



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

Website : 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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Year B - 27th & 28th April 2024

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (9:26-31)

(He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey).

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 21)

All: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Reader: My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever!

All: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Reader: All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him. They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

All: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Reader: And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to people yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.'

All: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of John (3:18-24)

(His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another).

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in

Parish News and Happenings

his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John (15:1-8)

(All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit).

Communion Antiphon

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

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)

**READINGS FOR 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
YEAR B : 4th & 5th May 2024
Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10;
Jn 15:9-17**

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

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

Sacrament of Confirmation :2024

Enrolments Closed now.

Lessons : 5 Lessons every Sunday at 11.30am starting from 28th April 2024

Reconciliation: Friday 14th of June - 5:00pm

Confirmation Day: Saturday 15th of June

Parish Cuppa Weekend

WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY will be holding the monthly Parish Weekend Cuppa on the weekend of **4th & 5th May** after weekend masses. You are welcome to bring something sweet or savoury to share. Gold Coin donation appreciated.



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

Drinks : BYO

NOTE: You are requested to settle the money and return the books to Lina ASAP so that we know the exact numbers of attendees.

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

Parish News and Happenings

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.

Altar Servers

Our parish is currently considering the reactivation of the altar server ministry. There is no greater honour than to serve at the altar during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Altar servers who assist at Mass on all Sundays/Easter/Christmas.

Please note that altar servers must be 8 years of age or older and must have made their first Holy Communion.

If you have children who are interested in becoming altar servers, please fill out the "Expression of Interest" sheet available in the Church Foyer or contact the parish office.

Sunday School Notice:

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

Parish Feast Day : Monday 20th May, following the great feast of Pentecost, we celebrate the Feast day of Mary Mother of the church. Mass will be at the normal time of 9am on the day.

However, we will have a special celebration with all our parishioners on the weekend of **18th / 19th May (Pentecost Sunday) after all the masses**. We are asking for volunteers to assist on the day, sign-up sheets are at the Foyer. Thank You!

Reflection : **The vine and the branches**

Christ wrote no books. He left no building or monuments behind. Yet he did something far greater and more necessary, though less ostentatious he built a community. That was his 'monument'.

He said to his apostles, 'I a the vine, you are the branches.' This was the image he used in talking about the community he had founded. It is a

simple but profound illustration of unity, closeness and interdependence.

In spring the branches of the vine teem with life in the form of leaves and blossoms. In autumn they are loaded with grapes. But they have this life, and are able to produce this fruit, only because they are connected to the vine. Cut off from the vine, they would not only become barren, but quickly wither and die. Just as the branches need the vine, so we need Christ. Separated from him, we have no life and are unable to bear fruit.

But the vine also needs the branches - it is the branches that produce the fruit. Which means that Christ also needs us. We are his branches. Vine and branches need each other. Together they form a unity. From this we can see how great is the trust he has placed in us. We may feel inadequate. But we must remember that the vine is sturdy and full of life.

Christ depends on us to produce fruit in the world. There is a big difference between successfulness and Fruitfulness. Success comes from strength, control and respectability. Success brings rewards and some times fame as well. Fruitfulness, however, often comes from weakness and vulnerability, and frequently goes unrecognized and unrewarded.

Christ didn't ask us to be successful, but to be fruitful. Each of us has some gift. By developing, using and sharing that gift with others, we become fruitful. The world is waiting for fruit. What is important is to love. God will make our love fruitful, whether we see that fruitfulness or not.

During the winter months the branches are pruned. Pruning is a painful process for a fruit tree. The pruner rids it of suckers and excess shoots which use up a lot of energy but produce no fruit. The aim of this surgery is not to inflict pain, but to help the tree to produce more and better fruit.

We, the branches of the True Vine, need some pruning too. There is much that is useless and perhaps harmful in our lives, which saps our energy, and diminishes our spiritual fruitfulness. If Christ prunes us through trials it is only to make us more fruitful. Pruned by suffering, a person produces the fruit of understanding and compassion.

Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies

Parish News and Happenings

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Thanksgiving : Wedding of Danica Pineda and Ugur Lacin on the 28th April 2024 / Angelina Smith / Bakulic Family
Special Intentions: Tiffany Nicole Rivela

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 Reich | * Selda Dimayuga |
| * Jaypee Masangkay | * Nancie |
| * Aida Dayao | * Mason Dulalia |
| * Victor Padura | * Jun & Charo Doctors |
| * Nelia Ambat | * TJ del Rio |
| * Vivian Martin | * Catherine Nguyen |
| * Lucinda Rose | * Resty Perez |
| * Christine | * Susan Biag |
| * Marie-ange Suggun | * Annie Beardley |
| * Maria Vu | * Cysiane |
| * Mick Jones | * Feliciano Matildo |
| * Marlene Yongching | * Jake Valte |
| * David Hitchcock | * Teresa Tiu |
| * Marina | * Andrea Tuazon |
| * Sue Aston | * Baby Isabelle |
| * Vlado Kutle | * Carla Geronimo |
| * Wally Skoczylas | |

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



- ✠ Jennifer Nagarajan
- ✠ Bala
- ✠ Jelena Vukovic
- ✠ Elsa del Rosario-Abanales
- ✠ Jose T. Kuttikattu
- ✠ Rufino Artuz Jr
- ✠ Dod Motha
- ✠ Antoneo, Doroteo, Epifanio, Guadalupe, Corazon
- ✠ Jose & Elisa Arreola
- ✠ Rose Marie Maher
- ✠ Colin Waldon
- ✠ Mannuel Crescini Sr
- ✠ Michael McManus
- ✠ Elizabeth Boson
- ✠ Angela Marcelo
- ✠ Domingo Asuncion
- ✠ All souls in Purgatory



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- 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.*