

-Fr Paul to remote north India - plus -Parish Plan for Youth needs Parent Food Volunteers

India Mission and Fr Paul

Dear friends – The following is a brief background to my next two weeks of mission absence in India: Through some coincidences, my first visit to India in 1986 led some years later to what's now been a 25 year mission involvement in the far north east of that country, up into the lower Himalayan Mountains. It's in the diocese of Darjeeling, described in various information searches as a 'frontier diocese' and one of the Catholic Church's most remote dioceses in the world. I can't sum up quickly the privilege it's been - and is - to be so closely associated there; in particular with a large and extended local family from a mountain village called Pedong in the eastern Himalayas. With some inspiring members of this family I've pursued different mission projects in response to specific needs. Key among these are two schools we built, started and grew - that they continue to operate; a high school (St Francis of Assisi in Gorubathan) and a pre-kindergarten to Year 5 (Sacred Heart School in Pedong).



A small Himalayan village – north India



Part of what is the remote and historic
Himalayan Indian road to China!

We as Catholic Christians believe that our involvement in 'mission' can be here in our local home, street, parish or community – or across the city, nation or world. And just like some of our parish SRE Catechists who go into the local government schools have told us; they started out by wanting to do good and share faith – but were then surprised by how much the mission moved them, changed them, stretched them and grew their own faith! From a Catholic understanding, that's one of the hallmark differences that makes something not 'charity' or just our work – but 'mission' – 'God's mission'. God's mission changes us – as we seek, through various works, to build the kingdom on earth with others! I trust that this next short 'mission' trip over the coming two weeks will keep changing me; that it will move and stretch me again – and in some surprise way of God's grace enrich how my vocation might then better serve back here at home.

My prayers will be in union with you all while I'm gone. God bless – Fr Paul

Continue reading on Page 2

Men's Group—Save the date

Saturday 14th February at 8am, in the St George Preca Centre.

Share faith and friendship. All men 18 years to senior welcome.

For more information contact **Nicky on 0403 124 345**

FaithLIFE Scripture Short Course

How to engage with the Bible during turbulent times? Join Sr Michele Connolly as she explores how Scripture calls us to exercise our prophetic voice; and to live as witnesses of faith & hope in our everyday life!

Time: **7pm - 9pm on Tuesdays 10, 17, 24 Feb**

Location: **St George Preca Centre**

RSVP: <https://tr.ee/29pDdC6lCI>

Faith B4U...

Cover piece continued...

Parish Youth – new structure – Parent food volunteers needed

A committed group of parish young adults (initially with Fr Jack who was here) have been the leaders and facilitators for youth activity (high school age) in the parish over the past couple of years. After some review and reflection with the leaders, we've decided to shift the youth focus to Sunday, leading from the 6pm Mass. There'll be more information about this but here it is just briefly:

- The youth nights (for high school age) will be monthly, 1st Sundays (from March 1) - following 6pm Mass – to 8.30pm.
- The basic structure will be / Eat and Social / Brief Life-Faith input (with a take-home motivation) / Games - Activity - Social
- Periodic other events offered between the 1st Sundays

PARENT VOLUNTEERS (or others) are now being called for ahead of the start - to assist with organisation of food for monthly youth nights. It won't require costs, just some time together with other parents. With enough volunteers, it would only be every second or third month. Please leave your name and number with the parish office or one of the priests asap.

Many thanks if you can help make OLQP youth nights possible by your sharing the care for food! Fr Paul



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an Indigenous Elder who tells
of his spiritual journey and his
connection to creation.

7 FEB | 6 PM

IN THE YOUTH ROOM

After Saturday's 5pm Mass. Fingerfood provided.



Children's Liturgy Volunteers needed

Children's Liturgy - Once a month with a small team to share the Gospel with our young children during either the 8:30am or 10:30am Mass. School Terms only.

For details contact the Parish Office on: P: **9631 8135** or email: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

Let us pray...

FOR OUR SICK, that they will be nourished with hope & recognise the loving presence of God in their lives.

Chantel Adrien, Elie Aboumelhem, Mary Anjoul, Rita Attard, Amara Bewert, Ellen Boissett, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Karl Croning, Mario Curmi, Kathleen Davies, Nerida Fabri, Gabrielle Farfus, Delina Galea, Dorothy Gatt, Kay Jaunais, Margaret Jones, Rachel Karbic, Tulla Kavich, Patrick Kelly, Tyler Kenedy, Peter Kennedy, Maxine Kroebel, Michelle Makin, Joyce Mifsud, Elsie Moran, Joseph Moses, Alex Noble, Bob Nowfel, Brendon Onorato, Benjie Santiago, Michael Scanlon, Connie Shembri, Carmel Thompson, Eddie Vella, Joe Vella, Sue Watters, Gerard Watts, Grace Widjaya, Maureen Zarb

FOR DEATH ANNIVERSARIES, that they now know the fullness of life & delight in God - may they pray for our active purpose in God's Mission.

Agnes Cardona

FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED, may our Lord embrace them with unimaginable joy & bless those who grieve with the power of hope.

Frank Azzopardi, Phyllis Mifsud - 3 Feb @ 10.30am

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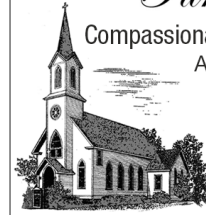
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Our Mission: To grow as a community in the likeness of Christ.

Weekend Retreat

Single adults, ages 18-35, are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters for a weekend retreat at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park, NSW from 13-15 February 2026. The retreat will consist of talks, discussion, silence, Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Confession, Mass, and time for fellowship.

Registration closes 6 February. Fee: \$300 per person. <https://www.trybooking.com/DHJBL>

Lost Property

Missing an umbrella, water bottle, glove, rosary etc? Please look in the main entry area of the church (Narthex) near the Lost Property Sign.

For valuables, please call the parish office on 9631 8135.

When should I complete my Safeguarding Training?

All Clergy, employees and volunteers in parish ministry are required by the NSW Children's Guardian Act 2019 to be current and complete with Safeguarding Training. Check with your Parish Office when you are due to update your Safeguarding Training.

- If you are new to ministry, you must complete the Introductory Modules 1-3 (Cycle 1).
- If you completed Cycle 1 modules two years ago, you must complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2)
- If you renewed your Cycle 2 two years ago, you must complete a Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3)

Safeguarding Training Modules can always be completed online at <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>. Face-to-face training opportunities can be found at <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>.

Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend

February 21-22nd.

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. Additional weekends will be held from 23-24 May and 8-9 August. For further information, visit our website: www.engagedencounter.org.au

FEAST DAYS

This week we celebrate

2nd February Monday **The Presentation of the Lord**

5th Thursday **St Agatha**, virgin, martyr

6th Friday **St Paul Miki and companions**, martyrs

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Friday night Rosary will now begin at 6.30pm

This Sunday's Readings

1st Reading

Zephaniah

2:3; 3:12-13

2nd Reading

1 Corinthians

1:26-31

Gospel

Matthew

5:1-12

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading

Isaiah

58:7-10

2nd Reading

1 Corinthians

2:1-5

Gospel

Matthew

5:13-16

Mass Times

Monday - 9:15am

Tuesday - 9:15am

Wednesday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Thursday - 9:15am

Friday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Saturday - Vigil 5:00pm (live streamed)

Sunday - 7:00am | 8:30am | 10:30am | 6:00pm

Memorial Mass - Last Tuesday night of each month (except December) at 7:00pm

Mass for Peace with anointing of the sick - First Saturday of each month (except January) at 10:30am

Reconciliation:

Saturday - 4:00pm - 4.45pm

Please join us via Facebook or Website, olqp.org.au, every Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Rosary in the church: Weekdays at 8:30am & Friday nights at **6:30pm** (Please note: NEW TIME)

ZOOM option available Friday night for those who cannot travel to the church for rosary.

Meeting ID: 896 7944 2594 | Passcode: rosary

P: 9631 8135 | E: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

Emergency Contact Only 0447 509 207

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Parish Office hours: 9am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm Monday to Friday

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