



## 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.

## 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year - B - 24th & 25th August

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### Entrance Antiphon

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

#### FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Joshua (24:1-2, 15-18)

*(We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God).*

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

The Word of the Lord.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 33)

**All: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

**Reader:** I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad.

**All: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

**Reader:** The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal.

**All: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

**Reader:** They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

**All: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

**Reader:** Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him. He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken.

**All: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

**Reader:** Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

**All: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

# Parish News and Happenings

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians  
(5:21-32)  
*(This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ  
and the Church).*

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loves the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body - and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

The Word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life.

**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL:** John (6:60-69)

(My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink).

## 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

## Communion Antiphon

**The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.**

## **RCIA Program**

We are inviting those adults who might like to discern becoming a catholic to take part in our RCIA program, which will begin in September 2024 and go through to the Easter 2025. If you, or someone you know, would like to find out more about RCIA, please contact the parish office.

## **Congratulation to Alan & Margaret Raisbeck on their Golden Wedding Anniversary**

*Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary to Alan & Margaret who celebrated their 50th Anniversary on Saturday 24th August. Mary mother of the Church parish family sends you their love and best wishes for many more happy years together.*



**God Bless you always!**

## **Parish Multicultural Day Celebration**

Join us for a vibrant celebration of our diverse community on **Sunday, September 8, 2024**, following the 9:00 AM Mass, which will be the only Mass of the day.

### **Ways to Participate:**

- **Donate Boxed Items:** Contribute boxed items for our white elephant stall.
- **Organize a Food Stall:** Showcase flavors from your country by setting up a food stall. Contact us to reserve your stall space.
- **Solo or Group Performance:** Share your talents with the community through a cultural performance. Register your act in advance.
- **Invite Friends and Family:** Extend the celebration by inviting loved ones to join us for this special day.
- **Wear a Costume:** Embrace your heritage by dressing in traditional attire from your country.
- **Help to clean up.**

For participation inquiries, please reach out to the Parish Office or contact Eric D'Silva at 0434 869 426.

# Parish News and Happenings

## Formation Pathway for Come & See, Go & Make

These sessions are designed for clergy and Parish pastoral councils/leadership teams but, open to all members of our parish community. For those looking to actively implement Bishop Brian's vision for parishes, this is an excellent opportunity.

- Introduction to "Come & See, Go & Make" (CSGM) & Facilitating CSGM Worksheet Activities (Double-event)
- Exploring the vision for parishes, why it matters, and how we can have hope for the future & understanding the parish approach to the Worksheet Activities.

**Campbelltown – Monday 2 September,  
7-9:30pm**

Wollongong (& Zoom) – Wednesday 4 September,  
7-9:30pm

Registrations for the first three events are now open:

September – <http://dow.sh/sept2024>

October – <http://dow.sh/oct2024>

November – <http://dow.sh/nov2024>

## MULTICULTURAL DAY RAFFLE

**Draw : 8th September 2024**

All proceedings will go towards parish projects.

**Please return the sold books and the money to Lina as soon as possible.**

## Baptism



Through the waters of Baptism,  
**Marina Patricia Skoczylas**

Enters into the life of God the Father,  
Son, and Holy Spirit.

## **Social Justice Sunday - 25 August 2024**

We are invited to "reflect on what we, as Christians, are called to do in a world wracked by war and violence. Truth is often the first casualty in war. The Gospel calls us to embrace the fundamental truth that every person on earth has a God-given dignity which cannot be taken away or ignored. From this truth flows the realisation that there is no 'us' or 'them'. Everyone on earth, whatever our race or creed or status, is a sister, a brother. We are all children of God. Keeping this truth before us is the key to overcoming violence and conflict. Armed not with guns and missiles, but with love for our sisters and brothers, we are invited to speak of peace and to take action to promote peace in a violent world. On this Social Justice Sunday, let us re-commit ourselves to cultivating a culture of peace by following Jesus who is the way, the truth and the life and the Prince of Peace."

## **REFLECTION:**

## **Freedom to choose**

In recent years we have seen the appearance of a large number of cults. One of the most disturbing things about them is the hold they get on those who join them. The leaders are invariably people who have a lust to control other people. And the members are often insecure and fragile people, easy prey for such leaders.

There is a big difference between Christ's approach and that of the false messiahs. In the cults we have the personal glorification of the leader. Christ never sought glory for himself. He referred everything to his heavenly Father, whose will he came to do. He made himself the servant of all. The false messiahs usually promise their followers an earthly paradise in some shape or form. It becomes a form of inducement. Christ made no such promise to his followers. In fact, quite the contrary. He told them that they would suffer persecution if they followed him. True, he did promise eternal life-but only to those prepared to do, not his will, but the will of the Father.

When the cult leaders see that the ship is sinking, they usually try to ensure that the crew goes down with it. Christ, the Good Shepherd, laid down his life to save the lives of his sheep.

Through a combination of inducements and indoctrination, recruits to the cults become little better than flies caught in a spider's web. Their freedom is almost completely taken away. But freedom is the greatest thing we have. The only thing that has moral value and that helps us to grow is what is done freely. Jesus forced no one to follow him. We have a splendid example of this in today's Gospel.

The cross was already beginning to cast its shadow over him. His disciples were faced with a decision-to stay with him or to leave him. Some stayed with him as long as his career was on the way up, but at the first shadow of the cross they abandoned him. Others had come to him to get something from him; when it came to suffering for him, and giving to others, they quit. Incredibly, even one of his twelve had already opted out, having made up his mind to betray him.

But a remnant stayed with Jesus. Peter spoke up for these. His decision to stay was based first of all on a personal loyalty to Jesus. Then to his teaching. Even though there are many things he didn't understand, he knew that Jesus had the words of eternal life.

If we follow Christ we will always be free. We are, not when we do whatever we please, but when we do what is right we are like an instrument that is being played as it was meant to be played.

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

# Parish News and Happenings

**Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:**

**Birthday :** Jennifer Kreltzhaim

**Thanksgiving :** Anishka, Alijah & Aisaach /

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



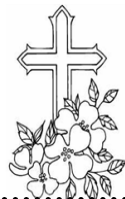
- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| * Dr Lydia de Jesus        | * Eva Silang          |
| * Dr Joycelyn de Jesus     | * Carole Dimayuga     |
| * Leslie Reich             | * Selda Dimayuga      |
| * Jaypee Masangkay         | * Nancie              |
| * Aida Dayao               | * Mason Dulalia       |
| * Nelia Ambat              | * Jun & Charo Doctors |
| * Vivian Martin            | * Catherine Nguyen    |
| * Lucinda Rose             | * Resty Perez         |
| * Maria Vu                 | * Susan Biag          |
| * Vlado Kutle              | * Lysiane             |
| * Luis Vincente Marcelo    | * Jake Valte          |
| * Carla Geronimo           | * Andrea Tuazon       |
| * Hania Stoklosa           | * Daniela Vladislavic |
| * Ricardo San Juan         | * Mabel Artuz         |
| * Alan & Margaret Raisbeck | * Monique Yongching   |
| * Aleyna Meryam Lacin      | * Jordan Joval        |
| * Mirella Autard-Catherine | * Rey Manoto          |
| * Mick Jones               | * Katarina Klindic    |
| * Lavina, Joseph & Lawry   | * Dominique Autard    |
| * Sue Aston                |                       |

**Funeral Notice :** Our beloved parishioner, **Mary Brennan**, who passed away peacefully on Saturday 17th August 2024. Her Funeral Mass will at Liverpool Cemetery, Reflection Chapel on Tuesday 27/08/2024 at 10:30am. We pray for her soul and offer our condolences to her family and friends. May she rest in peace.

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



- |                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| ✠ Maria Gloria Gonzales         | ✠ Mila Katon     |
| ✠ Ricardo Reyes Snr             | ✠ Mary Brennan   |
| ✠ Eloisa I Gutierrez            | ✠ Catherine      |
| ✠ Jhermy John Bosco Redoblado   | ✠ Carmel Thomas  |
| ✠ Mhila Mariano Carson          | ✠ Thi Phan Le    |
| ✠ Magdalena Torres              | ✠ Lelita de Leon |
| ✠ Serge Rochecouste             | ✠ Henry Monty    |
| ✠ Nena Desalit Mariano          |                  |
| ✠ Frank Rochecouste Sr.         |                  |
| ✠ Mary-Anne Kreltzhaim Delivera |                  |
| ✠ Elvera Kreltzhaim             |                  |
| ✠ Peter Van Hanh Tran           |                  |
| ✠ 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.*