

**ST MEL'S PARISH CHRISTMAS
MASS and CONFESSION TIMES 2020**

WEDNESDAY 16th DECEMBER:

6.30pm Confession
7pm Mass followed by Adoration

THURSDAY 17th DECEMBER:

9am Mass
9.30am Rosary
10am Confession

FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER:

9am Mass
9.30am Rosary
10am Confession

SATURDAY 19th DECEMBER:

4pm Confession
5pm Mass

SUNDAY 20th DECEMBER:

8.30am Mass
10am Mass

TUESDAY 22nd DECEMBER:

9am Mass
9.30am Rosary
10am Confession

WEDNESDAY 23rd DECEMBER:

6.30pm Confession
7pm Mass followed by Adoration

THURSDAY 24th DECEMBER:

CHRISTMAS EVE

5pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
8pm Christmas Eve Mass
12am Midnight Mss

FRIDAY 25th DECEMBER:

CHRISTMAS DAY
8.30am Mass
10am Mass

SATURDAY 26th DECEMBER:

4pm Confession
5pm Mass

SUNDAY 27th DECEMBER:

8.30am Mass
10am Mass

TUESDAY 29th DECEMBER:

No mass

**ST MEL'S PARISH CHRISTMAS
MASS and CONFESSION TIMES 2020**

WEDNESDAY 30th DECEMBER:

7pm Mass followed by Adoration

THURSDAY 31st DECEMBER:

9am Mass
9.30am Rosary

FRIDAY 1st JANUARY 2021:

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

10am Mass
7pm Mass

**HOW TO MAKE AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL
COMMUNION**

**1. PREPARE YOUR HEART for an encounter with
Jesus**

Create a space where you will be able to pray quietly.
Focus on an image of Jesus and light a candle before .
Him. Make the Sign of the Cross.

2. READ

Slowly pray the readings for Mass of the Day. These can be
found in the Missal or on the Universalis App.

3. RECITE THE PRAYER for spiritual communion.

Recite the prayer below slowly, meditating carefully on each
word. Believe that Jesus will give you the grace of a real
encounter with Him.

4. SILENCE

Remain in silence for some moments, with Jesus in your
heart. Allow Him to love you and to nourish your soul.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the
Blessed Sacrament.*

*I love You above all things, and I desire to receive
You into my soul.*

*Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come
at least spiritually into my heart.*

*I embrace You as if You were already here, and
unite myself wholly to You.*

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.



St Mel's Parish

Est 1915

**7 Evaline Street Campsie NSW 2194
Ph. 9787 1582**

Email: stmelscampsie@bigpond.com

Website: www.stmelscampsie.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Mifsud

Parish Secretary: Diane Daher

Parish Office Opening hours: 9.30am-3pm on
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
Monday & Wednesday office is closed.

St Mel's Catholic Primary School:
9789 3800

PARISH MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 5pm
Sunday: 8.30am, 10am and (5pm mass during COVID-19 restrictions)
Weekdays: 9am Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,
Wednesday: 7pm followed by adoration.

SACRAMENTS:

Reconciliation: 4pm to 4.30pm.
Baptisms: By arrangement, please call Parish Office
Weddings: By arrangement with six months notice
Care for the Sick: Please call the presbytery.

DEVOTIONS:

Rosary: After weekday masses
Adoration: After Wednesday 7pm Mass.
Italian Prayer Group: Tuesday. 10am - Lower Parish Hall. *(currently cancelled until further restrictions ease)*

BOOKINGS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and social distancing requirements within the Church we ask you to please be mindful that on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day many more people will attend mass. Therefore, we ask you to be considerate when registering for mass and only book **ONE MASS**. This way we give the opportunity for others to attend mass. Thanks you for your co operation.

SAINTS and FEAST DAYS THIS MONTH

SATURDAY 21st November: The Presentation of The Blessed Virgin Mary
SUNDAY 22nd November: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of The Universe
TUESDAY 24th November: Sts Andrew Dung-Lac (priest) and companions, (martyrs)

FIRST READING Ez 34:11-12. 15-17

A reading from the book of Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them. As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

WORD OF THE LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 22:1-3. 5-6. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. **(R.)**

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; He is true to his name. **(R.)**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

SECOND READING 1 Cor 15:20-26. 28

A reading from the first letter of the St Paul to the Corinthians

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

WORD OF THE LORD.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mk 11:9-10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 25:31-46

A reading from the Holy Gospel according Matthew

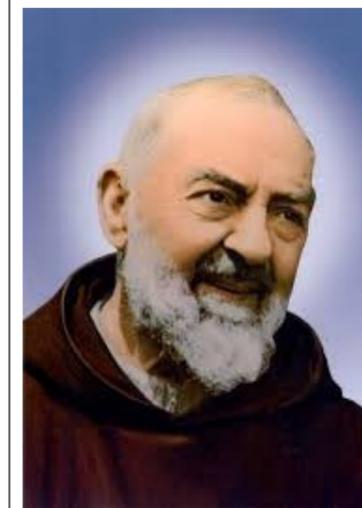
Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

GOSPEL OF THE LORD

We remember in our Masses

Lord, we commend to your loving care all the sick of our parish: Y.P Ching, Therese Shmely, Iris Eagleson, Dyan Rivai, Jerome Evan Carrillo, Joan Karam, Violet El-Kazzi, Elena Lorenzo, George Mattar, Nicholas Galvez Sr, Jeanette Lahood, Michelle & Toufic El-Dib, Leila Machaalany, John Duigan, Helena Knox, Cong Hen Khong, Peter Xu, Flordeliza Gonzales, Joshua & Francesco Frascella, Lisa Santo, Cindy Williams, John Heirlehy, Mary Maney, Chahid Hanna, Joseph Romain, Maura Turija, Betty Williams, Ampy Bollman, Mark & Merle Batterson, Ramon Alonzo, Rosalie Ferraren, David Sheumack, Claude & Jeanette Chidiac, Madeline Abouzeid,

Lord, we pray for our recently deceased especially: William Armando Carcia Carcamo, Alejandro Henriquez, Elizabeth Khoury, Celine Haykal, Mervyn Baldwin, Joyce Yip, Antonios Khoury Boulos Constantine, Eileen MaCarthy, Clara Baet, Wiyano Hindarto, Habib Safi, Youmana Farhart, Rolly Madrona, John James Lee, Maria Di Noia, Antointette Pace, Marie Varini, Clara Baet, Avelina Jimenez, **We also pray for all the Souls of the faithful departed:** Iluminada Baqui, Francesco Viterale, Tony Abouzeid, Joubran Joubran, Joe Joubran, Martinez Salazar families, Safi, Sabbagh, George, Allison, Coorey & McKenzie families, Sr. Fertuna Meskel, Letai & Johannes, Concordia Daco, members of the Martinez Salazar families, Flovina Malubag, Maria & Jose Da Silva, Aaron Vidal, Therese Badaoui, James Lahood, Sayed Saad, Shirley Gorrie, **We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Marcelo Estanislao, Joseph George, Peter Samuel, Elizabetta Palazotto, Therese Nader, Seth Arulappen, Aline Marie-Jeanne **Lord Hear Us.**



A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF PADRE PIO

Padre Pio was born on May 25, 1887 in Pietrelcina, southern Italy. He was tutored privately until his entry to the novitiate of the Capuchin Friars at the age of 15. Of feeble health but strong will, with the help of grace, he completed the required studies and was ordained a priest in 1910.

On September 20, 1918 the five wounds of our Lord's passion appeared on his body, making him the first stigmatized priest in the history of the Catholic Church. Countless persons were attracted to his confessional and many more received his saintly counsel and spiritual guidance through correspondence.

His whole life was marked by long hours of prayer and continual austerity. His letters to his spiritual directors reveal the ineffable suffering, physical and spiritual, which accompanied him all through his life. They also reveal his deep union with God, his burning love for the Blessed Eucharist and Our Blessed Lady.

On January 9, 1940, Padre Pio announced his grandiose plans to develop a Home for the Relief of Suffering (the Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza). The Casa opened its doors on May 5, 1956 as a 300 bed facility, built on the small, sincere and spontaneous donations and prayers of his followers. He also developed an international network of prayer groups for the support of the Casa and its ministry that continues to live on and grow today.

Padre Pio considered the Casa Sollievo Della Sofferenza (Casa) his "Work", inspired and blessed by God, to be a haven of relief from suffering for all of God's children in pain in body or soul. It is a model community of Catholic Christian health delivery, and has grown into a regional referral center of international renown. Today, with over 1,000 beds and services comparable to most academic research centers of excellence, the Casa is thriving by God's graces in one of the most remote, desolate and poorest areas of Italy...atop Mount Gargano, four hours from Rome.

Worn out by over half a century of intense suffering and constant apostolic activity in San Giovanni Rotondo, Padre Pio was called to his heavenly reward on September 23, 1968. After a public funeral, which attracted over 100,000 mourners, his body was entombed in the crypt of Our Lady of Grace Church. Increasing numbers flock to his tomb from all parts of the world and many testify to spiritual and temporal graces received.

On the 16th of February 1973, the Archbishop of Manfredonia, Msgr. Valentino Vailati, consigned the documentation to the Sacred Congregation of the Causes of Saints so as to obtain the "nihil obstat" for the beginning of the process of his Beatification.

On December 18, 1997, by the reading of the decree on the herocity of virtues, the Holy Father John Paul II declared Padre Pio "Venerable.", and on June 16, 2002, over 500,000 Padre Pio devotees gathered in Rome to witness Pope John Paul II proclaim Padre Pio, "Saint Pio of Pietrelcina".