

‘Creation’ – a season in our faith observance

Dear friends,

Since 2015, our Catholic faith has reserved each 1st September as the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*. And since 2019, the Church has asked us to observe 1st September through to the 4th October feast of St Francis of Assisi as the *Season of Creation*. By now many Catholics and Christians of other backgrounds share this same observance.

Our Church tradition contains a lot of inspiration for our deep valuing of God’s creation. St Francis of Assisi is a real highlight name who millions of people across many religions have been influenced by. Back in 1979 Pope Saint John Paul II named St Francis as ‘*The Patron Saint of Ecology and the Environment*’. St Francis’ famous ‘*Canticle of the Sun*’ spoke of God’s creation using titles of relationship such as ‘*Sister Mother Earth*’, ‘*Brother Wind*’ and ‘*Sister Water*’. He referred to animals likewise, such as birds as sisters and the wolves as brothers. These affectionate and relational titles can remind us in faith that the whole creation is unfolding and evolving with us, towards final union in God. And so we believe very seriously that we don’t have the right to simply use up the earth’s resources wherever and however much we want. Every expression of the wise care of creation – from the sky to under the oceans deep – and throughout all living beings and human life from conception – is a care for and an honouring of God!

Pope Leo wrote a letter for this year’s day of prayer to begin the Season of Creation - and in it he connected various crises of human suffering with the misuse of the earth and its resources. He said that these two realities are; ‘*a single plea for healing and peace arising from a wounded world*’. For people who believe in God as the Creator, the plight of the earth and its effect on human suffering is a profound calling that’s central to our faith. In fact, among the key reasons given by the Pope in 2015 for the formal observance of prayer for creation was to seek pardon for sins against the world. He also said it was a special chance for us to reaffirm our personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for entrusting it to our care and to implore God’s help for the protection of creation.

Blessings to us all in this special season, as treasured members amidst God’s creation. Fr Paul



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Please register your interest using this QR code or contact the Parish Office on 9631 8135 or parishoffice@olqp.org.au



Saint Padre Pio – Feast Day

On Sunday 20th September at 10am, St Padre Pio Parish, Glenmore Park will have a Solemn Procession with the Relic of St Padre Pio followed by the Feast Day Mass, blessing with his Relic and fellowship meal.

All warmly welcome.

Holy Shroud Exhibition

St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta is hosting the Holy Shroud Exhibition featuring a life-size replica of the Shroud of Turin.

Date: Sunday 6 – Sunday 13 September

Time: 9:00am – 6:00pm

From **Thursday 10 – Sunday 13 September**, the exhibition will have extended opening hours from **9:00am – 10:00pm** daily in the Chapel.

Parking: Available via Victoria Road.

Everyone is warmly invited to visit this special exhibition and learn more about the history and significance of the Shroud of Turin.

For more details, please contact:

coordinator@stpatscathedral.com.au

Safeguarding onsite training

Safeguarding face-to-face training will be taking place Saturday, **19th September** at OLQP for **Modules 4 & 5**.

Location: St George Precinct Centre

Time: 9am – 1pm Morning tea and lunch provided.

Register today at:

<https://parracatholic.org/events/mandatory-safeguarding-training-cycle-2-modules-4-5-19-september/>

Unsure if you should be attending this training session? If you **completed Modules 1-3 in 2024 or earlier**. You are now due to **complete these Modules**.

Alternatively, please feel free to contact the Parish Office who can check if this session is for you.

Email: lylian.francis@olqp.org.au or phone: 9631 8135

Safeguarding Training Modules can be completed online at: <https://learning.safeguarding.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 Boisset, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Catherine Buttigieg, Mary Camilleri, Karl Croning, Charlie D'Anastas, Kathleen Davies, Jeanette Dib, Nerida Fabri, Gabrielle Farfus, Delina Galea, Dorothy Gatt, Mary Ghantous, Kay Jaunais, Margaret Jones, Tulla Kavich, Patrick Kelly, Tyler Kenedy, Peter Kennedy, Maxine Kroebel, Michelle Makin, Joyce Mifsud, Elsie Moran, Joseph Moses, Alex Noble, Martin Portelli, Jeizek Reyes, Benjie Santiago, Martin Shaw, Barbara Stanton, Carmel Thompson, Cathy Vella, Eddie Vella, Joe Vella, Sue Watters, Gerard Watts, Grace Widjaya, Maureen Zarb, Joseph Zerafa, Melissa Zerafa, Muna Zora

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

Violet Dass, Wistin Teuma, Charlie Xerri

FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED, may our Lord embrace them with unimaginable joy & bless those who grieve with the power of hope. *Funeral details are correct at time of print, but it's best to not make this your only source.*

Musa Alama, Michel Issa, Beverley McCaffrey – 10 Sept @11am, George Mercieca – 11 Sept @ 10.30am, Carmen Zahra – 8 Sept @ 11am

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

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal – Honour a lifetime of faithful service

We give thanks for the fathers, grandfathers, mentors and spiritual fathers who have guided us with love, wisdom and faith. Among them are our priests, who have devoted their lives to serving God's people. They have celebrated the Sacraments with us, prayed with us, accompanied our families and helped bring us closer to Christ. After a lifetime of faithful service, many of our senior priests now need practical care and support as they face the challenges of ageing, illness and retirement.

Your generous tax-deductible gift will help care for our retired and unwell priests and ensure they can live with the dignity, care and support they deserve.

Please give generously at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan the QR code.

Thank you for caring for those who have spent their lives caring for us.



WANTED

Helpers to assist SRE catechists in the classroom.

We need help on: **Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m.**

If you can assist with this class, please contact the Parish Office
Ph: 9631 8135 / Email: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying Formation course – 17 October

Are you currently taking Communion to the sick and dying in the Diocese of Parramatta? If so, please join the Office for Worship for a day of ongoing formation to further your knowledge and understanding of this important topic. **Saturday 17 Oct from 9:30am – 2pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown.** Morning tea and Lunch provided.

For more information and to **register before 14 Oct** at parracatholic.org/events/ministry-of-communion-formation/

At the Well Gathering- Half day retreat

Centred on the theme "We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song," we will explore the hope at the heart of our faith and what it means to carry that hope in our everyday lives. Whether you're looking for community, creativity or formation, this Half Day Retreat on **19th September** has something for you. \$35 per person. Limited spots are available.

Register at <https://parracatholic.org/events/at-the-well-retreat/> to secure your place!

FEAST DAYS



This week we celebrate

8th Tuesday The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Positions vacant

- **Parish Secretary** – St Madeline's Sophie Barat Parish, Kenthurst
- **Paralegal & Compliance Support** – Diocese of Parramatta

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

This Sunday's Readings

1st Reading

Ezekiel
33:7-9

2nd Reading

Romans
13:8-10

Gospel

Matthew
18:15-20

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading

Sirach
27:30 – 28:7

2nd Reading

Romans
14:7-9

Gospel

Matthew
18:21-35

Mass Times

Monday - 9:15am

Tuesday - 9:15am

Wednesday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Thursday - 9:15am

Friday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Saturday - 9:15am (except January

- Vigil 5:00pm (live streamed)

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

Mass for Peace - all welcome - followed by Anointing of the Sick - 1st Saturdays 9:15am (except January)

Memorial Mass - all welcome - and offered for recent losses and 1st/2nd anniversaries - 2nd Saturdays 9:15am

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

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

Parish Office Hours: 9am – 1pm, 2pm – 4pm Monday to Friday
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