

ST BRIGID'S PARISH

- 1845 Catholic school begins in a shed in Prospect.
- 27th July 1856 The Church of St Brigid, Prospect is opened by Archbishop John Bede Polding. The church was built on the donations of money and time by the Catholic Community of Prospect. The school uses the Church as a schoolhouse until 1867.
- 1885 Fr Patrick Augustine Holland is appointed as the first Parish Priest of Prospect. Until now, St Brigid's was effectively an out-church of Parramatta parish.
- 1893 Church of St Laurence O'Toole closes, and the Catholic Community of the Prospect Reservoir site merge with the Catholic Community of St Brigid's.
- 1919 St Brigid's reverts to an out-church of Parramatta Parish after the death of Parish Priest to Blacktown and Prospect, Fr. John Moriarty
- 1946 With the creation of the Blacktown Parish, the Catholic Community of Prospect become members of Blacktown Parish. St Brigid's now becomes an out-church of the new Parish.
- 1969 St Brigid's Parish is amalgamated with St Michael's Parish in South Blacktown, now subdivided from the Parish of Blacktown.
- 1975 St Brigid's Church closes. All masses are moved to either St Michael's Church at South Blacktown or St Patrick's Church in Blacktown.
- 1977 St Brigid's Church is demolished. Bricks were taken down by hand and individually cleaned by volunteer parishioners to be used in the construction of the new Church of St Michael.

ST MICHAEL'S PARISH

- 1960-1961 Adjacent lots purchased on Orwell Street and Reservoir Road by Fr. Hugh Law under instructions from Cardinal Gilroy with a vision to creating a new Blacktown High School, Primary School and possibly Church to answer the growing needs of the Blacktown Catholic Community.
- February 1962 St Michael's School, South Blacktown was opened by the Sisters of Mercy by Reservoir Road to alleviate the overcrowding of St Patrick's School.
- 1963 The Presentation Sisters take over St Michael's Primary School and St Patrick's Secondary School from the Sisters of Mercy.
- 1964 Mass Centre at Blacktown South opened on Palm Sunday for school masses.
- 1965 Fr Hugh Law granted permission to have the now-closed Church at Scheyville moved to South Blacktown. This relocated Church of St Michael at South Blacktown was blessed by Father Law in the same year after being transported by road to the new site. Masses were celebrated by a priest from Blacktown Parish each week.
- 1965 Nagle Girls' Regional High School is opened on land adjacent to St Michael's Primary.
- 1969 Blacktown parish is redivided- South Blacktown and Prospect were combined as the new Parish of Blacktown South and Blacktown Parish remained in central Blacktown.
- 1969 Fr. Sidney Moseley arrives in South Blacktown at the end of the year, becoming the first Parish Priest of St Michael's South Blacktown.
- 1978 Construction of a new Church at South Blacktown begins.
- 23rd December 1979 The new St Michael's Church, Blacktown South at Orwell Street is dedicated by Cardinal Freeman. The bricks of the historic St Brigid's were used to build the sanctuary wall and the original Altar Stone from St Brigid's is set into the new Altar.
- 2012 Catholic Early Learning Centre opened at Orwell Street near the old Convent house to provide Catholic early childhood education for the Catholic Community of Blacktown and Blacktown South.

February 2012

The first steps to amalgamation are taken with the formal twinning of the Parishes of St Michael's and St Patrick's. From May 2012 until now, both Parishes have been sharing resources and teams from each have been undergoing formation together. Teams from both Parishes propose a move to amalgamation as a way to better implement the pastoral plan and unite various ministry groups.

MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY PARISH

18th September 2014

Bishop Anthony Fisher decrees the amalgamation of St Michael's Parish, Blacktown South and St Patrick's Parish, Blacktown into a single new parish- Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. A new chapter in the rich history of Blacktown Catholics has begun.

ST PATRICK'S PARISH

- 1881 Land for the site of the first Church in Blacktown is given to a council for its construction by Thomas Patrick Fitzsimmons for the token sum of 10 shillings, along with a donation of 100 pounds.
- 19th June 1892 St Patrick's Church, the first church in Blacktown, is opened and blessed.
- 1919 St Patrick's Church reverts to an out-church of Parramatta Parish after the death of Parish Priest to Blacktown and Prospect, Fr. John Moriarty.
- 1919 St Patrick's School is founded- classes are held in the church.
- 26th November 1946 The Parish of Blacktown is created. Fr Bernard Massey is appointed as the first Parish Priest of Blacktown.
- 26th January 1952 The Patrician Brothers' School is officially opened on Flushcombe Rd.
- 1952 St Patrick's Primary School, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, opens their new, two-storey school building on Patrick Street. Intake of secondary school students begins in 1953.
- 1959-1963 Blacktown Parish is divided into the Parishes of Seven Hills (1959), Loral Park (1961), Marayong (1961) and Doonside (1963) as a result of fast population growth.
- 21st September 1975 The rebuilt, second St Patrick's Church on Patrick Street is opened and blessed.
- 1982 Land is purchased on Allawah Street to be the site of a larger church to suit the growing Blacktown Catholic Community.
- 1984 Plans for a new, larger St Patrick's Church are lodged.
- 14th April 1986 St Patrick's Parish, Blacktown is joined to the Diocese of Parramatta.
- 7th December 1986 The new St Patrick's Parish centre is opened and dedicated. It is a new-look place of worship, designed to cater to the modern, diverse needs of the Blacktown Catholic Community.