



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.

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME **SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY - YEAR - A**

26th & 27th August 2023

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (22:19-23)

(I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder).

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 137)

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

Reader: I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple.

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

Reader: I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul.

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

Reader: The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

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

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (11:33-36)

(From him, through him, and in him are all things).

How rich are the depths of God - how deep his wisdom and knowledge - and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Parish News and Happenings

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!

GOSPEL: Matthew (16:13-20)

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

Communion 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.

READINGS FOR 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Year A : 2nd & 3rd September 2023
Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

2nd / 3rd September : Parish Cuppa Weekend
3rd September : Father's Day
10th September : Multicultural Day

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.

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)

Baptism

Through the waters of Baptism,

Harper Rose Kete

Enters into the life of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



Social Justice Sunday

This year's Social Justice Statement is titled Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

By the end of 2023, all Australians will be given the chance to vote on a referendum question to formally recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of this country and to enshrine in the Constitution the establishment of an Indigenous Voice to Parliament. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference welcomes the referendum as a blessed opportunity for the Church and, indeed, all Australians to embark on a new engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the hope that there can be healing and justice in our land.
socialjustice.catholic.org.au

Parish News and Happenings

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

We invite all individuals seeking to learn more about the Catholic faith and those interested in becoming Catholic to join our RCIA program. The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is a journey of faith, knowledge, and community that culminates in the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) for those who choose to enter the Catholic Church. RCIA enquiry forms are available in the Church foyer.

The programme usually commences in late August and concludes at the Easter ceremonies. For more information please contact the Parish Office or speak to one of our priests. We look forward to walking this faith journey with you and welcoming you into the Catholic Church.

Sunday School

We are thrilled to announce the return of Sunday School to our parish community starting from 15th October.

Details:

Date: Sunday, 15th October 2023

Time: During the 10am Mass

Location: Logos Centre

What to Expect:

- Engaging lessons for about 30mins
- Full supervision provided for a safe and nurturing environment
- Children will rejoin the main congregation before the Communion service.

Schedule: Sunday School will be held exclusively during the school term.

We encourage all interested parents and guardians to bring their children to the 10am Mass so that they can attend the Sunday School. For any enquiries or to learn more about our Sunday School program, please contact the parish office or Edyleen Santos on 0414945451 Let's come together to nurture our children's faith and growth in a joyful and supportive environment. See you there!

Reflection : *Giving our own answers*

In today's Gospel, we have an early example of an opinion poll. And it was Jesus himself who conducted it. Even though it was a very limited one, it

concerned a central issue: the identity of Jesus.

Today we have a glut of polls. One thing polls show us is the variety and often contradictory views people can have about any particular issue or individual. The poll in the Gospel bears this out. We see that the people came up with a variety of answers to the crucial question as to who Jesus was.

The question Jesus raised with the apostles was not a trick one or a trivial one. It was a very serious question. It is a question that resounds a through the entire Gospel. It is the main question of the Gospel. It concerns the identity of Jesus. Everything hinges on this. He didn't pluck this question out of the air. It was a question that obviously was on the lips of everyone: 'Who is this man Jesus?'

Having heard what others were saying, Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, 'And you, who do you say I am?' No doubt he already knew what they thought. Still, he gave them the opportunity to express it themselves. We can marvel at how Jesus said nothing to Simon, but waited for the Father to speak to him first.

It is important for us to come up with our own answers. To be able to state our own beliefs and values as Christians. It is no longer sufficient to repeat the official answers. We have to make the faith our own. A second hand faith is a poor faith.

In the past everything about faith was dictated to us. We were not only given the answers but the questions too. No one ever asked us, 'what do you think?' We weren't even given a chance to discuss, not to mind question anything. As a result we might have been able to give the right answers, but if pressed as to why we believed a particular truth, or what it meant to us, we were often at a loss.

We must now grow in our understanding of the faith. The important thing is to believe out of personal conviction. The more of such people we have in the Church, the more it is founded on rock.

The crucial question for each of us: Who is Christ for me? Is he the Son of the living God for me? And if so, how does this belief affect the way I live?

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

Parish News and Happenings

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Thanksgiving : Artuz Family

Birthday : Martin Bantug/ Billy Cowley

Wedding Anniversary : Lito & Tina Bantug / Alan & Margaret Raisbeck

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

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| * Romeo Angeles | * Julius Medvecky |
| * TJ del Rio | * Dr Lydia de Jesus |
| * Josef and Stanislawa | * Dr Joycelyn de Jesus |
| * Alan Raisbeck | * Leslie Reich |
| * Fellie Duggan | * Noli Leyesa |
| * Sabrina | * Jaypee Masangkay |
| * Baby Claudia | * Jamie Masangkay |
| * Benjamin Pineda | * Aida Dayao |
| * Resty Perez | * Eva Silang |
| * Catherine Nguyen | * Carole Dimayuga |
| * Cecily Kenny | * Selda Dimayuga |
| * Cecily Lacey | * Peter Hanh Tran |
| * Patrick Munslow | * Noeline Bartlet |
| * Alijah & Anishka | * Nancie |
| * Czeslawa Piela | * Jun & Charo Doctors |
| * Maria Hunkin | * Vivian Martin |
| * Frances Thorncraft | |
| * Joseph Domingo | |
| * Marija Soldo | |
| * Catherine & Abigael Carlos | |



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



- ✠ Danica Vukovic
- ✠ Mile Vukovic
- ✠ Rosa Mustapic
- ✠ Gloria & Rolando
- ✠ Therese Tran Thi Ty
- ✠ Eloisa I Gutierrez
- ✠ Elvera Kreltszheim
- ✠ Laufai Ligilolo
- ✠ William Fullerton
- ✠ Estanislao Carluen
- ✠ Mariano Asuncion
- ✠ Deceased members of Rochecouste family
- ✠ 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.*