



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.

1st Sunday of Lent - Year C

8th & 9th March 2025

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

**When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.**

FIRST READING

*A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy
(26:4-10)*

(The confession of faith of the elect).

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

'My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me'. You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 90)

All: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Reader: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

All: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Reader: Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you, has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways.

All: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Reader: They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon.

All: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Reader: His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you'. I will save him in distress and give him glory.

All: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Parish News and Happenings

SECOND READING

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans
(10:8-13)*

(The confession of faith of the believers in Christ).

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of
endless glory!**

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king
of endless glory!**

GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13

(Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted).

Communion Antiphon

*One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the
mouth of God.*

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



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

First Sunday of Lent 8th and 9th of March 2025

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) from Samoa, **Lam** from Vietnam and **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).



Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared



determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above. Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

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.

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

Notice : Fr. Bosco will be away on home leave from 10th March 2025. Please keep him in your prayers for a safe and blessed journey. In his absence, Fr. Mike Knight will be here to support the parish.

Stations of the Cross : Every Friday at 7pm during lent. All are invited to walk with our Lord.

2025 Rite of Election

The Rite of Election for 2025 will take place this **Sunday 9th March at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral at 2pm.** Bishop Brian Mascord will celebrate the Rite of Election for all the Catechumens in our Diocese. Our Parish has 6 catechumens, **Nikki Amos, Sokunthea Suos, Tafale Rosemary, Manivanh Vongratsavai, Patrick Ross & Vinal Sharma** along with one Candidate - Nerida Gleeson, who will be presented to the Bishop and community.

Let us keep them in our prayers as they take this important step in their faith journey. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our RCIA Co-ordinators, **Sr. Mary Louise** and **Lucy Maher** for their dedication in preparing and guiding them along the way.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend 23 – 25 May 2025

We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us in a Covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW – a stunning tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney.

Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or email nswbookings@wwme.org.au

REFLECTION : Not on bread alone

A human being doesn't live on bread alone. Bread is only one of the basic staples of life - life for the body. To nourish a human person is not the same as to fatten cattle. Our bodies need food. But so do our souls. Our souls are craving for nourishment. The story of Elvis Presley powerfully illustrates the truth of this.

Elvis became very rich. He owned eight cars, six motorbikes, two planes, sixteen televi-

sion sets, a vast mansion, and several bulging bank accounts. On top of all of that, he was idolised by legions of fans. Yet he wasn't happy. In the midst of all his wealth and success he experienced a spiritual malaise, and complained of loneliness and boredom.

'Money brings a lot of headaches,' he confided to an interviewer. His mother was worried about him. She never wanted all this for him. She simply wanted him to come home, buy a furniture store, get married and have children.

He grew fearful and depressed. At the age of twenty-two he found that there were no more worlds to conquer. This malaise could have been an opportunity. It was a stark reminder that 'man doesn't live on bread alone', that is, on material things alone.

This message rings out loud and clear in today's Gospel. It is a vital message, and is perhaps more relevant today than ever before. Though we can see its truth, in practise it is not easy to take it on board. We don't live on bread alone - least not if we want to be fully alive, and fully nourished as human beings and children of God. What else do we need? We need the word of God.

Imagine parents who fed their child but never spoke a word to that child. No guidance, no encouragement, no affirmation, no consolation. Never a word to communicate peace and welcome, or love and joy. The child's body would be nourished, but its heart and soul would be empty. We are God's children. We need to hear God's word.

Bread alone won't always guarantee even physical survival. The poet Irina Rathushnkaya spent some time in prison (as a political prisoner) in communist Russia. She said, 'Many women had more bread than I had, yet they died.' What was it that kept me alive? She has no doubt what it was. It was her Christian faith.

It's not just the human body that gets hungry. The human heart and the human spirit get hungry too. Until we acknowledge and address the hunger of the heart and the spirit, we will always be undernourished.

Jesus challenges us to address our deeper hungers and greater needs. What does the heart really hunger for? It's certainly not bread. It hungers for the food that doesn't perish - the word of God. The word of God has the power to nourish us. It nourishes us with the bread of meaning, the bread of hope, and above all the bread of love.

New Sunday and Holiday Liturgies

Parish News and Happenings

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Fr. Bosco Son / Ankush Gupta /
Thanksgiving : Ron & Angelo
Special Intentions : Wijaya Family

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 | * June Carroll |
| * Wally Skoczylas | * Fellie Duggan |
| * Carmencita Palma | * Stanislava |
| * Dr. Cyd Orosco | * Anthony Smith |
| * Agatha Go Ay Nio | * Elizabeth Messain |
| * Resty Perez | * Danica Kutle |
| * Vivian Martin | * Eliza |
| * Andrea Tuazon | * Jake Valte |
| * Nelia Ambat | * Lita |
| * Arman Diola | |
| * Ivor Collom | |
| * Antoinette Lie Njoek Djin | |



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



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|--------------------------|---------------------|
| ✠ Mabel Artuz | ✠ Edan Raiuno |
| ✠ Shirley Myers | ✠ Lucrese Helen |
| ✠ Remo De Santis | ✠ Franciscek Smolic |
| ✠ Nicodimus Tagnipis | ✠ John Nguyen |
| ✠ Charlotte Sabellano | ✠ May Quealy |
| ✠ Gary Corke | ✠ Wilfred Dyson |
| ✠ Roberto Ranili | ✠ Consolation Zabat |
| ✠ Sonanita Ranili | |
| ✠ Saviour Bonello | |
| ✠ Sr Janine F.M.M | |
| ✠ Christian Gutierrez | |
| ✠ Demetria Aquino | |
| ✠ Yolanda Lava | |
| ✠ Jeanne Helene | |
| ✠ Josef Pespischil | |
| ✠ Roger Lerch | |
| ✠ Elizabeth Clarke | |
| ✠ 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**

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 - 15th & 16th March 2025

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

15/03- 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

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| (1) Terry Beattie | (2) Pierre Rochecouste |
| (3) Noel E / Andres C / Noel S / Maria D | |
| (4) Syona & Rosy | |

16/03- 8.00 am

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| (1) Matilda Faasoa | (2) Rachelle Fogarty |
| (3) Mimi C / Alla B / Steve N / Lucy N | |
| (4) Freddy & Cathy Bernard | |

16/03 - 10.00 am Mass

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|---|-------------------|
| (1) Noel S | (2) Tess Valesini |
| (3) Tina P / Noel S / Bennette S / John T | |
| (4) Nerayo Santos / Gabriel Wijaya | |

Church Cleaners (15/03)

Deuteronomy

Catherine / Pierre Rochecouste
 Jennifer & Mario Kreltszheim