

**ST PATRICK'S PARISH MORTLAKE**

33 Gale St. Mortlake 2137 (02) 9743 1017 (02) 9739 6474  
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**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 Sylvester I (335 – Pope); **Tuesday:** New Year's Day – Feast of Mary the Holy Mother of God; **Wednesday:** St Basil the Great (379 – Patron of Russia); **Thursday:** The Holy Name of Jesus; **Friday:** St Elizabeth Anne Seton (1821- Founder of the Sisters of Charity in the USA); **Saturday:** St John Newmann (1860 – Began the 40 hours devotions).

**MESSAGE FROM MONS JOHN:** We tend to think of Jesus, Mary and Joseph as a model family. But I suspect this Holy Family was like most families – they, like most families, had more than their share of worries, disappointments, despair and anxiety. After all Joseph married Mary and accepted her mysterious pregnancy knowing that he was not the father of her child. Mary and Joseph seemed to have lost Jesus when they accidentally left him behind in the temple. Imagine their worry when they realised he was missing. Instead of following in his father's footsteps as a respected carpenter, Jesus became a wandering social commentator and preacher. What a disappointment that would have been. Ultimately Jesus was executed like a common criminal. What disgrace that would have brought upon their extended family.

Yet through all of those anxieties they remained "holy", full of love of God and one another. We all live in a messy world and messy things happen, no matter who we are or what family we belong to. The key is how we respond when things go wrong.

The Holy Family of Nazareth is not a family we should emulate because they were "perfect" or because they are the epitome of "happiness". In fact, they were, as their extended family would have been, far from "perfect" and "happy". But they were **HOLY** because they loved and trusted God and they loved and trusted each other in spite of enormous difficulties and problems. Most of all, they trusted and accepted Jesus unconditionally.

The invitation on this feast is to do our best to make our own families and circles of friend's environments of trust no matter what happens.

**A WORD OF THANKS:** Fr John says "I am overwhelmed by the kindnesses expressed to me over the Christmas period. Thanks to everyone for the cards, messages and gifts. It is a great honour, and very humbling, to experience the generosity and love of the good people who worship at St Patrick's Parish, Mortlake".

**THE FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS – NEXT THURSDAY:** We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January. In 1274 Pope Gregory X urged to Dominican Fathers to spread a special devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus. Nevertheless it was two Franciscan Friars, St Bernardine of Siena and St John of Capistrano, who were ultimately responsible for popularizing an abbreviated form of the Name of Jesus using the Greek translation of "Jesus Holy Name". This abbreviation is I.H.S. The Letters I.H.S. became known as the Sacred Monogram" and these letters were then incorporated into the emblem of the Jesuit Fathers. Even today, we bow our heads when the name of Jesus is articulated. St Bernard of Clairvaux, in 1149 said "To speak the name of Jesus gives light, to think of it is food for the soul; to call on it calms and soothes the heart".

**DURING 2018 THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS WERE SENT TO GOD FROM ST PATRICK'S PARISH IN 2018. WE REMEMBER THEM AGAIN AS THE 2018 YEAR COMES TO A CLOSE:** Gerald Gleeson; Alex Secchiarioli; Margaret Howland; Julie Kempthorne; Peter White; Bartolomeo Bonaventura; Giovanna Caputo; Frank Malone; John O'Loan; Connie Casagrande; Iris Maloney; Sabastiano Pappalardo; Normal Klein; Michael Bonello; Kevin Burke; Margaret Maher; **and all of OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO RETURNED TO GOD IN 2018.**

**A BIG THANK YOU FROM CATHOLICARE:** Catholic Care would like to pass on their thanks to all the parishioners at St Patricks for their generosity with all the gifts for the children. Your gift bought smiles to many children faces. Catholic Care would like to take this opportunity to wish all St Patrick's parishioners a wonderful 2019.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO LEONIE & BILL YOUNG:** Leonie and Bill have celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (the golden one!) on 28<sup>th</sup> December 2018. **CONGRATULATIONS TO THEM BOTH!**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO MARGARET & JOHN CULLEN:** Margaret and John will celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 **CONGRATULATIONS TO THEM BOTH!**

DIARY DATES	
Mon	<b>BINGO</b> will resume in late January date to be advised
Wed	<b>CHRISTIAN MEDIATION</b> will resume in late January date to be advised

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Peter Clark; Cecil Poole; Amelia Modigliani; Damien De Martino; Sister Marie Duffy R.S.M.; Peter Beer; Patricia Gallagher: Joan Antill; Queenie Menso.

**ANNIVERSARY AND SPECIAL INTENTIONS:** Francesco D'Elia; Natale, Giovana, Antonio & Bruno Zappia; Giuseppe & Carmela Campagna; Alberto De Angelis; Emanuel Vasildis; Paul Papadopoulos; Grego, Pavin & Battalia Families, Sam Ferlauto; Michael & Giuseppa Goffredo; Nancy Buonanova; Gussy Fausti; Anthony Zacca; Sue Geoffredo; Elizabeth O'Neill; Margaret King; Albert Coffey; Frederwick Waugh; Mavis Burgess; Mary Cassell; Bertha Horsfell; Kieran Kinkead; Mildred Moyes; Rachel Sheehan; John Walford; Fred Baites; Elvezio Paoella; Fredwick Walmsley; Giovanni Scarfone; Mary Walker.

**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 Bob Hawke; Mary Ridolfi; Charmaine Suria; Beverley McGriskin : Margaret Dix; Zac; Fr Davino; Maria; Maria Pia Rampin; Nives Tassarolo; Ade Barton; Tony; Donald Tepeau; William Usher; Anthony; Tony Brezlin; Bernadette; Michael; Nina McNamara; Rod; Kaitlyn Toohey; Kane Petersen; 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 DECEMBER 5 & 6 JANUARY – WEEK ONE			
	Sat. 6.00 pm	Sun. 9.00 am	Sun. 6.00 pm
Readers	Kevin Casey Maureen Casey	Maria McGrath Greg McGriskin	Michele Howland Peter Scicluna
Acolytes	Cristina Profilio Julian McCarron	Kevin Nelson-Smith Gigi Pelizzari Neve Pelizzari	Alex Duck Rocco Arce
Communion at Mass	Paula Patterson Lorette Quinlan	Vicki Garcea Carmel Moliterno	Britta Crozier Dinane Gamra
Communion to the Sick	Paul Ballesty and Ron Vozzo		
Children's Liturgy	Will resume after the holidays date to be advised		
Altar Society 1 <sup>st</sup> 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**