



## 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.

### 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR - A

7th & 8th October 2023

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

##### Entrance Antiphon

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

##### FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (5:1-7)

*(The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel).*

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He

expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The Word of the Lord.

##### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 79)

**All: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.**

**Reader:** You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations. It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.

**All: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.**

**Reader:** Then why have you broken down its walls? It is plucked by all who pass by. It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, devoured by the beasts of the field.

**All: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.**

**Reader:** God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. "Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted.

**All: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.**

**Reader:** And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

**All: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.**

# Parish News and Happenings

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians  
(4:6-9)

*(Do these things and the God of peace  
will be with you).*

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

**Alleluia!**

GOSPEL:                      **Matthew**                      **(21:33-43)**

*(He leased his vineyard to other farmers).*

## Communion Antiphon

**The Lord is good to those who hope in him,  
to the soul that seeks him.**

## 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.

**READINGS FOR 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**Year A : 14th & 15th October 2023**  
**Is 25:6-10; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14**

## St Vincent de Paul Society Winter Appeal 2023 "Many thanks for your generous donation"

On behalf of the people who are in desperate need we say a hearty Thank You!

Your generous donation amounted to **\$3,151.60**

This will greatly assist us put food on the table and provide other necessities as they arise.

## **Catholic Mission Church Appeal** **Mission Sunday**

In two weeks' time, Catholic Mission will share an opportunity for you to partner with the Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters in Timor-Leste as they continue to provide an essential community project that addresses the gaps in care and well-being in rural communities like Venilale.

**This work simply will not be possible without your support. We hope you will accept this invitation to make a real and lasting impact for those in need.**

**On the weekend of October 21st / 22nd, our parish will hold a special collection to support the Catholic Mission appeal. Please come prepared to give generously.**

Bishop Brian Mascord invites you to attend  
**Leadership Unlocked**

A Formation Day with Ron Huntley  
for Clergy, Parish Pastoral Councils and Leadership  
Teams

**On Friday, 10 November**

Location: Xavier Centre Conference Rooms (Behind  
Cathedral), 38 Harbour St, Wollongong  
Time: Clergy (1:15pm) / PPC/PLTs (5:00pm)

The day will be facilitated by Ron Huntley, a renowned author and speaker from Canada who specialises in leadership formation that encourages and equips Catholic Clergy and their Pastoral Councils / Leadership teams for mission and renewal.

Requesting members of our PPC/PLT to attend the joint session in the evening. Bishop Brian will be in attendance and he looks forward to learning and growing with you. Please let the Parish office know if you would like to attend. Thank You.

# Parish News and Happenings

## **Congratulation to Herbert & Sheila Kreltszheim on their 60th Wedding Anniversary**

Mary Mother of the Church parish family sends you their love and best wishes for many more happy years together. God Bless you always!



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Happy 102nd Birthday Julius Medvecky.



## **Sunday School**

Sunday starting from **15th October during the 10am Mass** in the Logos Centre.

We encourage all interested parents and guardians to bring their children to the 10am Mass so that they can attend the Sunday School. Contact Edyleen Santos on 0414945451 for more info.

**1st Holy Communion** : Parents Information night on **Tuesday, 17th of October 2023 - 7:00pm** in the Church.

## ***Reflection:***

## ***Ingratitude ...***

Peter and Anne raised four children but are now alone. They feel disappointed and sad. Anne tells us why.

'We did everything we could for those children. We wanted them to have the things we didn't have. We bought a house. Peter had to do a lot of overtime to be able to keep up with the mortgage repayments. Times were hard. Life was a constant struggle. Still, those children never lacked anything.

'Many's the night I didn't get a wink of sleep because of them. They had a lot of illnesses when they were young but, thank God, in time they grew out of them. Though we saw some of our neighbours going regularly to the pub, we hardly went out. We saw others going abroad for their holidays, but we could never afford to do that. But we gladly sacrificed these things for the sake of the children.

'We sent them to good schools. They never lacked money for books or school outings. They were always well dressed. We taught them good

values. We taught them their religion, and we tried to give them good example. And just look at how they have repaid us. They say that good example rubs off on the children. Well, in our case, it didn't.

'John (the oldest) quit university and went into the pub business. He works hard, and by all accounts is doing well. He now owns three pubs. But money has become his god. Though he sends us a couple of bottles at Christmas, we hardly ever see him. 'Anne, a teacher, married a fellow with a big job. They don't believe in having children. They rarely come to see us, though we get cards from them from exotic places. 'Peter has three children and seemed to be happily married. But then he suddenly left his wife, and went with a young girl. He never shows up. 'Paul, our baby, is still unmarried. He's touring the world like a hippie. Doesn't believe in working or settling down. Last word we got from him, he was somewhere in Australia.

'None of them go to Church. Now what more could we have done for them? Do we deserve to be treated like this?' There is great heart-break for religious parents who see their children abandoning the faith and/or adopting a lifestyle which they regard as immoral. How hard it is to go on loving them in spite of it all. Even when we do favours out of the goodness of our heart, we expect a return, and are hurt when it doesn't come. It's only natural. We feel taken for granted or even used.

Today's readings seem to suggest that even God sometimes feels like this. The words of the First Reading, 'What more could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done?' is a cry from the heart. In spite of all the love he showed his people, Israel, all he got in return was utter ingratitude.

The people of Israel had been treated in a privilege manner by God. But privilege brings responsibility. They failed God. Yet God is not disappointed for his own sake. Rather he is disappointed because his people have squandered the blessings he wanted them to enjoy. Sadly, the vineyard is destined to become a wilderness.

What sort of fruits did God expect from his people? God looked for peace from his people, and got war; for true worship, and got idolatry; for justice in their dealings with one another, and got injustice, corruption, and exploitation of the poor and the weak; for goodness, and got evil; for caring and sharing, and got greed and acquisitiveness; for temperance, and got excessive eating and drinking; for community, and got exclusiveness and snobbery; for humility, and got pride; for wise and godly living, and got a pagan lifestyle.

This to some extent is our story too. God wants us to make use of the gifts and opportunities he has given us so that we can grow as his children. But often we fail to respond to his love. And yet, God doesn't write us off, but gives us chance after chance.

**Flor McCarthy, SDB**

# Parish News and Happenings

## Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for October For the Synod

"We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world."

## Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

**Thanksgiving :** Alijah & Anishka /  
Herbert & Sheila Kreltszheim / Rachel Noronha

**Birthday :** Julius Medvecky / Corinne Patterson /  
Paschal / Joseph Sailiese / Remigia Artuz /  
Mabel Artuz / Eric & Olivier Rochecouste /  
Rubico P. Mariano Sr.

**Special Intentions :** Christine and 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<br>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:

- ✠ Losaline Afu
- ✠ Veronica Webster
- ✠ Valerie Ambrose
- ✠ Baby George
- ✠ Marynol Santos Mariano
- ✠ 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.*