



ST. PADRE PIO PARISH GLENMORE PARK

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SUNDAY 23 JULY 2023

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

ST. PADRE PIO CHURCH PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

SUNDAY

8:00am Mass
10:00am Mass

MONDAY

No Mass and 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

BAPTISMS

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

FIRST FRIDAY ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

8:00pm – 9:00am Saturday Mass
3:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet

CHILDREN'S YOUTH GROUP

For children: Year 1 to Year 8.
Every 1st & 3rd Saturday
4.30pm-5.30pm in school hall

FRIDAY PLAYGROUP

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.

Dear Friends,

One of the questions that we often ask is that 'where does the evil come from?' It is a question that we often ask but the answer is given in the Gospel of today. If God has created everything that is good, then the evil things must be created by the devil. God allows the evil things to grow along with the good things. It is just because He doesn't want the good things to be affected while destroying the evil. There are evil things deeply embedded in every society. We can see evidently that the good and the evil forces co-exist side by side. But at the 'harvest time', that is, at the end of time, evil forces will be destroyed completely and the good will prevail for eternity.

As we are aware of the evil forces widespread in the world, we need to join forces with God to fight the devil. When we allow the small elements of evil things to thrive, it becomes a major one eventually. We need to be aware that God expects us to be careful and watchful with the things that happen around the world.

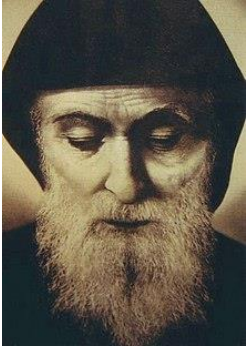
The parables of the Sower and the seed, mustard seed and the yeast in flour speak of the nature of the kingdom of God. All three parables resemble the kingdom of God in a unique way. Jesus used many different ways to explain the kingdom of God to us. It was a new concept to the people at that time. The kingdom of God comprises all of us. We need to take part in the kingdom by doing the Will of God in our lives. We must always strive towards the Will of God in our lives rather than our own desires. The kingdom of God is a gift to us. We can't demand it or merit for it but rather by the mercy of God, He gives it to us.

Let us think of one particular effort that we will make in order to make the kingdom of God present in our midst. Let that our effort be our goal for the coming week. By doing so, we will establish the kingdom of God in our day to day lives. We must avoid doing anything that is evil and that will upset God. By making conscious efforts to avoid evil, we will automatically join Team Jesus to build up the kingdom that He envisaged. Let us begin this process from oneself. Our prayer life should be in fact to join Team Jesus. Our friendship should be renewed each day of our lives. We must avoid offending God by all means. He wants of us to inherit the kingdom of God and only by our own choices that we will neglect this opportunity.

May the mercy of God be upon us so that we are worthy enough to be the citizens of the kingdom of God.
God Bless..

Kind regards,
Fr. Suresh Kumar
Parish Priest

ST. SHARBEL (CHARBEL) MAKHLOUF



Mystic and Maronite hermit. He was born in 1828 in Lebanon and became a Maronite monk at Annaya Abbey at the age of twenty. As a hermit, Charbel was famous for his spiritual gifts, even among his Islamic neighbors. He spent almost a quarter century displaying many

miraculous abilities and was noted for his love of the Holy Eucharist. Charbel died in 1898. He was beatified in 1965 and canonized in 1977 by Pope Paul VI (r. 1963-1978).

(Taken from Our Sunday Visitor's Encyclopedia of Saints)

Quotes from St. Charbel:

“Do not sell your souls in the markets of this world. Your souls are very valuable. Whatever price the world may pay you, it is too low a price compared to your souls’ true value. Do not sell your souls because the world cannot pay you the true price. The true price is paid only by the blood of Christ, fully paid on the cross. The kingdom of God is not a goal but a journey that you can realize in yourself by the power of the Holy Spirit. Step by step, day-by-day, in the small details that fill the moments of your life, second after second. Meditation is to look at things as they are, not as you imagine them in your mind, or as you want them to be.”

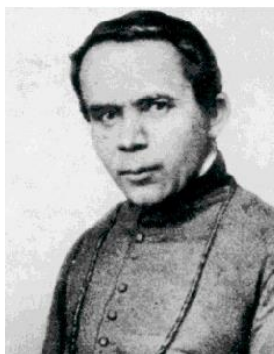
“The ignorant man clings to the dust until he becomes dust; the wise and prudent man clings to heaven until he reaches heaven. You will belong to the place to which you cling.”

Excerpt from: ewtn.com/catholicism/saints/charbel-makhlouf-523

Picture is from: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charbel_Makhlouf#/media/File:Charbel.jpg

Quotes from: familyofsaintsharbel.org/experiences-blog/excerpts-from-five-remaining-messages-of-saint-sharbel

ST. JOHN N. NEUMANN



Neumann was born in Prachatice, Bohemia (modern-day Czech Republic), then within the Austrian Empire. He attended school in Budweis before entering seminary there in 1831. Two years later he transferred to the University of Prague, where he studied theology. He was interested in

astronomy and botany. He intended to be ordained, but his bishop, in 1835, decided there would be no more ordinations, as Bohemia had a high number of priests

already.

Neumann, who spoke eight languages then wrote to other bishops in Europe, but they all replied that they also had too many priests already. He was inspired by the missionary writings of Bishop Frederic Baraga in America, and because he had learned English by working in a factory with English-speaking workers, Neumann wrote to bishops in America, requesting to be ordained in the United States.

In 1836, he arrived in the United States with very little money and was ordained to the priesthood there. He was assigned by the Bishop of New York to work with recent German immigrants in mission churches in the Niagara Falls area, where he visited the sick, taught catechism, and trained teachers to take over when he left. After four years of service there, he realized his own need for support and came to realize the importance of communal activity in his work. He thus applied to the Redemptorists. He was accepted, and entered the novitiate of the order in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. In January, 1842, he took the vows to enter the order in Baltimore, Maryland, and became the first Redemptorist in the New World. After six years of difficult but fruitful work with the order, he was appointed the order's provincial superior in the United States. Neumann was naturalized as a citizen of the United States in Baltimore on February 10, 1848.

In March 1852, Neumann was consecrated in Baltimore, as Bishop of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was the first to organize a Catholic diocesan school system and increased the number of Catholic schools in his diocese from one to two hundred. He also introduced the School Sisters of Notre Dame to the New World to assist in religious instruction and staffing the orphanage. In 1853, he established Saint Peter's Parish in Riverside, New Jersey.

Neumann was not a popular bishop and received criticism. He had to deal with the Know Nothings, a political group determined to deprive foreigners and Catholics of their civil rights; the group burnt down convents and schools. Discouraged, Neumann unsuccessfully wrote to Rome and asked for someone else to take his place.

Neumann wrote in many Catholic newspaper and magazine articles. He also published two catechisms and a Bible history in German. There were also many teaching orders brought in by him.

In 1860, Neumann died due to a stroke at the age of 48 while walking down a street in Philadelphia. After his death people began to talk of how great he had been.

Excerpt from: ewtn.com/catholicism/saints/john-n-neumann-642. Picture is from: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Neumann#/media/File:Johannes_Nepomuk_Neumann.jpg

ST. PADRE PIO PARISH INFORMATION

THIS SUNDAY IS BIBLE SUNDAY. It is a great reminder that God's Word is a "lamp to our feet and a light to our path" (*Psalms 119:105*) guiding us through life. Read daily the Holy Bible.

PRIVATE CERTIFIER

We are in need of services from a private certifier for our toilet relocation project. If you are able to help, please contact Fr Suresh.

GRANDPARENTS DAY MASS & BLESSING

When: This Wednesday, 26 July on the Feast of Saints Joachim & Anne, parents of Mary & Jesus' grandparents.
Time: 9:00am Mass with a blessing for grandparents. Bethany students will be attending. It would be wonderful to see all the grandparents at the Mass. If you know of a grandparent who doesn't have family close by, please invite them along.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

The new Planned Giving envelope boxes for those who are subscribed to the Program are available at the back of the Church. The Planned Giving Program assists the financial planning for current and future projects for the Parish. If you would like to join the Planned Giving Program, either through Direct Debit, Credit Card or Envelopes, please contact the Parish office.

FR. CARL ASHTON'S FUNERAL DETAILS

Vigil Mass: Monday 24 July, at Sacred Heart Parish, Mt Druitt South, 7pm followed by a prayer vigil.
The Requiem Mass: Tuesday 25 July, 11am at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, St. Marys, followed by a committal at Pinegrove Memorial Park, Minchinbury. Please pray for the Repose of the soul of Fr Carl.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

This is for people 16years and over, who have received Holy Communion, but not the Sacrament of Confirmation. Requirements: Provide a copy of the Baptism certificate & attend the **Catechesis and Formation Day: 02 September, 9.30am – 2.00pm in the Downstairs Hall, Bede Heather Centre** (the former IFM), **Blacktown**. It is recommended for the Sponsors to attend also. A light lunch is provided. Contribution: \$25.
Adult Confirmation: 5 September, 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. If interested, please contact the parish office before 08 August.

Sunday 23 July: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr. A

Monday 24 July: St. Sharbel Maklūf, *Priest*

Tuesday 25 July: St. James, *Apostle*

Wednesday 26 July: Sts. Joachim & Anne, *Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Saturday 29 July: Sts. Martha, Mary & Lazarus

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Date: Tuesday 25 July

Place: Kenneth & Jeng Borlongan, 18/380 Glenmore Park Way, GP

Date: Tuesday 01 August

Place: Abby & John Cook, 8 Jipp St, Penrith

FIRST FRIDAY ALL-NIGHT ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Would you come & spend an hour with Jesus?

When: Friday 04 August

8:00pm: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins

3:00am: The Divine Mercy Chaplet

9:00am: Adoration will conclude on Saturday with Mass & Novena to St. Padre Pio.

We encourage all parishioners to add their name to the sign-up sheet on the Welcome table. *Come & be blessed by God who wants to pour so many graces on us!*



VOUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ST. PADRE PIO FEAST DAY

The Feast Day of St. Padre Pio is fast approaching in September but there is plenty of organization that needs to happen beforehand. Please consider volunteering for this. Kindly add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table.

ST. PADRE PIO FEAST DAY 2023

Three Day Triduum:

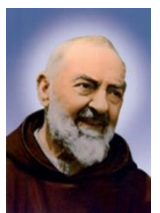
Thursday 21 September, 7:00pm

Friday 22 September, 7:00pm

Saturday 23 September, 5.30pm

Feast Day Mass: Sunday 24 September, 10:00am

Feast Day Hospitality/Food: *Everyone is invited to bring a plate of food for the Feast Day.*



NEXT SUNDAY is the **17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr. A.**

1Kings 3:5, 7-12. Ps 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130. Rom 8:28-30. Mt 13:44-52.

THIS WEEK'S MASSES AND PRAYERS WERE OFFERED FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS:

Deceased: Vivienne Almeida, Tarcisio & Helen Cauchi, Francis Farrugia, Avelino Bhundoo, Grazia & Cosimo Fiorentino & All Holy Souls in Purgatory. **Death Anniversary:** Benjamin Sabino Almeida. **Prayers for the Sick:** Farley Bartholomeusz, Alejandra Modelo, Normie Santos, Russell Kars, Jennifer Yara Baypath Majuec, Charbel Bazouni, Simon Bazouni & family, Ava Vella, Lucy Marie Ciappara, Georgina Rastegorac, Waled Hana, Maryrose Vella, Catherine Vella, Lolyn Velayo. *Please contact the Parish office if you would like a Mass offered.*

ST. PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTERS WEEK FIVE-FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH – 29/30 JULY 2023

Volunteers needed



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NO SMOKING ON CHURCH
OR SCHOOL GROUNDS

SMOKING PERMITTED OUTSIDE GATES ONLY