



## MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH

58 EDGAR STREET or PO BOX 18 MACQUARIE FIELDS NSW 2564

Phone: 02 9605 6169

Email: [mfields@dow.org.au](mailto:mfields@dow.org.au)

Website : [mmotc.org.au](http://mmotc.org.au)

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: TO BE A LIGHT UNTO THE WORLD**

Parish Priest: Fr. Bosco Sangbok Son 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.

### THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

30th & 31st December 2023

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

##### Entrance Antiphon

The Shepherds went in haste,  
And found Mary and Joseph and the Infant  
lying in a manger.

##### FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis.  
(15:1-6; 21: 1-3)  
*(Your own son shall be your heir)*

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'.

'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir'. And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood'. Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

The Word of the Lord.

##### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 104)

**All:** The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

**Reader:** Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. O sing to him, sing his praise; tell all his wonderful works!

**All:** The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

**Reader:** Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. Consider the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

**All:** The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

**Reader:** Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgments he spoke. O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose.

**All:** The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

**Reader:** He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac.

**All:** The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

# Parish News and Happenings

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

(11: 8, 11-12, 17-19)

*(The faith of Abraham, Sarah and Isaac).*

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son.

**Alleluia!**

GOSPEL:

Luke (2:22-40)

*(The child grew to maturity and he was filled with wisdom).*

## Communion Antiphon

Our God has appeared on the earth,  
and lived among us.

**READINGS FOR THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**  
**Year B : 6th & 7th January 2024**  
**Is 60:1-6 ; Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6 ; Mt 2:1-12**

## Thank you Note:

*As we celebrate the joyous season of Christmas & welcome the New year, I am filled with immense gratitude for the vibrant and faith-filled community that our parish has become, thanks to the dedicated efforts of so many individuals.*

*I extend my heartfelt thanks to our Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Council, Staff, Hospitality, Liturgy, Events, Flower arrangers, Outreach, Banking, Ground Maintenance, Sacraments and Volunteers, including our Sacristan, Choirs, Musicians, Readers, Acolytes, Altar Servers, Ministers, Church cleaners, and all those involved in various ministries. Your time and talents have played a crucial role in shaping our parish into the spirited and compassionate community it is today.*

*I am also deeply thankful to those who have generously contributed, both financially and through voluntary work, throughout the year. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.*

*Thank you all for being an integral part of our parish family. May the coming year bring joy, fulfillment, and continued blessings to each of you.*

**Fr. Bosco**

*Happy  
New Year*

**BAPTISMS are open.**

**For Baptism Preparation** please contact **Maria D'souza** through email : **[maria197114@gmail.com](mailto:maria197114@gmail.com)** or **Contact the parish office.**

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

# Parish News and Happenings

## Dates for your Diary

**December 31:** Sunday- End of year  
Thanksgiving with Adoration at  
6:30pm followed by mass

**January 1 2024:** Monday- New Year's mass  
at 9:00am

## **Parish Pastoral Council 2023 - 2025**

**27th January 2024 Saturday : 10am - 2pm**  
Parish Council Formation session

**28th January 2024; 10am Mass :**Commissioning  
Mass for new Parish Pastoral Council

## Christmas Donations

Thank you for your wonderful support for our Parish:

Dawn Masses Donation : \$8,346.25  
My Gift to Baby Jesus Donation : \$1,425  
Christmas Donation: \$510.00

Thank you all for your generosity. God Bless!

## **The WORD in other words - Bible Diary 2024**

This book contains daily scripture readings and reflections written by the priests, brothers and sisters of the congregations founded by St. Arnold Janssen (the SVD and SSpS) is now available for sale. **The cost is \$25.00 /each.**

For enquiries : please contact Tina Pineda on  
0408 785 626 or Lina De Santis on 0418 264 696

## **Reflection: *The Meaning of Home***

Every year there is an exhibition in Dublin called 'The Ideal Homes Exhibition'. But it's not so much about homes as about the places in which people live, and the furnishings of those places. It should really be called "The ideal houses exhibition".

There is a big difference between a house and a home. A house is where people keep their furniture and belongings. A home is where people live together. Sadly, it seems that some homes are meant more for the security and convenience of the furniture than for the people who live in them.

Some homes are so neat and tidy that they are not fit to be lived in - if you know what I mean.

They are more like museums than homes. On the other hand, other homes remind you of a well-thumbed book. It's obvious that people live in them, people who know how to relax and to enjoy themselves.

To have a home is not just to have a house. It is to have a set of familiar surroundings, habits, routines and neighbours. It is to have roots. It is to have a clear and unmistakable identity. It is to have a set of close ties with people who accept us for what we are, and who give us a sense of belonging. These are the things that constitute that unique feeling - the feeling of being at home.

People put a lot of effort and money into building a good house. And one can understand why. But perhaps there is a danger of neglecting the more important thing - building a home, that is, a little community of love.

The atmosphere in the home is far more important than the quality and quantity of the furnishings. The atmosphere is determined by the quality of the relationships.

Jesus too needed a home in which to grow up. Mary and Joseph provided that home for him in Nazareth. By their love for him and for one another, Mary and Joseph created the atmosphere in which he thrived. But the Holy Family didn't have an easy life, as the Gospel shows us. During the early years they suffered the fate of homeless refugees.

The family is very fragile in our times. It is under many stresses and difficulties. Yet, in spite of everything, many parents make enormous sacrifices for their children. All such parents can draw inspiration from the example of Mary and Joseph.

Ideally home is the place to which we can always return, and be sure of a welcome. It is a place where we taste on earth the joy and peace of the place God has for us in heaven. Ideally there is no place like home. But there is no such place as an ideal home.

**New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies**

# Parish News and Happenings

## Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

**Birthday :** Jaiden Valencia / Urima Faamausili  
Ailua / Mary Novena / Sydney Hawkin Neri  
Gutierrez / Noeline Bartlet

Thanksgiving : Louis & Ethan Ratinon / Padayon &  
Sabado Family / Aisaach, Alijah, Anishka /  
Threlly Cabacungan

**Wedding Anniversary :** Bert & Leni Valencia/  
Sharon & Calvin Ambrose

Special Intentions: Arthur John Drayne /  
Kimberly Drayne /

[www.KenneallysFunerals.com.au](http://www.KenneallysFunerals.com.au)

*Kenneally's  
Funerals*

- ✓ Catholic family owned and operated
  - ✓ After funeral bereavement support available
  - ✓ Arrangements made at our Campbelltown office  
or in the comfort of your own home
- Call our caring staff on 4620 8822**

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



- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| * Dr Lydia de Jesus    | * Eva Silang          |
| * Dr Joycelyn de Jesus | * Carole Dimayuga     |
| * Leslie Reich         | * Selda Dimayuga      |
| * Noli Leyesa          | * Nancie              |
| * Jaypee Masangkay     | * Jun & Charo Doctors |
| * Aida Dayao           | * Fr. David Catterall |
| * Victor Padura        | * TJ del Rio          |
| * Nelia Ambat          | * Alan Raisbeck       |
| * Vivian Martin        | * Catherine Nguyen    |
| * Anthony Lee Mariano  | * Nathan Biag         |
| * Jane Peralta         | * Monique             |
| * Steve Ducas & family | * Brigitte & Lysiane  |
| * Alphonsus Lieu Bui   | * Danny Titmarsh      |
| * Christine Dennis     | * Resty Perez         |
| * Sybil Le Miere       |                       |

**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.*

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



- |                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| ✠ Marta Rudmann               | ✠ Frenk Brticevic |
| ✠ Presentacion Pineda         | ✠ Danica Vukovic  |
| ✠ Pierre Rambert              | ✠ Marta Rudmann   |
| ✠ Luke Son Anh Tran           | ✠ George Helene   |
| ✠ Jennifer Nagarajan          | ✠ Jean Sullivan   |
| ✠ Amparo Mision               | ✠ Carolina Sabado |
| ✠ Lorenza & Nateliano Padayon | ✠ Yvonne Dagorne  |
| ✠ Bienvenido Angeles Jr.      | ✠ Susan Greham    |
| ✠ Cesar & Maria Samonte       | ✠ John Milazzo    |
| ✠ Steven Trevascus            |                   |
| ✠ Fr Leslie Oliver Mathias    |                   |
| ✠ Clotilde Angela Francesco   |                   |
| ✠ Kate Delaney & Maria        |                   |
| ✠ All souls in Purgatory      |                   |



## 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.*