



MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH

58 EDGAR STREET or PO BOX 18 MACQUARIE FIELDS NSW 2564

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PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: TO BE A LIGHT UNTO THE WORLD

Parish Priest: Fr. Bosco Sangbok Son SVD

Assistant Priest : Fr. Gideon Awudi SVD

Parish Secretary: Veena Miranda

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm

Acknowledgement of Country : We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, Elders and communities and the spirit that binds us in our dreams and aspirations on Dharawal country. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A – 29th & 30th July 2023

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his
people.

FIRST READING

A reading from the first book of Kings (3:5, 7-12)

(You have asked for wisdom).

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said, 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 118)

All: Lord, I love your commands

Reader: My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word. The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold.

All: Lord, I love your commands

Reader: Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant. Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight.

All: Lord, I love your commands

Reader: That is why I love your commands more than finest gold. That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways.

All: Lord, I love your commands

Reader: Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it. The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple.

All: Lord, I love your commands

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (8:28-30)

(He predestined us to become true images of his Son).

We know that by turning everything to their good God cooperates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially

Parish News and Happenings

long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew (13:44-52)

(He sells everything he owns and buys the field).

Communion Antiphon

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
And never forget all his benefits.**

**READINGS FOR 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Year A : 5th & 6th August 2023
Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21**

BAPTISMS are open. For Baptism Preparation please contact **Maria D'souza** through email : maria197114@gmail.com or **Contact the parish office.**

BAPTISMS on 2nd & 4th Sundays at 11:30am

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday : 6:00 pm. (Vigil Mass)

Sunday : 8:00 am & 10:00 am.

Weekday Masses :

Mon- Fridays at 9:00 am

Saturday : 8.30am

Every Wednesday : NOVENA to our Mother Mary,
6:30pm Rosary followed by Novena Prayers

Bible Study :Fortnightly on Sundays at 2.00pm in the Logos Centre.

Upcoming Meeting :

Combined Liturgy & Events Committee Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 2nd August at 7pm in the Logos Centre.** Members please attend.

Parish Multicultural Day

We are excited to announce the upcoming Parish Multicultural Day, an event that celebrates the diverse cultures and traditions within our parish community.

When : Sunday 10th of September 2023

Time : After 9:00am Mass

(Please note that there will be only one mass at 9:00am on the day).

Parishioners can participate by:

- Donating pre-loved goods and clothing to the White Elephant stall. Goods may be dropped off at the Parish office by 31st of August.
- Organise a Food Stall for the Country of your origin
- Solo or group performance
- Invite family or friends
- Wear a costume from the country of your origin
- Help clean up after the festivities



We encourage everyone to participate and contribute to this celebration of our multicultural community. If you would like to participate, please contact Parish office or Eric D'Silva (0434 869 426)

Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation & Holy Communion 2023

- To enrol, your child must be at least 8 years old and/or in year 3 or above.
- Enrolments will commence on 24th June and close on 31st July. (Application Forms will be available in the Church Foyer)

1st Reconciliation:

Briefing for parents – Tuesday 1st August at 7pm

Lessons starting from– 6th July

1st Reconciliation – Friday, 15th September 2023 commencing at 5pm

1st Holy Communion:

Briefing for parents –Tuesday 17th October at 7pm

Lessons starting from– 22nd, October

First Holy Communion : Saturday/Sunday 25th & 26th November 2023 (TBA)

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

15th August Tuesday : Mass for solemnity feast of the Assumption (Holy day of Obligation) at 9:00am and 7:00pm.

Parish News and Happenings

Parish Cuppa Weekend

WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY will be holding the monthly Parish Weekend Cuppa on the weekend of **5th & 6th August** after all the masses. You are welcome to bring something sweet or savoury to share. Gold Coin donation appreciated. Thank You!

Community Notice :

You are invited for the solemn Mass on the feast of "Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary" & celebration of India's Independence Day At 6.00PM on Tuesday 15th August 2023. Location — **Holy Family Church Ingleburn** Please Bring a Plate (finger food only)

St Vincent de Paul Society Winter Appeal

The Vinnies Winter Appeal continues to challenge the notion that ordinary people are able to make an extraordinary difference in the communities they live. The inspiration to do what matters is all around us. The Spirit to feed, heal, shelter, nurture, inspire – the power to change lives – is in everyone. This winter, your commitment to Help end the homelessness crisis devastating older women. Your generosity will provide shelter, food, clothing and long-term support to older women in crisis - our mothers, grandmothers and aunts - and help rebuild their lives.

On the weekend of 12th and 13th August 2023 we will be holding our Winter Appeal. Remember – we can all "help end the homelessness crisis devastating older women."

MenALIVE Macarthur Regional Weekend, 9-10

September, Micah House, Campbelltown. Cost \$70 per person (\$50 concession)

Come along to our menALIVE weekend and be impacted by an encounter with the Gospel in the presence of other good men seeking to be renewed in faith and life.

So many men have had their faith transformed and renewed by the experience of menALIVE, and this is an opportunity for men who have attended a menALIVE regional weekend in the past, and men who haven't, to come together to affirm the words of St Irenaeus all over again: "God is glorified when men are fully alive!"

Register: dow.sh/MACampbelltown2023

Reflection :

The search

Since the dawn of time people have been looking for treasure. In bygone days they searched in the fields, in the hills, under the sea... If only they could find gold or diamonds or pearls they would be happy. Today people are still

looking for treasure. Except now they look for it in the lottery, the casino, the stock market... If only they could hit the jackpot, all their troubles would be over.

In one way or another, all of us are treasure-hunters. All of us are looking for something that will make us completely happy. There is nothing wrong with this. If we were happy, then the artist would not be painting, nor would the writer be writing. Christ encourages us in our searching as the two stories in today's Gospel show.

Christ loved searchers. He had sympathy for those who looking, even if they were looking in the wrong places and for the wrong things. He understood their hunger and thirst. He was able to point them in the right direction. But he could do nothing for the smug and the satisfied.

Christ compared the Kingdom of God to rare pearl or a priceless treasure. In other words, the Kingdom is worth everything we have. Those who find it are truly fortunate. Even if in the eyes of the world they appear foolish or poor, in the eyes of God they are wise and rich.

The kingdom of God is a very simple concept. It means to know that one is a child of God, with a divine dignity and an eternal destiny. It means to know the meaning of life, and how to live it.

Our chief task in life is not to be successful or even to be fulfilled. It is to live properly. No one can be happy who misses the main purpose of life. The only question that really matters is how best to live in this world. Those who find the answer to this question have found the pearl.

The pearl of great price is not an illusion. The parable underlines the unrestrained joy of the one who finds the pearl. When a sense of the presence of God, and a certainty about his love for us, suddenly bursts upon us, that is something wonderful. It brings peace to the heart, joy to the mind, and beauty to life. Happy those who taste this joy even sporadically. But happier still are those whom it is the reality in which they live.

To taste the joy of the Kingdom involves a letting go of all other things. Not in the sense that we have to give them up entirely - we still need a certain amount of them to live. What we have to do is let go of our dependence on them, or the way we make them the be-all and the end-all of our lives.

Life is unintelligible and unbearable without God. A close relationship with God is a real treasure. It gives us a sense of who we are, and where we are going. Only God can give us what we are looking for. If we find God, we find all.

Those who belong to the kingdom of God will taste real joy even here. But that joy is only a foretaste of what they will experience hereafter, when they will come into full possession of the kingdom.

**New Sunday & Holy Liturgies
Flor McCarthy, SDB**

Parish News and Happenings

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Thanksgiving : Bakulic Family / Anthony Smith / Vivian & Joshni Fernandes/
Birthday : Paul Amon /
Special Intentions: Falesa Leuelu

This week masses have been offered for the Sick and Special needs of :

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| * TJ del Rio | * Julius Medvecky |
| * Pilar Certeza | * Dr Lydia de Jesus |
| * Danny Titmarsh | * Dr Joycelyn de Jesus |
| * Gail Field | * Leslie Reich |
| * Anthony David Smith | * Noli Leyesa |
| * Josef and Stanislawa | * Jaypee Masangkay |
| * Alan Raisbeck | * Jamie Masangkay |
| * Fellie Duggan | * Aida Dayao |
| * Sabrina | * Eva Silang |
| * Patrick Munslow | * Carole Dimayuga |
| * Cory Bustos | * Selda Dimayuga |
| * Baby Claudia | * Peter Hanh Tran |
| * Benjamin Pineda | * Noeline Bartlet |
| * William Fullerton | * Nancie |
| * Resty Perez | * Jun & Charo Doctors |
| | * Vivian Martin |
| | * Romeo Angeles |



THIS WEEK MASSES HAVE BEEN OFFERED FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS & DEATH ANNIVERSARIES OF benefactors of:



- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ✠ Danica Vukovic | ✠ Natheliano, Lorenza |
| ✠ Expectacion Alejo | ✠ Padayon, Alfreda |
| ✠ Lucien Sullivan | ✠ Besarila, Carolina, |
| ✠ Noeline Rose | ✠ Antonio Sr Sabado |
| ✠ Harold Noronha and Joy Noronha | ✠ Antonietta Bernardo |
| ✠ Ana-Franco-Kos | ✠ Deceased members of : Helene Family |
| ✠ Jennifer Nagarajan | |
| ✠ Zofia Wasyl Skoczylas | |
| ✠ Paz Monteclaro | |
| ✠ William Edward Lewis | |
| ✠ Florise & Claude Fabien | |
| ✠ William D'Souza | |
| ✠ Ma Theresa G. Patena | |
| ✠ Enid Gaynor | |
| ✠ Ivan Ambrose | |
| ✠ Francoise Duve | |
| ✠ All souls in Purgatory | |



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SVD Prayer : *"May the darkness of sin and night of unbelief vanish before the light of the Word and the spirit of grace, and may the heart of Jesus live in the hearts of all. Amen"* **Saint Arnold Janssen**

Gloria

*Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise You, We bless You,
We adore you, We glorify You,
We give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
You take away the sins of the world, receive our
prayer; You are seated at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the
holy one, You alone are the Lord, You alone are most
high Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory
of God the Father. Amen.*

The Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (all bow)
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell; on the third day he rose
again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is
seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there He will come to judge the living and the
dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic
Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of
sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.
Amen.*