

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

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL ONLY BE COMMUNION SERVICES ON MONDAY 27TH JANUARY THROUGH TO SATURDAY MORNING 1ST FEBRUARY 2020

FEAST DAY THIS WEEK: Monday: St Timothy, St Titus & St Angela Merici; **Tuesday:** St Thomas Aquinas; **Friday** St John Bosco.

LIGHT ALLOWS US TO MOVE & GROW

Light and Darkness is a common theme in Scripture, as a means of emphasising the grace and love of God to illuminate our lives. Light and Darkness is a common theme also in many plays, movies, poems and novels. Traffic, railway, tram, aviation lights govern our principal modes of transport in our city. The theme of Light is something we can easily relate to.

Today's readings touch on the theme of Jesus as the Light in our lives. The readings contrast rich and poor people, powerful and bullied people, darkness and light, division and unity, withdrawal and leadership. Isaiah tells how rich nations are humbled and that there is One to come out of the poor, lowly land of Galilee.

There is a passage in the First Reading from the prophet Isaiah, which is also quoted in today's Gospel. It reads:

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those who dwell in the land and
shadow of death
a light has dawned.

Matthew's words were heard like a song of freedom; a reminder of God's open heart for all. Jesus is a great light. He is relief from the dark that we all walk in at times. People victimised by armed bullies will see their instruments shattered. Servitude, domination and slavery belong to the past. The vision Isaiah and the Gospel speak of is a vision of hope for the oppressed, that they will have freedom from tyranny.

We all should be able to relate our own lives somewhere in the midst of this message. We all have an aspect of 'darkness' in our human frailty that needs a light shone on it. We acknowledge this, not in a dispiriting or distressing manner, but rather in facing my reality, whilst always retaining a Hope for what is to come. **Fr. Tom**

THANK YOU to Mons Usher for saying this weekend's Masses whilst I am away. It's lovely to have you back.

CONGRATULATIONS to Kevin & Maureen Casey and John & Lynne Wilson on recently celebrating their 53rd and 52nd wedding anniversaries respectively. Congratulations also to Bill Patterson who recently celebrated his 90th birthday. Peace, Joy and Good Health to you all.

PARISH 'NEW YEAR' DRINKS - All are invited to a catch up in the parish presbytery on Thursday, 13 February from 6pm. Come along for a very casual night of swapping stories (and hearing what romantic dinners you are all planning for Valentine's Day the next day!!) No need to bring anything. **Drinks and banter in the presbytery, Thursday 13 February at 6pm. All welcome.**

SOCIAL MINISTRY: Would you be available approx. four times a year to help with some of the parish social activities, if so would you please contact Anne Manenti on 8765 8260



Australia Day 2020

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: Denis Klein (**Funeral 29th January here at St Patrick's at 10.30am**); Nell Duignan (Ireland); Peter Allan; David Roberts; Assunta Cerra; Duolio Favero; Nancy Urch.

ANNIVERSARY AND SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Vincenzo Verna; Robert Northey (1st Anniversary); Emily Croxford; Yvonne Kemmell; Ethel Walmsley; John Grech; Therese McFayden; Patrick Andersen; Gregory White; Ralph Wall; Vincent Keogh; John Hill; Marjorie Da Silva; John Brandt.

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; Ken & Nora Lai; John McAnalley; Patrizia Facchin; Roberto Galorielli; Marco & Annalisa; Jill; Edward Azjan; Maryellen Partlin; Tony P; Marie; Nancy Walker; Loretta; Antonietta; Connie Calvisi; 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.



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