

**ST PATRICK'S PARISH MORTLAKE**

33 Gale St. Mortlake 2137 (02) 9743 1017 (02) 9739 6474  
parish@stpasmortlake.org.au stpasmortlake.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@stpasmortlake.catholic.edu.au

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL ONLY BE  
COMMUNION SERVICES**

**ON MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER THROUGH TO SATURDAY  
MORNING 4 JANUARY 2020**

**FEAST DAY THIS WEEK: Monday:** St John of Kanty; **Wednesday:**  
**Christmas Day: Thursday:** St Stephen; **Friday:** St John; **Saturday:**  
The Holy Innocents Martyrs.

**THE 'TRUMP CARD' IS LOVE & JOY**

As a child I used to love playing "SUPER TRUMP" card games . . . . . alas, they were simpler times, when the use of the "TRUMP" word meant a child's card game, and wouldn't have us engaging in stories of a certain U.S. President's antics!! The "SUPER TRUMP" card game used to list technical details of ships & aircraft, and you would play against someone with the aim of gaining the most cards by listing your vessel's/ aircrafts superior capabilities (be it gross tonnage, speed, crew members, etc).

Sometimes we can fail to see the beauty of the bigger picture and be hesitant to embrace the message of hope that surrounds us. In today's Gospel, Joseph (and Mary), face with hesitation the news of the impending birth of the child Jesus. The 'scandal' facing Joseph is that he is to raise a child which is not his own. The 'scandal' will be that the child will be thought to have come about by an 'irregular' or 'pre-marital' union. Joseph must show great faith, decency and commitment in agreeing to go ahead and support the bewildered yet faithful Mary. This was not a moment of euphoric, ecstatic, pious Joy for either Joseph or Mary. Both Mary and Joseph are frightened, alone and poor.

Yet the Trump card is the birth of a child. This surely trumps any irregularity of a child born out of the socially

accepted norm of a union prior to birth of children. This Christmas, let's see the beauty in our own lives that God has given us. Yes, there will be moments when aspects of my life will be 'irregular' or outside of generally accepted norms I might have envisaged, but the Trump card of my life is seeing the bigger picture and how God interacts in my life giving relationships that allows me to grow. These loving relationships trump all of my initial anxieties. **Fr Tom**

**PARISH OFFICE:** Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2019 only. Will be open on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2019. Sorry for any inconvenience.

**CHRISTMAS DRINKS AFTER 8pm and MIDNIGHT MASSES** - All are welcome to pop into the hall after both the 8pm and Midnight Christmas Eve Masses for a festive drink - soft drinks, tea, coffee, wine, beer will be available. All visitors and parishioners are most welcome.

**CHRISTMAS ENVELOPES: WHAT ARE THESE FOR?** - The money from these envelopes goes to a Central Fund that attends to the needs of the priests of the Archdiocese. These include: sick priests, priests in special works, migrant chaplains and priests undertaking further studies. Some of these priests are often "out of sight, out of mind" but they do need to be supported. *Please give them some thought especially at this time.*

**GRATITUDE - NOTE FROM SR MAUREEN:** Thank you so much for your outstanding generosity in providing your Christmas Gift of a voucher for adolescent refugees supported by Jesuit Refugee Services. May you and your families be greatly blessed for opening your hearts (and wallets!) JRS are enormously grateful!

**PASTORAL CARE:** The members of the Pastoral Care Ministry wish all a happy and holy Christmas. We look forward to offering support to those in need during 2020.

**TAP AND GO DONATIONS:** With the shift towards a cashless society our parish, consistent with many other parishes, is moving towards installing a Tap Donation facility. The unit will accept donations electronically and securely using contactless card/phone/watch payments. *It is not intended to replace traditional collections.* It will be located in the Narthex and, subject to necessary banking approvals, be here by year end. There will be a preset amount (\$5) and donors simply tap and GO. All contributions will go towards our second collection. Any inquiries to Fr Tom or John Clarke 0419437474. *For a visual of the device, see the Noticeboard.*

**DIARY DATES**

MON	<b>BINGO WILL RESUME LATE JANUARY - DATE TO BE ADVISED</b>
MON - SAT	The Rosary after morning mass
WED	<b>CHRISTIAN MEDIATION WILL RESUME WEDNESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020</b>
SUN	After 9am Mass, prayer group in front of statue of Mary

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Veronica Victoria Walker (Perth); Bridie Smyth (Ireland); Maria Mandato (Italy); Carmelo Musca; Gino Scarpa (Argentina);

**ANNIVERSARY AND SPECIAL INTENTIONS:** Grazia Di Gigilio: Giuseppe Distefano (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary); Charles Bonnici; Carmen Bonnici; Antonino & Grazia Di Giglio; Mary Galea; Deceased members of the Di Giglio, Tesoriero, Lo Schiavo, Galea & Michalleg Families; Francesco, Vincenzo, Maria Cannone; Andrea Angela, Loretta Ricchiuti; Giuseppe Libro, Giovannina Musumeci; Lorenzo Fede; Rosa Maniaci; Francesco D'Elia; Leo Kadia "Lodzia" Raczowska; Natale Polle; Mary Thomas; Ken Burns; Philomena Klein; Phillis Calman; Greta Nikolic; Bernard Henry; Edith Gallagher; William Blackman; Pauline Aquilina: John Kennedy; Henry Veigel; Josef Marchhart; Enid Wiggins; Joan Wheeler; Christine Ringshaug; Fredwick Bailey; Marie Brandtman.

**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; Edward Azjan; Maryellen Partlin; Tony P; Marie; Nancy Walker; Denis Klein; Loretta; Antonietta; Connie Calvisi; Theresa Tan; Peter Allen; George; Michael; 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**