

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@stpmortlake.catholic.edu.au

FEAST DAY THIS WEEK: Wednesday: St Hilary.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

DONE IN SIMPLICITY AND ACTION

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. This brings to an end the season of Christmas. In the Eastern Church this feast is called Theophany because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan, God appeared in three persons.

Jesus is baptised not amidst great fanfare, but rather in a quiet, subdued environment. Matthew's Gospel today tells us that it was only Jesus who saw the dove and heard the voice and that following this he was led to isolation and contemplation. From this moment, of profound encounter with the Spirit of God, Jesus needs time to consider the love of and beauty that surrounds him. He will eventually emerge and seek to gently influence and challenge others to live lives of justice and love.

We reflect today on the great inclusive nature of Baptism. We celebrate that this Sacrament is the only Sacrament which is recognised amongst the majority of all major Christian denominations. That is, we as Catholics recognise that: Eastern Rite and Orthodox traditions; Lutheran; Anglican; Presbyterian; etc, baptisms are valid. We are united in faith with all people who recognise that Jesus Christ becomes human, and is the son of God and a member of the Trinity. What a marvellous unifying point for all Christian

Jesus goes about his ministry now in quiet proclamation. Not in fanciful parades, not in mixing only with the 'holy' and dignified', but rather to the contrary, in speaking about love, mercy and forgiveness amongst those on the margins.

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

Jesus spends next to no time mixing with priests and politicians – but rather those at the coal face who yes, know they are flawed, teaching them that in their beautifully flawed state, they are loved. Jesus' Baptism today reminds us of the need for the active presence of Christians in our community, and as the quote from St. Francis of Assisi attests, to 'Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words if necessary.' **Fr. Tom**

A BIG THANK YOU FROM CATHOLIC CARE:

Catholic Care would like to pass on their thanks to all the parishioners at St Patrick's Mortlake who so kindly gave so many wonderful gifts for all of the children and young adults at Catholic Care. Your generosity was greatly appreciated and they bought smiles to everyone's faces. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy 2020.

CELEBRATING 125 Years of ST PAT'S: This year marks the 125th year of St. Patrick's, Mortlake. The Church and parish community has been an important landmark. Therefore, this year is significant for our parish as we will celebrate 125 years of St. Patrick's, Mortlake. The church and community being an important landmark in people's lives and faith journeys. We will be organising celebrations to mark our 125th anniversary. If you would like to be involved in a steering committee to organise festivities for our 125th anniversary, please contact Fr. Tom Stevens on (02) 9743 1017 or thomas.stevens@sydneycatholic.org

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 this month. 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. 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	BINGO WILL RESUME ON MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020
MON - SAT	The Rosary after morning mass
WED	CHRISTIAN MEDIATION WILL RESUME WEDNESDAY 29TH JANUARY 2020
SUN	After 9am Mass, prayer group in front of statue of Mary

RECENTLY DECEASED: David Roberts; Assunta Cerra; Duolio Favero; Veronica Victoria Walker (Perth); Bridie Smyth (Ireland); Maria Mandato (Italy); Carmelo Musca; Gino Scarpa (Argentina).

ANNIVERSARY AND SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Bradley Bolster (3rd Anniversary); Pierdro & Nuncita Biviavo; Cathy Biviano; Palumbo & Saliba Families; Anastasia Scott; Gloria Longhurst; Ernest Peterson; Anna Lewig; Charles Davis; Kathleen Power; Paul Ridgway; Jeanette Seto; Nora Hayes; Michael Mealey; Percy Brown; Peter Cassidy; Mary Hanrahan; Mary Elliott.

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; John McEnally; Patrizia Facchin; Roberto Galorielli; Marco & Annalisa; Jill; Edward Azjan; Maryellen Partlin; Tony P; Marie; Nancy Walker; Denis Klein; Loretta; Antonietta; Connie Calvisi; Theresa Tan; Peter Allen; George; Michael; George Cepak; Bill Young; Don Khoury. To have your own petitions included, please see one of the group, or phone Carmel Moliterno 9736 1718.

