,  
the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will  
take pity on him,

to our God who is rich in forgiving;  
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord  
who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth  
as my ways are above your ways,  
my thoughts above your thoughts.

### **The Word of the Lord**

## Responsorial Psalm

PS 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18

### *(R) The Lord is near to all who call him*

I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured. **(R.)**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

## Second Reading

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF ST  
PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS

### *For me to live is Christ*

Christ will be glorified in my body,  
whether by my life or by my death. Life to  
me, of course, is Christ, but then death  
would bring me something more; but  
then again, if living in this body means  
doing work which is having good results –  
I do not know what I should choose. I am  
caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone  
and be with Christ, which would be very  
much the better, but for me to stay alive  
in this body is a more urgent need for  
your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that  
would be unworthy of the gospel of  
Christ.

### **The Word of the Lord**

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son

**Alleluia!**

## BAPTISMS & INITIATION INTO THE CHURCH THIS WEEKEND

We congratulate and welcome into our  
community Kaja Guardascione, Christian  
Rizzo and Carmelo Restifo.

We also welcome Tim Lee into the church  
this weekend as he receives the Sacraments  
of First Holy Communion and Confirmation.  
Congratulations both Tim, and this soon to  
be wife Dimity Marshall.

May you grown in Faith with us at St Pat's  
and always feel at home here. Peace and Joy.

## Gospel

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL  
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 20: 1-16

**Why are you jealous because I am generous?**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

**The Gospel of the Lord**

## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

**Tuesday:** Sts Cosman & Damian

**Wednesday:** St Vincent de Paul

**Thursday:** St Wenceslaus & St Lawrence Ruiz

**Friday:** Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

## SOCIAL MINISTRY - COME JOIN US

The Social Ministry caters for numerous community functions held here at St Patrick's such as special Masses, First Holy Communion celebration, to name just a few.

Our Ministry is designed to encourage whole parish participation and formally we only meet four times a year.

If you would like any information or would like to join this fun and vibrant ministry, please contact Frances Windon on **fpwstpats@gmail.com** or contact the Parish Office on 9743 1017

## A TASTE OF THE ORIENT - 20 Oct.



Hot Food • Stalls • Raffle  
Kids Zone • Live Entertainment

HOSTED ON PARISH GROUNDS  
ST PATRICK'S PARISH,  
35 GALE ST MORTLAKE

If you would like to host a stall at the event, please contact [twilight@stpatismortlake.org.au](mailto:twilight@stpatismortlake.org.au)  
or to volunteer, email [volunteers@stpatismortlake.org.au](mailto:volunteers@stpatismortlake.org.au)



## Thanks to Betty Flynn - Pastoral Care

We say a huge **Thank You to Betty Flynn** who has stepped down as head of the parish Pastoral Care and Hospitality Ministry, after some 13 years of service. Betty's compassion, diligence and care for parishioners has been remarkable, ensuring people feel welcome and remain in contact with the parish, as well as organising the Ministry volunteers. Thank you to both Betty and her husband Bryan for your support and work in the parish in this essential role. Sr Margaret Valentine will be taking over from Betty and we wish her well. **The Pastoral Care Ministry will meet on Monday, 25 September at 11am in the Parish Hall** to thank Betty and meet Sr Margaret formally. Fr Tom

## Recently Deceased

Matthew Bentley; Max Quirk; Rosellina Ryan; Susan Evans; Leona Picone; Baby Rose; Merv Cross; Adrian Zulian; Annie Gock; Paul Ardill; Eddie Delahunty; Winnie Chan; Bridget Kennedy; Peter Coyne; Gladys (Gladdie) Northy; Nicola Stivaletta; Otto Petrin; Elvira Grego; Nick Travia; Betty Mayo; Sarah Cuzzner; Tim Brown; Ray Selkrig; Livia Falgiatori; Maria Palmenta ; Brian Curtin; Pat Carey; Gaetano Natoli; Kevin Walker; Susan Price; Andrew & Lynan Scott; Jesus Lopez.

## Anniversaries

Giovanna Caldaroni (5 anniv); Ellen (Nell) Peak (26 anniv); Ron Peak (16 anniv); Michael Harfield (27 anniv); Jean Doyle (25 anniv); Pasquale Traino; Adrian Moore (9 anniv); Francis Ng; Thomas Guan; Teresa Tan; Swee Bee; Felice Minutilo (1st anniv); Mary Bolster; Peter Bolster; Giovanni Profilio (23rd anniv); Amelia Duggan (9th anniv); Nata Ferraro; Kevin McGettigan (40th anniv); Concetto Raiti (32nd anniv); Oliver Coleman (2nd anniv); Marcia Bendeich (1st anniv); Maureen, John & Mary Xuereb; Joseph Galea; Gianni Michallef; Antonino, Giuseppe & Angelo Di Giglio; Giovanni Tesoriero & Antonino Tesoriero; Angelino Lo Schiavo; Guido Natale (14th anniv).

## Please pray for

Bill Yeates; Benny; Tahira; Ted & Denise Cramsie; Katrina; Beth; Rosa Andreacchio; Eugenio Alessio; Bianca & Matt; Leon Payne; Betty Flynn; Margaret Barker; Domenic Lopreato; Angelo Ninni; Greg Whitby; Fr David Halstead O.P. ; Marcia Droguett; Maude Chin; Mary Lou Bolster; Emilia; Camilla & William; Robyn; Marie Dulihanty; Dale; Brian; Tony & Vitoria C; Nance Walker; Diane Shore; Renee.

**To have your petition included, phone Carmel Moliterno 9736 1718**

*Riddle Answer: Age*

## BINGO

MONDAYS  
AT 10.00AM

ALL WELCOME



## ST PAT'S SINGING GROUP

This group meets every Thursday in the parish hall from 10.15 to 12.00 just for FUN. Just come along on the day.

## THE MAN WALK

Every Wednesday at 6.15am Meet at St Pats Church Mortlake. Duration 45-60 minutes

## REFERENDUM BBQ - CAN YOU HELP?

If you would like to assist with the Parish BBQ on Saturday, 14 October (the day of the Referendum), please contact Fr Tom on 9743 1017 or [thomas.stevens@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:thomas.stevens@sydneycatholic.org)

We will be running the BBQ from 8am until 2pm and need volunteers to assist in cooking and selling raffle tickets for the upcoming Twilight Night. You can choose times to volunteer that suit your schedule on the day. Thank you. Fr Tom