

ST PATRICK'S PARISH MORTLAKE

33 Gale St. Mortlake 2137 ☎(02) 9743 1017 📠(02) 9739 6474
✉ parish@stpatsmortlake.org.au 🌐 stpatsmortlake.org.au

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Fr. Tom Stevens

**MASSES: Saturday 9:00 am Communion Service and Vigil 6.00 pm
Sunday 9.00 am and 6.00 pm Monday: 8.00 am Communion Service
Tuesday to Friday: 8.00 am Mass**

Rosary after Morning Mass - Tuesday to Saturday

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@stpmsmortlake.catholic.edu.au

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK: Tuesday: St Francis Xavier;
Wednesday: St John Damascene; **Friday:** St Nicholas;
Saturday: St Ambrose.

Advent – A Time to Learn How to Wait

The key to a successful Christmas lies in the patient waiting and making useful preparations. Easier said than done!! The placement of Christmas Day, being on 25 December, is of course based on a northern hemisphere timeframe. The notion of Advent, a quiet time of reflection, penance and preparation for the coming of Light of the World in Jesus Christ, amidst the natural winter darkness of a northern hemisphere, is somewhat easier than having quiet preparations in the middle of the excitement of an Australian summer - of beaches, international cricket, barbies and blowflies!!

Asking a young child to relax and patiently wait for the delights of gift giving, food and visual delights of flashing trees, is a tall ask. Likewise for adults, the excitement of Christmas parties and catching up with friends and family, fills us with a natural thrill.

Yet we are asked in Advent to wait patiently for the coming of Christ this Christmas. Before anything of substance in our lives, there needs to be a necessary time of gestation and waiting. Be it in: human or animal life; crops or flowers; courtship before commitment; or developing thoughts and ideas. There needs to be a sensible period of waiting to ensure the natural development of life, relationships and concepts can take place. Let's now prepare and wait comrades. For a feast is much better after a fast!!

Fr. Tom

ADVENT PROGRAM: You are invited to join in a program of gentle reading and reflection of the Sunday gospels leading up to Christmas. It will be only 3 Monday nights the 2nd, 9th and the 16th of December starting at 7:30 in the Parish Hall. It is a beautiful way to prepare for Christmas. Inquiries to Susan Neylan 0400 195 350.

COMMUNICATION MINISTRY: We are happy to share with you the **Christmas** (Summer) edition of the St Pat's Newsletter. It's a bumper edition which we hope you will take home and enjoy, and make sure you check out the website. Special thanks to **Leanne and Sharon**, the school secretaries at St Pat's for their hard work printing the newsletter for us.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR CATHOLIC CARE: As is the tradition here at St Patrick's at Christmas time we endeavour to put a smile on many children's faces. In the Narthex there are gift tags with the personal name, age and a gift idea (if needed) for lots of children/young adults. Catholic Care are asking if the gifts could be return by **Sunday the 15th December** as they will be picked up on **Monday the 16th December** to ensure that the children receive them by Christmas. **Your generosity is very much appreciated.**

CAROLS ON THE GREEN FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER
6pm - 7.30pm: Please come along and enjoy a wonderful evening of entertainment, sausage sizzle and craft stalls. **ALL WELCOME**

MINISTRIES FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES: The rosters for Christmas Masses are in the Narthex, if you are able to accept any of these ministries please add your name to the lists. We need: A Coordinator, a Greeter, Readers, Family or two people for the Offertory procession, Ministers of the Eucharist, people to take up the collections. **Please add your name.**

PARISH 'SPRING' CLEAN: Saturday, 14 December, 9am - 11 am - Calling on volunteers to assist with a parish 'Spring' clean of the Church and Hall. If you are able to assist, please advise our parish secretary, Brenda on 9743 1017 or via email parish@stpatsmortlake.org.au

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE: Just a reminder of our Christmas Lunch is on the 4th December at Noon at the Country Club, Village Drive Breakfast Point. RSVP Betty 8757 3307

PLEASE NOTE: ALL PARISH ROSTERS WILL NOW BE PLACED IN THE NOTICE BOARD IN THE NARTHEX AND ALSO ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE

DIARY DATES

MON	10am-Bingo in the Parish Hall. Come along, have some fun
MON - SAT	The Rosary after morning mass
WED	11am-Christian Meditation in the Lady Chapel-All welcome
SUN	After 9am Mass, prayer group in front of statue of Mary

RECENTLY DECEASED: Fr Paul Stenhouse; David Kirkman; John Aquilina; Di Stewart; Francesco (Frank) Marrapodi; Pat Paniane; Betty Stevens; Paul Whelan; Eutimia Madrid; Maria Mandato (Italy).

ANNIVERSARY AND SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Antonio Diego Palmas (10th Anniversary); Samuel & Suzie Louis; Charles Bonnici; Andrew Manenti; All members of the Parisotto Family; All members of the Gatti Family Ben Samuel; All the Souls of Barry, O'Connor and Lindley Families; Members of the Samuel & Chamberlain Families; Jim Rodda; Members of Alexandrgols Family; Toni Procopio; Annunziata Cristiano; Vito Michele Tozzi, Maria Repole, Luciano Pollacco; Vito Nicole Pinto; Domenico Battaglia; Mary Stonham; George Selwood; Michael Sasha; Patrick Flynn; Donald Gray; John Ford.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY: Please join the Prayer Group after Sunday's 9am Mass to say one decade of the Rosary and the Memorare for petitions received; Maryellen Partlin; Tony P; Marie; Nancy; Denis Klein; Tina Torrisi; Loretta; Antonietta; Connie Calvisi; Theresa Tan; Billy Brandt; Peter Allen; George; Michael; Anne Trivia; George Cepak; Dave Roberts; Bill Young; Don Khoury. To have your own petitions included, please see one of the group, or phone Carmel Moliterno 9736 1718.



PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE BY PURCHASING A CATHOLIC WEEKLY TODAY FOR ONLY \$2.00 - MANY THANKS