

Weekend Parish Collections Week- Ending 05/01/2020

1st Collection goes to Fr. Jarek, Fr Wojtek & Fr Peter James as well as the upkeep of their Order of St Paul the First Hermit \$1,470.80

2nd Collection Envelopes and/or Credit Card payments: \$1,443.00

Loose Money: \$1,066.05

Thank you for your generous support & May God Bless you all!

~ Feasts ~

Sunday 12 January The Baptism of the Lord

The Baptism of the Lord marks the end of the Liturgical season of Christmas.

Wednesday 15 January St Paul the First Hermit

Patron Saint to the Pauline Fathers

Parish celebrations of this feast will be held w/e 19th January. Solemn Mass will be at the 10.30am Mass with blessings of children and fruit.



Thursday January 16 Our Lady Queen of Hermits.

Patroness of the Order of St Paul the First Hermit and yearly consecration to our Lady of the Pauline Fathers and brothers.

Novena

9 day Novena to St Paul the First Hermit began on 7 January 2020.

Litany will be said after each week day Mass during this time. Everyone Welcome

Dear pilgrims and visitors to Penrose Park,

Due to the heatwaves and local bushfires predicted this weekend we have found that it is necessary to **cancel the 13th of January celebrations**. We apologise for inconveniences.

This decision has been made in conjunction with the NSW Rural Fire Service for the safety of our pilgrims and visitors. God bless you and please pray for rain and those affected by the bushfires.

The Pauline Fathers

2020 Parish Facility Bookings

(Smithfield & Fairfield West Church & Hall)

Would all groups wanting to use the facilities at our parish, please book your dates and times in writing /email with the parish office as soon as possible. office@stgertrude.org.au Thank you.

Collection at all Masses next weekend (Australia Day) for the St Vincent De Paul bushfire appeal

Friends, the sad tragedy of the bushfires has impacted upon our Catholic community across the Archdiocese of Sydney in a very real way. A brave Rural Fire Service volunteer Andrew O'Dwyer was farewelled at a Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Victories Parish in Horsley Park this week. The parish is providing ongoing support to his widow Melissa and 19 month old daughter Charlotte and our prayers are with them. Amidst the devastation of the fires, it has been encouraging to witness the support of so many ordinary Australians, including so many men and women of faith. While much of the response must be at a local parish and diocesan level, such a great crisis also requires a national response. Alongside my brother bishops across the country, I encourage you to donate to a special parish collection at Masses over the Australia Day weekend (25 and 26 January) through the St Vincent De Paul Society. Through this bushfire appeal, you can make a tangible difference in the lives of those affected, whether that be to cover basic clothing or the food bill for a family evacuated from their home. The support may also come through psychological counselling services for families left traumatised by the disaster or financial counselling as they struggle to pay unexpected bills. Together we can offer real comfort and long term support to families left struggling after the bushfires.
+ Anthony Fisher OP

A Prayer amidst bushfires

Almighty God and heavenly Father, we pray for this world that you love so much that you sent your Son Jesus to be born as the child of Bethlehem:

We pray for the safety of those sheltering from fires and those fighting fires, for livestock, native animals, paddocks, bushlands and sacred places.

We remember our own loved ones and those who are dear to us facing this crisis.

We pray for those tending to the injured, the frightened and the broken-hearted, for emergency services, emergency broadcasters, chaplains and counsellors.

We ask for your forgiveness for our own failures in safeguarding your good creation, and pray for political and community leaders, and all those responding to the current crisis in our nation.

Above all, we pray the peace that passes all understanding, in our nation and state, in our homes and in our hearts. This we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

This prayer was written by Dean Andreas Loewe.

~ Altar Servers ~

Altar Servers meetings will resume in February on a monthly basis.

YOUTH MASS & YOUTH GROUP

Youth group, Mass, meetings and music rehearsals will re-commence in February.

Any youth who are wanting to be a part of the Youth group, please contact Fr Wojtek or the Parish Office.

All new members are most welcome!

SACRAMENT NEWS:

Safeguarding

The **Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney** have introduced new requirements for volunteers 18yrs and over. All volunteers must sign a **Volunteer Acceptance Form, a Code of Conduct for Working with Children** and complete a **Safeguarding Induction Training Course**. The **ONLINE Induction Training Course** is available to new parish volunteers. Please register by following this link:-

<https://goo.gl/forms/wSkRi3Z06PzkRfbo1>.

Additionally, some new volunteers are also required to attend an interview. These include * Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Children's Liturgy, Catechists, Collectors, Acolytes etc.

Thank you for your co-operation. Any concerns please contact pssso@stgertrude.org.au. or the Parish Office office@stgertrude.org.au

The Sacrament Office has closed for 2019 and will re-open on Wednesday 29th January 2020.

For all enquiries please email sacraments@stgertrude.org.au or call 9725 4317 and leave a message.

St Gertrude's Parish Fund

New sets of envelopes will be available to pick up at the end of February, therefore please contact the parish office on 9604 1199 **of any changes prior to distribution**.

Also as there has been a decline in givers using the envelope systems, and to save money and paper wastage, new envelope numbers will be allocated to givers using envelopes between # 250 and 270.

A letter advising you of your new number will be sent in the coming weeks.

Anyone wishing to use envelopes for St Gertrude's Parish Fund then please contact the parish office as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support!

FEDERAZIONE CATTOLICA ITALIANA 'LA TOMBOLA

ricomincerà' il 7 FEBBRAIO 2020

***Da Parte Mia, Antonio Coiera e Membri del mio Comitato Vi Auguriamo**

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo. Sperando che Gesu' Bambino vi riempie di Buona Salute e Benedizione per L'Anno Nuovo e per Sempre. CHRISTO REGNI.
(CON LA BENZIONE DEL SIGNORE SPERO DI RIVEDERCI NEL 2020)

THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION [FCI]

*BINGO will Restart in FEBRUARY the 7th & 21st 2020

The Italian Catholic Federation of S/Field & I Tony Coiera would like to wish you all

A Happy New Year. May God Bless you all with Good Health.
For more information call, Tony Coiera 0409 908 424
Gina Morosin 0417 203 908

Visit Of The Relics Of St Therese Of Lisieux and Her Parents

The National Pilgrimage of the Relics of Saints Thérèse, and her parents, Louis and Zélie, will visit the Archdiocese of Sydney in February and March in various parishes. Please view parish noticeboard so that you are aware of where and when they can take this opportunity to venerate the relics of one of the Catholic Church's most popular saints and her parents who helped nurture her faith.

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime 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.



Mark Malone J.P.
Director

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