



# ST. PADRE PIO PARISH GLENMORE PARK

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

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## SUNDAY 08 MARCH 2026

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

### SUNDAY

8:00am & 10:00am Mass

### MONDAY

7:00pm Mass

### TUESDAY TO FRIDAY

9:00am Mass

### WEDNESDAY

7:00pm Mass (includes Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help)

### SATURDAY

9:00am Mass & Novena to St. Padre Pio & Blessing with his Relic  
9:30am Sacrament of Penance  
5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass

### RECONCILIATION (Confession)

### Tuesday – Friday

Before & after Mass (*depending on priests' availability*).

### BAPTISMS

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sundays.

Minimum booking time: two months in advance.

### FIRST FRIDAY MASS & ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

7:00pm Mass, Adoration begins.

3:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet

9:00am Saturday Mass

### SOM YOUTH GROUP

Every Saturday 4:00pm

Ages 5-17 (during school terms)

### YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

Every Wednesday, 7pm Mass, then YA meeting for 18-35yrs.

### FRIDAY PLAYGROUP

Contact the Parish Office.

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

Please contact the Parish Office.

### RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

The Catholic Church welcomes people of all ages, backgrounds, and walks of life – anyone who has a desire to learn about and enter into a life of faith in Jesus Christ can become a Catholic. The process of becoming a Catholic is a journey of faith and conversion. It is a time to learn about the teachings of the Church, to grow in one's relationship with God, and to make a commitment to live a Christian life. For many, this journey is also about becoming a Christian within the Catholic tradition.

Adults who are interested in how to become Catholic can enroll in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) program through a [local parish](#). The RCIA program provides participants with a comprehensive understanding of the Catholic faith, including its teachings, history, and traditions and culminates in the individual receiving the sacraments of [Baptism](#), [Eucharist](#) and [Confirmation](#).

Children who are raised in Catholic families typically receive the [Sacrament of Baptism](#) as infants. However, children who are not baptised as infants can also become Catholic through a Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) program that has been tailored to their age and level of understanding.

Christians who have been baptised in other Christian denominations can also become Catholic. The process for these individuals typically involves a profession of faith and reception of the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

Praying for Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) candidates is essential because it supports them in their spiritual journey of conversion, offering them strength as they prepare to enter the Catholic Church. The parish community's prayers are a vital part of this process, helping candidates feel welcomed, strengthening them against temptation, and assisting them in deepening their relationship with Christ.



Here are the key reasons to pray for RCIA candidates:

- **Spiritual Protection and Strength:** The Scrutinies (prayers offered during Lent) are intended to heal, strengthen, and purify the Elect from past sin and the bonds of temptation.
- **Support in Conversion:** The journey to faith can be challenging; prayer helps candidates persevere, grow in faith, and turn their hearts toward God.
- **Building Community:** Praying for candidates fosters a sense of belonging and community, welcoming them into the Church's life.
- **Encouraging Discernment:** Prayer aids candidates in discerning God's will and responding to His call to discipleship.
- **Spiritual Growth:** Prayer helps candidates grow in virtue, preparing them for the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.

**When to Pray for Candidates:**

- **Throughout the Process:** Prayers are encouraged during all stages of RCIA to aid in conversion.
- **During Lent (The Scrutinies):** Special prayers are offered on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent to strengthen the Elect.
- **Rite of Acceptance/Welcome:** The community offers prayers as candidates begin their journey.
- **At Sunday Mass:** Including candidates in the Universal Prayer (Prayers of the Faithful) is recommended.

By praying for these individuals, the parish community acts as a support system, helping to strengthen them to live a fruitful life in the Church.

*A1generated from articles in Catholic Dioceses of Parramatta, Broken Bay, Perth, Wollongong, as well as Good Shepherd Parish, Ireland, St Francis de Sales, Holland.  
Photo from: zenit.org/2025/06/20/ireland-adult-baptisms-on-the-rise-a-hopeful-sign-of-a-renewing-church/*

**TAKE AWAY BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. JOHNSON**

Looking to grow deeper in God’s Word during the week? Join us each Thursday evening for an engaging and practical Bible Study — filled with faith, discussion, and real-life application you can “take away” with you.

📅 Every Thursday

🕒 7:00pm-7.45pm (Sydney, Australia time)

📍 In person: St. Padre Pio Parish, 34 William Howell Dr, Glenmore Park

🖥️ Online (Zoom):

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88240197264?pwd=MC39Q52hu32bkPxe2Z4TjXW0MhaTes.1>

Meeting ID: 88240197264

Password: 2xg17M

Come along, bring a friend, your Bible, and an open heart. All are welcome!

**SHORT LENT PRAYERS**

Here are some easy prayers you can say to feel connected to God during Lent this year:

- “God, may Your light guide my day, and your spirit bring me peace. Amen.”
- “God, may my sacrifice of today of (*state your Lenten sacrifice*) remind me of my dependence on You for all the blessings I enjoy. Amen.”
- “Heavenly Father, I’m truly sorry for the moments today where I missed the mark. I ask for your forgiveness and the strength to better follow Your call tomorrow. Amen.”
- “God, I lift up (*name of the person you’d like to pray for*) today. I ask that you bless them abundantly today and throughout Lent. Amen.”
- “Oh Jesus, I surrender myself to you, take care of everything. Amen.”

*The above excerpt is from: hallow.com/blog/lent-prayers/*

**PRAYER**

Prayer: It is a way for Catholics to strengthen our faith, find comfort in difficult times, and grow closer to God. There are many different forms of Catholic prayer, from the formal prayers recited during Mass to the quiet meditations that occur in the privacy of one’s home. Some Catholics find solace in the repetition of traditional prayers like the Rosary, while others prefer to pray in their own words, expressing their thoughts and feelings directly to God.

*Excerpt from: https://parracatholic.org/learn/pray/.*

**ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTER THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 14/15 MARCH**

MASS TIME	5:30PM VIGIL MASS	8:00AM MASS	10:00AM MASS
<b>COORDINATOR</b>	Trudi Almeida		Tracy Amituanai
<b>ACOLYTE SENIOR SERVER</b>	Billy Layug Gilbert Grech	Khalid Younan	Dit Almer Ethan Henfling
<b>READER</b>	1. Rolaine Vibar 2. Trudi Almeida	1. Sue Guy 2. Ajumol Alexander	1. 2. Noel Xavier
<b>MUSIC</b>	Our Daily Bread		Modern Harmony
<b>HOSPITALITY</b>		Stewart & Sweeney Keuneman	
<b>CLEANER</b>	Susan Guy, Aiman & Maria Jajo.		

## ST PADRE PIO PARISH INFORMATION

### THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who contributed towards the SRE books last weekend. If anyone would like to contribute, please do so via cash or Eftpos. Please write 'SRE BOOKS' on the EFTPOS receipt or place the cash in an envelope & write 'SRE books'. Thank you for your kind donation!

### NOVENA MASS FOR THE FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH:

**SUNDAY 08 MARCH** The 5th night of the Novena Mass for the Feast of St. Joseph will be held at St. Padre Pio Parish this Sunday, 08 March at 7PM. Please see the noticeboards for more details.



### SYDNEY HOSTING THE NEXT INTERNATIONAL EUCHARIST CONGRESS IN 2028!

Sydney hosted the IEC 100 years ago in 1928. This is an exciting time for the Church in Australia and promises to be a time of great renewal. To ensure that the soil is rich for the seeds God will plant in 2028, the Church across the country will participate in various ways in a 3-year preparation phase leading up to the Congress itself. More information at <https://eucharist28.org/>

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS & HOLY MASS

**When:** every Friday in Lent.

**Time:** 7:00pm.

### SOLEMNITY OF ST. PATRICK

**When:** Tuesday, 17 March, 7pm Mass.

### SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

**When:** Thursday 19 March, 7pm Mass.

We especially honour St Joseph on this day, for his unique role as the foster father of Jesus and we pray through his intercession for all families, the Church and for those who are dying.



### SUNDAY 08 MARCH

**Second Sunday of Lent Year A**

**Monday 09:** St Frances of Rome

### NEXT SUNDAY

**Fourth Sunday of Lent Year A**

1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13, Ps 22 R. v.1, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 8:12

### ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

**Date:** Tuesday 10 March: Josephine Caruana

**Date:** Tuesday 17 March: Jonie & Albert Yuzon

### MONDAY ADORATION DURING LENT

A moment of Adoration, after 7:00pm Mass, praying for the success of the Adoration Chapel and Wall.

### PALMS NEEDED FOR PALM SUNDAY

If anyone can donate soft palms (not the spikey ones) for Palm Sunday, please contact the parish office as soon as possible. Thank You.



### COME CLOSER TO THE SUFFERING LOVE OF CHRIST SACRED SECRETS - THE SHROUD OF TURIN

A profound journey into the Passion of Jesus. No registration. No cost. And many other hand-picked programs, including retreats, reflections, sacred stories, and prayerful songs, to accompany you through Lent and toward Easter. [shalomworld.org/lent](http://shalomworld.org/lent) Available on phone, computer, and TV. The Lenten portal offers:



👉 Lenten Programs (for all):

🔗 <https://shalomworld.org/lent>

👉 Lenten Kit for Kids (Ages 6–12):

🔗 <https://shalomworld.org/lenten-kit>

*Shalom Media Australia, a Catholic media ministry serving families through faith-filled programs, reflections, and evangelisation initiatives.*

### BETHANY PRIMARY SCHOOL 2027 ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN

Enrolment packs are available via the website, school office or call 4723 3700.

2027 Kindergarten Applications are due on **Friday 27 March** to be considered for first round offers in May.

**MASSES OFFERED FOR THESE INTENTIONS: Deceased:** Carmela Libri, Mario Cauchi, Anthony Coutinho, Joseph, Stella, Ken, Mercy, Arthur & Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**For the Sick:** Bridgette Grech, Liam O'Shea, Jose Joaquin De Sousa, Vida Smith, Beulah Frankson and Roger Ayo, Lillian Astorri, Pauline Azzopardi, Elise Girdlestone, Daniel Varlow, Pamela Severino, Illuminada Shackleton, Kim Baluyot, Chris Shihada, Maria Joseph, Andrea Lopez, Christian Casulla, Xara Kaye, April Cataroja, Susan, Molly Poulouse, Kyla Aggar, Eric Norman Santos, Jimmy Zacharias, Alona Alcaraz, Trent Moore, Joselito Canaria, Lynn Navarro, Kim Baluyot, Jasmine Arada, Maricris Palencia, Yvonne Videla, Alejandra Modelo, Emily & Danilo Rosales, Georgina Rastegorac, Maryrose Vella, Catherine Vella.

**Please contact the office to offer a Mass.**

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

**FIRST READING** Exodus 17:3-7

**A reading from the book of Exodus**

*Give us water to drink.*

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'. **The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING** Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

*The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.*

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. **The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL** John 4:5-42

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

*The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.*

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you:

Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again;

but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'Go and call your husband' said Jesus to her 'and come back here.' The woman answered, 'I have no husband.' He said to her, 'You are right to say, "I have no husband"; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshiper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.' At this point his disciples returned, and were surprised to find him speaking to a woman, though none of them asked, 'What do you want from her?' or, 'Why are you talking to her?' The woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town to tell the people, 'Come and see a man who has told me everything I ever did; I wonder if he is the Christ?' This brought people out of the town and they started walking towards him. Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, do have something to eat'; but he said, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples asked one another, 'Has someone been bringing him food?' But Jesus said: 'My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work. Have you not got a saying: Four months and then the harvest? Well, I tell you: Look around you, look at the fields; already they are white, ready for harvest! Already the reaper is being paid his wages, already he is bringing in the grain for eternal life, and thus sower and reaper rejoice together. For here the proverb holds good: one sows, another reaps; I sent you to reap a harvest you had not worked for. Others worked for it; and you have come into the rewards of their trouble.' Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

**The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



**NEPEAN VALLEY FUNERALS**

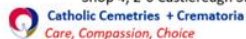
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