

Handel's Messiah

St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta,
17th December at 7.30pm.

River City Voices is proud to present an intimate performance of Handel's *Messiah* for Western Sydney audiences. For information and to purchase tickets, visit <https://www.classikon.com/concert/river-city-voices-parramatta-2019-december-17/>

Glenbrook Parish Christmas Concert

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook's Christmas concert will be held on Sunday 22nd December at 7.30pm.

Join the great organ in singing carols with the choir and congregation and rejoice in the Hallelujah Chorus with trumpets and timpani. Entry via donations - families \$34 and individuals \$15. For enquiries, contact 4754 1780.

The Epiphany Pilgrimage



The Epiphany Pilgrimage, through the Blue Mountains, is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. It begins at Emu Plains on 2nd January and finishes 7 days later at Bell.

Pilgrims walk 110km through the Blue Mountains bushland, celebrating with each parish along the way.

Registration: epiphanypilgrimage.org and [facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage](https://www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage)

Kellyville Parish Mass of the Holy Innocents

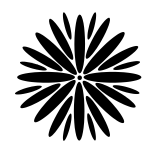
Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Kellyville, is holding their annual Mass of the Holy Innocents on 28th December at 11am. Fr David Blowey OFM Conv will celebrate Mass, followed by a Rosary procession to the Shrine of the Holy Innocents. Enquiries: the parish office, 9629 2595.

Annual Red Mass: 28 January

Bishop Vincent Long and Fr Bob Bossini warmly invite members of the judiciary and legal community, public service officials, law students and their families to the annual Red Mass on 28 January at St Patrick's Cathedral at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be served after Mass. Confirm attendance and any dietary requirements by 20 January to (02) 8839 8411 or events@stpatscathedral.com.au.

Catholic Outlook is back!

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook is back. From Sunday 1 December 2019, you can get your own copy of the revised Catholic Outlook which will be published quarterly as an A4 magazine with a focus on Catholic faith formation, spirituality and a look at what is happening across the agencies and ministries of the Diocese of Parramatta. Look out for copies in your local Catholic Church, Catholic school or Catholic office.



Liturgical Ministry Formation Course

Enrolments for Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses from February to April are now open. There is no cost for these courses, which will be offered at two locations.

**Diocesan Assembly Centre: 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown
Mondays at 7pm**

- * 10th February: Compulsory Introduction Session.
- * 17th & 24th February: Ministers of the Word.
- * 2nd March: Safe Ministry Training.
- * 16th & 23rd March: Ministers of Communion.
- * 30th March: Communion to the Sick & Dying.
- * 8th April: Safe Ministry Training
- * 27th April & 4th May: Ministers at the Altar.

OR

**St Nicholas of Myra, Penrith: Parish Meeting Room 1
Thursdays at 7pm**

- * 13th February: Compulsory Introduction Session.
- * 20th & 27th February: Ministers of the Word.
- * 5th March: Safe Ministry Training.
- * 19th & 26th March: Ministers of Communion.
- * 4th April: Communion to the Sick & Dying.
- * 11th April: Safe Ministry Training
- * 30th April & 7th May: Ministers at the Altar.

Deadline for enrolments: 1st February.

Download an enrolment form at:
www.instituteformission.com.au

Position Vacant:

* Facilities Maintenance Officer - Diocese of Parramatta.
Applications close 16th December.
Details at: parracatholic.org/employment



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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR C

14TH & 15TH DECEMBER,
2019

AN OPEN LETTER FROM THE CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Recently we have replaced "the Franciscan cross" on our sanctuary with a Crucifix.

As Fr Chris has previously explained, this is because the San Damiano cross (which most of us mistakenly call the Franciscan Cross) is an icon cross not a Crucifix. The General Instruction for the Roman Missal (GIRM) No 308 states "There is also to be a cross, with the figure of Christ crucified upon it, either on the altar or near it, where it is clearly visible to the assembled congregation. It is appropriate that such a cross, which calls to mind for the faithful the saving Passion of the Lord, remain near the altar even outside of liturgical celebrations."

A brief explanation and history of the San Damiano Icon Cross can be found here: <https://peaceandallgood.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/San-Damiano-Crucifix-2.pdf>.

It was decided the most appropriate place for the San Damiano cross is in the Chapel.

The Chapel is a reverent part of our Church and the icon cross would be on display for all the liturgies that take place in there. Currently, children's liturgy for our younger members is conducted in the chapel. Also, regular communion services and liturgies for our youth take place in our chapel.

Moving forward, the intention is to have the chapel open at all times to all parishioners for personal prayer. Using the chapel for these services, our younger generations can be engaged with the San Damiano cross and learn about why we have it on display and how the Franciscan Friars fit into our history, along with other important groups from our Parish history, including our founding priests.

(continued overleaf)

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, come and save us.

Gospel Acclamation

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

Communion Antiphon

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.



SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday
7.30am & 9.30am

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 7.00pm
Adoration & Rosary Tuesday
at 6.30pm
Wednesday 9.10am
Thursday 9.10am
Friday 9.10am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday
5.15pm — 5.50pm
or by appointment

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

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Cranebrook, 2749

Postal: PO Box 21
Cranebrook 2749

Phone: 4730 1249

Fax: 4729 2989

Email: parissteam@corpuschristi.org.au

Presbytery: 4730 6258

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm (Tues-Fri)

PARISH TEAM:

Fr Christopher Antwi-Boasiako -
Parish Priest

Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org
Mobile: 0415 505 594

Deacon Owen Rogers
- owen.rogers7@bigpond.com

Mrs Marie Cottee - Parish Secretary
- mc@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support
- sw@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Joanne Hocking - Sacrament
Support

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:
Corpus Christi Primary - ph 4726 2200
(Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)
Xavier College - ph 4777 0900
(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

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Some of our Parishioners have expressed concern at the historical significance of the San Damiano cross as well as it now being placed in the chapel and would prefer to see placed elsewhere.

Our community was established as a faith community in 1982, celebrating mass at the school hall at Braddock. For our community, historical significance can be applied to St Nicholas of Myra parish, the Redemptorists, the Mercy Sisters, the Loreto Sisters, the Franciscan Friars, the Good Samaritan sisters and the Josephite sisters to name but some.

Of course, to name groups can be seen to diminish the individuals who have been a part of our history, who no doubt are remembered by us all with a great deal of love and affection.

To assign 'historical significance' (or any other significance) to any one group or person can never be justified in a community such as ours.

The apostle Paul subtly admonishes against such attitudes in these words:

"What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?" (1 Corinthians 1:12-13).

"Isn't that obvious from all the jealousy and wrangling that there is among you, from the way that you go on behaving like ordinary people? What could be more unspiritual than your slogans, 'I am for Paul' and 'I am for Apollos'?" (1 Corinthians 3:3-4).

A good number of parishioners have expressed their agreement with this decision and even commented favourably. As with any decision of this nature, some people are not so happy. We ask that this decision be accepted, in the spirit of love for the Parish, especially as in the near future the chapel will be used more frequently and by more people.

Yours in the peace of Christ
Corpus Christi Parish Pastoral Council

**We, the people of Corpus Christi,
seek to grow in living
a Christ-centred mission,
sharing our gifts to foster welcome,
justice and community in today's world.**



**A very warm welcome to anyone who
is new to the parish.**

*So that we can get to know who you are, it would be great
if you would please fill out a Census Card available in the foyer.*

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December

The Future of the Very Young
That every country take the measures necessary
to prioritize the future of the very young,
especially those who are suffering.



Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer

Recently Deceased:

Elaine Fisher (15/11/19), Leo Weekes (18/11/19), Angela Murone (10/12/2019)

Mass Intentions:

Pauline Rugg, Christ Zahra

Anniversaries:

Rosina Cavallo (01/12), Feliciano Sison, Michael Portelli

And for those who are sick:

Pauline Rugg, Julie Posthuma, Lorraine Camilleri, Eleanor Albertyn, Joan Schneider, Vincenzo Galluzzo

◇ *If you would like a family member or friend's name to be included in the sick list, please gain permission from that person before you make the request to the parish team.*

◇ *Intentions remain in The Net for 4 weeks.
Please contact the parish Office for further inclusion.*

Columban Calendars — If you have ordered a calendar, they are now available to be picked up from the Sacristy. Each calendar is marked with your name and an envelope is also attached. Please put your payment (\$10 per calendar) in the envelope supplied and place it in the collection plate or alternatively, drop it into the parish office.

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL CLOSE
ON FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER, 2019
AND WILL RE-OPEN
ON TUESDAY 14TH JANUARY, 2020**



**OTHER THAN NEW YEARS DAY MASS,
THERE WILL BE NO WEEKDAY MASSES
DURING JANUARY.**

**THERE WILL BE NO MASS ON
TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER
AS FR CHRIS WILL BE ASSISTING AT ANOTHER
PARISH WITH COMMUNAL RECONVILIATION.
THERE WILL BE A COMMUNION SERVICE AT 7PM.**



**CHRISTMAS EVE MASS TIMES
Tuesday 24th December**

6.00pm — a popular time for young families. Be early for a seat and young children are most welcome to dress as angels and shepherds etc at this special Christmas vigil.

8.30pm — come early to get a seat and capture a friendly and upbeat spirit of Christmas Eve.

Midnight — capture the real magic of Christmas in the still of the night... you won't forget it!!!



**CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES
Wednesday 25th December**

9.30am — capture the 'here it is' as many gather in the peace of Christmas Morning.



**NEW YEARS DAY
Wednesday 1st January
9.10am**

Christmas Eve Children's Choir — Practice

All school aged children are invited to join the Children's Choir, which will be singing at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

Practice for the choir will take place on
Monday 23rd December from 9am — 11am in the Church.
(there will be only one practice for the choir)

If your child is interested in joining the choir, please write your details on the sheet in foyer.



Children's Nativity Play — Practices

All children are invited to participate in the Nativity Play at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

Practice for the Nativity Play will take place on
Wednesday 18th December at 4.30pm — 6pm
& again on **Monday 23rd December**
from 10.30am — 12.30pm in the Church.

If you would like your child to take part, please write your details on the sheet in the foyer.

Combined Choir for Christmas Vigil Mass

You are invited to join the combined choir at the 8.30pm Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. **There will be a practice for this group on Monday 23rd December at 7pm.**

Ministry Roster for Christmas

If you are able to assist in volunteering in the ministries of Acolyte, Special Minister, Reader, Commentator, Altar Server and Data Operator for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses, please put your name on the list in the foyer. Thank you!

Ministry Rosters for January

The voluntary roster commences on **Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th December.** If you are able to assist with the Ministry Roster from that date until the end of January, please place your name on the roster sheet in the foyer.

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

Help vulnerable people in crisis turn their lives around, recover and thrive. Your compassionate gifts and prayers will help CatholicCare to connect people with support and services to build strong foundations for self-sufficiency, fulfilling family relationships and brighter futures. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal via yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

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