



## 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.

### **2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C**

*7th & 8th December 2024*

### **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

#### **Entrance Antiphon**

**O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.**

#### **FIRST READING**

**A reading from the prophet Baruch (5:1-9)  
(Jerusalem - God will show your splendour).**

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The Word of the Lord.

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**(Ps 125)**

**All: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

**Reader:** When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs.

**All: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

**Reader:** The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

**All: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

**Reader:** Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.

**All: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

**Reader:** They go out, they go out, full of tears carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves.

**All: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

### **SECOND READING**

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Philippians (1:3-6, 8-11)**

*(Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ).*

# Parish News and Happenings

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognize what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: Luke (3:1-6)

*(All people shall see the salvation of God).*

## Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

## 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.

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

**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.**

**READINGS FOR 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**Year C : 14th & 15th December**  
**Zeph 3:14-18; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18**

## 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.

## 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

# 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

## **Sunday School Update:**

Our Sunday School program will conclude for the year on **next Sunday, 15th December 2024**. We will take a break over the holidays and resume in February 2025, aligning with the start of the school term.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our Sunday School teachers, parents, and children for their dedication and active participation throughout the year. Your support and involvement have been a blessing to our parish community.

**2nd rite of Reconciliation :** Will take place on Monday, December 16, at 6:00 pm in the Church. 3 priests will be available to hear confessions on this special evening. We encourage everyone to attend and take this opportunity to renew your commitment to the Lord as we prepare for Christmas.

## **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.**

## **REFLECTION : Prepare a way for the Lord**

There was a famous preacher who Sunday after Sunday faced a large, attentive congregation. One Sunday as he approached the pulpit the words of the Gospel were ringing in his ears: 'Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.' A thought suddenly struck him: It's not the Lord's paths that need to be straightened out but ours.

From the Pulpit he looked into the expectant faces of the men and women before him, and wondered what these words might mean for them. What were the things that needed to be straightened out in their lives? He realised that only they could answer that. Nevertheless, there was one area he felt qualified to speak about - their often twisted and tangled relationships.

He had known these people for a long time. They had come to him for help and guidance with their problems. He knew the petty spites that embittered their hearts, the animosities that set neighbour against neighbour, the silly quarrels that were kept alive, the jealousies and misunderstandings, the stubborn pride.

He decided to address a message to those bitter, unbending ones who refused to forgive and forget. He would impress on them that life was too short to harbour grudges and resentments. He would plead with them for mutual tolerance and understanding. He would speak to them from the heart as though he was speaking to each separately. So, he began: 'My dear brothers and sisters, let me repeat to you the words of the Gospel: "Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight." It's not the Lord's paths that need to be straightened but ours.

"We let misunderstandings run on from year to year, meaning to clear them up some day. We keep quarrels alive because we cannot quite make up our minds to sacrifice our pride and end them. We pass people sullenly, not speaking to them out of some silly spite, and yet knowing that it would fill us with shame and remorse if we heard that one of them were dead tomorrow.

'We let our neighbour starve, till we hear that he is dying of starvation; or our friend's heart ache for a word of appreciation, which we mean to give him some day. 'If only we could realise that "the time is short", how it would break the spell. How we would go instantly and do the thing which we might never have another chance to do. I repeat: It's not Lord's paths that need to be straightened out but ours. So, if there is some crooked attitude, or some crooked way of behaving, or some crooked relationship that needs to be straightened out, let us straighten it out. Then we will truly be preparing a way for the Lord to come to us.'

He ended his sermon there. His words are worth pondering on. How difficult things are for the one who walks a crooked path. But how easy things are for the one who walks the straight path—the path of truth, honesty and goodness. But to walk a straight path one needs strength, wisdom, and single-mindedness.

**New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies**

2nd Sunday of Advent - Year C

7th Nov & 8th Dec 2024

# Parish News and Happenings

## Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

**Birthday** : Andy Cruz / Alijah Neri / Andrea / Ayla Jade Manoto– Nave / Yves Heeraman

**Thanksgiving**: Lina De Santis / Danica Pineda / Carbero & Rivela Family / Alwyn Noronha / Trevor Noronha / Dilini & Saikershin

**Wedding Anniversary** : Jackie & Yves Heeraman  
Special Intentions : Ngoc Vu Le & Bao Chautram

## 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     |
| * Jaypee Masangkay         | * Selda Dimayuga      |
| * Aida Dayao               | * Nancie              |
| * Nelia Ambat              | * Mason Dulalia       |
| * Vivian Martin            | * Jun & Charo Doctors |
| * Lucinda Rose             | * Catherine Nguyen    |
| * Maria Vu                 | * Resty Perez         |
| * Vlado Kutle              | * Susan Biag          |
| * Luis Vincente Marcelo    | * Jake Valte          |
| * Carla Geronimo           | * Andrea Tuazon       |
| * Hania Stoklosa           | * Mabel Artuz         |
| * Alan & Margaret Raisbeck | * Monique Yongching   |
| * Mirella Autard-Catherine | * Katarina Klindic    |
| * Mick Jones               | * Dominique Autard    |
| * Sue Aston                | * June Carroll        |
| * Noelene Bartlet          | * Fellie Duggan       |
| * Wally Skoczylas          | * Jackie Heeraman     |
|                            | * Danica Pineda Lacin |

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



- |                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| ✠ Benjamin V Gutierrez    | ✠ Niven Tagnipis    |
| ✠ Melody D'Souza          | ✠ Gary Corke        |
| ✠ Herbert Kreltszheim Sr. | ✠ Benjamin,         |
| ✠ Angelito Santos         | ✠ Vincente,         |
| ✠ Emmanuel Bantug         | ✠ Emmanuel          |
| ✠ Victorino San Miguel    | ✠ Felizardo Berioso |
| ✠ Teolinda De Guzman      | ✠ Felicidad Berioso |
| ✠ Rodolfo de Guzman       | ✠ George Yongching  |
| ✠ Monica & Andrew Viegas  | ✠ Feliciano Matildo |
| ✠ Benjamena Janhson       | ✠ Franceso Milazzo  |
| ✠ Nicodimos Tagnipis      | ✠ Roberto Ranili    |
| ✠ Charlotte Sabellano     | ✠ Sonanita Ranili   |
| ✠ Dominador Navarro       | ✠ Aurilla Navarro   |
| ✠ All souls in Purgatory  |                     |



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**Kenneally's Funerals**

**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**

## An Advent Prayer



*God of light and hope, look upon us in love, and fill us with the Spirit of Jesus that we may love you and serve you in your kingdom. Protect us during this week and keep us watchful in prayer as we await the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## Roster for Next Week - 14th & 15th December 2024

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| (1) First Reading | (2) Second Reading |
| (3) Ministers     | (4) Altar Servers  |

### 14/12 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

- |                                   |                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| (1) Myron D'Souza                 | (2) Alisha Joseph |
| (3) Jisha Joseph / Maria D'Souza  |                   |
| (4) Rosie D'Souza & Syona Miranda |                   |

### 15/12 - 8.00 am

- |                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| (1) Louise Phillips              | (2) Koreti Faaso |
| (3) Mimi Cabrera / Steve Niumata |                  |
| (4) Jessica & Jayden Rego        |                  |

### 15/12 - 10.00 am Mass

- |                                    |                   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| (1) Jackie Heeraman                | (2) Tess Valesini |
| (3) Tina Pineda / Nancy K          |                   |
| (4) Neejay Santos / Gabriel Wijaya |                   |

### Church Cleaners (14/12)

### Judges

Corrine & Michael Patterson  
Sheila & Herbert Kreltszheim / Sharon & Calvin Ambrose