

ST PATRICK'S PARISH MORTLAKE
 33 Gale St. Mortlake 2137 ☎(02) 9743 1017 ☎(02) 9739 6474
 ✉ parish@stpatsmortlake.org.au 🌐 stpatsmortlake.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@stpamortlake.catholic.edu.au

**PLEASE NOTE: THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE
 CLOSED ON TUESDAY 4TH DECEMBER
 APOLOGIES FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE**

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK: **Monday:** St Francis Xavier (1552 – Patron of Australia); **Tuesday:** St John Damascene (749); **Wednesday:** St Gerald (1109); **Thursday:** St Nicholas (350- Patron of Children and of Russia); **Friday:** St Ambrose (397 – Patron of candle makers); **Saturday:** The Immaculate Conception of our Lady.

MESSAGE FROM MONS JOHN: This week-end we begin the season of Advent. We are preparing for Christmas 2018. If you have ever read Charles Dickens's "A Christmas Carol", you would know what old Scrooge said about this pre-Christmas season.

He said: "What's Christmas time to you but a time for paying bills without money; a time for finding yourself a year older and not an hour richer.... If I had my will, every idiot who goes around with 'Merry Christmas' on his lips should be boiled in his own pudding and buried with a stake of holly through his heart – He should!"

Yet, in the same story, "A Christmas Carol", Charles Dickens describes the behaviour of another person. His name was "Tiny Tim". How did Tiny Tim behave at Christmas time? Dickens said: "He behaved as good as gold. And Better! Somehow, he gets thoughtful... He told me that he hoped that people saw him in church, because he was a cripple, and it might be pleasant for them to remember, upon Christmas day, who it was who made lame beggars walk and blind men see."

There's a bit of Scrooge and a bit of Tiny Tim in many people. Let us ask God to help us to see the very best in Christmas 2012, no matter what difficulties we might be facing.

Remember the very best in Christmas is no one else than Jesus Christ!

MORTLAKE PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS – SPECIAL MASS: Our local students and their parents will have a Christmas Mass this coming Tuesday evening at 7.00pm followed by supper in the parish hall.

THANKS TO ALL WHO CAME TO THE PRESBYTERY ON FRIDAY EVENING: It was wonderful to be able to enjoy each others company last Friday evening with some food and drink. It was an opportunity to say "Thank You" to everyone who has been part of the St Patrick's Parish Mortlake during 2018.

COMMUNAL CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Once again this year, on the Wednesday evening before Christmas we will celebrate together the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The celebration will take place at 7.30pm in our Church and we will be joined by parishioners from St Mary's Concord and St Ambrose Concord West. **The date of this celebration is Wednesday 19th December at 7.30pm.**

CHRISTMAS CAROLS ON ST PATRICK'S GREEN: You are warmly invite you to Carols which will be hosted by Mike and Helena Bailey on Friday 21 December 2018 from 6pm to 8pm. Please join our parish community for some of your favourite Christmas carols. Bring a picnic, chairs, blanket, family and friends to enjoy in a relaxed atmosphere. Enquiries: Lauraine 0414 743 076.

THE PARISH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GATHERING: A report about Thursday's very enjoyable day is available on the Parish website, www.stpatsmortlake.org.au

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR CATHOLIC CARE: Once again this Christmas there is an invitation to donate gifts for the disadvantaged children living in Sydney. There are a number of specific names on the Christmas tree this weekend, but if all the names are taken then just bring a long a wrapped gift for a boy/child with the age displayed. This is an opportunity to give a little joy to others who might not have any gift at all this Christmas. **Many Thanks**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS AND COLUMBAN CALENDARS: As many families prepare to celebrate the festive season with their loved ones, others are experiencing disadvantage or homelessness and may be suffering in silence this Christmas. The sales from these cards and calendars will go towards the funding of our Good Works and the services that will support them during this time. **The price for a pack of 10 cards is \$6.** The new 2019 Columban Calendar (an ideal Christmas gift) **costs \$10.** The cards and calendars are available in the Narthex.

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY: Members of the Pastoral Care Ministry are ask to gather this coming Wednesday 5/12/18 at 12.30 at the County Club, Village Drive Breakfast Point. This is our last gathering for 2018.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS: St Patrick's Primary School and the St Vincent de Paul Society in our parish are collaborating to provide Christmas hampers for needy families in our area. We are asking for donations of non-perishable food items, which would be suitable for the 'Christmas Table'. Some possible items to donate are listed on the appeal notice in the Narthex. Plastic tubs will be available in the Narthex for your donations in the first 2 weekends in December. **The Christmas hampers will be packed on Monday 10th December,** ready for delivery by St Vincent de Paul members to those in need. Thank you.

THE ADVENT REFLECTION ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS: Unfortunately the advent programme scheduled for Wednesday nights has been cancelled due to a few unexpected circumstances. There will be a home based group doing this Advent reflection programme on Fridays leading up to Christmas from 5.30 to 6.45pm. Please call Susan Neylan for details of home venue. 0400 195 350.

WHAT DO YOU THINK GOD IS ASKING OF THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC? This is a question being asked by the Catholic Bishops of Australia. Everyone is invited to respond to the question. At our Masses early in December we will provide everyone with an opportunity to respond to the question. In the meantime you might like to think about your response.

DIARY DATES	
Mon	10.00am Bingo in the Parish Hall – All Welcome just come along on the day
Wed	11.00am Christian Meditation in the Lady Chapel – Everyone is welcome!

RECENTLY DECEASED: Paul Beer; Patricia Gallagher; Joan Antill; Queenie Menso.

ANNIVERSARY AND SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Glenda Rutz (5th Anniversary); Giacomo Di Mento 6th Anniversary); Gaspare Favero; Periussi & Favero Families; O'Connor & Barry Families; Parisotto & Gatti Families; Hanna Family; Teodoro Emphasis: Generosa Canada; Fernana Abatayo; Valentin Abatayo; Carolina & Nicolasa Verame; Diana Sita; Alfio Castorina; Scott & Brancetisano Families: Mary & Gus Partlin: Catherin Fleming; Kevin Duck: July Lim; Judith Partlin; Concetta, Rocco, Teresa, Domenico, Ana Maria, Vincenzo, Maria, Benito & Pasqualina: George Cassis; Ragar Saitas; Lucy Haggar; Misha Smith; McManus Family; Manenti, Archett & Paris Families; William Rumble; McAdam & Rutherford Families; Giovanni & Giuseppa Profilio; A & R Natoli; Nick & John Adamo; C & C Profilio; Angelo Campanello; Angela Adamo; Sam Ferlauto; Michele & Giuseppe Goffredo; Nancy Buonanova; Gussy Fausti; Anthony Zacca; Ferlauto Family.

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 Mary Ridolfi; Charmaine Suria; Beverley McGriskin : Margaret Dix; Zac; Fr Davino; Maria; Maria Pia Rampin; Nives Tessarolo; Ade Barton; Tony; Donald Tepeau; William Usher; Anthony; Tony Brezlin; Bernadette; Michael; Nina McNamara; Rod; 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 8 & 9 DECEMBER – WEEK TWO			
	Sat. 6.00 pm	Sun. 9.00 am	Sun. 6.00 pm
Readers	M i c h e l l e McCabe Jan Holahan	Helen O'Neill Michelle Sraith	Rhonda Lee
Acolytes	Peter Scicluna J u l i a n McCarron	Eric Kent Gigi Pelizzari Neve Pelizzari	Alex Duck Rocco Arce
Communion at Mass	C a r m e n Holley	James Redrup Margaret Vella Gil Vella	Sinead Kent
Go;	Anne Manenti and Clare Petrin		
Children's Liturgy	Jenni		
Altar Society 2 nd Saturday	Luisa Campagna and Anne Gaul		
Money Counters	Carol Gordon, James Redrup, 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