

CHURCH GARDENS

The gardening group meets on the second & fourth Fridays of each month between 8am & 10.30am

At present the gardens are growing faster than can be maintained.

The gardening group is desperately seeking more people who can assist with either mowing, watering, sweeping, or weeding ect.

If you can spare 2 hours per fortnight or any time when we meet to assist in maintaining the church gardens this would make a difference to the appearance of the Church gardens & surrounds. As always, any assistance is appreciated. Please bring a water bottle & glove. All equipment supplied Pls contact Kevin Redman 0402856114 for more details

TODAYS READING

Samuel 16:1.6-7.10-13 *In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.*

Ephesians 5:8-14 *Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.*

John 9:1-41 *The blind man went off & washed himself & came away with his sight restored.*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON-Rejoice, Jerusalem! Be glad for her, you who love her; rejoice with her, you who mourned for her, and you will find contentment at her consoling breasts.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM- The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION-Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life; Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Counting Roster –2022

19/3/23-Morris Team

26/3/23-Elliott Team

Altar Society– 2022

19/3/23– Elliott Team

26/3/23-Fsdani Team

HARD OF HEARING? Our Church has been equipped with a Powered Audio Induction Loop system for hearing aid wearers (T-Loop) - To obtain effective use of the loop sit in the main body of the church avoiding the very edge seats, turn hearing aid to T & adjust the volume to suit



www.stpatsutherland.org.au new Parish Website-



ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

136 Flora Street, Sutherland NSW 2232 (PO Box 57 Sutherland 1499)

Ph. 9521 2356 Fax 9521 7252 www.stpatsutherland.org.au

Fr Dan McCaughan (Parish Priest): pp@stpatsutherland.org.au

Kaylene Baumanis (Parish Secretary): info@stpatsutherland.org.au

St Patrick's Primary School Principal: Mrs Leonie Burfield: info@stpatsutherland.catholic.edu.au

St Patrick's Parish acknowledges and honours the Gweagal People of the Dharawal Nation as the original custodians of this land



St Patrick's Sutherland is a Parish that strives to safeguard children at all times.



**Fourth Sunday
of Lent Year A
19 March 2023**

There are many people today who seem to give no heed to God. Their lives are full of ephemeral things. The younger son in today's parable is a prime example. Yet, after he has tasted the riches, and then the dregs, of society, he comes to his senses. He returns to his father, who welcomes him home joyfully. It is never too late to come back to God.

Background on the Gospel Reading

As we did last week, we are reading today from the Gospel of John. In today's Gospel, the healing of the man born blind invites us to focus on the physical and spiritual aspects of sight and light. In the first part of today's Gospel, we hear Jesus' response to a prevalent belief of his time: that misfortune and disability were the result of sin. That belief is why Jesus is asked the question of whose sin caused the man's blindness—his own or his parents'. Jesus does not answer directly, but instead gives the question an entirely different dimension—through this man's disability, God's power will be made manifest. Jesus then heals the man.

The healing is controversial because Jesus heals on the Sabbath. The Pharisees, the religious authorities of Jesus' time, understood that the law of Moses forbade work (including healing) on the Sabbath. They also have trouble believing that Jesus performed a miracle. To determine whether the man was really born blind, the Pharisees question him and his parents. The man challenges the leaders of the synagogue about their assessment of the good that Jesus has done. In turn, they expel the man for questioning their judgment.

The final revelation and moment of enlightenment comes when the man born blind encounters Jesus again. Having heard the news of his expulsion, Jesus seeks out the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man. In this moment, the man born blind shows himself to be a man of faith and worships Jesus. Jesus replies by identifying the irony of the experience of many who encounter Jesus: Those who are blind will now see, and those who think they now see will be found to be blind.

As in last week's Gospel about Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman, today's reading has many allusions to Baptism. The washing of the man in the pool of Siloam is a prototype for Christian Baptism. Through the man's encounter with Jesus, the man born blind is healed, his sight is restored, and his conversion to discipleship begins. The man born blind gradually comes to a greater understanding about who Jesus is and what it means to be his disciple, while the Pharisees (those who should see) are the ones who remain blind.

Dear parishioners, it's with great sadness that one of the longest members of the St Patrick's parish community Maria Dodd passed away on the 14/3/2023.

Maria was an active member of St Patrick's her entire life, serving as our Sacristan for many years, as well as a long term volunteer at Nagle Apartments and Civic care.

Maria's funeral will be held here at St Patricks on the 23/3/23 at 10.30am. All welcome to attend. We pass on our deepest sympathy to Maria's family from all the St Patrick's community.

Getting to know our Catechists:

I am Hilda Rouse and I currently teach Kindergarten at Sutherland North Public School. I didn't think I could be a catechist until someone asked me to join the team and I gave it a go. I was baptised at 10 years of age, together with my siblings, after I befriended a Catholic student at my school. My parents followed a year later. By becoming a catechist, I am sharing my faith with my pupils and learning more along the way. One of my achievements was a Kindergarten child who was a bit difficult and yet she blossomed over the years into a student who received all her Sacraments. Even though I encounter quite a few challenges, it is a beautiful experience and a blessing. God works in mysterious ways.

St Patricks Primary- KINDERGARTEN 2024
Enrolments are open - please apply online by visiting our website www.stpsutherland.catholic.edu.au.



St Patrick's College, Sutherland Year 7, 2025

OPEN DAY Wednesday, 22 March 2023 4.00pm – 6.30pm. Guided tours, all welcome.
Enrolments are open - please visit spcsutherland.syd.catholic.edu.au to submit an online application or request an Application for Enrolment form. Applications due 6 April, 2023.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE SICK: Patrick Lynch, Dale Butler, Grahame Barclay, Stuart Gordon, Catherine Bishop, Judith Fraser, Maria Kramer, Fr Lawrie Beath, Sue Cassidy, Clifford Atkinson, Linda Dalton, Thiago Mazza Almeida, Terry & Pam Neenan, Graham Lamberti, Elizabeth Kinsella, Eileen Kenny, Ted Cramsie, Joanne Dideta, Eileen Talbot, Adam Henson, Wendy Fell, Kristy Bugeja, Elizabeth Pemberton, Arnanoud Lemerie, Solange La Douce Jean Fabien, Steve Smith, Lloyd Handley, Bruce Kent, Anne Cassidy, Lena Mallet, Martine Benoit, Norma Miller, Ron Monro, Lorraine Davies, Bill Burke, John Bonadio, Marie Cameron, Maria & Luigi Altavilla, Maureen Fraser, Carol Drew, Ron Strauss, Patti Gore. All the residents in Nagle Apartments. All the residents in Bupa. All residents in Lark Ellen. All residents in the Palms.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Maria Dodd, Delvio Nemorin, Francis Lynch, Lolite Yalong, Michelle Taydi, Simamto Avancina, Surinder Grewal

ANNIVERSARY: Mary Anne Talby, Anthony Esler, Margaret Jordan

DECEASED MEMBERS & FRIENDS: Margaret Donnelly, Biber Family, Roger Minshull, Gwen Power, Molly McFarlane, Kevin Gore, Bill Morris, Joan Quinn, Frank Townsend, David Hoffman, Menezes & Minshull Families, Mona McGovern, Veri Laarakkers, Helen Warham, David Dec, Dorothy Lynch, Reg Benson, Pat Bathurst, Gabrielle Scarra, All Dec'd PBVM Sisters, Robertson Family, Claude Press, John Press, Peter Rendell, Barry Scott, Margaret Stokes, Paul Fraser, Karen Westridge, McMullen & Brown Families, Philip Struthers, Jim Walsh, Shirley Dent, Thomas O'Brien, Tyran Sharman, Gregory & Eileen Dodd, Sr Mary Julian, Larkin Family, Mullins Family, Fr. L. Cruikshank, members of McNamara, Torrington, Preston, Dent, Barrett, Mahoney, Lollback, Mason & O'Leary families, Terry McNamara, Griggs, Nunan, Farrell families, Jack Ethers, Mrs Hills, Mr & Mrs English, Aunt Nora and Aunt Thelma, Irene Mason, Monica & John Robinson, Don Barrett. Miller family & friends, Holy Souls in Purgatory

WRAP WITH LOVE- 2023- Change of date for April The next meeting is 30 March 2023 as 6/4/23 is Holy Thursday

We meet at the Presbytery on the first Thursday of the month from 11.30am to 1.30pm. Please join us for knitting squares. Bring a sandwich for lunch.
All welcome.

Coffee & Tea Set-change of venue 20/3/23

Meet at 11.30am for Lunch at Como Hotel. Contact Leonie on 9521 6410.

Lumen Gentium (Light of the Nations), Nos 26 and 27 gave us an inspirational overview of the role of the Bishops in the Church, the huge burden of responsibility; to care as shepherds for the flock 'by praying and labouring for the people, (and to) make out-pourings in many ways and in great abundance from the fulness of Christ's holiness.' There was rich discussion on the differences we had experienced in different dioceses on how the faith was lived out. Wed. 9.45am, at the presbytery.
Text provided. All welcome!

PIETY STALL

The Parish Piety Stall is open every Saturday at the 5.00 pm Mass and on Sundays for both the 8.00am and 10.00 am Masses. Lovely gifts available.

Bible Study

The group decided to study St Luke's second work, The Acts of the Apostles. In it Luke explores *the spiritual energy inside the Christian community that motivates its expansion. (Jerusalem Bible)*. Please join us as we begin our new discussion: Thursday evenings 6 pm for an hour in the Presbytery.