

MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH 58 EDGAR STREET OF PO BOX 18 MACQUARIE FIELDS NSW 2564 Phone: 02 9605 6169 Email: <u>mfields@dow.org.au</u> 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.

# **1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAC C**

30th Nov & 1st December 2024 LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

# FIRST READING

# A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

(33:14-16) (I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David).

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called : The Lord-our-integrity.'

The Word of the Lord.

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

(Ps 24)

# All: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

**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: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
- **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: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
- **Reader:** His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will. The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; to them he reveals his covenant.

# All: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

# SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians (3:12-4:2)

# (When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness).

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

# **Parish News and Happenings**

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

# Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

# Alleluia!

<u>GOSPEL:</u>

Luke (21:25-28, 34-36)

(Your redemption is near at hand).

#### Communion Antiphon

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

READINGS FOR 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Year C : 7th & 8th Dec 2024 Baruch 5:1-9; Phil 1:3-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

**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.

# No Sunday School

No Sunday School this Sunday, **1st December 2024,** due to the unavailability of the Parish Hall.

# 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

**<u>Bible Study</u>**: Fortnightly on Sundays at 2.30pm in the Logos Centre.

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



# Christmas Carols

Join us for the Parish Carol singing on **Saturday, 14 December 2024** after 6:00pm vigil mass followed by sausage sizzle. All Choir members &

musicians, parishioners, children & Youth are cordially invited to share your talents at our carol singing. Thank you!

# Novena Dawn Masses

The traditional Dawn Masses in our Parish will commence on December 16th till the 24th December daily at 5am. Mass will be offered by different guest priests. If you wish to sponsor a mass with your intentions please contact tina Pineda on 0408 785 626. Shared breakfast will be served on the last day. A

plate will be much appreciated.

# Christmas Pageant:

Would your child/ren like to be part of our special Christmas Pageant? We're excited to bring the story of Christmas to life and warmly invite children aged 5–12 years to participate in this beautiful celebration during the **Family Mass on Christmas Eve at 7 PM**.

If your child is interested, please contact Star via SMS at **0417 697 979** or reach out to the Parish Office directly. Practices will be held on weekends. Let's join together to create a heartwarming and festive experience for our community.

# The WORD in other words - Bible Diary 2025

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

# **Church Cleaners Needed:**

A few of our dedicated church cleaners are stepping back due to health challenges, and we're reaching out for volunteers to join the 2025 Roster and help carry on their meaningful work. Cleaning is scheduled on Saturdays after the morning Mass. If you're able to assist, please contact Fr. Bosco or the parish office. Thank you for considering to serve in this important ministry.

# **Parish News and Happenings**

# Dates for your Diary

Monday December 9: Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass at 9am

Monday December 16: 2nd Rite of Reconciliation at 6pm

December 16-24 : Dawn Masses at 5am daily

**Tuesday December 24** : Christmas Family Mass at 7pm

**Tuesday December 24**: Midnight mass at 11:30pm

Wednesday December 25: Christmas Day Mass at 9am

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

Wednesday January 1, 2025: New Year's mass at 9am

#### Resumption of Communion from the Chalice in the Diocese of Wollongong

Bishop Brian has announced the lifting of the restriction on Communion from the chalice in the Diocese of Wollongong that was put in place during the Covid pandemic. This will take effect from the beginning of the upcoming Liturgical Year on Sunday 1 December 2024, the First Sunday of Advent.

However, In our parish, Communion from the Chalice will resume starting January 2025 but no one will be forced to receive from the Chalice.

# 2025 Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope

A Jubilee is a special year of grace and conversion, involving prayer, pilgrimage and sacramental repentance, held every 25 years, or during other years as called for by the Pope.

The theme for the 2025 Jubilee, chosen by Pope Francis, is "**Pilgrims of Hope**".

To prepare spiritually, the Bishop's Office has created a **Jubilee Prayer Card** for our Diocese. We encourage everyone to begin using these cards from the start of Advent.

Prayer cards are now available in the church foyer. Please take one home and join us in prayer as we journey together as Pilgrims of Hope.

#### **REFLECTION :**

Setting out again

This Sunday each year the Church invites us to embark on a great journey - the journey of the Liturgical Year.

When we start the liturgical year, we are setting out to follow in the footsteps of Christ. In the course of the year, the whole of his life and teaching will pass before us. We will re-visit all the mysteries of his time on earth: from his expectation (that is what Advent is about), to his birth, his life, death, resurrection, ascension into heaven, and his sending of the Holy Spirit.

In the course of the year we will relive his whole story. But we have heard the story many times. Hence, there is a danger that we may see it as old and stale. We must try and see it as new and present and alive. It's not like playing an old video. The celebration of each feast brings back the event in its original clarity and vitality, never allowing it to grow cold and lifeless or fade into oblivion.

Besides, we are not spectators but actors in all of this. The mysteries of Christ's life are represented in such a way that we are drawn into them, and become participants in them. That makes it more demanding, but more enriching and exciting too. God is not just a God of the past, but of the present and future.

Each year we ought to hear the Christ story better, understand it more deeply, and make it more our own. In hearing his story we ought to hear our own stories too. Our stories merge with his and are illuminated by it. His story enables us live our own story more fully and more joyfully.

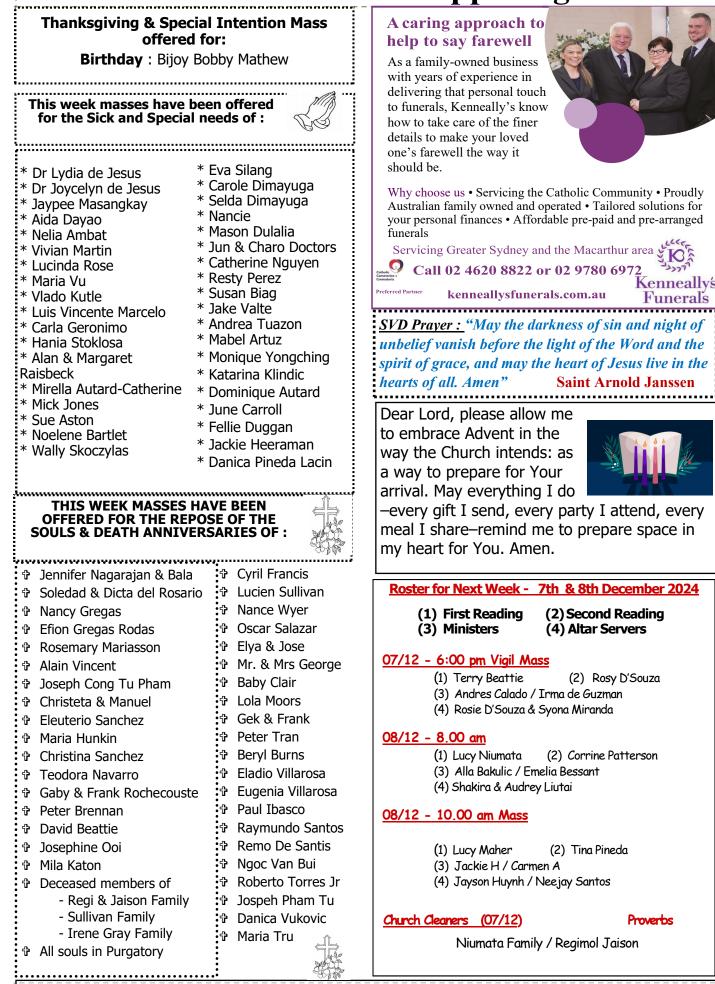
Even though we've made the journey before, we must try to embark on it today as if for the very first time. This Sunday is a God-given chance to make a new beginning in our following of Christ.

Today the readings concentrate on the second coming of Christ and the end of the world. The reason for this is that before we commit ourselves to a journey we need to know the goal of the journey. So on this day the liturgy directs our eyes towards the goal of our own journey and that of the world, namely, the second coming of Christ.

The early Christians believed that the Second Coming was near, and would be preceded by cosmic signs. We are not so sure about that. All the false prophets speak of the end as a time of gloom and doom. But Jesus spoke of it as a day of liberation and salvation for his followers. The world is not heading for catastrophe or mere ending. God has a goal for the world. That goal is the coming of God's Kingdom in all its glory. Therefore, we should not be afraid of the Lord's coming, but await it with confidence, vigilance and prayer.

#### New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies Flor McCarthy, SDB

# **Parish News and Happenings**



1st Sunday of Advent - Year C

30th Nov & 1st Dec 2024