

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 Therese of the Child Jesus (1897 – Patron of Missionaries); **Tuesday:** The Guardian Angels; **Wednesday:** St Gerard of Brogne (959); **Thursday:** St Francis of Assisi (1226 – Patron of all carers of animals); **Friday:** St Faustina Kowalska (1938 – Divine Mercy founder); **Saturday:** St Bruno (1101 – Patron of those troubles by fear).

MESSAGE FROM MONS JOHN: St Mark's Gospel, at the end of chapter 9 of his book, confronts us with a surprising reality. The author suggests that Christians (ie people like us who believe in the divinity of Jesus Christ) do not have a monopoly on God. Non-believers who love and serve their fellow human beings are, in fact, Godly – even though they may not be followers of Jesus.

The real message for us to embrace today is to understand the real source of all goodness in our contemporary world, irrespective of who manifests that goodness, has its source in God. Every good deed, every act of justice, every non-violent intervention comes not from any humanitarian ideology – not even from people's beliefs – but from God. We cannot limit God, or claim to know the many ways in which God uses human beings to spread goodness.

St Mark's Gospel makes it very clear that Christians are not the sole possessors of goodness in our world. Nevertheless, and this is St Mark's point, we Christians have a very special role to play in our contemporary world. We must ensure that we do everything possible to promote good people, whoever they may be and whatever they believe – But, more importantly, we Christians must never be an obstacle to the goodness that we encounter from another person – irrespective of who they might be.

There is a simple lesson to learn today. It is the invitation to applaud the people we meet who are intrinsically good – No matter who they are or what they believe. When we applaud and acknowledge really good people, we applaud and acknowledge the goodness of God as revealed in Jesus Christ.

A BIBLE PRESENTATION HERE AT ST PATRICK'S MORTLAKE: Commences this Tuesday 2nd October. Privileged Place of Encounter - An introduction to the Bible. **When:** Tuesdays 2nd, 9th and 16th October from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. **Presenter:** David Patterson. Please join us for a fascinating look at the Bible. It's the

perennial best-seller, but is it the best-read book? More pointedly, is it properly understood? Over three gatherings, we'll cover such things as:

- Basic biblical terms
- The historical development of the Bible
- The relationship between the Old and New Testaments
- How a Catholic is to approach Scripture. Fundamentalist or contextual understanding?
- The differences in Catholic and Protestant Bibles, and the reasons for these differences
- Problems in biblical translation
- How to make sense of difficult passages, such as images of violence and the imagery in the Book of Revelations.

Hoping to see many of you at this free faith information event and that you are able to stay for light refreshments.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES – BLESSING OF THE SICK: Mass and Blessing of the Sick will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, Earlwood, on Sunday the 14 October 2018 (behind Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Earlwood), entrance via St. James Avenue, Earlwood, commencing with recitation of the Rosary at 2:30 p.m. followed by Mass and the Blessing of the Sick at 3:00 p.m. The Principal celebrant will be Bishop Peter Ingham, Emeritus Bishop of Wollongong. Some parking for disabled people is available in the school grounds and general parking in the nearby council car park.

THE 2018 SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS: This year's Social Justice Statement is about homelessness in Australia. It is titled "A Place to Call Home". It speaks about the housing crisis in Australia as a "tragedy". Adequate housing is a human right and the statement challenges our government's policies in relation to the provision of adequate affordable housing in Australia. If you would like to access further information about how to purchase this years' Social Justice Statement go to www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

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.

DIARY DATES	
Mon	10.00am Bingo in the Parish Hall – All Welcome just come along on the day
Wed	Christian Meditation in the Lady Chapel 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: Concetta Piccin (1st Anniversary): Michael Harfield; Jean Doyle; Adene McInnes; Maria Michela Repole; Alex Apap; George Gioiello; John Hutch; Willimina Wilson; Fredwick Norton; James Fairburn; Anna De Colli; James Fahey; Kathleen Barton; Charles Myhill; Brian Kelaher; Gwennyth Condon; Frederick Hutch; Patrick Meadth. Chidiac Family ; David Cusumano.

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 Zac; Fr Davino; Maria; Maria Pia Rapi; Sr Carol; 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; Kaitlyn Toohey; Kane Petersen; Raylene; 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 6 & 7 OCTOBER 2018 – WEEK ONE			
	Sat. 6.00 pm	Sun. 9.00 am	Sun. 6.00 pm
Readers	Greg Whitby Kerry Harfield	Dianne Manning Margaret Dix	Michael Smit Kate Kent
Acolytes	Kevin Nelson-Smith Julian McCarron	Eric Kent Gigi Pelizzari Neve Pelizzari	Peter Scicluna Rocco Arce
Communion at Mass	Paula Patterson Lorette Quinlan	Margaret Hunt Carmel Moliterno	Britta Crozier Diane Gamra
Communion to the Sick	Michelle McCabe and Margaret McCarthy		
Children's Liturgy	Sinead Kent		
Altar Society 1st Saturday	Philomena Turley and Bernadette Griffin		
Money Counters	Bill Cramsie, Tina Driver, Paul Driver, Sinead Kent		
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