

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.

Easter Sunday - Year C 20th April 2025 LITURGY OF THE WORD believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.

The word of the Lord.

#### Entrance Antiphon

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

# FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (10:34, 37-43) (We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead).

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

#### All: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

(Ps 117)

**Reader:** Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.'

#### All: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

**Reader:** The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.

All: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

- **Reader:** The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.
- All: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

#### SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians (3:1-4) (Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is).

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in

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# **Parish News and Happenings**

heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The Word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Alleluia, Alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL:

John (20:1-9)

(The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead).

#### Communion Antiphon

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

#### Divine Mercy Sunday : 27th April 2025

2pm - exposition of Blessed Sacrament,

silent adoration, divine mercy chaplet and

prayers, **3pm benediction followed by Holy Mass.** All Welcome!

# 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 at 2:30 pm in the Logos Centre. April sessions are on 13th & 27th

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

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



Easter is a season of welcome and hospitality. So in the spirit of this season, we welcome you all

to our parish celebration of Easter 2025. I especially welcome those who have 'come home' to celebrate Easter with family and friends. May the risen Christ bring happiness to you and your family all year round. Wish you all very Happy & Blessed Easter!

Fr. Bosco



As we celebrate this season of hope and renewal, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion this Lent. The funds raised through Project Compassion go to support the marginalised and vulnerable. As the Lenten Season comes to a close we are asked to return our Project Compassion boxes and envelopes as soon as possible.

**It's not too late to donate.** You can support Project Compassion 2025 **online at**: <u>caritas.org.au/</u> <u>project-compassion</u> **Or by calling:** 1800 024 413

#### Sacrament of Confirmation :2025

**Requirements for the Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation :** 

- Baptized in the Catholic Church
- Received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Holy Communion
- In year 6 or above
- Attend all preparatory classes

Parents Meeting : **Friday 2nd May 2025 at 7pm** (Meeting with parent/guardian and candidate)

Enrolments are open now. (Application Forms and Information sheets are available in the Church Foyer) Any queries, please contact the parish office.

# **Parish News and Happenings**

Thank You!

Heartfelt gratitude is extended to all those who volunteered in helping to prepare our liturgical celebrations for Easter. A parish of our size requires a team of dedicated volunteers who share their love for Jesus and our parish by giving their time and talent . We are grateful... you are all such a blessing.

Mary Mother of the Church warmly congratulates and joyfully welcomes **Nikki Amos**, **Patrick Ross, Sokunthea Suos, Tafale Tugaga, Manivanh Vongratsavai, Vinal Sharma, and Nerida Gleeson**, who have journeyed through the RCIA program and will be received into full communion with the Catholic Church during our beautiful Easter Sunday Mass celebrations.

We will keep you and your families in our prayers as you continue your faith journey with us and the Church.

We also express our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated RCIA coordinators, **Sr. Mary Louise Slattery and Lucy Maher**, for their faithful guidance and support of our catechumens throughout their formation.

# Level 3 Catechist Diploma Course 2025

All interested parishioners and catechists are encouraged to attend the Level 3 course. Taught by a variety of excellent presenters, the Level 3 course takes us on a journey through the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

The six-week course will be held in Rosemeadow on Fridays commencing Friday 2 May. Session will start at 9:30am and conclude at 2:30pm.

Morning tea is provided but please BYO lunch.

For more information and to register, please go to https://dow.sh/CCD-Level

# A Vocation View:

What stones are being moved away so you can be a minister of the Gospel? Consider inviting someone to be a sister, brother, priest, or deacon. Spread the good news: "Jesus is risen!" If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au

# Reflection

#### Visiting the grave

On Easter morning the women went to the tomb where Jesus had been buried. They had a sad task to perform - to complete the embalming of his body. But that was not the only reason they were going to the tomb. They wanted to be near the one who had filled their lives, and whose death plunged them into an inconsolable grief.

We've often done the same thing ourselves. When someone we love dies, we find it hard to accept that he/she is gone from us forever. We feel a need to maintain a link with the one who has died. One of the ways we meet this need is by visits to the grave. However, far from easing the pain of our loss, this may exacerbate it. It tends to make the dead even more dead, because nowhere do we become so sure that our loved one is dead as at the grave.

If things had gone as expected that first Easter morning, the women would have embalmed the body of Jesus, closed the tomb again, and come away more convinced than ever that what happened on Friday was not a bad dream but a terrible reality. But things did not go according to plan.

At the tomb they met two angels who said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.' It was to these faithful women disciples that the Easter message was first given: Jesus is not dead; he is alive. So they must not waste their time looking for him at the tomb.

All of us have stood forlornly in graveyards, where everything speaks of death. Yet it was precisely in such a place that the resurrection was first announced. It was fitting that it was here, where death seems to reign supreme, that the good news of Jesus' resurrection was first announced.

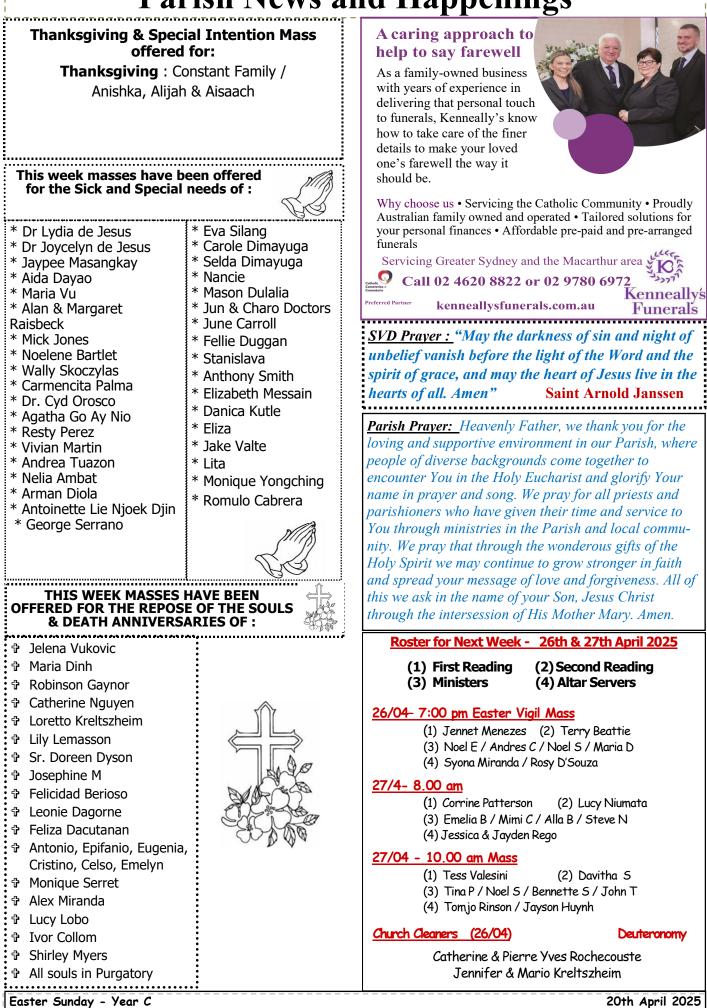
Through the voice of the liturgy, the same message is given to us: Do not look for your loved one in the grave. He/she is not there. Jesus overcame death, not just for himself, but for all of us. He is the first to rise from the dead, but we will follow him. For a Christian, then, there is no such thing as death in the sense of final extinction. Our dead are not dead. They are alive, and live a more real and beautiful life than ours. And they are not far from us. Those who die in grace go no further from us than God, and God is very near.

Let us continue to pray for our dead in case they still need our help. And let us continue to visit the cemetery if it helps to keep their memory alive. But let us not look for them there. And if sadness persists in our hearts, because of what happened on Easter morning, a quiet hope is mingled with our sadness.

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