



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

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.

1st Sunday of Lent - Year B

17th & 18th February 2024

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis (9:8-15)

(I will recall the covenant between myself and you...the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh).

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 24)

All: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Reader: Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour.

All: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Reader: Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord.

All: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Reader: The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor.

All: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of Peter (3:18-22)

(The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now).

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was

Parish News and Happenings

still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angles of the Dominations and Powers his subjects.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL: (Mark 1:12-15)

(He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him).

Communion Antiphon

**One does not live by bread alone,
But by every word that comes forth
from the mouth of God.**

**Readings for the 2nd Sunday of Lent
Year B : 24th & 25th Feb 2024
Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31-34;
Mk 9:2-10**

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

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday : 5:15pm – 5:45pm

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

Lenten Reflection : Every Sundays during Lent at 2.30pm in the Logos Centre.

Sunday School : Every Sundays during 10am Mass in the Logos Centre. (during the School Term)

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 Saturdays at 11:30am

Pieta - Lenten Program 2024 :

PIETÀ is an exquisite 80-page (full-color book) containing short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday) is available for sale in the Church Foyer. Please see Lina for your copy Or visit parish office (during parish office hours).

Price : \$5/book

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent at 7pm in the Church

Lenten Reflection

Lenten reflection will start on February 18, Sunday at 2:30 pm up to March 24. All are welcome to join.

Bible study resumes on April 14.

Upcoming Meeting:

Combined Liturgy & Events Committee Meeting: **Tuesday, 20th February 2024 at 7pm** in the Logos Centre. All members are requested to attend.



This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. While from three different corners of the world and facing vastly different challenges, they are all united by one dream: to create a better world *for all future generations*.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Parish News and Happenings

Parish Cuppa Weekend

WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY will be holding the monthly Parish Weekend Cuppa on the weekend of **2nd & 3rd March** after weekend masses. You are welcome to bring something sweet or savoury to share. Gold Coin donation appreciated.

2024 Rite of Election

The Rite of Election for 2024 will occur this Sunday 18 February 2024 at **St Francis Xavier's Cathedral at 2pm**. Bishop Brian Mascord will celebrate the Rite of Election for all the Catechumens in our Diocese. Our Parish has 7 catechumens, **David Ashley, Matticha Phrueksaritanon, Praphon Sintuchai, Paulo Fonoti, Feng Feng, Zhining Suo, Lin Yin** who will be presented to the Bishop and community. Please pray for them and support them with our prayers.

Liturgy Workshops:

Holy Family parish Ingleburn will be preparing two liturgy workshops in coming weeks. The main speaker will be Sr Monica Barlow from the Diocese of Wollongong.

- Saturday 24 February 2024 at 9.30 - 11.30am : **Follow up workshop/training** for those who participated in the 2023 liturgy workshops, (lectors, acolytes and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion)
- Saturday, 16 March 2024 at 9.30 - 11.30 AM : Ministry to the sick and homebound - workshop/training.

To register:

<https://www.hfi.org.au/events/follow-up-liturgy-workshop-with-sr-monica-24-february-2024/>

Men's Rosary Group – an Invitation to all Men

Men from the Parish of Rosemeadow invite other men from around the Diocese to join with them on the last Tuesday of the Month to pray the Rosary, commencing at 7pm in Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Rosemeadow. Mass is celebrated at 6.30pm on Tuesday evenings and you are welcome to also attend this prior to the Rosary if you wish. For more information, please contact David at djbarrett85@gmail.com or phone: 0410 487 630.

Reflection : Reforming one's life.

Once a king was walking through the streets of the capital city when he came upon a beggar, who immediately asked him for money. The king didn't give him any money. Instead he invited him to visit him in his palace. The beggar took up the king's offer.

On the appointed day he made his way to the royal palace, and was duly ushered into the king's presence. However, as he came into the king's presence, he became acutely conscious of his rags and felt ashamed of them. They were an eloquent symbol of the wretchedness of his life.

The king, an exceptionally kind man, received him warmly, took pity on him, and among other things gave him a new suit of clothes. However, a few days later the beggar was back begging on the street dressed in his old rags.

Why did he give up the new suit? Because he knew that to wear it would mean that he would have to live a new life. It would mean giving up the life of a beggar. This he was not prepared to do. It wasn't that the new life didn't appeal to him. It did. It was just that he knew that a change of life would be slow, painful and uncertain. In other words, he was too steeped in habit to change.

Habit plays a big part in our lives. It is said that we live the second half of our lives according to the habits acquired during the first half. That will bring comfort to those who have formed good habits. But it's quite a terrifying prospect for those who have formed bad habits.

Lent touches something in us all. The sight of Jesus fasting and praying in the desert moves us. But it also forces us to look at our lives. It challenges us to improve ourselves. But often our efforts at renewal do not go deep enough. If we want a new garment, we must cast aside the old one. The wearing of a new garment will involve a new way of living.

If we wish to change the outer aspects of our lives we must first change the inner attitudes of our minds. Change requires the substituting of new habits for old ones. It calls us to command ourselves and make ourselves do what needs to be done. The change of heart to which Lent calls us can be accomplished most of all through the power of prayer.

Even though repentance and prayer are always appropriate, they are especially appropriate during Lent. There is such a thing as a moment of grace. Lent is a great window of opportunity. It is the Church's 'holy spring'. During it, the catechumens were prepared for baptism, for their rebirth in Christ. It was like springtime. As we progress towards Easter.

What do we have to do? In a nutshell: turn from power to love; be kind; act justly, and walk humbly with God. May the Lord help us to let go of the rags of sin, so that he may clothe us in newness of life.

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

Parish News and Happenings

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Kimberly Drayne

Thanksgiving : Tess Valesini / Vu Family / Catherine & Pierre Yves

✠ **Special Intentions :** Doreen / Georgina Ace / Dominic / Helen Brticevic

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



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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| * Dr Lydia de Jesus | * Eva Silang |
| * Dr Joycelyn de Jesus | * Carole Dimayuga |
| * Leslie Reica | * Selda Dimayuga |
| * Noli Leyesa | * Nancie |
| * Jaypee Masangkay | * Mason Dulalia |
| * Aida Dayao | * Jun & Charo Doctors |
| * Victor Padura | * TJ del Rio |
| * Nelia Ambat | * Catherine Nguyen |
| * Vivian Martin | * Danny Titmarsh |
| * Sybil Le Miere | * Resty Perez |
| * Mik Jones | * Susan Biag |
| * Lucinda Rose | * Annie Beardley |
| * Amy Wendon | * Tony Yongching |
| * Christine | * Cysiane |
| * Marie-ange Suggun | * Feliciana Matildo |
| * Maria Vu | |

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



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|---|---------------------|
| ✠ Malili I. Haukula | ✠ Bill Ryan |
| ✠ Ong Agus Murdono | ✠ Rupert Toohey |
| ✠ John Fernandez | ✠ Johnny Domingo |
| ✠ Joseph Vu | ✠ Bambi Graham |
| ✠ Maria Nguyen | ✠ Joe Colago |
| ✠ Dragica Lovic | ✠ Cesar De Leon |
| ✠ Virgilio Argosino | ✠ Tony Fitzpatrick |
| ✠ Dorothy Willmott | ✠ Milagros Balagtas |
| ✠ Lorenza & Nateliano Padayon | ✠ Bertha Barte |
| ✠ Carolina Sabado | ✠ Dorothy Morris |
| ✠ Artemio Sr. Sabado | ✠ Peter Lisondra |
| ✠ Genaro Mabilangan | ✠ Fedrico Contreras |
| ✠ Benjamin Domingo | ✠ Marilon Cabanilla |
| ✠ Noel John Carson | ✠ Ron Brudenell |
| ✠ Antonio, Epifanio, Doroteo, Guadalupe | ✠ Helen S |
| ✠ Joseph Domingo | ✠ Pelagia Piasecki |
| ✠ Elizabeth Bastiampillai | ✠ Florence D'Cruze |
| ✠ Alfonso Aranita Sr. | ✠ Patrick D'Cruze |
| ✠ Bernard John Jordan | ✠ Roy Ley |
| ✠ All souls in Purgatory | ✠ Patrick Pinto |
| | ✠ John Gregory |

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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

Lenten Prayer :

God of all peoples and nations,
As you accompany us on our
Lenten journey,
May our fasting strengthen our
commitment to live in solidarity,
Our almsgiving be an act of justice, and
Our prayers anchor us in love and compassion.
Through living simply and loving generously,
May we care for our global family
and our common home, as we
"Aspire not to have more, but to be more".*
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

*Saint Oscar Romero

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.*