



## 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.

### *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

*Year B - 20th & 21st April 2024*

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

##### Entrance Antiphon

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;  
by the word of the Lord the heavens were  
made, alleluia.

##### FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (4:8-12)

*(This is the only name by which we can be saved).*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

The Word of the Lord.

##### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 117)

**All: The stone rejected by the builders  
has become the cornerstone.**

**Reader:** Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men: it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

**All: The stone rejected by the builders  
has become the cornerstone.**

**Reader:** I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

**All: The stone rejected by the builders  
has become the cornerstone.**

**Reader:** Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end.

**All: The stone rejected by the builders  
has become the cornerstone.**

##### SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of John (3:1-2)

*(We shall see God as he is).*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

The Word of the Lord.

# Parish News and Happenings

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### **Alleluia, Alleluia!**

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

### **Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL:** John (10:11-18)

*(The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep).*

## Communion Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

**READINGS FOR 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
YEAR B : 27th & 28th April 2024  
Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8**

**BAPTISMS are open. Every 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the Month.**

**For Baptism Preparation** please contact **Maria D'souza** through email : [maria197114@gmail.com](mailto:maria197114@gmail.com) **OR** **contact the Parish Office.**

## 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

**Bible Study :** Fortnightly on Sundays at 2.30pm in the Logos Centre. (Resumes on Sunday 5th May 2024)

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

## Sacrament of Confirmation :2024

### **Requirements for the Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation :**

- Baptized in the Catholic Church
- Received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Holy Communion
- In year 6 or above
- Attend all preparatory classes

Parents Meeting : **Tuesday 23rd April at 7pm**  
(Meeting with parent/guardian and candidate)

Enrolments are open now. (Application Forms are available in the Church Foyer)

Any queries, please contact the parish office.

## Sunday School Notice:

Sunday school is now on break until the return of school term - Sunday 5th of May.

## Celebrating New Catholics

A celebration of those who have become Catholics in the last 12 months will occur on Sunday, 19 May 2024 with Evening Prayer at 3 pm in St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Harbour Street, Wollongong, to be followed by light refreshments.

New Catholics and their families and their God-parents are invited to take part in this celebration. Bishop Brian looks forward to celebrating with our new Catholics.



**EVERYONE INVITED....**

**Mary Mother of The Church  
Annual Dinner Dance 2024**

**St John the Evangelist Catholic Parish  
Campbelltown Hall  
On Saturday 25th May 2024 at 6:30 pm**  
Music, Dance, Door Prizes and Buffet Dinner  
*Tickets are available for sale.*

*Please see Lina or Contact the Parish Office*

*Price : \$45 /ticket*

*Dress Code : Smart Casual*

**Vigil Mass on 25th May is at 5:00pm**

# Parish News and Happenings

## **Ageing with Confidence**

**CatholicCare's Ageing with Confidence forum** is returning to Campbelltown on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May at Campbelltown Catholic Club** (20/22 Camden Road, Campbelltown) **at 9am-1pm.**

This half-day information session provides seniors with practical information on the aged care system and healthy ageing, with presentations from CatholicCare staff, Seniors Rights Services NSW and NSW Fire & Rescue Service. Places are limited. To register, call 02 4227 1122 or visit [www.catholiccare.dow.org.au/events](http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au/events)

## **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**

This Sunday is the Annual "World Day of Prayer for Vocations". "Vocation" means "calling", beginning with our baptismal calling to a life of loving service, lived out in single life or through public commitments of Marriage, Consecrated Life or Ordained Ministry (Priests and Deacons).

On this day we especially pray for more young people to be open to the vocations of Ordained Ministry and Consecrated Life. In the words of Pope Francis in his Message for this day: "More than anyone else, Jesus respects our freedom. He does not impose, but proposes. Make room for him and you will find the way to happiness by following him"

For young Catholics discerning their vocation there are many opportunities available, including connecting with young adult groups and events, gathering with Seminararians or Religious, or personal chats with the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez. To find out more go to [vocations.dow.org.au](http://vocations.dow.org.au) or email [vocations@dow.org.au](mailto:vocations@dow.org.au).



**Women Alive Retreat:** Thank you for your presence at the Women Alive Retreat on Saturday, 13th April. The Core Team sincerely appreciates the support received from the parish. The retreat was richly blessed. **Maria D'souza**

## **Reflection :**

### **A sense of vocation**

Today's Gospel is about caring or not caring. The hireling doesn't know or care about the sheep. The good shepherd knows his sheep, and cares about them the point that he is willing to die to defend them. Caring is costly and risky. Carers are very special people.

Today there is a lot of concern about care-giver burnout, and rightly so. However, burn-out is not always the result of too much work. It is more likely to result from a sense of futility. People can work long hours as long as they feel that their work is making a difference. But if they feel that their efforts are being wasted, that no matter how long and hard they work, it won't make any difference, then they will experience a feeling of weariness and exhaustion.

The thing to consider is not so much whether the work is difficult in itself, but whether it has a purpose. What really saps one's energy is giving oneself purposelessly. Purposeful giving is not as apt to deplete one's energy.

To have a work which absorbs one gives a person tremendous strength and energy. Alexander Solzhenitsyn spent several years in a Siberian labour camp. The thing which most helped him to survive was his writing. In his monumental work, *The Gulag Archipelago*, he says:

Sometimes in a sullen work party with machine gunners barking around me, lines and images crowded in so urgently that I felt myself borne through the air, overleaping the column in my hurry to reach the work compound and find a corner to write. At such moments I was both free and happy. I went on writing. In winter the warming-up shack, in spring and summer on the scaffolding at the building site; in the interval between two barrowloads of mortar I would put my bit of paper on the bricks and write down with a pencil stub the verses which had rushed into my head while I was slapping on the last hodful. I was searched, and counted, and herded over the steppe. I sat in the mess hall over the ritual gruel sometimes not even noticing its taste, deaf to those around me - feeling my way about my verses and trimming them to fit like bricks in a wall.

To have a work which absorbs one is a great blessing. But to have a sense of vocation is an even greater blessing. In fact, it is one of the greatest blessings in life. Jesus had it to a degree we will never equal. On one occasion he said to his apostles, 'I have a food of which you know nothing. My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work' And we see it even more clearly in today's Gospel where he talks about himself as the good shepherd.

Unlike the hireling, the good shepherd loves his work. To him shepherding is a vocation. It doesn't mean that his life is easier than that of the hireling. In fact, his life is more difficult because he works harder and cares more about the sheep than the hireling does. But his life is more satisfying. His work nourishes him.

Love is a marvellous source of strength and energy. Love makes a person brave. Where genuine love is present no sacrifice is too great. Love conquers all difficulties. If we love, and the energy will be given to us.

Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies

# Parish News and Happenings

## Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

**Birthday :** Monique Serret

**Thanksgiving :** Luka & Dominica / Sandra Jacob & Jonathan Rene / Tina Pineda and Family / Rochecouste Family /

**Special Intentions:** Chris Rio

**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     | * Mason Dulalia       |
| * Aida Dayao           | * Jun & Charo Doctors |
| * Victor Padura        | * TJ del Rio          |
| * Nelia Ambat          | * Catherine Nguyen    |
| * Vivian Martin        | * Resty Perez         |
| * Lucinda Rose         | * Susan Biag          |
| * Christine            | * Annie Beardley      |
| * Marie-ange Suggun    | * Cysiane             |
| * Maria Vu             | * Feliciana Matildo   |
| * Maria D'Souza        | * Thushara            |
| * Mick Jones           | * Jake Valte          |
| * Marlene Yongching    | * Ricardo Bernardo    |
| * David Hitchcock      | * Nelson Bernardo     |
| * Marina               | * Teresa Tiu          |
| * Sue Aston            |                       |

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



- ✠ Joanne Mahoney
- ✠ Jelena Vukovic
- ✠ Nestora, Epifanio, Antonio, Doroteo, Guadalupe, Corazon
- ✠ Maria Kuroczka
- ✠ Romao D'mello
- ✠ Guadalupe Cabacungan
- ✠ Peter Alfonso
- ✠ Sheila Gunnion
- ✠ Serafine De Leon
- ✠ Leonie Dagonne
- ✠ Feliza Dacutanan
- ✠ Guy Autard
- ✠ Ramon Robinson
- ✠ Bernabe Balagtaz
- ✠ Rose Marie Maher
- ✠ Deceased members of :
  - Robinson & Gaynor families
  - Vu & Dinh Families
- ✠ All souls in Purgatory



[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**

**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.*