

Welcome to St. Patrick's Catholic Church Mortlake

Celebrating 125 Years



ST PATRICK'S PARISH
MORTLAKE

3rd Sunday in Advent
13 December 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@stpatsmortlake.org.au
Website: www.stpatsmortlake.org.au



Sunday Mass Times: Saturday Vigil: 6pm
Sunday: 9am; 10.30am; 6pm.
Limit of 100 people
Register online for Mass at:
<https://www.trybooking.com/641739> or contact the office.

Weekday Services:

- Communion Services: Monday 8am and Saturday 9am
- 8am Weekday: 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.

Facebook:  www.facebook.com/stpatsmortlake

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE 12 December

The story of **Our Lady of Guadalupe** is a beautiful one. She appeared to a Mexican indigenous man named Juan Diego, in a hillside called Tepeyac. She called him *"My dearest and youngest son"* and asked him to bring a message to the Bishop Don Fray Juan de Zumarraga, a Franciscan Priest. She wanted a temple to be built in that hill, so people could talk to her: *"Those who cry to me, those who seek me, those who trust in me, because there I will listen to their weeping, their sadness, to remedy, to cleanse and nurse all their different troubles, their miseries, their suffering."*

As expected, the bishop didn't believe Juan Diego, and sent him away. The Virgin appeared to Juan Diego 3 more times. The last time The Virgin appeared to Juan Diego was on the 12th of December 1531, she asked Juan Diego to go to the top of the hill and pick up all the roses that he will find there and take them to the Bishop as proof. Juan Diego found lots of beautiful roses, that he collected in the hollow of his garment (called "tilma" or "ayate"), when he went back to see The Virgin, she took the flowers in her hands, and then put them back in his tilma, asking him to show them to the Bishop only.

Juan Diego then went and saw the bishop and opened his garment and the roses fell to the floor, and at the same time the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared in the tilma. After this, the Bishop agreed to build the temple, as requested by Our Lady.

Interesting facts:

On the 14th of November 1921 someone left a bouquet of flowers in front of the altar in the Basilica, very close to the image, there were explosives hidden in the bouquet. The explosion was so strong that a massive cross that was just in front of the image was bent, also the marble stairs to the altar were crushed to pieces, but nothing happened to the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. If you go to the Basilica in Mexico, you can see the bent cross there.



FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
Is 61:1-2. 10-11

I exult for joy in the Lord

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;

to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

'I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.

'For as the earth makes fresh things grow,
as a garden makes seeds spring up,
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise
spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The Word of the Lord**SECOND READING**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the
Thessalonians
1 Thes 5:16-24

May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R. Is 61:10

(R.) My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. (R.)
2. The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. (R.)
3. He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. (R.)

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Jn 1:6-8. 19-28

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.

GOSPEL (continued)

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord

PARISH SUPPORT SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

Our parish is currently conducting a Support Survey Questionnaire letterbox drop of every house in the parish boundaries.

If you would like to fill in the survey there are hard copies at the entrances to the Church. You are welcome to take one, fill it in and simply place it underneath the collection boxes at the Church entry points or drop it off to the parish office. You can also fill the Survey in online, by following the link below.

<https://www.stpatsmortlake.org.au/census/>

Thank you for your continued support.

Peace and Joy. Fr Tom

BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND

We welcome Baby Mia Farrell, Liam Delaney and Jessica Thompson into the St Pat's community this weekend. **Peace and Joy!!**

VOLUNTEERING IN THE ST PAT'S GARDEN

Would you be able to donate some time to help maintain our garden area around the Church? Do you have an hour once a week or once a month?

Please email parish@stpatsmortlake.org.au or contact Brenda in the office on Tuesday and Friday 9-3pm on 9743 1017.

SINGER NEEDED

Someone with a reasonable singing voice is needed to accompany Bob Mayor on Guitar at the Christmas Eve 8pm Mass. Christmas Hymns will be sung & anyone who is available & can sing please contact Bob on 0418 228 689 or speak with him at a Saturday vigil mass.

It would be good if someone could volunteer over the next week or so as a couple of practises will be needed. **Thank you!**

ADVENT PRAYER & MEDITATION

You are warmly invited to take part in weekly scripture/prayer sessions over the 4 weeks of Advent on Tuesday evenings from 7pm-8pm via ZOOM. (easy instructions).

The group will gently, prayerfully reflect on the Sunday Gospel. **Contact Susan for more information on 0400 195 350 or email: thejourney.smn@gmail.com**

REGISTER FOR SUNDAY MASS ONLINE

An automated online booking system is now in place and available for Sunday Mass bookings, <https://www.trybooking.com/641739> or call the parish office on 97431017 (Tues & Friday)

Book 1 ticket per household

That is, if your household has 2,4,6, etc, people – you only need to book one ticket.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Brian Holt; Rosemary Rumble; Anna Anastasi (Italy); Vincenza Calabrese; Rose Awaness; Audrey Clark; Joseph Triganza; Bernard Trinco; Ersilia Miracola; Franco Calligaro; Gaetana Salvaggio.

ANNIVERSARIES: Cynthia Fernandes; Bjarne Johansen; Andrew Manenti; Patricia Reilly; (3rd anniv); Francesco Marrapodi (1st anniv); 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: Frank Ng; Anthony Cocco; Rene Schmitt; Magda Cassis; Nico Relton; Barbara & Barrie 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.

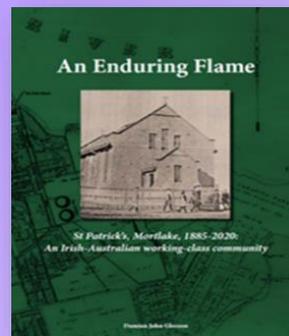
(To have your petitions included, please phone Carmel Moliterno 9736 1718)

PARISH FINANCES

For Parishioners who wish to commence Planned Giving (PG) or transfer to credit card/direct debit, please email parish@stpatmortlake.org.au
For those who wish to make contributions by EFT transfer – details are:

Bank Transfer BSB: 062 784
Account Number: 100000520
Account Name: Mortlake Parish
Reference: < your name or PG Number >

PARISH HISTORY BOOK NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE – COST \$25



The book celebrating our parish history is now available for sale. You can order your own copy by completing the order form at the back of the Church or contacting the parish office on Tuesday or Friday on 9743 1017

or email parish@stpatmortlake.org.au

The book is a Great Read and a Wonderful Gift Idea!

CHRISTMAS SERVICES and MASSES



Wednesday 23rd Dec	6.00pm Children & Family 7.30pm Carol Service
Thursday 24th Dec	12 Noon, 6pm, 8pm & Midnight
Friday 25th Dec	7.30am, 9am & 10.30am

Please register for Christmas Services with this new link: <https://www.trybooking.com/680925> or by ringing the Parish Office on 9743 1017 on Tuesday or Friday.

CATHOLIC CARE – COLLECTION OF GIFTS

Catholic Care will be coming to collect the wonderful gifts on **Thursday 18th December**. Could you please ensure that your gift has been returned by then. Thanks

VOLUNTEERS TO READ AT MASSES

If you would like to read, please write your name on this list. **We are also looking for volunteers for each of the Masses – 6.00pm Saturday; 9.00am, 10.30 am and 6.00pm Sunday.**

If you wish to volunteer, please contact Brenda on 9743 1017 or parish@stpatmortlake.org.au with your details (phone no. and email address) and the Mass at which you wish to read and how often you are available. **Many Thanks**