

**ST PATRICK'S PARISH MORTLAKE**  
 33 Gale St. Mortlake 2137 ☎ (02) 9743 1017 ☎ (02) 9739 6474  
 ✉ [parish@stpatmortlake.org.au](mailto:parish@stpatmortlake.org.au) 🌐 [stpatmortlake.org.au](http://stpatmortlake.org.au)

**PARISH PRIEST: Mons. John Usher**  
**MASSES: Saturday (Vigil) 6.00 pm Sunday 9.00 am and 6.00 pm**  
**Mon: 8.00 am Communion Service Tues to Fri: 8.00 am Mass**  
**Rosary after Morning Mass on Fridays**  
**RECONCILIATION: Saturday 5.30 pm to 5.45pm**  
**PARISH ADMIN.: Tuesday and Friday 9.00am to 3.00pm – Brenda**

**ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL**  
 12 Herbert Street Mortlake 2137 ☎ (02) 9736 1797  
 ✉ [info@stpmortlake.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stpmortlake.catholic.edu.au)

**FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK:** **Monday:** St Gregory the Great (604 – Patron of teachers and music); **Tuesday:** St Rosalie (1166 – Patron of Palermo, Sicily); **Wednesday:** St Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1997); **Thursday:** St Eleutherius (585); **Friday:** Ember Day and St Regina (286 – Patron of poverty); **Saturday:** Birth of our Lady (15BC).

**MESSAGE FROM MONS JOHN:** At our Masses this weekend, having closed the Gospel of John about the “Bread of Life”, we resume the story of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of Mark.

It seems that as Jesus and His disciples travelled through the countryside en route to Jerusalem they came across a group of Jewish religious leaders. They were Pharisees who were the custodians of all Jewish religious practices – Practices that had been added onto the Law of Moses over the years, like washing hands and feet before eating; washing utensils; and cooking in prescribed ways etc. All of these practices had nothing to do with the Law of Moses. Nevertheless, they were designed to make Judaism an exclusive” faith. These ritualistic practices were considered to be exclusively “owned” by the Jews and the role of the Pharisees was to ensure that everyone adhered to these exclusive practices. Jesus challenged these hypocritical Pharisees.

The truth was that the custom of adding man made additions to sacred laws happened in other Near Eastern Communities. Such practices were also later adopted by the followers of Islam. Even the Christian church over the years has not been adverse to adding man made practices to the law of Christ.

The lesson in today’s Gospel passage is essentially about making sure we never allow ourselves to be diverted from God’s commandments and the law of Christ. And, of course, this Sunday we celebrate Fathers’ Day. We thank our fathers for teaching us to love God and always love and respect our fellow human beings.

**PRIESTS’ RETIREMENT APPEAL – NEXT SUNDAY:** On the Sunday following Fathers’ Day, that is next week-end, we are invited to offer support for our retired priests. There are over 80 retired priests living in Sydney. Our former pastor, Fr Peter Morrissey is one of those priests.

In retirement most elderly priests are living alone because their families and close friends are also elderly or deceased. They have the aged care pension but they need a place to live as well as adequate health care or, in some cases, nursing care. The truth is that

they need some extra financial assistance so that they can live out their final years with some dignity. Any help you can give is greatly appreciated. Envelopes are on the seats.

**EMBER DAY NEXT FRIDAY:** An Ember Day in the liturgical cycle of our church’s year is celebrated on the first Friday of each new season. Next Friday is an Ember Day and marks the beginning of Spring. It is a day on which we ask God to bless and protect us as we embark on this new season of the year with great hope.

**ADULT FAITH EDUCATION:** Our next presentation will be on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September** in the parish hall at 7.30pm where renowned speaker Cathy Kennedy will give a talk on “What is God’s purpose for me”. Cathy is the Director for the Archdiocese for Encounter – her specialty is Adult Faith Formation, RCIA and Liturgy. ***Diarise the date as this is not to be missed.***

**BUS TRIP TO BOWRAL:** A few seats are still available for the 19<sup>th</sup> September to go to Corbett Tulip Gardens price is \$60.00pp which includes a buffet lunch. To make a booking please phone with Anne Manenti 8765 8260.

**OUR DROUGHT APPEAL:** As mentioned last week-end the special appeal conducted on 18 & 19 August for communities affected by the drought was generously supported by us all. Deep appreciation is expressed to everyone by our School Community and the local St Vincent de Paul conference. We are able to confirm that our St Patrick’s School children and their parents raised \$1,734 and the church appeal raised \$6,247.55. This made a total of \$7,981.55. This money will provide immediate assistance towards household bills, the provision of water, feed and support to local communities. This was a wonderful charitable outreach by our School and parish working together for a marvellous result. ***Thanks to everyone.***

**PROTECTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS:** One of the issues that is important to us all in Australia is our rights to Religious Freedoms. Certain elements in political parties and within the media are intent on imposing limits on our religious rights and freedoms. Nevertheless there is a Bill that our parliament could endorse that would protect our rights to Religious Freedom. There is a petition at the back of the church for those who would like to sign, indication a strong opinion about the importance of religious freedoms being upheld in our nation by the passing of an Anti-Discrimination Bill in our parliament.

<b><u>DIARY DATES</u></b>	
Mon	10.00am Bingo in the Parish Hall – All Welcome just come along on the day
Mon	4.15pm Preparation of our young people for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Parish Hall
Wed	11.00am Christian Meditation in the Lady Chapel – Everyone is welcome

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Iris Moloney; Dan Fairholm; Edward Zammit; Fr Paul Ryan; Giuseppe Fin; Lorenzo Rampin.

**ANNIVERSARY AND SPECIAL INTENTIONS:** Gil Cocco; Anthony Neylan; Lionel Flynn; Guido Natali; Charles Bonnici; Giuseppe De Meio; Francesco D’Elia; Gaspare Favero; Peruzzi & Favero Families; Peruzzi & Favero Families; Angelo Falgiatori; Guido Falgiatori; Antonino Giuseppe; Angelo Di Giglio; Antonino Tesoriero; Angelino Lo Schiavo; Domenico Masi; Lupo Vaccarella; Nobrega Family; Santina Manzo; David Gray; Ellen Bracken; Mary Tingle; Mary Linane; Francis May; William Enright; Robert Kerrison; Anthony Dougall; Edward Hutch; Orrmonde Purtell; Jean Williams; Henry Toohey; Richard Timmis; Rebecca White; Thomas Evans; Elizabeth Wiggins; Edward Jeffery; Albert Larkin; Betty Chisholm; Joyce Anderson.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:** Join the Prayer Group after Sunday’s 9am Mass to say one decade of the Rosary and the Memorare for petitions received Margaret Maher; Ade Barton; Tony; Donald Tepeau; William Usher; Anthony; Tony Brezlin; Deborah Bushell; Michael McGurk; Norman Klein, Bernadette; Neil & Joyce Masters; Michael; Nina McNamara; Rod; Gladys Northey; Josephine Oen; Kaitlyn Toohey; Kane Petersen; Raylene; Charles Xureb; Rosina Everett; Rosa; Brian; Robert Northey; Devon; Albert; John Coulson; Margaret Love; Domenica; Dannie; Diane. To have your own petitions included, please see one of the group, or phone Carmel Moliterno 9736 1718.

<b><u>NEXT WEEK 8 &amp; 9 SEPTEMBER 2018 – WEEK TWO</u></b>			
	Sat. 6.00 pm	Sun. 9.00 am	Sun. 6.00 pm
Readers	Maureen Edwards Lorette Quinlan	Wendy Ballesty Paul Ballesty	Cristina Profilio Diane Carolan
Acolytes	Kevin Nelson-Smith Margaret Dix Julian McCarron	Eric Kent	Peter Scicluna Rocco Arce
Communion at Mass	Carmen Holley	James Redrup	Margaret Dix
Communion to the Sick	Luisa Campagna & Libby Cook		
Children’s Liturgy	Jenni		
Altar Society 2nd Saturday	Anne Gaul and Luisa Campagna		
Money Counters	Carol Gordon, James Redrup and Allan & Christina Marshall		
Altar Servers	Please see Mons John		

**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE BY PURCHASING A CATHOLIC WEEKLY TODAY FOR ONLY \$2.00 - MANY THANKS**