



ST. PADRE PIO PARISH GLENMORE PARK

Parish Office: 34 - 38 William Howell Drive (PO Box 8037), GLENMORE PARK NSW 2745

Telephone: (02) 4789 2232 Web: www.padrepio.org.au Email: glenmorepark@parracatholic.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpadrepioparish/

Fr. Suresh Kumar	Parish Priest (<i>on long service leave</i>)	(02) 4789 2232 (Extn.2)	suresh.kumar@parracatholic.org
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Annabelle Bhandoo	Parish Secretary	(02) 4789 2232 (Extn.3)	glenmorepark@parracatholic.org
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EMERGENCIES ONLY	0451 174 438		

Sunday 28 November 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year C

ST. PADRE PIO CHURCH WEEKLY TIMETABLE

SUNDAY

8:00am Mass
10:00am Mass

MONDAY

No Mass & Office closed

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY

9:00am Mass

SATURDAY

9:00am Mass
Novena to St Padre Pio
9:30am Sacrament of Penance
5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday – Friday
8:30am – 3:30pm
Closed 12:00pm – 12:30pm

BAPTISMS

11:30am
1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sundays
Please contact the Parish Office.
Presentation Mass & Baptism
Information morning are held every
4th Sunday

FIRST FRIDAY ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

8:00pm Adoration - 9:00am Saturday
3:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet

FRIDAY PLAYGROUP (2022)

9:30am – 11:30am 0-6 years
Bethany Catholic Primary School Hall
Contact Joanne D'Agostino, via the
Parish Office.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

Please contact the Parish office or find
the information on the parish website.

Dear Friends,

It is Christmas time!

Everything changes around this time. Decorations go up. Sweets and cakes are being made. People are having dinners and lunches. Markets are looking at great sales plans. Gifts are bought and sent. Shopping centres are full.

Is it enough to celebrate Christmas?? Do we need to do more?? Is Christmas based on these preparations or is it more than what I wrote above??

Christ is to be born in our lives. That's Christmas. We have got to clean up our hearts and minds to make space for Him. We begin the Advent season today and it is a time of preparations. A time of renewal and a time of waiting for the Lord. Only God can fill our lives, so we need to make space for Him in our lives. "Immanuel" – God is with us. It's a powerful reminder of God's love for us. Christmas unites heaven and earth. The birthday of a baby in a family brings joy into the family. Whereas the birth of a Saviour as a baby will bring joy to the whole of humanity. Let this joy be complete with our preparation.

Next weeks of Advent is a very good opportunity to put aside all sorts of segregation, division, and hatred towards one another to build up the family of God. Let this Advent be a time of preparation of our hearts and souls. I request you at this juncture, to go to Confession as we didn't have an opportunity to go for the Sacrament of Confession. It is a best time to prepare for the birth of Christ and it is a best opportunity to start anew the year 2022.

This will be my last weekend until my return after my long service leave. Fr. Chinonye will be the Administrator of the parish. He is a good friend and a good Catholic Priest. Please join me in welcoming him to our parish. He is a good singer!

I am looking forward to spending this Christmas with my family after 25 years!!! (Never got to celebrate Christmas with my family since I joined the seminary). Please keep my family and myself in your prayers. We will be in touch via Facebook. In advance, I wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and a Blessed New Year 2022.

God Bless..

Fr. Suresh Kumar
Parish Priest.

From a registered nurse re the Voluntary Assisted/Euthanasia Bill being debated in NSW Parliament

Dear Sir/Madam, I take this opportunity to write to you against the new Euthanasia Bill.

I have been working as a registered nurse for more than 16 years. I have seen people dying, holding their fragile hands as they die and have seen the warmth of life slowly evading the body, leaving it cold and pale. Physicians swear by the Hippocratic Oath stating, "I will neither give a deadly drug to anybody who asked for it, nor will I make a suggestion to this effect. Similarly, I will not give to a woman an abortive remedy. In purity and holiness, I will guard my life and my art." What meaning does that imply then, if we are to look at passing this Bill? How are we to solve the ethical dilemmas of medical professionals, to start with?

The medical profession became prevalent for the common good of man, to treat and cure and support the sick and suffering. This Bill to make Euthanasia legal, compromises the very basis of medical care and profession. It is pertinent, that we understand that there are many avenues that could be misused like involuntary euthanasia, non-voluntary euthanasia and proxy consents.

We live in a world where people are more interested to discard than to fix whether it is material or alive. We humans, the most beautiful of all the creation are at the same time the most wretched. We have found ways to abuse anything good that is ever created or invented. Look at any human inventions, there are always some, who have taken the opportunity to use it calamitously and delinquently. This Bill too will find its way to battery. When it comes to life it is too risky to take the chances. It will cost lives in many ways that it was not intended, and it will be the greatest failure ever. And sure, man will find a way to do that, it is history. Should not we then learn from the past and pave a better way forward?

In the past two years, in Belgium: 3 children; 77 people suffering from mental health issues; and 173 people with no physical suffering but afflicted by conditions such as addiction, loneliness and despair were euthanised. Since the legalisation of assisted suicide in Oregon 20 years ago, the top five reasons given by those who request (and are given) assisted suicide drugs have been: Losing autonomy, less ability to engage in activities making life enjoyable, Loss of dignity, Losing control of bodily functions, Burden on family, friends and caregivers. These are the same top five reasons given by those in Washington State who request assisted suicide. Notably, pain or fear of it does not appear in the top reasons. In 2017 in Oregon, the median length of the relationship between doctor who prescribed the lethal drugs was 10 weeks, and the median length of time between the first request for assisted suicide and patient death was 52 days. This means that the median time between the first encounter between a drug-prescribing doctor and a request for death is less than three weeks, indicating that the doctors signing off on a patient's death do not have an existing relationship with the patient (www.aph.gov.au)

In 1990, the Dutch Government set up the Rummelink Commission to investigate 'the practice of action and inaction by a doctor that may lead to the end of a patient's life at the patient's explicit and serious request or otherwise.' The commission ordered the first empirical study of all medical decisions at the end life. That study found that in the Netherlands in 1990 there were 1,000 cases where a doctor had deliberately ended the life of a patient without a clear and explicit request from the patient, representing 0.8 per cent of all deaths. There are many more examples from other countries and Australia will not be any different.

We all have our share of suffering in life, may it be physical, mental, social or any other way. It is how life is, it does not mean we stop to live. If women think giving birth is painful, may not and so, there will no humanity left. It is through pain we bring joy. We are familiar with the term "No pain No gain". If labourers think it is too painful to work or of farmers think it is too painful to toil in the sun, then we will be left with no food or commodities. Life is a process, a phase that we all must pass through with our share of grief, pain, laughter, and joy! Sickness is painful whether it is a small cut in the finger or a terminal illness. We stand together as family, as a community to fight it back. Sometimes we fail, sometimes we win. The most important part is that we face it.

Death is inevitable for man, once born we all are destined to die one day. We do not choose ourselves to be born, or when and how we are born and so we do not choose to die and how and when we die. And that is true for anything alive. Nature takes its course. It is not our "Absolute freedom" to decide how and when to die because we were given the gift of life without our consent and because we do not have the capacity to replace life or recreate it at our discretion. An individual's autonomy is not absolute because it must respect the ethical principles of stewardship and solidarity. The book of Ecclesiastes chapter 3 versus 1 & 2 exquisitely states, "there is an appointed time for everything, a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted." It is notable that any time man has conducted against nature, humanity has paid for it. It is crucial for us to understand the fact that we cannot control everything in our life and do not be fooled by the statement "We control our destiny". The only actual control we have is about the choices we make. And it is the good choices that we make that make the difference in our lives and the lives around us and motivates us to achieve the absurd. Our greatest freedom rests in acknowledging this and surrendering ourselves and to what I call the greater will of God or what another may say let nature take its course or destiny.

Humanity is about protecting life; it always has been, and it always must be! If we are in the process of dictating death on ourselves what meaning will it hold for the value of life? We do not ask for misery in our life, but it is part and parcel of the program we are set for. What we need to do is to appreciate life and learn to be grateful for the smallest gifts and benevolence of life that we may be able to perceive the beauty of what is within it. We are so blinded today by "Our autonomy", "Our rights", "Our dignity" and false notions of equality and freedom that we no longer understand the true concept/ essence of these terms. What is dying in a dignified way? There is no dignified dying than dying for another person. So, what kind of dignity are we proclaiming when we are so absorbed in protecting all that is "Mine" and concerns "Me"; do we consider how it may affect our family & friends?

To be continued in next week's bulletin...

FR SURESH LONG SERVICE LEAVE

Fr. Suresh will be on his long service leave starting from 1 December to 1 May. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

NEW ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTED

During Fr Suresh's long service leave, Fr Chukwunonyerem (Fr Chinonye) Akamadu has been appointed as parish administrator until his return. We welcome Fr Chinonye to St. Padre Pio Parish.

THIS WEEKEND: BISHOP'S CATHOLIC APPEAL

This weekend we are having the Bishop's Christmas Appeal: CatholicCare's Houses to Homes. This Appeal provides hope for vulnerable women and children facing abuse and hardship. Your kind donation to this Appeal will help change the lives of homeless young women, who like Mary, seek a safe haven to raise their newborn child. Thank you for your generosity.

CAMPION COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM

Registration is now open! If you know any 16-20 year old with an interest in history, literature, philosophy and theology, encourage them to sign up for one of the immersive four-day programs in January. Attendance is fully funded but spaces are limited! Find out more and register on the Campion College website:

www.campion.edu.au/summer-program

LITURGICAL CALENDAR**November:**

Sunday 28 **First Sunday of Advent - Year C**
Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16
1 Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2,
Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

November:

Tuesday 30 St Andrew

December

Friday 03 St Francis Xavier

FIRST FRIDAY ALL NIGHT ADORATION

Next Friday 03 December: 8:00pm to 9:00am Saturday Mass. Divine Mercy Chaplet will be sung at 3:00am. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table.

COMMUNION SERVICE:

When: Wednesday 01 & Thursday 02 December

Time: 9am. This will be instead of the 9am Mass.

WORKING BEE IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS

Church Cleaning & Church Decoration.

Date: Sat 11 December, after 9am Mass.

Please enter this date in your diary as we need as many people to help as possible to decorate the inside and outside of the Church. Thank you.

ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTERS WEEK ONE 2021

MASS TIME	5:30PM	8:00AM	10:00AM
MASS COORDINATOR	Help Needed	Lynn Young	Help Needed
ACOLYTE	Joe Badrov	Help Needed	Chris Hersey
SENIOR SERVER	Kylie Sultana	Help Needed	Help Needed
READER	1. Help Needed 2. Phil Walsh	1. Trish Warda 2. Denise Robens	1. Zon Lupisan 2. Regina Rossetto
CLEANING TEAM	*Doris Cutajar *Paula Harris *Mel Gaudoin *Josephine Caruana *Rani Pulikkal		

ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTERS WEEK TWO 2021

MASS TIME	5:30PM	8:00AM	10:00AM
MASS COORDINATOR	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed
ACOLYTE	Joe Badrov	Coley White	Chris Hersey
SENIOR SERVER	Kylie Sultana	Help Needed	Help Needed
READER	1. Gilbert Grech 2. Angelina Badrov	1. Marilou Pugoy 2. Marg Rooney	1. Rani Pullikal 2. Help Needed
CLEANING TEAM	*Mary & Frank Mifsud *Lupisan Family *Merley Gearin *Antionette Manna *Cheryl Bowen		

ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTERS WEEK THREE 2021

MASS TIME	5:30PM	8:00AM	10:00AM
MASS COORDINATOR	Help Needed	Lynn Young	Help Needed
ACOLYTE	Joe Badrov	Coley White	Farley Bartholomeusz
SENIOR SERVER	Kylie Sultana	Help Needed	Help Needed
READER	1. Rolaine Vibar 2. Angelina Badrov	1. Lynn Young 2. Ajumol Alexander	1. Regina Rossetto 2. Help Needed
CLEANING TEAM	*Mel Gaudoin *John & Leanne Gately * Susan Guy		

ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTERS WEEK FOUR 2021

MASS TIME	5:30PM	8:00AM	10:00AM
MASS COORDINATOR	Cristina Cignarella	Help Needed	Help Needed
ACOLYTE	Joe Badrov	Coley White	Chris Hersey
SENIOR SERVER	Kylie Sultana	Help Needed	Help Needed
READER	1. Cristina Cignarella 2. Reginald Vibar	1. Bev Croft 2. Jacinta Rastegorac	1. Help Needed 2. Help Needed
CLEANING TEAM	*Rastegorac Family *Helen Sipeli *Josephine Caruana *Rebekah Gomesz		



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TRADING HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:00am-5:30pm
Saturday 8:00am-3:00pm
Closed Sunday & Public Holidays
Telephone: 4736 5375

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CLINIC HOURS:
Monday-Friday 8am-6pm Saturdays 9am-3pm Public Holidays 9am-1pm

GENERAL PRACTITIONERS
Dr Z Lupison (Female)
Dr P Accordi (Male)
Dr T Murugathas (Male)
Dr K Singh (Male)

ANCILLARY PROVIDERS
Debbie Deasy (Psychologist)
National Hearing Care
Omar Sawan (Podiatrist)

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