

ST PATRICK'S PARISH MORTLAKE

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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: Monday: St Blaise and St Ansgar; **Wednesday:** St Agatha; **Thursday:** St Paul Miki; **Saturday:** St Jerome Emiliani and St Josephine Bakhita.

THE GIFT OF SACRIFICE LINKS TO MY INTEGRITY

Weekly I love being able to participate in the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism here at St. Pat's. Our parish must have one of the highest rates of Baptisms in the Archdiocese. The, anxiousness and timidity of new parents, and the pride and joy of all parents as they bring their child to our community for the rite of Baptism is profound. In presenting their child, and in our community praying for the children, we hopefully see something beyond ourselves. We see how, through God's grace, in Baptism our IDENTITY can indeed be changed to reflect that of Jesus Christ.

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple. The presentation of a firstborn child in C1st Palestine meant the purification of the mother and demanded a sacrifice. Poor people such as Mary and Joseph would perhaps offer a sacrifice of a pigeon, as they would not be able to afford a lamb. The notion of Sacrifice in ancient cultures is complex, but Simeon in today's Gospel realises that Jesus will be the Ultimate and Final Sacrifice, when he exclaims:

"My eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see."

Simeon also recognises that this child will bring Sacrifice for the people of Israel – *"he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel"* and also of Mary's Sacrifice *"... and a sword will pierce your own soul too . . ."*

Love and Integrity insists upon the free gift of Sacrifices.

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

We each have to do this fine juggling at times, to try and keep my: spiritual; home; work; leisure; social; health; academic; etc, lives on track. At times, we have to determine what I will Sacrifice and what I won't Sacrifice. Our Integrity depends on the decisions we make when we are juggling these busy roles. But, I have to see the Sacrifice I make as a GIFT, not as reluctantly being imposed on me. Sacrifice as a GIFT I give, then gives me an Integrity linked to Christ. **Fr. Tom**

CATECHIST SUNDAY: This weekend we acknowledge and bless our parish Catechists and Assistants who provide the children at Mortlake Primary School with lessons and information on our Catholic Faith. This is such an important ministry as it spreads the 'Good News' to these children, and for many it is their only exposure to learn about our faith. This year we need at least two assistant catechists to help with the 30 minute lessons given at the school on Wednesday mornings. Full training is provided & more information will be given at Masses this weekend. To register interest in joining this wonderful ministry please speak to one of the catechists at your Mass or contact Coordinator Bob Mayor on 0418 228689 - email to mayor2411@gmail.com.

BAPTISMS THIS WEEK: Babies Allegra & Giorgia (Twins) Saija; and Baby Leonardo Teofilo and Baby Gerard Aslan.

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.**



DIARY DATES

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Ciaran Reilly (Ireland) ; Denis Klein; Nell Duignan (Ireland); David Roberts; Assunta Cerra; Duolio Favero; Nancy Urch; Elizabeth Clare Bond; John Costigan

ANNIVERSARY AND SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Vincenzo Verna; Robert Northey (1st Anniversary); Francis Conroy; Elsie Long; Valerie Leonard; Ellen Morrison; Walter O'Toole; Thomas McCall; Stuart Johnston; Leo Weston; Keiran Byrne; Cecilia Worne; Patrica McGuckin; Stven Blane; Nerida Ninness; Alfred Moloney; Angela Radice; Mervyn McCormack.

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.



CATECHETICAL SUNDAY