



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.

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C **15th & 16th February 2025**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah (17:5-8)

(A curse on those who trust in humanity; a blessing on those who trust in the Lord).

The Lord says this:

'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, whose heart turns from the Lord.

He is like dry scrub in the wastelands: if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited.'

'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope.

He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green: it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 39)

All: Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Reader: Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night.

All: Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Reader: He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper.

All: Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Reader: Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom.

All: Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (15:12, 16-20)

(If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith is in vain).

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have

Parish News and Happenings

died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad; your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke (6:17,20-26)

(Happy are the poor, Woe to the rich!).

Communion Antiphon

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

**Readings for 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C : 22nd & 23rd February 2025
Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 Cor 15:45-49;
Lk 6:27-38**

BAPTISMS are open.

For Baptism Preparation please contact **Maria D'souza** through email :
maria197114@gmail.com or **Contact the parish office.**

BAPTISMS on 2nd & 4th Saturdays at 11:30am

**RCIA: The Rite of Election for 2025
Sunday 9 March 2025 at 2pm
St Francis Xavier's Cathedral
Wollongong**

From our parish community, the following persons will be presented to the Bishop and community who are seeking full initiation (Catechumens).

**Vinal Sharma
Patrick Ross
Nikki Amos
Sokunthea Suos
Tafale Rosemary
Manivanh Vongratsavai**

They will join other catechumens of our Diocese for the Rite of Election in Wollongong Cathedral. Please keep them in your prayers.

Ash Wednesday, 5th March 2025

Masses at 9:00am and 7:00pm

Parishioners are requested to bring your old palms to be burnt for ashes. Please leave them in the Box kept in the Church Foyer. Thank you.

**Sunday School : Starting this Sunday
February 16, 2025**

Sunday School will be held every Sunday during the 10 am Mass. We look forward to welcoming all children back for another year of faith formation. We sincerely thank our dedicated Sunday School teachers for their generosity in sharing their time and talents in this important ministry.

LENTEN PROGRAM 2025

Copies of the 2025 Diocesan Lenten Book, "Metanoia" will be available for purchase from the Church foyer for **\$5.00**. Please see Lina. (Limited copies ordered this year)

This Lent, embark on a journey of *metanoia*—a transformative change of heart inspired by the Gospels. Let this beautifully designed, 76-page, full-colour companion guide your spiritual renewal through daily reflections, Sunday readings and reflections, spiritual direction, prayers, and group discussion questions.

Volunteer Safety Reminder : For the safety of all our volunteers, we kindly request that closed-toe shoes be worn when engaging in tasks such as cleaning, lifting, gardening, or any work involving sharp tools. This precaution is essential to help prevent injuries. Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to keeping our parish a safe place for everyone.

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 : Resume on Sunday March 16, at 2:30 pm then fortnightly.

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

Parish News and Happenings

Change in Mass Timing : Wednesday 19th February, Morning Mass will be at 8:30am. Please make note of this change.

Catechist Commissioning Sunday

This Sunday, 16th February, during the 8:00 am and 10:00 am Masses, we will commission our SRE Catechist teachers, helpers, and Sunday School teachers & Sacrament teachers. These dedicated volunteers come from all walks of life, sharing God's love and teachings with the children of our parish.

Special appreciation for Ann Robinson who completed 40 years of dedicated service in this ministry and Maryse Rochecouste who completed 10 years of Service. Thank you for your exceptional contribution.

Please keep them in your prayers as they begin another year of guiding young hearts and minds in faith. There are still more children that we could be reaching! Can you give around an hour of your time a week to teach or help out in a class room? Celebrate with us next weekend the great difference that SRE catechists make and please speak to our Parish priest / Catechist co-ordinator if you would like to get involved.

Parish Safeguarding Training:

When: Saturday, 8th March 2025
Time: 10:00 am - 12:15 pm
Where: Mary Mother of the Church
Refreshments provided
Required for all volunteers especially those involved in ministries working with children.

The Diocese Safeguarding Team will deliver an essential training session for our parish volunteers, equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to continue fulfilling their vocations. Session will cover the following topics: Understanding Safeguarding, Safeguarding other's, Safeguarding yourself, Mandatory Reporting, Reportable Conduct, Professional Boundaries etc. If you are interested in attending, please sign up on the Attendance Sheet provided in the church foyer or contact the parish office.

REFLECTION : *Spiritual Awakening:*

Christ faced people with a radical choice: to live by the values of the world (pursuit of money, pleasure, popularity, power, prestige,), or to live by the values of the Kingdom .

In his novel, The First Circle, Solzhenitsyn tells the story of a Russian diplomat named Innokenty. It was dur-

ing Stalin's regime. Innokenty and his wife Dottie lived a pampered life. In each post he was sent to, a lavishly furnished house awaited them. And they lapped it all up. They had everything they wanted, at a time when the world was torn apart by World War II. But not a breath of the sorrow of the world touched them. However, in the sixth year of their marriage, Innokenty began to experience a sense of revulsion towards all material things. The feeling puzzled and alarmed him. He had everything, yet he lacked something. Even his lovely wife Dottie was becoming a stranger to him. Their smart way of life he found embarrassing, where everybody was the same, and where they would all jump up to drink a toast to comrade Stalin, whom they feared and secretly despised.

One day he started to go through some letters and books his deceased mother had left him. As he read the letters, he discovered a set of values that were in complete contrast with those of the circle to which he belonged.

The values of his mother began to make sense. In her letters she spoke about such things as compassion, truth, goodness, and so on. Then he came across this extraordinary piece: 'The Most precious thing in the whole world is the consciousness of not participating in injustice.' Suddenly he discovered what was missing from his life. And for days and nights he continued to sit there breathing in the values of his mother's world like a man breathes in fresh air. ; He was discovering a new way of seeing and judging life. Up to this his philosophy of life had been that we only live once. To put oneself out for another person was sheer folly. Now he was grasping another truth: that we have only one conscience, and that a crippled conscience is as irretrievable as a lost life.

There was an elderly doctor who had treated his mother during her last illness. In a day's time he was going to Paris where he intended to pass on some medical secrets to the West because he believed the world had a right to know them. But a trap had been set for him. Innokenty knew about the trap. He made a phone call to the doctor. But the call was traced and Innokenty was arrested.

Innokenty knew what it was like to be rich. When you are rich you have a name, you are a member of a respected group, and are never really oppressed. A phone call and everything is fixed up. But now that he had lost his job, his prestige, his wealth, and even his wife, he was discovering what it meant to be poor. To be poor is to have no friends, and no security.

*Yet Innokenty had gained a treasure, and he knew it. He had experienced a spiritual awakening. And, as Kahlil Gibran says, 'Spiritual awakening is the most important thing in life; it is the sole purpose of our being.' How many Christians could say that they live by the values of the Beatitudes? In things that affect us directly — jobs, cars, comforts, homes, the future of our children — do we not live as the world lives? Today the disciples of Jesus are frequently in comfort while so many are in misery. Riches and comforts in the end leave us in a spiritual wilderness. Only in living by the values of the Gospel will our deepest hungers be satisfied. **To understand the Beatitudes, we need a spiritual awakening.***

Parish News and Happenings

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Jordan Joval / Patrick Yongching

Thanksgiving : Gavin Noronha /
Beatrice & Krzysztof

Special Intentions: Zenya / Taylah & Joshua

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 |
| * Jaypee Masangkay | * Selda Dimayuga |
| * Aida Dayao | * Nancie |
| * Maria Vu | * Mason Dulalia |
| * Alan & Margaret Raisbeck | * Jun & Charo Doctors |
| * Mick Jones | * Catherine Nguyen |
| * Noelene Bartlet | * Mabel Artuz |
| * Wally Skoczylas | * June Carroll |
| * Carmencita Palma | * Fellie Duggan |
| * Dr. Cyd Orosco | * Stanislava |
| * Agatha Go Ay Nio | * Anthony Smith |
| * Resty Perez | * Elizabeth Messain |
| * Vivian Martin | * Danica Kutle |
| * Andrea Tuazon | |
| * Nelia Ambat | |
| * Arman Diola | |



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



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|---------------------------|---------------------|
| ✠ Shirley Myers | ✠ Noel Park |
| ✠ Dominique Roussel | ✠ Eli Oh |
| ✠ Go Ping Tjay | ✠ Lisa Chandler |
| ✠ Josephine Mckay | ✠ Jesus Dolores Sr. |
| ✠ Giovanni Carnevole | ✠ Sonia Slazar |
| ✠ Ruslan Pandapotan | ✠ Ana Kos |
| ✠ Marilou Cabanilla | ✠ Norman Sheppard |
| ✠ Maggie Lalusin | ✠ Denise Caramsing |
| ✠ Elizabeth Bastiampillai | ✠ Margaret Brennan |
| ✠ Ron Brudenell | ✠ Socorro Episcopo |
| ✠ Helen B | ✠ Philip Punla |
| ✠ Pelagia Piasecki | ✠ Amado Dizon |
| ✠ Florence D'Cruze | ✠ Lydia White |
| ✠ Patrick D'Cruze | ✠ Henry Molboy |
| ✠ Roy Ley | ✠ Rosario Fernandes |
| ✠ Patrick Pinto | ✠ Anton Alphonso |
| ✠ John Gregory | ✠ Percy Braganza |
| ✠ All souls in Purgatory | |



Please pray for the soul of **Shirley Myers**, who passed away on Wednesday 12th Feb 2025. Her funeral will be on **Tuesday 25th Feb 2025 at 10:30am**. She was a devoted member of our parish, generously dedicating her time to the Church cleaning ministry. Rest in peace.

A caring approach to help to say farewell



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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**

Parish Prayer: *Heavenly Father, we thank you for the loving and supportive environment in our Parish, where people of diverse backgrounds come together to encounter You in the Holy Eucharist and glorify Your name in prayer and song. We pray for all priests and parishioners who have given their time and service to You through ministries in the Parish and local community. We pray that through the wonderful gifts of the Holy Spirit we may continue to grow stronger in faith and spread your message of love and forgiveness. All of this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ through the intercession of His Mother Mary. Amen.*

Roster for Next Week - 22nd & 23rd February 2025

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

22/02 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

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| (1) Jenny Kreltszheim | (2) Chloe Kreltszheim |
| (3) Terry B / Teresa B / Noel Santos / Maria D | |
| (4) Syona & Rosy | |

23/02- 8.00 am

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| (1) Jim Fogarty | (2) Calvin Ambrose |
| (3) Lucy N / Emelia B / Mimi C / Alla B | |
| (4) Immanuel Sailiese / Cathy Bernard | |

23/02- 10.00 am Mass

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| (1) Herbert Kreltszheim | (2) Lucy Maher |
| (3) Carmen A / Marc G / Nancy K / Eileen P | |
| (4) Neejay Santos & Nerayo Santos | |

Church Cleaners (22/02)

Kings

John Moors / Rudy
Frank D'Souza / Philip Mendonca