



St Felix deValois Parish

550 Chapel Road, Bankstown, NSW 2200, Australia

Fr Van Nguyen, Parish Priest

Fr William Chow, Assistant Priest

Marie Caldareri, Secretary (Tues, Wed, Thurs)

Phone: 9790 1933 Email: admin@stfelixparish.org.au

Website: www.stfelixparish.org.au

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday: 6pm (Vigil),

Sunday: 8am, 10am, 6pm,
12noon (Polish).

THIS WEEK'S MASSES

Tuesday - 8.00am

Wednesday - 8.00am

Thursday - 8.00am

Friday - 8.00am

Saturday - 8.00am

Nursing Home

NIL

Vietnamese Mass

7 pm - 1st Thurs of each month.

Polish Mass

6 pm - 1st Friday of every month
plus every Friday during Lent, May,
June, October and November.

DEVOTIONS

Adoration & Benediction:

Tuesday 7.30pm - 8.30pm.

Saturday 7.00am - 8.00am.

Rosary: Saturday 8.25am.

Vietnamese Divine Mercy Prayer:

6.30pm - 1st Wed of each month.

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation:

Saturday 4.30 - 5.30 pm

Or by appointment.

Marriages: By arrangement with
at least 6 months notice.

Care for the Sick: Any time. Please
call the Presbytery.

Baptisms: Ring for an appointment

Congratulations

Confirmation Candidates

Tanaka	Bako	Eleni	Michael
Benjamin	Broudou	Anna	Nguyen
Isabella	Burgess	Carlin	Nguyen
Christopher	Daniel	Peter	Nguyen
Luke	Dao	Theodore	Nguyen
Chloe	Effendi	Sophia	Phan
Matilda	Escolme	Nikolas	Sedeno
Daniella	Fernandes	Gadwyn	Tiomico
Mia	Grant	Danny	Tran
Chloe	Ho	Gia	Tran
Selena	Hoang	Benjamin	Vella
Casey	Khong	Alex	Vo
Jason	Ly	Alexander	Vu
Rachelle	Macasero	Mary	Vu

Responsorial Psalm

R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

Alleluia!

Comm Antiphon:

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you
bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

This weeks readings: Isaiah 22:19-23; Romans 11:33-36;
Matthew 16:13-20.

Next Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr A

Readings: Jeremiah 20:7-9; Romans 12:1-2;
Matthew 16:21-27.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr A - 27 August 2023

Confirmation Thank you

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated with Rev Fr Paul Monkerud VG, on Friday 1st September. A huge thank you to Fr Paul for coming to celebrate this special occasion with us. To our Sacramental Co-ordinator Gloria Booby, Class leaders and the teachers at St Felix who helped prepare the children for the Sacrament and those who helped prepare the liturgy and Candidates also on the day. Thank you.



Saint of the Day for August 28 - St Augustine, bishop, doctor. (November 13, 354 – August 28, 430)

Saint Augustine's Story

A Christian at 33, a priest at 36, a bishop at 41: Many people are familiar with the biographical sketch of Augustine of Hippo, sinner turned saint. But to get to really know the man is a rewarding experience.

There quickly surfaces the intensity with which he lived his life, whether his path led away from or toward God. The tears of his mother, the instructions of Ambrose and, most of all, God himself speaking to him in the Scriptures, redirected Augustine's love of life to a life of love.

Having been so deeply immersed in creature-pride of life in his early days and having drunk deeply of its bitter dregs, it is not surprising that Augustine should have turned, with a holy fierceness, against the many demon-thrusts rampant in his day. His times were truly decadent: politically, socially, morally. He was both feared and loved, like the Master. The perennial criticism leveled against him: a fundamental rigorism.

In his day, Augustine providentially fulfilled the office of prophet. Like Jeremiah and other greats, he was hard-pressed but could not keep quiet. "I say to myself, I will not mention him/I will speak in his name no more/But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart/imprisoned in my bones/I grow weary holding it in/I cannot endure it" (Jeremiah 20:9).



*St. Augustine, Fra Angelico
(MET) (© MET)*

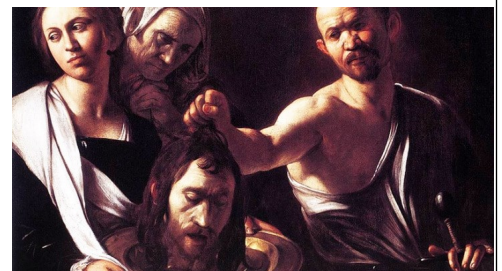
Saint of the Day for August 29 - The Passion of St John the Baptist, martyr. (1st. century)

The Story of the Martyrdom of Saint John the Baptist

The drunken oath of a king with a shallow sense of honour, a seductive dance and the hateful heart of a queen combined to bring about the martyrdom of John the Baptist. The greatest of prophets suffered the fate of so many Old Testament prophets before him: rejection and martyrdom. The "voice crying in the desert" did not hesitate to accuse the guilty, did not hesitate to speak the truth. But why? What possesses a man that he would give up his very life?

This great religious reformer was sent by God to prepare the people for the Messiah. His vocation was one of selfless giving. The only power that he claimed was the Spirit of Yahweh. "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire" (Matthew 3:11). Scripture tells us that many people followed John looking to him for hope, perhaps in anticipation of some great messianic power. John never allowed himself the false honor of receiving these people for his own glory. He knew his calling was one of preparation. When the time came, he led his disciples to Jesus: "The next day John was there again with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God.' The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus" (John 1:35-37).

It is John the Baptist who has pointed the way to Christ. John's life and death were a giving over of self for God and other people. His simple style of life was one of complete detachment from earthly possessions. His heart was centered on God and the call that he heard from the Spirit of God speaking to his heart. Confident of God's grace, he had the courage to speak words of condemnation, repentance, and salvation.



*Salome with the Head of John the Baptist |
Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio*

Reflection

The foundation of faith

Today's Gospel reminds us that the Church is built on the foundation of faith in Jesus Christ. Peter announces the core of our faith, that Jesus is God's only Son. The family, as the domestic church, has this same faith as its foundation.

As you gather together as a family, talk about people whose faith has helped you to be a member of the Church and talk about what you have learned from leaders in our Church today. Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 16:13-20. Talk about what you know about Peter and his importance to the early Christian community. Talk about what we can learn from Peter and his profession of faith about Jesus. Conclude in prayer together by praying today's Psalm or an *Act of Faith*.

*O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine Persons,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

*I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins,
and that he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe these and all the truths which the holy Catholic Church teaches,
because you have revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived.*

Amen.

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I wish to thank everyone for coming to celebrate with me my 20 years of Ordination to the Priesthood. Thank you for your gifts, good wishes and prayers. A special thanks to those who helped in preparing for Mass and lunch. It was a beautiful day! God bless you all. *Fr Van*

Mass Intentions Recently Deceased: Maria Dang Thi Diem.

Anniversary: Gioan Baotixita Mac Nguyen Quang; Da Minh; Dinh Minh Truong; Joseph Hieu; Anna Can; Swatantra Chakravarty

Deceased: Micae Lai Dinh Trung; Fabiano Sao; Matta Thinh; Matta Tien

Sick: Annick Duval; Fatima Fernandes; Marian Periera; Monina Rodriguez Pineda; Tenshi Asriel Magdaleno Arcenas; Maria Carta; Teresita Martinez; Jun Ibarra; Abida Gill; Josette Ackad; Rosa House; Nivea Wanigesekera; Henriette Tam Tinh Lam; Laura Malss; Rolly Porto; Michael Connor; Mariano Bernabe; Maria Nguyen Thi Huyen, Claude Marie; Robert Crouche; Maureen Vincent; Karl Roussety; Chantal Roussety; Peter Cranny

Weekly Rosters

	6.00pm	27 AUGUST	8.00am	10.00am	6.00pm
Reader 1	Patrick Abourizk	Imelda Dela Cruz	Thu Ha Kim	Anthony Eltarraf	
Reader 2	" "	" "	" "	" "	
Acolyte	Tuyen Tran (A)	An Dang (A)	Martin Tran (A)	Thanh Vu (A)	
Choir	SMMC	SSOG	St Felix	Holy Spirit Choir	
3 SEPTEMBER					
Reader 1	Emmanuel Icard	Maxwell Asuzu	Emanuela Viner	Anthony Tran	
Reader 2	" "	" "	" "	" "	
Acolyte	Tuyen Tran (A)	An Dang (A)	Martin Tran (A)	Thanh Vu (A)	
Choir	SMMC	SSOG	St Felix	-	
	27 August	3 September	Notes: SSOG: Singing Servants of God SMMC: St Mary Mackillop's Choir Group 1: Gloria Walker, Lyn Rowe, Khanh Le, Thi Thuy Doan, Theresa Nguyen, Dorie Encarnacion, Line Collet (Florist)		
Altar Society	Group 4	Group 1 (see notes)			
Church Cleaners	Vinh Nguyen	Polish Group			
SVDP	J Obeid	A Nguyen			
Childrens Liturgy	Philip & Ligaya	Philip & Ligaya			

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Oremus Online Prayer Series

Strengthen your faith in Christ, your prayer life, and your confidence to pray with others. Join us online for this 3-week series on the Foundations of Prayer:

When: Wednesdays 6, 13 and 20 September 2023

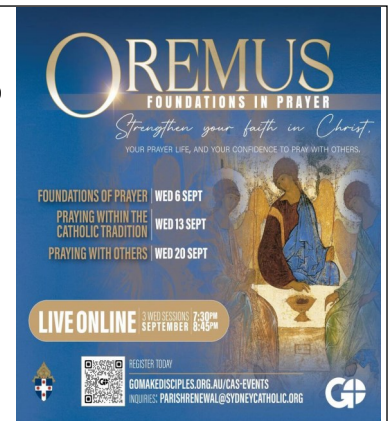
Time: 7:30 – 8:45 pm.

Cost: Free

Optional in-person retreat to follow on Saturday, 28 October, at St Martha's Leichhardt, 10 am – 4 pm, \$28.50 (+booking fees).

Register for either or both opportunities at

www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events. All welcome.



Catholic Medical Association Australia

National Conference

The First National Catholic Medical Association Conference will be held at St. Joseph's Conference and Retreat Centre, Baulkham Hills, from 10th to 12th November, 2023. Bishop Umbers will be the principal celebrant for the White Mass (Red Mass for lawyers, White Mass for doctors) during the Conference. See the flyer in the Church foyer with the programme for the Conference.

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime 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 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.

Catechist & Friendship Group: Bev Lamaro 0409 710 703; **Choir:** Alison De Sousa 0421 660 187;

Youth: Anthony Eltarraf 0403 111 641; **Pastoral Council:** Patrick Abou-rizk 0416 035 993;

St Vincent de Paul: Diago Rodrigues 9791 5209 ; **Bankstown Josephite Companions:** Robyn Molloy 9707 1292;

Cemetery Committee: Maureen Vincent 9790 4217; **Sacramental co-ordinator:** Gloria Booby 0413 294 224;

PSSO: Anthony Chadrawy 9790 1933; **Polish Priests:** 8783 0533;

De La Salle Brothers: 9708 2692; **St. Felix Primary School:** 9796 7875 Frances Bonanno - Principal;

LaSalle Catholic College: 9793 5600 Michael Egan - Principal;