

Welcome to
St. Patrick's Catholic
Church Mortlake

Celebrating 125 Years



ST PATRICK'S PARISH
MORTLAKE

Thirty Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time
8 November 2020

1895 – 2020

Parish Priest: Fr. Tom Stevens
Parish Secretary: Brenda Johnston
Address: 33 Gale Street
Mortlake NSW 2137
Postal Address: PO Box 145
Concord NSW 2137
Parish Office: Open Tuesdays & Fridays (9am-3pm)
Phone: (02) 9743 1017
Email: parish@stpatmortlake.org.au
Website: www.stpatmortlake.org.au



Sunday Mass Times: Saturday Vigil: 6pm
Sunday: 9am; 10.30am; 6pm.
Limit of 50 people. Register online for Mass at
<https://www.trybooking.com/641739> or contact the office.

Weekday Services:

- Communion Services: Monday 8am and Saturday 9am
- Weekday Masses: Tuesday to Friday at 8am
- Reconciliation: 5.30pm Saturday

Baptisms: 11.45am on 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays of the month. Please call parish secretary with enquiries. Limit of 15 people per family.

Facebook:  www.facebook.com/stpatmortlake

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL
CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

The St Vincent de Paul Society is running their annual Christmas Appeal through November in 3 main areas listed below.

From next weekend we will put out baskets for donations for the hampers. We are looking for festive foods such as hams, cakes, puddings and other staples that will allow the families to have a lovely Christmas dinner which they otherwise could not afford. Donations for the hampers will finish at the Sunday evening Mass of November 29th to be packed in early December for distribution.

To make Christmas bright, we will also be **hanging cards on the Parish Christmas tree for gift and toy donations.** These donations also need to be **finalised by November 29.**

Finally, we will be **running an envelope and bucket collection at Masses on the weekend of 21-22 November for financial contributions.** Thank you for any support you can give Vinnies at this time.

NOVEMBER – MONTH OF HOLY SOULS

The church reminds us, particularly in November, to pray for those who have died. † **Here at St. Pat's you are invited to write the names of your deceased family members and friends on cards and place these cards in a basket which will be left at the foot of the altar during November.** There are now cards left in the Narthex and at the side entrance. Please take a card write your names on it and, when you come to the church, place this card in the basket at the foot of the altar. Our family members and friends will be remembered as each Mass is celebrated.

**HELP WITH PARISH 'SPRING CLEAN'
THIS TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER @ 9am**

We will be having a 'Spring Clean' of the Church and grounds this coming Tuesday, 10 November from 9am until 11am, to dust and clean the church interior and a general 'spruce up'. To offer your services on the day please contact Fr Tom on 9743 1017 or thomas.stevens@sydneycatholic.org.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom
Wis 6:12-16

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.
By those who love her she is readily seen,
and found by those who look for her.
Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she
makes herself known to them.
Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;
you will find her sitting at your gates.
Even to think about her is understanding fully
grown;
be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly
leave you.
She herself walks about looking for those who
are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to
them as they go, in every thought of theirs
coming to meet them.

The Word of the Lord

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the
Thessalonians
1 Thes 4:13-18

**Those who died as Christians, God will bring to
life with Jesus.**

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about
those who have died, to make sure that you do
not grieve about them, like the other people
who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died
and rose again, and that it will be the same for
those who have died in Jesus: God will bring
them with him.

We can tell you this from the Lord's own
teaching, that any of us who are left alive until
the Lord's coming will not have any advantage
over those who have died. At the trumpet of
God, the voice of the archangel will call out the
command and the Lord himself will come down
from heaven; those who have died in Christ will
be the first to rise, and then those of us who are
still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together
with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we
shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such
thoughts as these you should comfort one
another.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. S o I gaze on you in the sanctuary.
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)
3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. (R.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Mt 25:1-13

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.

Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves."

They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us."

But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord

STEWARDSHIP – VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The focus of the Stewardship Ministry includes: ensuring all Parish ministries comply with the latest WH&S and Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable persons requirements; provide a link between the Parish and the wider community by organising funding for various projects through local and government grant opportunities.

For more information or to become involved please contact: **Marie Piccin**
E: mtpiccin@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S LITURGY
8 November – 32nd SUNDAY

ARE YOU READY? GET SET! GO
Or NOT?

Let's hear what Fr Tom has to say to us this week. The reading is from St Matthew and it is about the 10 Bridesmaids. **Click here** for the Gospel:

➔ <https://youtu.be/XZ6mDDkcA0s>

Are you ready do you think? **Jesus wants us all to be ready to meet him and we can do this by building our friendship with him every day.**

Activities to do at home:

- As a family think of one thing you can do this week to be closer to God.
- You could pray together or show love to someone outside your family by visiting or writing a note.
- Get ready! As a family, check your emergency light supplies. If you don't already have an established place to keep a torch, candles matches, extra batteries, etc., set one up. Here is an animated version of today's Gospel from Holy Tales Bible Stories –

➔ <https://youtu.be/KJiM3qKGzoY>

We are coming close to ADVENT – if you would like to be part of our weekly preparation but cannot come to Mass let me know and I will send you the activity and you can pop it back to the office or leave it in the church during the week. Thank you.

PARISH FINANCES

Planned Giving

For Parishioners who wish to commence Planned Giving (PG), please email parish@stpatmortlake.org.au and envelopes will be supplied to you or credit card/direct debit process will be advised

Receipts are issued at the end of each financial year with parishioners able to claim 30% of their PG contribution as a tax deduction.

Recent parish Transactions

A few of the transactions this week within the Parish Accounts have been:

Receipts

Your October Credit Card Planned Giving \$4332

Some payments

- October Church and Hall Cleaning	\$1512
- Additional Tap and Go Terminal	\$ 569
- Communion Hosts	\$ 161
- Lawns/ Gardening Presbytery (Centacare)	\$ 100

Finance Committee

Some quick facts about the Finance Committee are:

- The Committee is governed by a Charter and it is the role of the Committee to help the Parish Priest in the 'administration of the goods of the Parish' in accordance with Canon Law
- Committee members "shall be members of Christ's faithful with certain skills in general administration or property management or financial management or contemporary practices relating to accounting or electronic financial programming.
- The Committee meets every two months for approx. 1 ½ hours

If any Parishioner would like a copy of the Charter or have any questions regarding the Finance Committee please approach Fr Tom.

PARISH FINANCES (continued)

2020/21 Finances

The 2020/21 Budget is of concern. Current predictions are for an operating loss of approx. \$22,000. Last year results (2019/20) as audited was an operating surplus \$45,728 The First Collection donations at Weekend Masses supports the needs of parish priests i.e. monthly stipend and household expenses (utilities, etc). During COVID the income from the First Collection have dropped in the June quarter from \$18,000 in 2019 to \$3,600 in 2020. The comparative September quarter from \$17,500 to \$2,000.

Ongoing management of Collections and Banking is overseen by Finance Committee. If you would like to assist and be added to the roster please email stpatmortlake@gmail.com. Banking occurs during Parish Office hours (Tuesday or Friday) each week and you would need to allow approx. 1 ½ to 2 hours for the task of counting and attending at the Bank to have the funds deposited. Banking is always undertaken by two people.

EMPLOYMENT, LOCAL JOB – WAREHOUSE AND OFFICE TRAINEE

This new role with a Mortlake based company would suit a school leaver or recent school leaver. The role requires a keen and proactive warehouse and office trainee to learn and assist with the business operations of Dentaurum, a global leader in orthodontic and prosthetic products and supplier to dental practices and hospitals. The role will expand to form a solid, long term career opportunity. Importantly, this position is offered with a 1 (one) Year Traineeship undertaking a Certificate III in Business however, we are keen to take on someone who is looking for long term career opportunity. **To apply and for more information please contact: Kevin Ferrari, Director. Dentaurum Australia Pty Ltd. ferrari@dentaurum.com.au. Tel: 9743 4811**

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY SCENE

(Where are the Aussie crabs and wombats?)

In Advent last year Fr. Tom wrote:

'One of the highlights of my time spent in Rome was the anticipation of seeing various Nativity scenes unveiled around the city. It was a subtle public display of faith. I was especially fond of the personalised local touches the Nativity scenes included. I recall one Nativity scene having crabs, a Mediterranean seal and the famous swarming starlings of Rome.

I think we need to include a platypus, wombat and kangaroo in our own nativity scene. Or perhaps Nativity scene characters that symbolise: a refugee; a widow(er); a lonely husband or wife; an addict; a cancer patient; a corrupt official, etc. The Christmas message is that God is in the midst of all our anxiety and messiness.

This is where you come in!!

This year we wish to set up a crib scene in the narthex but we will need your help. Do you have any statues we could add to St. Pat's nativity scene?

If you have anything we could place in the scene could you drop them off to Brenda in the parish office. It would be good if we had these by Dec. 6. Many thanks for your help. Brenda is in the office each Tuesday and Friday and can be contacted on (02) 9743 1017 or parish@stpatmortlake.org.au

At St. Patrick's Parish Mortlake, the welfare and wellbeing of our children and vulnerable members of our Parish is of the utmost importance. The safeguarding office can be contacted on 9390 5810 if you wish to speak on any issue.

REGISTER FOR SUNDAY MASS ONLINE

An automated online booking system is now in place and available for Mass bookings,
➔ <https://www.trybooking.com/641739>

Book 1 ticket per household.

That is, if your household has 2,4,6, etc, people – you only have to book once online, and your whole household is able to attend Mass.

ALL PARISHIONERS are encouraged to wear face masks during Mass.

Sunday Mass times available:

- **Saturday Vigil 6pm**
- **Sunday 9am; 10.30am; 6pm.**



Booking details:

- Bookings can be made up to 2 weeks in advance.
- No need to bring your ticket to Mass as your details will be pre-registered.
- Bookings can also be made by telephone with the Parish Secretary on Tuesday and Fridays in office hours. Telephone bookings must be made by Friday 2pm.

WEEKDAY PUBLIC MASSES & COMMUNION

SERVICES REMAIN unchanged. Please register on the sheet upon entry, no need to pre-register.

- **A General Dispensation** from attending Sunday Masses remains in place.
- **Online Masses:**
<https://www.stambrose.org.au/on-line-masses/>

THANK YOU TO OUR BENCH PAINTERS

A big thank you our team of volunteer bench painters: **Albert Calleja, Walter Chestney; Lorraine and Frank O'Young; Domenic, Isabella & Antonella Lo Surdo.**

The benches look magnificent and add a bit of life and colour to our parish. Thank you for helping.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Vincenza Calabrese; Rose Awaness; Audrey Clark; Joseph Triganza; Bernard Trinco; Ersilia Miracola; Franco Calligaro; Gaetana Salvaggio; Jimmy Smyth (Ireland); Eileen Burt (UK); Tom Bourne; Vincent Aquilina; Eileen Matthews; Joseph Bezzina; John Hourigan; Giulio Corte; Marie Verschuer; Michelina Masi (Italy); Gloria Gaymer; Damian King; Linda De Martin; Melchor Munoz (Spain); Anne Cowper; Michael Paul.

ANNIVERSARIES: Leo Gallagher, Alvaro Bianchi (18th anniv); Joe Moloney (15th anniv); Iris Moloney (2nd anniv); Greg McGrath; Caterina Archetti; Soledad Bernuy; Helen Borg; Frank Dimech; Frank & Maria Cremona; Alvaro Bianchi; Lucy Cindric (16th anniv); Giovanni Palumbo; Giovanni Manenti; Gil Cocco; Nell & Ron Peak.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY: Anthony Cocco; Rene Schmitt; Magda Cassis; Nico Relton; Barbara Clark; Billy Brandt; Sandra Riley; Jean Morton; Robert McAdam; Felicia Bugeja; Kevin Walker; Cecilia Kramar; Patrick Carey (Ireland); Sr Judith Clark; Jill; Edward Azjan; Marie; Loretta; Antonietta; Clare Coleman; The Tang Family; Leon Booth; Els Heymans & Family.

To have your petitions included, please phone Carmel Moliterno 9736 1718

SAINTS FEAST DAY THIS WEEK

Monday:	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
Tuesday:	St Leo the Great
Wednesday:	St Martin of Tours
Thursday:	St Josaphat

BAPTISMS THIS WEEK

We welcome Pierce Stack into the community of St Patrick's this weekend. May you gown in Faith with us here at St Pats and always feel at home here.

Peace and Joy

The Parish of St. Pat's Mortlake would like to thank the City of Canada Bay Council and Trevor Lee & Son funeral directors for supporting our 125 years Parish Celebrations.



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY VOLUNTEERING

The Social Ministry committee meets three or four times a year to prepare a calendar of events and activities that are designed to encourage Parish participation in a more informal social environment.

All Parishioners are invited to attend these events, and everyone is very welcome. Some of the activities and services provided include:

- Bus Trips and Excursions
- The First Holy Communion Breakfast & Confirmation Supper
- Healing Mass Brunch
- The Parish Dinner
- Special Parish Celebrations that require Social committee support
- Weekly Bingo
- Communion Services and Pastoral Care Visitations

For more information or to become involved, please contact **Anne Manenti** on 8765 8260 or E: manenti@ihug.com.au

A 'SNEAK PEAK' inside the PARISH HISTORY BOOK – 'AN ENDURING FLAME'

Caring for others in our community has been a strong theme in St Patrick's history. This weeks' excerpt from our soon to be released parish history, *An Enduring Flame*, briefly examines the role of the women and men of the Mortlake Conference (branch) of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

The SVdP has had a long history in the Concord and Mortlake parishes. In 1892 the society established St Aloysius Home for destitute youth in then Thomas Street (now Henry Street) Five Dock. Within a few years the home was overcrowded, and the society moved the home to Westmead (St Vincent's Boys' Home). Meanwhile a local conference had been established at Mary's Concord, and its early members included men from Mortlake (women were not allowed at that time).

A defined presence at Mortlake began in 1926, with a conference formed under the leadership of Harold Andrew Taylor and his wife, Rosella Hack. Mr Taylor was known as 'Jack', a reference to his nickname *Jack Frost*, which had applied during his stellar boxing career in Sydney before World War One. After boxing, Mr Taylor became a respected builder and - with his wife - large contributors to charity through the Mortlake conference.

Another early contributor was William John Solomon, a barber, whose shop was located near the Mortlake Wharf. With the onset of the 1930s Great Depression, Vinnies sought to help the many unemployed families associated with the Mortlake gas works. A soup kitchen was established in 1931 at the rear of Mr Solomon's shop and staffed by voluntary ladies from the parish including Mesdames Stonham, Smith, Moloney, Shanahan, Potter and Flynn. Some 200 people received a daily meal during the worst of the Depression era. Mr

'AN ENDURING FLAME' (continued)

Solomon was the kitchen's honorary treasurer.

The Taylors sought assistance from the gas works to provide an enhanced facility. Not surprising, James P Moloney, from that wonderful parish family, would be the soup kitchen's liaison. Throughout the decades many women and many have contributed, often quietly, to Vinnies work in our parish as member, supporters, and donors. May they all rest in peace.

The local branch presidents have included Joe McInerney, Roy Peacock, Paddy Cullen, Mick Lesha, John Calman, David Patterson, Mary Tracey, Tony Brown, and Cathy Nelson-Smith.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS LAST SUNDAY

Thank you to the parishioners who brought their family pets up last Sunday for the 10.30am Mass and afterwards. We said prayers attributed to St Francis, patron saint of animals and ecology. I hope your pets are now even happier and more holy in their daily activities. It was lovely to see the joy that God's creatures give to you and your families.

Peace and Joy



<https://www.stpatsmortlake.org.au/news-events/photo-gallery/>

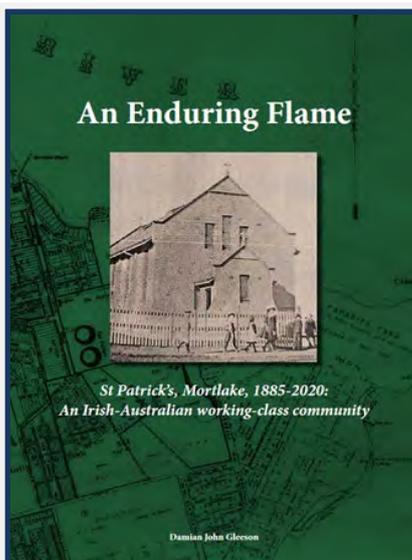


ST PATRICK'S PARISH
MORTLAKE

Celebrating 125 Years 1895-2020

2020 marks 125 years since the beginning of St Patrick's Parish Mortlake. Since our earliest days, we have been blessed and enriched by priests, religious sisters and families who have made their home in Mortlake, and have made St Patrick's their parish. The faith, energy and commitment of the early Irish settlers has flourished, and successive generations of people from many different cultures and nationalities have contributed to the wonderfully diverse and vibrant parish community we share today.

Just as 2020 is a year we will never forget, 1895 is a focal point in the life of St Patrick's Parish. It is when we began, and the passing of time weaves the threads of our story across the years – the highs and lows, opportunities and challenges, joys and sorrows. These significant personal, spiritual and communal events in our history have been captured beautifully in Damian Gleeson's new book:



A book celebrating the 125th anniversary of St Patrick's, Mortlake.

Cost - \$25

A great read!

A wonderful gift idea!

St Patrick's Catholic Church
33 Gale Street
Mortlake NSW 2137

parish@stpatismortlake.org.au
www.stpatismortlake.org.au
(02) 9743 1017

An Enduring Flame

St Patrick's Mortlake 1885-2020
An Irish-Australian working class community

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: *Damian John Gleeson specialises in Irish-Australian historical research. Damian has written a number of parish histories including the 2017 award winning publication, The Rock of St George. Damian is a past president of the Australian Catholic Historical Society and an active member of the Silvermines Historical Journal, County Tipperary, Ireland.*

TO ORDER A COPY

Please contact the parish on

9743 1017 or email : parish@stpatismortlake.org.au