St Patrick's Primary School

Newsletter

5th March, 2020 Term 1 Week 6

Dear Parents,

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and visitors who attended the school this week for the Catholic School's Week Celebrations (CSW). CSW runs from 1st to 7th March and all 82 schools in the Diocese of Parramatta celebrated this special event with a variety of activities.

St Patrick's Parramatta is one of 82 schools in the Diocese of Parramatta. There are 11 dioceses in NSW, each led by their own Bishop and Catholic School Agency. In total there are 598 Catholic Schools in New South Wales which educate 257,000 students. Catholic Schools employ 30,000 staff. For more detailed information refer to the Catholic Schools New South Wales (CSNSW) infographic included in this newsletter.

This year we are celebrating 200 years of Catholic Education and St Patrick's, being one of the oldest of schools, is particularly proud. Research is currently underway to determine exactly when St Patrick's School was first established but according to Frances Macaluso Archive Assistant Mercy Sisters, Parramatta, we can confirm this information thus far.

In 1874 the school was staffed by Sisters of Mercy (North Sydney) who had come from Liverpool, England. Three of these Sisters resided at the Guild Cottage, their first Branch House, where St Vincent de Paul Centre stood. The North Sydney Sisters of Mercy had established their Mother House at Monte Sant' Angelo in 1875. In 1881 Archbishop Roger Bede Vaughan OSB laid the Foundation stone of a large brick building, opposite St Patrick's Church, cnr of Pennant Street (now Victoria Road) and Villiers Street, at the request of Archdeacon J Rigney, parish priest of Parramatta.

In 1888 The Sisters of Mercy Parramatta took over the School. The first Principal was Sr Mary Agnes Kavanagh, she was one of the nine foundation sisters, who travelled from Callan, Ireland in 1888. The original St Patrick's school was on the block opposite the parish church dedicated to St Patrick. (Now the site of OLMC College and St Patrick's Cathedral). The Sisters taught here for about 40 years.

In 1926 another site was provided for a girls' school, cnr of Villiers Street and Ross Street and a new two-storey building was erected. This is the current brick building housing the school office. In 1927 the old building was demolished in Victoria Road.

We are immensely proud of our Catholic heritage, and are committed to celebrating and showcasing the achievements of students in our school.

Our school is proud of the wonderful teaching and learning that takes place in our classrooms and learning spaces every day, as well as the contribution our school and other Catholic Schools have made to Australian communities, in particular the more vulnerable and disadvantaged members of our wider community.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for all your contributions to the St Patrick's Parramatta community and I ask God to bless you and your family always.

Bernadette Fabri Principal

2020 Dates to Remember

Week 6

Friday 6th March

Primary Assembly—Year 3—2.15pm School Hall

Week 7

Monday 9th March

Triskills Continues

Tuesday 10th March

Triskills continues

Friday 13th March

Infants Assembly—Kinder—2.15pm School Hall

Week 8

Monday 16th March

Triskills Continues

Tuesday 17th March

St Patrick's Day -

St Patrick's Day events more information to come

Triskills continues

Friday 20th March

Primary Assembly—Year 6—2.15pm School Hall

Week 9

Tuesday 24th March

Triskills continues

Wednesday 25th March

Cross Country

Friday 27th March

Celebration of Learning—Year 5—2.00pm

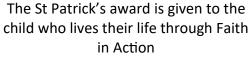




The Honour Award is awarded to the child who demonstrates outstanding behaviour shown in the Student Charter

3L	Chloe Vella	Zachary Aguilera
3T	Michel Kazzaz	Elijah Skaf
4B	Isaac Loulach	Makayla Kalouch
4G	Alicia Remaili	James Morson
5C	Zara Diuco	Raymond Joe Khoury
5T	Jake Douehi	Amelia Coles
6P	Isabella Chivers	Christian Barakat
6W	Jacob Manago	Christina Elzahoul





3L	Marcus Moses	Edan-Grace El-Chaar		
3T	Anthony Malek	Annabella Remaili		
4B	Cynthia Daher	Joshua Nasr		
4G	Joel Lahoud	Gabrielle Vella		
5C	Maria Khoury	Daniel Saleh		
5T	Elie Wehbe	Emmanuel Missak		
6P	Ava Salloum	Brian Chen		
6W	Ethan Bechara	Talia Lahoud		





Malcolm Nasr, Hugh Perrett, Sean Feng, Tiffany McCloskey, Hunter Morson,
 Gabriella Sta Rosa, Catherine Said, Caroline Youssef, Sienna Golossian

Parent Representative Council (PRC)

Thank you to Mrs Diala Semaan for offering to be the school's Parent Representative Council representative for the school. We will look forward to communicating to you any information Mrs Semaan acquires that may be of interest to you and in advertising upcoming PRC events.

READERS MISSING - APPEAL



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Do you mind checking if you have any readers belonging to the school. It is very important that children can access the stories/texts that they are reading in class so as to practise their reading skills at home however on occasion these can be left at home and get caught up in home libraries. These readers are purchased in sets for groups of children to use with their teacher and it is very important that all children can access a reader each. At present there are a number of readers missing from the set. If you have any readers please do not be concerned, just drop them in to the office or send them home with your child. They will be received gratefully!



Miss Fabri



Exploring mathematical sequences of connected, cumulative and challenging tasks (EMC3)

This year students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 from our school, along with students from 20 other schools in the Parramatta Diocese, have been

invited to take part in a series of learning experiences that require reasoning and making connections in Mathematics. These tasks have been designed to encourage our children to persist when challenged, sustain their thinking and take risks when trying to solve problems in different ways.

Parents of students in K to Yr 2 will be given a permission note that will enable teachers to use samples of work photos and videos as evidence when sharing the mathematical thinking of our students with the wider diocesan network. If you receive one of these forms please complete and return to your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible. The use of your child's work samples and inclusion in this research is optional.

Thank You, Jenny Barclay

NAPLAN Yrs 3 and 5

12–22 May

NAPLAN Online

NAPLAN information will be available through this newsletter over the next 2 terms. Please watch this space.

NAPLAN FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What organisations are responsible for delivering NAPLAN Online?

- Education Services Australia is responsible for developing the online assessment capability and platform, using ACARA's detailed requirement specifications.
- ACARA is responsible for the NAPLAN Online assessment and for reporting the results of these assessments.
- State and territory school authorities are responsible for ensuring their schools are ready to move online.

The links below take you to demonstration tests for conventions of language (grammar, punctuation, and spelling), numeracy, reading and writing for each NAPLAN test year level: 3, 5, 7 and 9. As all Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper, there is no Year 3 demonstration test for writing.

https://pages.assessform.edu.au/pages/year-3-demos

https://pages.assessform.edu.au/pages/year-5-demos



From the Learning Pit...

From the moment we are born our brains are making connections that help us develop and interact with the world around us. It is through trial and error, while being challenged that true learning and growth occurs.

I remember watching my children as babies struggling to take their first steps. Pulling themselves up on various pieces of furniture only to fall down again and again. Until finally

they were able to take their first unassisted steps. At times, I held out my hand or guided them with an encouraging lift or smile until they no longer needed my help. And soon the walking turned into running and dodging pieces of furniture.

Learning new concepts takes a similar path. When your child is introduced to a new idea or concept they learn by being given scaffolds, watching or seeking guidance from others. During this time the student will make many mistakes, which we know is a great way to learn. Until finally they are able to apply their understanding to a new concept or content area. In our classroom the language we use when talking about this process of learning is; 'surface', 'deep' and 'transfer'. Where we want the students to build knowledge, make meaning and apply their understanding to new areas or contexts. All parts of this process are equally important and all are needed for learning to occur.

Mrs Standring

MacKillop Tennis



Last Friday on the 28th of February, Talia and Liam went to Wollongong to represent the Parramatta diocese at tennis and to try and make the NSW team. It was a scorching hot day as representatives from NSW dioceses showed up in their proudly worn uniforms.

The day began as the players gathered onto the court after the managers gave us all an inspiring pep talk. A whistle blew which signaled the games to start playing. We played game after game, getting more and more tired by the minute, though Talia and Liam did amazingly

well. After that was the playoffs. When all the matches were finished they gathered all the players to the clubhouse and announced those who made the team and players who needed to play again. Liam had to play again but lost to some talented players.

Overall, it was a great experience and a good opportunity to meet others who also enjoy playing tennis.

Year Six Moran Photography Experience

On Thursday 27th February some of the Year 6 students participated in the Moran Photography Day. It was an amazing experience. The experience allowed us to learn about how lighting, shadows and backgrounds can enhance our photos. We were able to go to Bankwest Stadium and grab some great photographic shots, swinging around to capture all angles.

The sun was shining through the clouds in the sky and everyone was bursting with excitement as Louise (the professional photographer) explained what learning we were going to undertake. Some of us had to share a camera but that did not bother us. After a brief introduction and induction of expectations, our journey began. Exiting the school and traveling to Bankwest we couldn't stop talking as we were buzzing with ideas, our hearts pounding with eagerness.

When we arrived, we curiously searched for a perfect place to take a photo. Finding objects and structures and posing in the most awkward of positions to take a good picture. We captured many unique images under the expertise of Louise and the careful eye of Mrs Carroll.

Upon arriving back to school, we were able to capture more amazing shots on our school grounds. We were then given the opportunity to select 5 of our favourite photos each that we believed highlighted our learning and enter them into a photography competition called the Moran Photographic Prize for primary children. We were also given the opportunity to print 5 photos to keep.

We are all dearly grateful for this experience as not only was it a fun day, but we developed new skills and learning.

Renee Kougellis and Brian Chen









School Photography Guidelines for Parents and Carers

Information for Parents and Carers

We recognise that parents and carers enjoy photographing and recording the progress of their child at school and on school activities. We recognise that many of you like to share these personal memories online and on social media.

We ask for your cooperation and care concerning the use and distribution of photographs of other children at our school. Some families have very real legal and safety issues which could put a child at risk if an image is made public online. More generally, it is respectful of the privacy of other members of the school community to ask permission before posting an image online. Even if your social media settings are private, it is easy for images to become public, particularly if they are tagged or shared by others.

Best practice guidelines

The following best practice guidelines have been adopted by our school to keep our students and school community safe, and to ensure respectful practices concerning the use of social media. When taking photographs or recordings at school or at school events and your images include other identifiable persons please follow these guidelines:

- Crop out other students or seek the permission of the student or (for students under 16) his or her parent/carer before posting online.
- Do not tag or name the person without permission.
- If a parent or carer requests that you do not circulate an image of their child to others, please comply with the request.
- Please seek the permission of our staff to photograph or record them at school. Photography of staff presenting or receiving awards is permitted.
- Photography in St Patrick's Cathedral, during mass or when requested not to, is not permitted.

The school will periodically review these best practice guidelines.

Mandatory policies:

As per standard esafety policies, the school may from time to time determine that photography or recording at school events or on school grounds is restricted. Where restriction is notified, failure to comply may result in your exclusion from school premises or activities. There may also be consequences as set out in the enrolment agreement.

Under no circumstances may you photograph or record in private areas such as change-rooms, or in school offices or staff rooms, or at meetings, without express permission.

Queries and further resources

The following resources provide further information about safety online, and privacy. Parents are encouraged to follow the school Complaints Handling Policy regarding concerns about privacy online. If you wish to discuss an issue further with the school, please contact the principal - Bernadette Fabri through the school office Ph 8832 4600

FURTHER RESOURCES

Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner http://esafety.gov.au

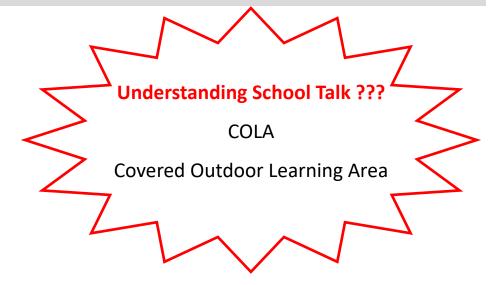
Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, FAQs about social media <a href="https://www.oaic.gov.au/individuals/faqs-for-individuals/social-media-ict-identity-security-security-securi





Spare Clothes Reminder

A kindly reminder to all parents of Infant students, please pack a spare change of underwear, socks and boys pants inside your child's bag. Whilst we do have spare clothes it is not always possible to find sizes for every child. Little accidents do happen and if we can keep the child at school it is in the best interest of the child.



Dear Parents.

We would like to send a special welcome again to our new families and students of St. Patrick's Primary, Parramatta. We look forward to having you part of our faith filled community.

On behalf of the staff and students here at St Patrick's, we would like to thank you all for coming and celebrating Catholic Schools Week with us. Our students absolutely enjoyed having each of you with them at the Welcoming Ceremony, in their classrooms and on the playground at their special picnic recess.

Thank you to all the parents who coordinated and organised the Welcome Morning Tea for new families. Your efforts are always very impressive and the school so appreciates the time taken to prepare this generous gesture of hospitality to new members of our community. Thank you to: Pamela Agostino, Danielle Elias, Georgina Wakim, Josephine Wakim and all the other parents who helped in some way.

We really appreciate your efforts and passion. Thank you for your hospitality and generosity.

Catholic Schools Week Committee.











https://www.numeracyathome.com/

The following is taken from guidelines published by the NSW government: https://education.nsw.gov.au/

Helping your child learn about shapes and objects continued

- Collect scrap paper or used gift wrapping and encourage your child to cut and glue pieces to make a picture.
- Play 'I spy' games and describe things by size and shape, eg "I spy with my little eye something that is big and shaped like a square".
- Use boxes and containers of different sizes to play 'stacking' games.
- Ask your child to help you put away the groceries and talk about which things will stack easily.
- Make biscuits using cookie cutters or make pretend biscuits from modelling dough. Talk about the shape of each biscuit.
- Help your child to build a paper aeroplane and see if it can fly.
- Make sand models from wet sand using cups, buckets or jelly moulds. Talk about sizes and shapes and try to stack some shapes.
- Blow bubbles using wire loops or straws and a detergent solution. Talk about the shape and size of the bubbles and the effects when the wire shape is changed.
- Collect wood off-cuts and let your child glue the pieces to make a model.
- Collect shells at the beach and ask your child to sort them and tell you how he or she grouped them.
- Build a 'house' from playing cards or dominoes.
- Talk about the shapes made when you cut straight through vegetables or fruit.

SCHOOL FEES

Term 1 2020 Statements have now been mailed to all families. Due date for payment of Term 1 fees is on or before **Wednesday 18th March 2020**.

The Catholic Education Office Flexible Payment Plan is offered as a convenient option for payment of 2020 fees. The information required for the Flexible Payment Plan is included in the Instalment 1 statement.

Please note:

If you wish to take up the Flexible Payment Plan option, it is essential for all the completed and signed forms to be sent to the Catholic Education Office Parramatta by 6th March 2020 in the reply paid envelope or you can post to:

Catholic Education Office (Billing & Receipting)

Locked Bag 4

NORTH PARRAMATTA NSW 1750

If you have not received your invoice, please email patrs-parrfees@parra.catholic.edu.au to request a copy be emailed to you.



Spotlight

Today we are focusing our Spotlight on....

Our teacher Mrs Rodricks

Mrs Rodricks

Who are three people you would invite to dinner and why?

I would invite the Pope, Anne Murray, Mikhail Gorbachov because I admire all three of them.

What is your favourite book or movie?

My favourite book is the Light Between Oceans.

What is your biggest fear?

My biggest fear is a ferris wheel because I'm scared of falling out of it.

Who is your biggest inspiration?

My biggest inspiration is the Pope because he is a visionary and he has made a lot of changes for the good.

What is your favourite dish?

My favourite dish is all Lebanese food.

SCHOOL WELL-BEING COUNSELLING SERVICE

The wellbeing of children and young people in Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta schools is of paramount importance. A sense of well-being and connectedness in schools promotes optimal development of the person and contributes to academic success.

Access to counselling services can be made by contacting your child's classroom teacher or Ms Fabri, who will then put forward a referral. Mrs Ricketts will then contact you for further information.

Dear Parents / Carers.

Re: New Curriculum in Religious Education Parent Information and Workshop Evening

As you may be aware, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta will implement a new curriculum in Religious Education for students in Pre School to Year 12. The implementation will begin in 2020 in pilot schools, and by 2021 in other diocesan schools.

We would like to invite you to a parent workshop to explain and explore the new curriculum in Religious Education. The details follow. Professor Anthony Maher, a contemporary theologian who has had significant input into the development of the new curriculum, will facilitate the workshop.

When: Tuesday, 17 March, 2020 6.30 - 8.00 pm

Where: Morley Centre, Catherine McAuley Westmead and Parramatta Marist High School

2 Darcy Rd, Westmead Entry via Gate 3, Darcy Rd

RSVP: Please RSVP on the attached <u>link</u>. RSVP by Thursday, 12 March, 2020.

The curriculum has been developed over a period of three years, and has invited contributions from students, families, teachers and the church. It is a very exciting time of renewal for us we prepare to implement this new curriculum into our classrooms.

Our children live in a rapidly changing and confusing new world. Through digital platforms many are overwhelmed and experience confusion, isolation and even fear. The new curriculum seeks to respond to this real life experience of our young people. It acknowledges their joys, fears, challenges and hopes for the future. Inspired by the teachings of Jesus, the purpose of the new curriculum is to enhance Catholic identity, belonging and human flourishing. To implement the curriculum we are asked to journey together to make real faith connections between the home, school and parish.

The structure of the parent evening will reflect the inquiry pedagogy being used to teach the new curriculum in our classrooms, whereby your questions and responses will be facilitated in light of the call from Pope Francis to the synodal church to bring to life, to 'ignite', our faith. The new curriculum intends to do this for the young people in our schools as they grow into adulthood.

We look forward to seeing you on this important evening. Please ensure you RSVP by 12 March, 2020.

Warm regards,

Bernadette Fabri



ENROLMENTS FOR 2021 KINDERGARTEN ARE NOW OPEN

Enrolment packs for Kindergarten 2021 are available from the school between the hours of 9am -3pm Monday to Friday.

The completed Enrolment Application, together with originals of all requested supporting documentation, must be submitted, in person, to our school office. You will need to bring copies and originals of your child's Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Passports (parent's and child's if born overseas), Immunization Certificates and proof of address (council rates, drivers licence). Please be aware that we are unable to accept or process incomplete applications and note that submitting an application does not guarantee automatic placement.

Enrolment forms are required to be returned by 31st March 2020.



TEACHING	20,683
CATHOLIC	80%
NON-CATHOLIC	20%
NON-TEACHING	9,018
SYSTEMIC	23 997

5,704

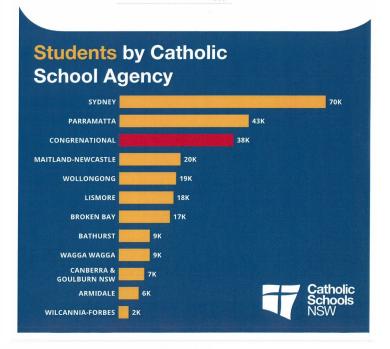
FEMALE	77%
MALE	23%
FULL-TIME	58%



PRIMARY	129,905
SECONDARY	126,907
SYSTEMIC	218,612
CONGREGATIONAL	38,200
CATHOLIC	70%
OTHER CHRISTIAN	11%
NO RELIGION	8%
ORTHODOX	5%

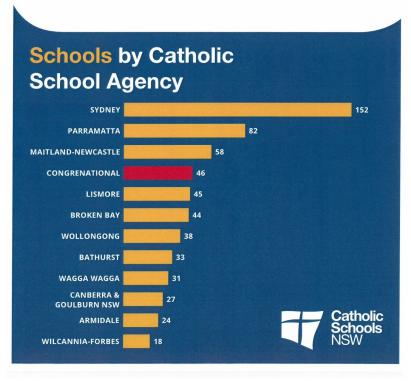
CO-ED SCHOOL	205,510
GIRLS SCHOOLS	25,639
BOYS SCHOOLS	25,694

(5) A	37,811 ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE	-	8,478 ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER
•	11,471 FROM OVERSEAS		46,469 NCCD STUDENTS
	1,865 STUDENTS BOARDING		
			Catholic Schools NSW





400	60 FB	F 4 4
423	CO-ED	541
131	GIRLS	29
31	BOYS	
13		
hools	BOARDING	14
552		
46		
	31 13 hools	131 GIRLS 31 BOYS 13 13 BOARDING



Celebrating Catholic Schools



































Week 2 Monday 2 to Sunday 8 March

2020 CEDP LENTEN REFLECTIONS



Gather "I have come that you may have life and have it to the full" John 10:10

Loving Father
Open my heart so that I may love like You.
May I listen to the cry of those who call my name,
so that I may sing a song of compassion and tolerance.
Help me to find in You this Lent,
grace, forgiveness and a fullness of life.

Listen

Gospel - Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a

voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'



The Transfiguration of Jesus by Armando Alemdar

Reflect

The landscape of the desert changes dramatically as we meet Jesus leading his close disciples, Peter, James and John up a high mountain.

This time it is the disciples themselves who are curious. However, with trust in Jesus they commit themselves to a journey leading to **CLARITY**.

In the solitude and remoteness of the mountain they experience a deep change in the person of Jesus. Through their daily encounters with their inspiring teacher they experienced him as a friend. Yet they were beginning to experience him as "more than" a friend. They were **CURIOUS** about his deeper identity. Just as in the Baptism of Jesus there is an intervention from the Divine One – who is both in their midst yet beyond. The revelation brings **CLARITY** revealing Jesus as the Son of God and inviting all "to listen to him".

Respond

You may recall the Australia Day 2020 advertisement. It portrayed a range of people representing a diversity of cultures and ages. Each one gave a short descriptive sentence about the features of our Australian story... "in parts it is painful; in parts it is raw; in others it's beautiful, inspiring great awe....it brings us together, it tears us apart ...concluding with the final question, so where do we start?" The answer is an echo of God's word in the Gospel of the transfiguration, **LISTEN**.

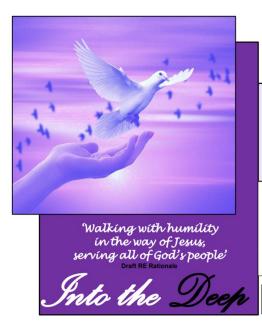
Can you recall a time in your life when you have received CLARITY simply by listening?

What do we need to do to become better at listening to each other, to the stranger, to those with different opinions and views?

Concluding Prayer

Glory to God source of all being, eternal Word, Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. Amen







PARENT RETREAT DAY

Wednesday 13 May 2020 9.30 – 2.30 ST JOSEPHS RETREAT CENTRE

BARINA DOWNS RD, BAULKHAMHILLS

Join parents from the Paramatta Diocese in a day of personal TRANSFORMATION as you nurture faith through reflection, small group discussion and

through reflection, small group discussion and creative activities.

Explore the concept of WITNESS as you interact

with Scripture, God, Self and Others.

For more information: Donna Dempsey 0407597426

ddempsey1@parra.catholic.edu.au

For Registration click the symbol



Please RSVP by 1 April



Our **VISION** is to be a child centred faith community within an innovative, interactive learning environment.

Our MISSION is to -

Live out the Gospel Values in a visibly Catholic tradition

Nurture students for Christian Leadership

Create a range of learning experiences which allow children to progress at their own level

sub tuum Assi praesidium thinker

Assist our students to develop into independent thinkers with a deep sense of responsibility and justice

Lead each individual towards reaching his/her potential

Generate a sense of community and compassion in which all Experience belonging.

Opportunity for all

MASS TIMETABLE FOR ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL PARRAMATTA

Weekend Masses

Saturday 8.00am, 6.00pm (Vigil) Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am (Family)

11.00am (Solemn), 6.00pm

Weekday Masses

Mon to Fri 6.30am, 12.30pm

Public Hol 8.00am

Pastoral Team

Bishop of Parramatta Most Rev. Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM CONV

Very Rev Fr Robert Bossini

Fr Christopher Del Rosario Rev Deacon Willy Limjap

Meg Gale (Sacramental Coord)

Milli Lee (Parish Admin Asst) Mindy Mercado (Youth Co-ord) Patricia Preca (Parish Secretary) Donna Missio (Receptionist)