



CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

Catholic Parish of Dulwich Hill, Archdiocese of Sydney, Established in 1907

532 New Canterbury Road, Dulwich Hill NSW 2203

PO Box 149 Dulwich Hill NSW 2203 Ph: 9558-3257 Fax: 9559-3752

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPotC Website: dulwichhillparish.org.au

Email: church@dulwichhillparish.org.au, or
secretary@dulwichhillparish.org.au



Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG

Fr. John Ssemaganda (Administrator), Deacon Rev Louis Azzopardi

Parish Office

Maria - Mondays

Cecilia -Tuesday-Friday

9.30am - 2:30pm

If unattended, contact : -

Fr. John 0404 639 925

Parish & Hall enquiries

9558 3257

Mass Times

Sat: 5:30pm (Vigil)

Sun: 8am & 10am

Mon: 8 am

Tue - Fri: 9:00am

Sat: 9:30am

Family Mass with

Children's Liturgy

3rd Sunday of the

Month 10am Mass

Filipino Mass

1st Sun 11:30am

Il Gruppo di Rosario

Italiano

Il gruppo di

preghiera Italiano, si

raduna ogni giovedì alle

ore 10 nella sala

parrocchiale.

Sacraments

Confession

Sat 8:30-9:20am, 4:45pm

or any time by

appointment

Baptism

Every 2nd, 3rd and 4th

Sunday 11.15am

Marriage

At least 6 months notice

required

Anointing of the Sick

Any time on call

Devotions

Every Friday Adoration

3-4pm

Rosary & Benediction

Sat 8:30-9:30am

Elsa George Rosary

Group Second Saturday

of every month at

2.30pm

9716 6676 All welcome

Novena to Our Lady of

Perpetual Help

Wednesday 7pm

The Bible and the Virgin Mary

Join us for a 12 -week course explaining the Catholic truths about Our Lady and her part in God's plan to bring salvation to the world. Based on Dr. Scott Hahn's book Hail, Holy Queen, the course teaches how Marian doctrine is firmly rooted in Scripture and answers common objections from non-Catholics. **Starting: 7:30pm**

Wed, 13 June in the Parish Hall

All are welcome! Contact: Dn Louis Azzopardi

Choir Practice will be on Mondays at 7pm in the Church every fortnight (from the 4th of June).

Sacramental Program:

Please pray for the children preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation on the 24th June.

First Holy Communion is celebrated in September with an information and enrolment night Wednesday 01 August, 6pm. All details including downloadable forms and inquiries can be addressed via the weebly site; <http://sacramentsatsaintpaul.weebly.com/first-holy-communion.html> by emailing the **sacramental coordinator: - Kathryn at sacramentsspcdh@gmail.com**

Join Pope Francis in Panama for the 34th World Youth Day in January 2019

If interested please visit the link: -

www.sydneycatholicyouth.org.wyd

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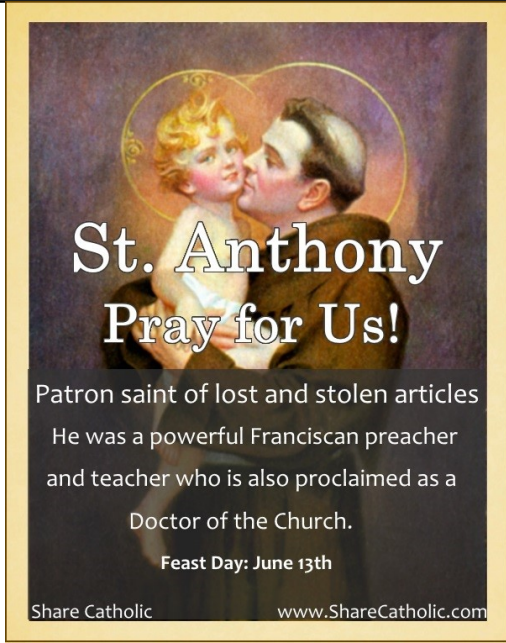
FORMED THE CATHOLIC PATH, ON DEMAND. Register at DulwichHillParish.formed.org



SAINTS of the WEEK (11-17June, 2018):

11th June St Barnabas, apostle

13th June St Anthony of Padua, priest, doctor



PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER 16 –17 June 2018

Acolyte:	5:30pm	Philip
	8am	Andre
	10:00am	Ricardo
Readers:	5:30pm	S Draysey, P Allport
	8am	I & P Pinto
	10am	A Rainima, L Beltran
Music:	5:30pm	Justine Sy
	8am	Beauti & Choir
	10am	Sri & Choir
Cleaning:	Georgette,Janette,Trudy,Leonor	
Laundry:	D Cremona	
Environment:	Volunteer	
Counters:	D Outen, M Portell, R Lazarus	

Planned Giving Program with 25% tax deduction

Our parish has been enrolled in a 25% tax deduction that opens up another opportunity to have tax returns on offerings to the weekly envelopes in the second collection. Please consider the form and return it to the parish office.

Have you ever considered becoming a regular pledge donor? You can indicate on the form to join the envelop or direct debit program.

We are indebted to your generous support towards the parish. Your dedication helps to keep the church running, paying the bills and wages, and meeting the demands of ministry. May the good Lord of all creation and God of bounty supply for all your needs in reward for your sacrifices.

St Paul of the Cross Parish
152 New Canterbury Road, PO Box 149 Dulwich Hill NSW 2203
Phone: 9558-3257 Email: secretary@dulwichhillparish.org.au

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM
Sponsoring: Catholic Charities, Sydney Diocese

The Parish is grateful to all contributions to the second collection (including their pledge and Pledge Program) and to all donors. Please note that the Parish Office has a limited capacity to accept the Parish's financial support.

DETAILS OF GIVER
(Please print clearly)
Full Name: _____
Home address: _____
Email address: _____
Phone: _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____

OPTIONAL FOR TAX DEDUCTIBILITY STATUS
I am a resident of Australia and I am a resident of the Parish for the financial year 2018-2019. I am not a resident of the Parish for the financial year 2019-2020. Please tick in the Parish Office for other tax deductibility options during the year.

TAX DEDUCTIONS
I am a resident of Australia and I am a resident of the Parish for the financial year 2018-2019. I am not a resident of the Parish for the financial year 2019-2020. Please tick in the Parish Office for other tax deductibility options during the year.

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ENVELOPE CONTRIBUTIONS
I am a resident of Australia and I am a resident of the Parish for the financial year 2018-2019. I am not a resident of the Parish for the financial year 2019-2020. Please tick in the Parish Office for other tax deductibility options during the year.

DIRECT DEBIT CONTRIBUTIONS
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DIRECT CREDIT CONTRIBUTIONS
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Please return this form to the parish office in person, post or email

Hidden Christians

In our reading from the Acts of the Apostles at Pentecost, we heard how amazed people were when they heard the apostles “preaching about the marvels of God in their own language”. The past two weeks that I spent in Japan exploring the story of the “Hidden Christians” (as well as seeing my son and daughter in law, the main purpose of my time away), have given me a particular insight into the experience of Pentecost.

When St Francis Xavier and a group of Jesuit missionaries came to Japan from Goa in India in 1549 to preach the Gospel they encountered immense difficulties. Even though they had a translator with them, the most basic Christian concepts were almost impossible to communicate in Japanese. There was no Japanese word for God as people believed in many gods and spirits, no concept of redemption and judgement among people who had grown up with the Buddhist belief in the cycle of birth and rebirth.

There were some converts but it wasn't until local rulers became interested in Christianity that any real impact was made. As Japan was, at this stage, divided among many local rulers who were often at war with each other, later Jesuit missionaries started ‘at the top’ by focusing their efforts on these local warlords. The strategy was successful, even though only a few of these local rulers became Christian. It created a climate that was favourable or at least tolerant to Christian missions.

By 1600 it looked as if the whole of southern Japan would become Christian. Many people were drawn to Christianity not only by what they heard about Christ, especially his concern for the poor in a society where the poor had no rights, but also by what they saw of European technology. Even so Japanese a custom as the tea ceremony was developed in imitation of the Eucharist!

Unfortunately, as they became more confident, some of the missionaries, following the ideas of the time, encouraged converts to destroy Buddhist shrines and temples. This led to missionaries being expelled from some areas and restrictions on converting to Christianity. When Japan was unified under one ruler in 1603 Christianity was completely banned and all Christians were forced to either renounce their faith or be put to death. I saw in one museum images of Jesus and Mary that people were forced to tread on to prove that they had renounced their faith. I also went to a hilltop shrine overlooking Nagasaki dedicated to the 26 Japanese martyrs who had been crucified there as punishment for refusing to renounce their faith. Imitating Christ, some had written farewell letters to their families forgiving their executioners.

Japan was closed off to the outside world for the next 250 years and, apart from one rebellion in 1637 when Christian farmers and samurai fought against the oppression and brutality they experienced, Christianity was considered extinct in Japan. But it wasn't. The survivors, including those who had ‘renounced’ their faith, kept their faith alive in secret by pretending to be Buddhist. Since there were no priests and nothing could be written down in case it was discovered, particular men in each community became baptizers and catechists teaching from memories handed down from father to son. I saw statues of Mary made to look like the Buddhist goddess of mercy and containers disguised as good luck charms containing material that had touched the bodies of the Japanese martyrs.

In 1865, after Japan restored contact with the outside world, a group of Japanese women in Nagasaki identified themselves as Christian to an amazed French priest who was chaplain to the French trade mission. They said that there were several thousand Christians in Nagasaki and the surrounding area. When the ban on Christianity was relaxed, many of these Christians rejoined the Church publicly. But many didn't. Over the centuries, their understanding of the Christian faith had become so mixed with Buddhist and Shinto beliefs that they couldn't connect with the Church of their ancestors. The Trinity, for some of them for example, was made up of Mary, Deus(the Creator) and Jesus; the Japanese martyrs were worshipped as the divine spirits of Shinto tradition. As Japan has modernized these Hidden Christians have either merged into mainstream Japanese Buddhism or Shinto or else have disappeared.

There's a lot to reflect on even in this brief outline-the power of the Holy Spirit, despite the barriers of language, culture and our own natural resistance to anything different; God's dependence on us, despite our own flaws and prejudices to make ‘the marvels of God’ known. There is also always the possibility of even the most deeply held beliefs to become fragmented and confused when they are separated from the experience of the whole Church. Above all, I believe, the story of the Hidden Christians and of the reception of Christ in Japan, is part of our story, the story of our family in the sense that Jesus describes it in the words of today's Gospel: “Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother”.

Deacon Louis

Dates to remember

13th June (Wed) 7:30pm Bible Study, Parish Hall
24th June (Sunday) Confirmation at St Paul's

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ph: 9558 5308

Fax: 9558 4909

Principal:

Ms Frances Stewart

REC: Ms Jo-Anne Ross

Family Educator:

Mrs Claudia Maroun



With St Paul of the Cross we pray ...

For the sick

Jaye Phoenix Guia, Teresita

Lasala, Luke, Victoria

Pacheco, Cathy Consentino,

Anne Keogh, Owen

Gallagher, Josieann, Lucia

Nicotina, Anna Pezzuto,

Alfonso Costantini, Sonia,

Rodolfo Estrada, Domenic

Capello, Marlowe, Jacutin,

Sonny Martinez, Annette

Rodriguez, Onofrio Ferraro,

Salvatore Ferraro, Lolita A

Japtan, Felisa C Hao, Nolene

Conn, Lucia Ferraro, Frank

Di Napoli

Recently Deceased

Fr Benedictus Bria SVD

Michael Tony Rahme

Kathleen Rita Mahoney

Najib Azzam

Kazimiera Kopczynska

Death Anniversary

Francisca Luna

Dorothy Braganza

Antonio Oliveira

For the Souls of

Maria & Louis Da Silva

Raimondo & Raffaella Dolce

Marisa Rulli

All forgotten Souls and Holy

Souls in Purgatory

Special Intentions

George's 87th Birthday

For renewed grace of

Matrimony to all married

people

Nigel

Maria de Silva, Rian Galliot