



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

Catholic Parish of Dulwich Hill, Archdiocese of Sydney, Established in 1907  
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**Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG (Bishop in Residence)**  
**Fr. Andrew James (Parish Priest), (Deacon) Rev Louis Azzopardi**



Third Sunday of Lent / A

12 March 2023

**PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Ph.: 9558 5308  
Principal:

Ms Brooke Watson  
REC: Ms Christine Brais  
Family Educ: Tania Chahoud  
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## With St Paul of the Cross we pray ...

### For the sick

Jennifer Keohane  
Albert & Hedi Stein  
Elmano Belo  
Patrick Crowley  
Sidney Luximon  
Leonor Delgado  
Patricia Stack  
Raul Cabrera  
Ruth Wilson  
Raymond Hudson  
Fr Jim Duggan  
Pat Allport  
Cardo, Zennie, Ian, Pat  
Christina

### Recently Deceased

### Death Anniversary

Hugh Dessa  
Alvaro Afonso  
Maria Aurinda Ferreira

### For the Souls

Father Basil Francis Rosen  
Raimondo & Raffaella Dolce  
Marisa Rulli

All forgotten Souls and Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Special Intentions

Paul and Monique Cramer  
Henry & Tina and my family  
Leah Tillam

## Reflections on our readings for the Third Sunday of Lent

### Exodus 17:3-7 "Putting God to the test"



This painting of Moses striking the rock from which water gushes out is from the catacombs of St Priscilla in Rome (Second Century) and is part of a series of paintings in these catacombs depicting Old Testament scenes. It represents a moment that the Jewish people experienced many times in their history - a lack of trust in God's care for them. The question of whether God is with us and cares enough to intervene in some way is one that can arise within us too in times of difficulty and distress.

Faced with the threat of dying of thirst, the Israelites felt abandoned by God. They forgot the fact that they had been saved in the past by being brought out of slavery and then through the Red Sea to dry land. The past was the past. They needed to experience God's protection in the present. God cares for them by providing water that enables them to continue their journey. Our reading stresses that God's loving intention for our good never wavers, even if we fail to trust in it.

### John 4:5-42 The woman at the well "anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again"



The Jewish philosopher Martin Buber spoke of our lives as being made of encounters, dialogues and relationships. Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman by the well is the perfect example. She comes to the well alone, having been excluded from her own community because of her multiple relationships.

The fact that Jesus speaks to her at all comes as a complete surprise to her. She enters into a conversation that will radically change her life by honestly confronting her past and finally accepting that Jesus himself is the wellspring of her life. Rushing back to her village, her enthusiastic testimony initially leads many to believe, or at least come and see Jesus.

In the end, the people declare that they have come to believe for themselves. This reminds us that even though others can tell us what God has done for them, we have to experience this love for ourselves. All of us come to have faith in Christ and to follow him in our own time. This story is a timely reminder that it is a gradual process

The conversation that leads the Samaritan woman to believe in Jesus is always a dynamic process - questions lead to further questions as Jesus' identity is gradually revealed and acknowledged. All too often, we can fall into the trap of failing to give room for questions, doubts and further exploration. Where we start is not as important as where we finish. Like the Samaritan woman and the villagers of Sychar, you must not only come to faith but share it with others.

(adapted from **God is on the journey too** Fr Christopher Monaghan CP Lenten Program Year A Garratt Publishing 2023)

### Mission: Change their lives... and yours

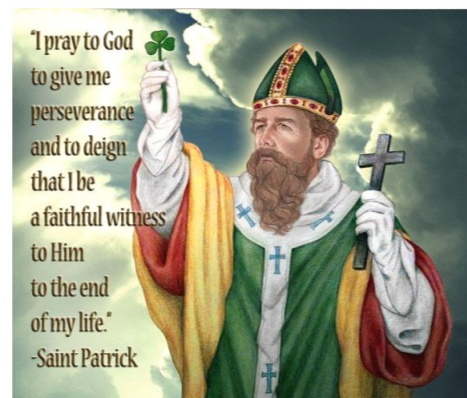
Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. On our website you can also read news from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know. Phone: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567 or visit our website: [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au)

### A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

## Feast/Solemnity/Memorial/Saint of the Week (13 - 18 Mar 2023)

Fri 17/3 ST PATRICK, bishop  
Sat 18/3 St Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop, doctor



**St Patrick** was born in Roman Britain and at sixteen he was captured by Irish pirates and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend the sheep. After six years he escaped and returned home. In a dream, he was told to go back and Christianize Ireland. St Patrick prepared for his task by studying in the monastery of Lerins and was ordained at Auxerre by St Amator. His vocation to Ireland was tested by the hesitancy of his superiors in entrusting such mission to him, St Patrick was sent to assist Bishop Paladius in Ireland. On the death of latter, St Patrick was consecrated Bishop by St Germanus. He traveled the length and breadth of Ireland, planting the Faith everywhere despite of the hostility of the Druids, and succeeded in converting several members of the royal family. He was commissioned by Pope Leo the Great to organize the Church of Ireland. In winning a pagan nation for Christ, St Patrick established many monasteries. After living a completely apostolic life of labor and prayer, St Patrick died on March 17, 461.

### St Patrick's Day Mass

Friday 17 March - 10.30am at St Mary's Cathedral  
Bishop Emeritus Terry Brady (Principal Celebrant)



Caritas parish speaker is coming next Sunday, 19th March 2023 to talk on Project Compassion. "Every dollar your school or parish raises through Project Compassion will help change the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable people. With your help, we can make a difference today, and For All Future Generations."

### Lenten Reflections

St Brigid's Marrickville is hosting a series of reflections based on the readings for each Sunday of Lent at 7pm each Monday. Our parish Lenten program is based on the video series The Chosen and every Tuesday at 7pm. There are 8 episodes in the first season so it will continue on each Tuesday after Easter. Please speak to Deacon Louis if you would like to know more about these evenings.

### Stations of the Cross - every Friday through Lent at 7:00pm.

### Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our parish preparation program for children who wish to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time and are 8 years of age (Year 3 in primary school) and over has begun.. Classes will be on Saturday 4:30pm and Sunday 9:00am in the Parish Hall commencing on Saturday 4th March. There will be four weeks of classes (parents can choose to bring their children either on Saturday or Sunday). First Reconciliation (Confession) will be on Wednesday 29th March at 6:30pm.

### Morning Tea - Third Sunday of each month

This coming Sunday, **19th March 2023**, is our Morning Tea Sunday. *Please join and bring a plate to share.*

### PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER 18 - 19 March 2023

Readers:	5:30pm	M Dos Santos P Allport
	8:00am	J Peters G Turnbull
	10:00am	M Peddie R Rita
Acolytes:	5:30pm	Tony & Morea
	8:00am	Andre
	10:00am	Ricardo & Joseph
Counters:		Cris C Margaret P

### Choir Notice

The next rehearsal will be on Monday 13th March 2023 at 7:00pm.

### Parish Office

Maria - Mondays  
Cecilia - Wed-Friday  
9.30am - 2:30pm

### Parish Enquiries

9558 3257

### Mass Times

Sat: 5:30pm (Vigil)  
Sun: 8am & 10am  
Mon to Fri: 9:00am  
Sat: 9:30am

### Filipino Mass

1st Sun 11:30am

### Sacraments

**Confession**  
Sat 8:30-9:20am,  
4:45pm or any time by appointment

### Baptism

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month.

### Marriage

At least 6 months notice required

### Anointing of the Sick

Any time on call

### Devotions

**Holy Hour & Rosary**  
Monday - Friday before morning mass

### Rosary & Benediction

Sat 8:30-9:30am

### Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday 7pm

