

**ST PATRICK'S PARISH MORTLAKE**  
 33 Gale St. Mortlake 2137 (02) 9743 1017 (02) 9739 6474  
 parish@stpatmortlake.org.au 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

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON TUESDAY THE 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER APOLOGIES FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE**

**FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK:** **Monday:** St Nicholas of Tolentino (1306 – Patron of mariners); **Tuesday;** Sts Protus & Hyacinth (257); **Wednesday:** The Holy Name of Mary; **Thursday:** St John Chrysostom (407 – Patron of public speakers); **Friday:** The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (335); **Saturday:** Our Lady of Sorrows.

**MESSAGE FROM MONS JOHN:** This day on which we read the story of Jesus healing the deaf man, is sometimes referred to as **“EPHPHATHA DAY”**. Saint Mark’s Gospel describes today how Jesus touches a deaf man’s ears and tongue and said “Ephphatha”, which means “be open”.

In Australia today people with hearing impairments communicate using a sign language called “Ausland”. It is a unique Australian language. We hearing people of Australia speak English. Only our deaf community and our aboriginal people communicate using a unique Australian language. Unlike the deaf man in the Gospel story, who had no means of communicating with his world, our deaf communicate perfectly with each other, and through skilled interpreters they also communicate with us. Today’s Gospel story is essentially about “opening up” the means of communication. Jesus does this by “touch”.

This is one of the most moving stories in the Gospel. The power of “touch” is a mighty power indeed. We use our hands to touch, to embrace, to shake hands, to greet each other and to heal each other. We symbolically join our hands to pray to our God. We use our hands to wave to each other. Our deaf brothers and sisters use their hands, the gift of “touch”, to communicate; to say “I love you”; to say “thank you”; to say “the Lord be with you”.

In the Punchbowl Catholic Parish, adjacent to the church, you can find the “Ephphatha Centre” which is a gathering place for the Catholic deaf community of Sydney. If you visit this Centre you will be moved by the healing power of “touch”. Most importantly it is a place where ears and voices are “opened up” enabling people to hear the Good News of Jesus and to proclaim it.

There are many ways of “hearing” the Good News of Jesus and of proclaiming that Good News. Each and everyone one of us has an amazing gift to touch other people and to “open up” Good News about the power of faith, hope and love.

**PRIESTS’ RETIREMENT APPEAL – THIS WEEKEND:** On the Sunday following Fathers’ Day 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.**

**HOME HELP FOR FRAIL OR AGING PARISHIONERS:** On Monday morning this coming week, at 9.00am in our Parish Hall (just prior to Bingo), representatives from Catholic Care will be present to explain the services available to assist people in their own home if it is needed. If you have a family member or a friend in need of such assistance, do come along (9am until 10.00am).

**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.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO JANE KENT:** On Friday Jane Kent, who is a student at Domremy College, was honoured by receiving the “Archbishop of Sydney Student Excellence Award” in Sydney. Jane would be well known to many parishioners at St Patricks. She is the beautiful vocalist who sings at our Sunday Masses. She assists in many Parish activities and is a great credit to her parents, Sinead and Eric Kent. **We congratulate Jane on this wonderful award.**

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING – 7.30PM TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER:** The next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday evening next at 7.30pm. If you wish to bring any matter to the attention of our council do not hesitate to contact a council member: Margaret Dix (Communications) Anne Manenti (Social Ministry); Betty Flynn ( Pastoral Ministry) Bob Mayor (Faith Education); Kevin Nelson-Smith (Liturgy); Sinead Kent (Social Justice); Bill Cramsie (Finance); Erin White (Youth Ministry) Marie Piccin (Stewardship); and Amanda Westgate ( St Patrick’s Primary School).

**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.

DIARY DATES	
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:** Margaret Maher: Tate Bargwanna; Iris Moloney; Dan Fairholm; Edward Zammit; Fr Paul Ryan; Giuseppe Fin; Lorenzo Rampin.

**ANNIVERSARY AND SPECIAL INTENTIONS:** Guido Natale: Gil Cocco; Nata Ferraro; Charles Bonnici; Angelo Piccin; Antonino Giuseppe; Angelo Di Giglio; Antonino Tesoriero; Angelino Lo Schiavo; Kevin Harris; William Brandtman; Alfred Bailey; Raymond Tracey; Clarice O’Brien; Douglas Towers; Michael Enright; George Cook; Jean McCathy; Constance Hornery; Samuel Cooper; Harriette Ryan; Jean Condon; James Murray; Mary Carlson; Jessie Byrne; Mary Samuel; John Timmins; Matthew Walsh; Margaret Brannagan; Mary Sharpe.

**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 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.

NEXT WEEK 15 & 16 SEPTEMBER 2018 – WEEK THREE			
	Sat. 6.00 pm	Sun. 9.00 am	Sun. 6.00 pm
Readers	Michelle McCabe Jan Holahan	Anne Manenti Peter Manenti	Bianca Piccin Rhonda Lee
Acolytes	Kevin Nelson-Smith Margaret Dix Julian McCarron	Eric Kent Gigi Pelizzari Neve Pelizzari	Peter Scicluna Rocco Arce
Communion at Mass	Nerina Briganti Max Briganti	Betty Flynn Connie Lasorsa	Diane Carolan Rita Kolibac Michele Couch
Communion to the Sick	Cathy Keever and Dianne Chestney		
Children’s Liturgy	Rebecca and Leonie		
Altar Society 3rd Saturday	Marie Cramsie and Barbara Granger		
Money Counters	Michael & Philomena Turley and Sandra & Stephen Ryan		
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