

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

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK: **Monday:** St Pacific of San Severino (1770); **Tuesday:** Bl. Herman the Cripple (1054 – Author of the Salve Regina); **Wednesday:** St Cosmas & St Damian (283 – Patron of Physicians and Pharmacists); **Thursday:** St Vincent de Paul (1660 – Patron of Charities); **Friday:** St Wenceslaus (929 – Patron of Brewers); **Saturday:** St Michael, Gabriel & Raphael (Archangels).

MESSAGE FROM MONS JOHN: In today's passage from St Mark's Gospel we are drawn into the intimacy of the private conversations between Jesus and His twelve companions. It is surprising to hear that the twelve apostles didn't understand what Jesus was talking about. In fact, it would have been almost impossible for them to understand. They had all been brought up to believe that the Messiah would be a powerful political person in Israel who would reinstate their nation as the most important and dominant force in the known world – Even more powerful than the Roman Empire.

The apostles, as we heard last week, believed that Jesus was the Messiah and hence they would ultimately be significant people in the new kingdom of Israel. This led to an argument amongst themselves about who would be the most important, the greatest, in the new kingdom.

There were many things the apostles failed to understand. They were imbued with contemporary notions of what it meant to "be important". They were much like we are today. They believed that "importance" related to status and power. How mistaken they were!

Jesus, in today's Gospel, makes it very clear to his twelve friends, just as he makes it clear to us that "importance" has nothing to do with status and power.

The only measure of "importance" is, in fact, the absolute reversal of how the world measures "importance" or "greatness". The only attribute that makes a person important or great is service.

Don't look at political or commercial leaders as a model of "importance" or "greatness". Jesus calls for a reversal of all aspects of such peoples "importance". He illustrates

his point by introducing his friends to a little child. A little child has no guile and no lust for status or power.

The message today is very powerful. If we want to be "first", we must make ourselves people who "serve" rather than people to seek "to be served".

We're invited to serve each other.

TRIP TO BOWRAL ORGANISED BY OUR SOCIAL MINISTRY TEAM: Last Wednesday a large contingent of parishioners visited Bowral to see the tulips and have a luncheon together. Thanks to all who were able to enjoy this event and special thanks are extended to Anne Manenti and her team for organising this wonderful event.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020: Our Catholic Church in Australia will hold a Plenary Council beginning in 2020 to hear the views of Catholics throughout Australia about the directions our Church should take in the next few years. Later this year and throughout 2019, there will be opportunities to have input into the deliberations of this forthcoming council of lay people, clergy and Bishops. This is a project being undertaken by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. In Sydney, Bishop Terry Brady has the responsibility of gathering ideas and points of view from Sydney Catholics. The last national Plenary Council of the Catholic Church in Australia was held in 1937. A lot has happened since then! For more information on this forthcoming Plenary Council go to: plenarycouncil@sydney.catholic.org.

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING LAST WEDNESDAY: The Parish Finance Committee is pleased to advise that our Parish is now free of debt. The renovations of the church and the new presbytery have now been paid for, thanks to everyone's generosity. The accumulated funds of the Parish will now be able to gown a little to enable our future projects to be undertaken. We will be in a much better position to properly fund our special ministries and undertake necessary repairs on the Parish plant. "Health and Safety" issues are of special importance as is "Child Protection". The audited accounts for 2017/18 will be available and published at the end of this month.

| DIARY DATES | |
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| Mon | 10.00am Bingo in the Parish Hall – All Welcome just come along on the day |
| Wed | 11.00am Last Session for Christian Meditation in the Lady Chapel this Wednesday 26/9/18 and then it will resume on Wednesday 17/10/18. |

RECENTLY DECEASED: John Ryan; Sebastino Pappalardo; Margaret Maher; Juliette Azzopardi; Iris Moloney; Fr Eric Burton; Rita Pesce; Garry Giles.

ANNIVERSARY AND SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Michael Harfield; Jean Doyle; Adene McInnes; Concetta Piccin (1st Anniversary); Giovanni Profilio; Dolores Gonzales (1st Anniversary); Pina Bianca; Theresa Hensen; Christina Penrose; Desmond Crooks; Deborah Jones; Thomas Waite; Mary Gray; Peter Lenzi; Susan Gray; Nellie Favelle; Caroline Seto; Betty Miln; John McGarrigle; Peter Dvornik; Julie Walshe; John Hourigan.

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 Nives Tassarolo; 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 29 & 30 SEPTEMBER 2018 – WEEK FIVE | | | |
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| | Sat. 6.00 pm | Sun. 9.00 am | Sun. 6.00 pm |
| Readers | Paul Dolan A n n a Dickinson | Maria McGrath Greg McGriskin | Felicity Orme Diana Gamra |
| Acolytes | K e v i n Nelson-Smith Margaret Dix J u l i a n McCarron | Eric Kent Gigi Pelizzari Neve Pelizzari | Peter Scicluna Rocco Arce |
| Communion at Mass | L o r e t t e Quinlan | P h i l o m e n a Turley Ron Vozzo | Diane Carolan J u l i e n n e McCarthy |
| Communion to the Sick | Helen O'Connor, Margaret & Gil Vella | | |
| Children's Liturgy | Sinead Kent | | |
| Altar Society 5 th Saturday | Pam Kubyk, Patricia Roach, Lorraine O'Young | | |
| Money Counters | Kent Family | | |
| 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