



MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH

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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.

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR - A

16th & 17th September 2023

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Sirach (27:30-28:7)

(Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven).

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then plead for his own sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 102)

All: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Reader: My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Reader: It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Reader: His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Reader: For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (14:7-9)
(Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord).

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or

Parish News and Happenings

dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew (18:21-35)

(I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven).

Communion Antiphon

**How precious is your mercy, O God!
The Children of men seek shelter in the
shadow of your wings.**

**READINGS FOR 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Year A : 23rd & 24th September 2023
Is 55:6-9; Phil 1:20-24, 27; Mt 20:1-16**

**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.

Notice : Fr Bosco's Home Leave.

**Fr Bosco will be away on his Home Leave for 4
weeks from Tuesday 12th September. Please
keep him in your prayers.**

Parish Multicultural Day Thanks

Our deepest gratitude for your outstanding involvement in our parish's Multicultural Day held last Sunday, which was an extraordinary success. Thanks to your unwavering dedication, commitment and support. Thanks to all the parish ministries, groups, and Volunteers who made it possible.

Thanks to all performers for sharing your talents with us and enriching our celebration. We would like to emphasize that Multicultural Day's success was a collective effort, and it wouldn't have been possible without each and every one of you.

We were able to raise a total of **\$ 8,964.55** which will be contributed to Parish Projects. The contributions of the stalls are listed below:

Filipino Stall	\$ 850.00
Indonesian Stall	\$ 1,300.00
Lola & Francis	\$ 275.00
Sri Lankan Stall	\$ 1,236.00
Plant Sale	\$ 289.50
Pudding Sale (Filomena)	\$ 153.50
Samoan Stall	\$ 1,100.00
White Elephant	\$ 1,537.00
Samoa Next Generation Stall	\$ 716.55
Pancake Stall	\$ 524.00
Indian Stall	\$ 1,120.00
Total	\$ 8,964.55

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL IN SUPPORT OF CLERGYCARE:

The Bishop's Annual Appeal will be promoted in our parish this weekend 16/17 September. Please donate generously.

"Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. Offering dignified support and care for our retired clergy, who have always cared for us; and a sound and holistic formation of our young seminarians, our future priests, are my responsibilities as your Bishop.

I seek your prayers and practical support to help me ensure that I can do this. Your donation to this appeal is very much appreciated."

+ Bishop Brian Mascord

Parish News and Happenings

Sunday School

We are thrilled to announce the return of Sunday School to our parish community starting from **15th October during the 10am Mass** in the 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.
- 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.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend

An opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on 27-29 October 2023 at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a Covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, a stunning and tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney.

Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or Email: nswbookings@wwme.org.au

Reflection : The Process of forgiveness

Jesus asks us to forgive 'seventy times seven'. Which means forgiveness must be unlimited. There is no point in being glib about forgiveness, or pretending that it is easy. It is never easy. Without the grace of God it is sometimes impossible. When we get hurt, we naturally grow resentful and bitter. Resentful and bitterness are very dangerous things, and we cannot be healed of them unless we forgive.

We all need to forgive because at one time or another we all have been hurt. But what can we do? We must realise that forgiveness cannot be achieved overnight. It is not something that happens in one go. Forgiveness is a process, and like all processes it takes time. There are steps we

can take, which, with the grace of God, will lead to forgiveness and healing of the hurt.

We must recognise that a wrong has been done to us. There is no point in pretending it didn't happen. We must recognise that we have feelings about this - feelings of anger and hurt. These feelings are not sins. In fact, they are natural and healthy. We should talk about these feelings. If we can't do this with the person who has hurt us, we should do it with someone else.

Then at some point we make a decision to forgive. Forgiveness is an act of the will. But this doesn't mean that feelings of hurt and bitterness will suddenly disappear. The healing of these will take time.

Finally we have to make a decision about our relationship with the person who has hurt us. Here we have three choices: to continue it, break it off for a while, or discontinue it altogether. Reconciliation is not always possible. It takes two to be reconciled.

Unless we forgive others we ourselves will not be forgiven. It is not that God is vindictive. It is just that we do not forgive others we make it impossible for ourselves to receive God's forgiveness. Imagine two people living in the same room, one of whom closes the blind because he doesn't want the other to enjoy the sunlight. But in so doing he also deprives himself of the sunlight.

It's not a question of forgiving if and when the offender repents. We are expected to forgive even if the offender doesn't repent - that is what makes it so difficult, and why we need God's grace.

We need to pray for the gift of forgiveness. Unless we forgive, we will not be able to let go of bitterness and resentment, and so will not know peace or healing. Forgiveness doesn't mean forgetting. It means remembering and letting go. Forgiveness is a holy task. Only God can help us to accomplish it fully.

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

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Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Amado Manubay / Lily Stephens

Thanksgiving : Julie Bartolome /
Special Intentions : Rolande /
Rochecouste Family/

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| * Fr. David Catterall | * Julius Medvecky |
| * TJ del Rio | * Dr Lydia de Jesus |
| * Alan Raisbeck | * Dr Joycelyn de Jesus |
| * Fellie Duggan | * Leslie Reich |
| * Resty Perez | * Noli Leyesa |
| * Catherine Nguyen | * Jaypee Masangkay |
| * Cecily Kenny | * Jamie Masangkay |
| * Cecilie Lacey | * Aida Dayao |
| * Patrick Munslow | * Eva Silang |
| * Czeslawa Piela | * Carole Dimayuga |
| * Maria Hunkin | * Selda Dimayuga |
| * Frances Thorncraft | * Peter Hanh Tran |
| * Joseph Domingo | * Noeline Bartlet |
| * Marija Soldo | * Nancie |
| * Catherine & Abigael
Carlos | * Jun & Charo Doctors |
| * Shirley Myers | * Vivian Martin |
| * Angelica | * Romeo Angeles |
| * Teresa Beattie | |
| * Venancio Ibarra | |
| * Noriel Rivela | |



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



- ✠ Lactitia Baptist Fernandes
- ✠ Santiago Malabanan Hernandez
- ✠ Orane Senat
- ✠ John & Carole
- ✠ Reymundo Santos
- ✠ Anna & Thresia
- ✠ Gaudencia Mendoza
- ✠ Irineo Mendoza
- ✠ Danica Vukovic
- ✠ Mile Vukovic
- ✠ Deceased Members of :
-Milazzo 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.*