



Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD STL
Bishop of Parramatta

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14 May 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Diocese of Parramatta,

I am writing to you all to let you know that I have convened a conference to be held for all our clergy (both priests and deacons) on the Central Coast commencing on the evening of Tuesday 20 May 2025 and concluding on Friday 23 May 2025 in the morning.

The last time that the clergy of the Diocese held a residential conference was in May 2016 before I was installed as the 4th Bishop of Parramatta. Thus, it has almost been ten years since the clergy have had an opportunity to be together for any meaningful time.

Much has happened since I came to the Diocese, not least being our Diocesan Synod and our new Pastoral Plan that emerged from the Synod. The clergy of the Diocese need time to be together to assist the building up of their fraternal relationships, and for some much-needed input on topics that are very relevant to parish clergy ministering in the context of our current world.

That means that for three days the normal liturgical schedules in our parishes will be disrupted. However, with the assistance of some retired priests and some priests from religious congregations Mass will be available at six major churches in the Diocese for those who wish to attend daily Mass from Wed 21 May – 23 May 2025.

- St Nicholas of Myra Penrith on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 9:30am.
- St Patrick's Blacktown on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 9:00am.
- Our Lady Queen of Peace Greystanes on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 9:15am.
- St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 12:30pm.
- St Michael's Baulkham Hills on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 9:15am.
- St Thomas Aquinas Springwood on Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May at 9:30am.

I would encourage those who normally attend daily Mass and cannot access one of the proposed centres where Mass will be celebrated to still gather in the parish church and pray especially for the clergy of the Diocese during their time away.

Yours Sincerely in Christ

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv STL DD
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