ST. PADRE PIO PARISH GLENMORE PARK

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EMERGENCIES	0476 394 968	Regina Rossetto	Safeguarding Officer 4789 2232

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2026 | **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday – Friday 8:30am – 3:30pm
Closed 12:30pm – 01:00pm

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)
School hall

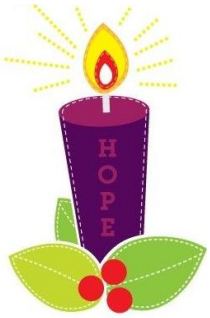
YOUNG ADULTS GROUP
Every Wednesday, 7pm Mass, then YA meeting for 18-35yrs.

FRIDAY PLAYGROUP
Contact the Parish Office.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS
Please contact the Parish Office.

ADVENT

What is Advent?



The word "Advent" is from the Latin *adventus* for "coming" and is associated with the four weeks of preparation for Christmas. Advent always contains four Sundays, beginning on the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle (November 30) and continuing until December 24. During Advent, Catholics celebrate the season with an Advent wreath. The wreaths are made with a circle of evergreen branches (symbolizing life) and hold four candles representing the four weeks of Advent.

Reflection from: https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/reflections/advent/first-sunday-of-advent-22624

Reflection

Let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity. (Psalm 98:8-9)

Prayer for the Advent Wreath

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people.
He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us.
He is the Savior of us all.
O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light the first (purple) candle of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation.
May He come quickly and not delay.
We ask this in His holy name. Amen.

Waiting

We light an **advent candle** today, a small dim light against a world that often seems forbidding and dark. But we light it because we are a people of hope, a people whose faith is marked by an expectation that we should always be ready for the coming of the Master.

The joy and anticipation of this season is captured beautifully in the antiphons of hope from the monastic liturgies: See! The ruler of the earth shall come, the Lord who will take from us the heavy burden of our exile

The Lord will come soon, will not delay.
The Lord will make the darkest places bright.
We must capture that urgency today in the small flame of our candle. We light the candle because we know that the coming of Christ is tied to our building of the kingdom. Lighting the flame, feeding the hungry, comforting the sick, reconciling the divided, praying for the repentant, greeting the lonely and forgotten – doing all these works hastens His coming.
Reflection from: https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/reflections/advent/first-sunday-of-advent-22624

Why is Advent important to the Catholic Church?
This is a period of preparation for the celebration of the Incarnation at Christmas. As Christmas seems to arrive commercially ever earlier each year, the faithful should try to turn our hearts more toward the Lord.

Why do we celebrate Advent?
The Catechism of the Catholic Church (paragraph 524) says,
When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating the precursor's birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: "He must increase, but I must decrease."

How do you prepare yourself during Advent?
First, it is a good idea to pray more, possibly including the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, the Franciscan Crown, and the Christmas Novena, all of which call to mind the mysteries associated with the Lord coming into the world.

It is also important to read Sacred Scripture, especially the Infancy Narratives of Matthew and Luke. The Catechism of the Catholic Church, chapters 2 and 3 of the Second Part of the Creed, expresses the Church's Faith in the Incarnation and Nativity of the Lord.

Finally, to truly prepare, it is important to go to Confession and maybe go to daily Mass and do Eucharistic Adoration when you are able.

What are the Advent symbols?
There are many symbols for Advent: the Advent calendar, Advent wreath with candles, the Jesse Tree, and the Crèche – with the Baby Jesus absent until Christmas Eve. Each of these can be the basis of a family tradition, especially to teach children how to prepare for Jesus' Birth.

What do the four candles of the Advent wreath represent?
The candles indicate the different weeks of Advent. When you are in the first week of Advent, you light one purple candle, and for the second week, two purple candles. During the third week, you add the rose candle. Then for the final week, you light all four candles. These colors match the liturgical colors of the vestments for those weeks, with purple representing penance and rose representing rejoicing.
The Advent Wreath brings to mind the time before Jesus when the world was in spiritual darkness. During Advent, we remember the Old Testament days as we anxiously anticipate His Birth at Christmas.
To read more on Advent go: https://missions.ewtn.com/seasonsandfeastdays/advent/
Picture from: https://au.pinterest.com/pin/first-sunday-of-advent-hope-clipart--297730225367057117/
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Notices

BRING YOUR MARRIAGE INTO THE CHURCH: CONVALIDATION
Were you married in a civil ceremony or in another faith tradition, and now wish to have your marriage recognized and blessed by the Catholic Church? Convalidation is the sacred moment a couple exchanges new consent before a priest and two witnesses to enter into a true sacramental union.

- Who is it for? Couples already married civilly or outside the Catholic form.

Next steps: Contact Fr Johnson or the parish office for more details, and how to receive the grace of the Sacrament of Matrimony.

ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTER FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 05/06 DECEMBER

MASS TIME	5:30PM VIGIL MASS	8:00AM MASS	10:00AM MASS
COORDINATOR	Trudi Almeida	Lynn Young	Regina Rossetto
ACOLYTE SENIOR SERVER	Billy Layug	Khalid Younan Chris Hersey	Aiman Jajo Manny Medel
READER	1. Trudi Almeida 2. Maz Lirio	1. Trish Warda 2. Denise Robens	1. Zon Lupisan 2. Regina Rossetto
MUSIC	Portugal Family		Children's Choir
MORNING TEA			Zon Lupisan & Deb Vella
CLEANER	Mel Gaudoin, Meghan Warda, Annette & Mike Buttigieg + WORKING BEE		

ST. PADRE PIO PARISH INFORMATION – WEEK FIVE

ADVENT REFLECTION GROUP

Tuesdays in Advent. 7pm – 8pm in the Church. ***Please note: on Tuesday 08 Dec it will be @8pm, after the 7pm Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.***

Come and prepare for the real meaning of Christmas, the birth of Jesus. If interested, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table.
All welcome!

FIRST FRIDAY MASS & ALL-NIGHT ADORATION:



THIS FRIDAY 04 DECEMBER

7pm: Mass followed by All-night Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
3am: The Divine Mercy Chaplet
9am: Mass & Novena to St. Padre Pio.

Come and spend time with Our Lord. The sign-up sheet is on the Welcome Table.

CHRISTMAS WORKING BEE: THIS SATURDAY 05 DECEMBER

We would like to invite you to help decorate and clean the Church and the grounds after 9am Mass. *Please include this date in your diary.*

PARISH CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT: 05 DECEMBER



5.30pm Vigil Mass in Bethany's School Hall. A great and festive occasion for the whole family to join in & celebrate the true meaning of Christmas! Sausage Sizzle, drink & electric candle $7-fundraiser for the Adoration Chapel & Wall. BYO: picnic blanket & fold out chairs. RSVP to the office for catering purposes glenmorepark@parracatholic.org

CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY PLAY



Christmas Eve 24 December at 5.30pm, followed by the 6pm Children's Christmas Mass. ***Practices will take place on Sundays, 4pm in the Church.*** If your child would like to take part, please contact the parish office.

REGARDING THE CHRISTMAS FOOD HAMPERS

If anyone knows of a family who might need some support regarding food for the Christmas period, please let the parish office know. All information will be held confidentially.

UPCOMING FEASTS & MEMORIALS:

30 NOV: St Andrew
03 DEC: St Francis Xavier
04 DEC: St John Damascene

NEXT SUNDAY 06 DECEMBER

Second Sunday of Advent Year B

Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11, Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Date: Tuesday 01 December, Vangie & Shane McCaw
Date: Tuesday 08 December, Boyet Remolador

12-13 DECEMBER-BISHOP'S GOOD WORKS APPEAL – Help a young mother break the cycle of violence & homelessness.

This Christmas, let the birth of our Saviour, Jesus, inspire us to reach out to those in need. Your tax-deductible gift can provide young mothers and their children with secure shelter, nourishing food, and the support they need to build a strong family life and a hopeful future. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/appeal or the envelopes. Thank you



FR. JOHNSON'S OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE AND ST JOSEPH SHRINE PILGRIMAGE



From 31 May to 14 June 2027 to Mexico, USA & Canada. Itinerary is on the notice board. Please see Fr Johnson for more info.

CATHOLIC INFERTILITY SUPPORT GROUP

2nd Saturday of each month 7pm at St Padre Pio Parish Meeting Room. Starting 09 January 2027. For Catholic married couples. A place for understanding, encouragement, prayer, and connection with others on a similar journey. Scan the QR code to join or email catholicinfertilitysyd@gmail.com



SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY

When: Tuesday 08 December, 7pm Mass. *The Advent reflection group will be at 8pm after the Mass.*

MASSES OFFERED FOR THESE INTENTIONS: Deceased: Vivienne Almeida, Sebastian MM, Russell Kars, Rocco Fabiano, All Holy Souls in Purgatory and for those mentioned in the Book of Remembrance. **For the Sick:** Mel Laycock, Josephine Delos Reyes, Eduardo João Tota, Dolor Payne, Salwa & family, Rasha & Family, Fr. Chris Mithen C.P. James Forrester, Justino Pasia, Erwin Jacob, Elvie Tamayo, Lita Modelo, Bridgette Grech, Liam O'Shea, Jose Joaquin De Sousa, Vida Smith, Beaulah Frankson and Roger Ayo, Lillian Astorri, Elise Girdlestone, Daniel Varlow, Illuminada Shackleton, Kim Baluyot, Chris Shihada, Maria Joseph, Andrea Lopez, Christian Casulla, Xara Kaye, April Cataroja, Susan, Molly Poulose, 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.**

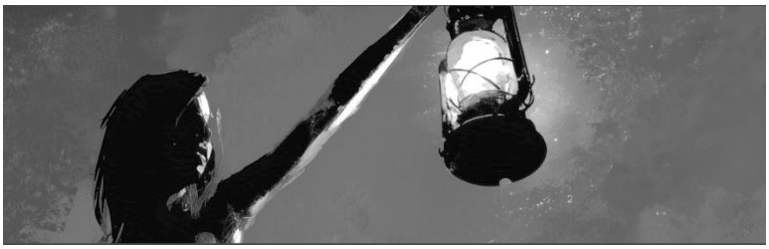
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

FIRST READING Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.
You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down
– at your Presence the mountains would melt.
No ear has heard, no eye has seen
any god but you act like this
for those who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.
You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.
We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the wind.
No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.
For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our sins.
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4
Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.
O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. **(R.)**
God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**
May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. **(R.)**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.
May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.
I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Psalm 84:8
Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!



GOSPEL Mark 13:33-37
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.
Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.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