



CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

Catholic Parish of Dulwich Hill, Archdiocese of Sydney, Established in 1907
532 New Canterbury Road, Dulwich Hill NSW 2203
PO Box 149 Dulwich Hill NSW 2203 Ph: 9558-3257 Fax: 9559-3752
Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPotC Website: dulwichhillparish.org.au
Email: church@dulwichhillparish.org.au, or
secretary@dulwichhillparish.org.au



Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG (Bishop in Residence)
Fr. Andrew James (Parish Priest), (Deacon) Rev Louis Azzopardi



Ph.: 9558 5308
Principal:

Ms Frances Stewart
REC: Ms Christine Brais
Email: info@stpcedulwichhill.catholic.edu.au

With St Paul of the Cross we pray ...

For the sick

- Allen Portell
- Leonor Delgado
- Patricia Stack
- Raul Cabrera
- Sr Julianne Murphy
- Natalina Gallace
- Ruth Wilson
- Raymond Hudson
- Fr Jim Duggan
- Pat Allport
- Cardo, Zennie, Ian, Pat
- Francheska Bechara
- Robyn, Eimy & Helen
- Angelis Alima & Charlie
- Jan Lawson
- Genaro Villanueva
- Paula
- Christina

Recently Deceased

- Filomena Kong Ranile
- Dulce B Alegrado

Death Anniversary

- Alexander
- Elisabeth
- Doris

For the Souls

All forgotten Souls and Holy Souls in Purgatory

Special Intentions

Henry & Tina and my Family
Leah Tillam

“Never give in ... never admit defeat ... know that in the Lord you cannot be labouring in vain”

Over the past six weeks we have heard extracts from Paul’s letter to the Christian community in Corinth. We heard Paul respond to the issues and questions they raised as they tried to live out the Gospel of Christ in the society they knew. Paul’s response however surely reflects the power of the Holy Spirit in his own life since what he says transcends the particular problems and concerns of that community. His words have touched the lives of countless people over the centuries and across many cultures, transforming them in ways that he could never have imagined. Truly, Paul did not “labour in vain”.

But when Paul first arrived in Corinth he was not in a triumphant mood. He arrived there, he says, “in weakness, in fear and great trembling.” Corinth was a prosperous city and, to its people, the success it enjoyed was a sign that it was favoured by its gods. What could Paul possibly offer them when he came to speak to them not about a new philosophy but about “a crucified Christ”?

However, with the assistance of Aquila and Priscilla, a couple who came to help him, Paul managed to create a Christian community even in this unpromising and hostile environment. As we know from the various letters that he wrote, Paul spoke and wrote ‘from the heart’, from the depth of his experience of Christ and from the revelations that he received. For all those who knew Paul (and for all who have since ‘received’ his letters), here was an experience that bore out the truth of Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel “a man’s words flow out of what fills his heart.”

As we saw in last week’s reflection, we too live out our faith in a very unpromising and hostile environment. As I write, our state parliament is considering (and likely to pass) a euthanasia bill in the shortest time and with the fewest safeguards of any other state. More immediately, we are acutely aware of the increasing numbers of people who are disconnecting from the life of the Church, especially younger people. How can this possibly be, as we said last week, ‘a time of grace’, ‘an opportunity to be who we are?’

I have found some helpful insights in a very recent book called **Return: how to draw your child back to the Church**. The focus is obviously that of many (most?) parents as they see their children not only no longer practising their faith but even rejecting it altogether. Some of its insights however can, I believe, be adapted to include other situations eg friends or adult family members who have disconnected from the faith they were baptised into.

One of the strengths of this book is the way in which it respects and builds on the situation of both ‘sides’-the one staying and the one leaving/has left. It begins by asking us to understand the situation we now have, based on research as to the most common reasons why people leave the Church (eg rejection of particular Church teachings especially ones dealing with sexual morality, a wrong understanding of God, influence of friends, ‘drifting out’ etc). The challenge for those who remain and participate regularly (in Australia approximately 10% of all Catholics), is to create what Pope Francis calls ‘a culture of encounter’ which unites people (especially young people) to Jesus through the Church and not in spite of it.

The author then goes on to outline in detail what he calls ‘the game plan’, a way of making this ‘culture of encounter’ happen. He begins by outlining five common mistakes that can work against this - forcing your children to go to Mass, criticising their lifestyle, nagging them, not trying to understand or not respecting their objections, assuming you can change them. This last mistake is particularly significant as conversion, in the end, is always the work of the Holy Spirit within the freedom of our lives. “Simply put, we can’t do anything to help our children return without the cooperation of the Holy Spirit.” We see this very clearly in the letters of Paul and in the stories of conversion in the Acts of the Apostles.

This ‘cooperation’ involves many things, including not blaming ourselves for ‘failing them’, building up a bond of trust with them so that both of us can feel free to talk and to listen to each other, making the effort to understand what the objections are and the answer to them. It includes both preparation and prayer. We prepare by growing in our understanding of the faith we believe in. We also need, through prayer, to deepen our own relationship with Christ since it is his Church that we wish to welcome others into. After all, as Jesus says, “can one blind man guide another?”

Reference: Brandon Vogt **Return: how to draw your child back to the Church** Word on Fire Catholic ministries Park Ridge Illinois USA 2021

Deacon Louis

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Feast/Solemnity/Memorial/Saint of the Week

(28 Feb - 5 Mar 2022)

Wed	2/3	ASH WEDNESDAY (Fast and Abstinence)
Fri	4/3	St Casimir Autumn Ember Day (Special Day of Prayer and Penance)

Ash Wednesday the first day of Lent. Lent is 40-day season marked by repentance, fasting, reflection, and ultimately celebration. The practice of Ash Wednesday is symbolic within the Christian church to recognise our frailty as human. Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance.



Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.

Ash Wednesday, 2nd March 2022	
9:00am	Morning Mass
10:00am	School Mass

Stations of the Cross - Fridays through Lent at 7:00pm starts 4th March 2022

Aussie Friends of the Poor - Weekend 5th/6th March 2022

Will be coming to sell raffle tickets on the weekend of 5th/6th March 2022.
Money raised will assist/help the needy (supply of food, clothing, medical supplies, assist children’s welfare and education development).

St Joseph’s Enfield Healing Mass Friday 4th March 2022

Celebrant: Father Brian Steele MGL
Rosary: 7:00pm Reconciliation: 7:00-8:00pm
Prayer and Praise: 7:30pm Mass: 8:00pm
Exposition (after Mass) & Prayer Ministry
St Joseph’s Catholic Church
126 Liverpool Rd., Enfield
Parking at rear of church. Enter from Baker St.
E-mail: rosetwymansydney@gmail.com

PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER 5th and 6th March 2022

Readers:	5:30pm	R Lazarus P Allport
	8:00am	J Peters G Turnbull
	10:00am	J Duru V Simms

Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our parish preparation program for children who wish to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time and are 8 years of age (Year 3 in primary school) and over will begin this month.

Classes will be on Saturday 4:30pm and Sunday 9am in the parish hall commencing on Saturday 26th February. There will be four weeks of classes (parents can choose to bring their children either on Saturday or Sunday)

First Reconciliation (Confession) will be on Tuesday 22nd March and Wednesday 23rd March at 7:00pm

Lenten Program

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 2nd March. This year we will trial an online Lenten reflection program based on a series of reflections on the scripture readings for the Sundays of Lent provided by the Wollongong diocese.

If you wish to take part in this (one hour/one evening per week) please write your name and email address on the enquiry sheet at the front door of the church.

Please speak to Deacon Louis if you would like to know more about this.

St Paul of the Cross Catholic Primary School Enrolling now for 2023



Open Days are as follows :

Tuesday 22 March 3.15pm-4.15pm
Thursday 24 March 3.15-4.15 pm
Saturday 26 March 9.30 am-11.00am

St Paul of The Cross Catholic Primary School
Ph:9558 5308

Sign an ePetition against Euthanasia Laws in NSW

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has asked Catholics to support an e-petition launched by Upper House MLC Greg Donnelly opposing proposed euthanasia laws in NSW.

A parliamentary committee has recommended that the Legislative Council proceed with consideration of the bill. The unwillingness of the Committee to take a position on the bill means we need to fight even harder.

To demonstrate your opposition to the proposed laws, sign the e-petition

[LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - Signing ePetition - Please unanimously reject the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - Signing ePetition - Please unanimously reject the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 (nsw.gov.au))

Choir Notice

The next fortnightly rehearsal will be on Monday 28th February 2022.

Parish Office

Maria - Mondays
Cecilia - Wed-Friday
9.30am - 2:30pm

Parish & Hall enquiries

9558 3257

Mass Times

Sat: 5:30pm (Vigil)
Sun: 8am & 10am
Mon to Fri: 9:00am
Sat: 9:30am

Family Mass with Children’s Liturgy

3rd Sunday of the Month 10am Mass

Family Rosary & Morning Tea

2nd Sunday of the Month after 10am Mass in the Church Hall

Filipino Mass

1st Sun 11:30am

Sacraments

Confession

Sat 8:30-9:20am, 4:45pm or any time by appointment

Baptism

Every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday 11.15am

Marriage

At least 6 months notice required

Anointing of the Sick

Any time on call

Devotions

Holy Hour & Rosary
Sunday - Friday before morning mass

Rosary & Benediction

Sat 8:30-9:30am

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday 7pm

