



## 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.

### *29th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Year C - 18th & 19th October 2025*

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

##### Entrance Antiphon

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

##### FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Exodus (17:8-13)

*(As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage).*

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses' arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

The Word of the Lord.

##### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 120)

**All: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

**Reader:** I lift up my eyes to the mountains: from where shall come my help? My help shall come from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

**All: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

**Reader:** May he never allow you to stumble! Let him sleep not, your guard. No, he sleeps not nor slumbers, Israel's guard.

**All: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

**Reader:** The Lord is your guard and your shade; at your right side he stands. By day the sun shall not smite you nor the moon in the night.

**All: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

**Reader:** The Lord will guard you from evil, he will guard your soul. The Lord will guard your going and coming both now and for ever.

**All: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

##### SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy (3:14-4:2)

*(This is how the people of God become equipped and ready for every good work).*

# Parish News and Happenings

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures - from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience - but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

The Word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### **Alleluia, Alleluia!**

The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

### **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: **Luke 18:1-8**

*(God will see those who cry to him vindicated).*

## 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,**  
5:00pm Rosary followed by Novena Prayers

### Bible Study : Resume in 2026

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

## Communion Antiphon

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

## **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 11:30 am**

## **The Promise: Advent and Christmas Daily**

**Reflections 2025** - Embark on a spiritual journey of hope this Advent and Christmas with this beautifully presented 88-page book of daily reflections, designed to guide you from the beginning of Advent (30 November 2025) through to the Baptism of the Lord (11 January 2026). Each page offers profound insights through Scripture-based meditations and contemplative prayers that invite you to recognise God's promise fulfilled in Christ and to live in joyful anticipation of his coming.

**Limited copies available now in the Church Foyer. Please see Lina for your copy. \$3.00 / Book**

**Mass Count :** The Diocesan-wide Mass Count will occur over four weeks, commencing in our parish this **weekend on 18th / 19th October**, concluding on 8/9th November. All parishes are required to participate in the Mass count to give the most complete annual picture of people attending Mass as possible. The Mass count is a very simple headcount at each Vigil / Sunday Mass held in the Diocese of Wollongong for 4 weeks. Thank you for your co-operation.

## **PPC 2025-2027**

### **Important dates to remember:**

Saturday 1st Nov	Parish Council Formation session at 10am - 11am Photographs will be taken on this day
Sunday 2nd Nov	Commissioning Mass for new Parish Pastoral Council during 10am Mass
Thursday 13th Nov at 7:00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> meeting of newly commissioned Parish Pastoral Council in the Logos Centre

# Parish News and Happenings

MISSIONARIES OF  
**HOPE**  
*among all peoples*



## Catholic Mission Appeal

In Zambia, many families struggle daily with poverty and limited access to essential healthcare. The Catholic Church stands as a beacon of hope, supporting communities through education, sustainable livelihoods, and healthcare.

This World Mission Month, we invite you to journey with our missionaries, who are bringing Christ's love to those most in need.

Our parish will hold the **Catholic Mission Appeal** this weekend on **18th/19th October**. There will be a **third collection** during Mass to support this appeal. Please donate generously.

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

### **VOLUNTEERS THANKGIVING**

**Saturday 15th November 2025**

**Mass at 10:00am / Entertainment /Lunch at 12:30pm.** Please RSVP to the parish office.

## **1st Holy Communion Schedule:**

**Lessons :** Sunday 19th Oct - Sunday 9th Nov at 11:30am

**Reconciliation :** Friday 14th November at 5pm

**Rehearsal :** Sunday 16th November at 11:30am

**Sacrament of 1st Holy Communion :**  
Saturday 22nd November - **Mass at 10am & 12pm**

## **All Saints & All Souls Day**

### **November 1: Saturday - All Saints Day**

The Solemnity of All Saints is celebrated at Mass on **Saturday morning at 8:30am**

### **November 2 : Sunday - All Souls Day**

Saturday evening **6pm Vigil Mass** and Sunday Masses at **8am & 10am** are of The Commemoration of All The Faithful Departed.

**Funeral Notice :** Funeral of David Hitchcock will be held in our church on **Tuesday 21st Oct 2025 at 10:30am** and committal at forest Lawn at 12:00pm. May he rest in Peace.

## **Reflection : Praying with outstretched hands**

Jesus said to his disciples and says to us, 'Pray continually and never lose heart.' From our childhood days we were taught to join our hands when praying. Yet during the great prayers of the

Mass the priest opens his hands and stretches them out. Both ways of praying are good and have their place. But what do the different gestures mean?

To join one's hands means that for a while we stop our normal activities and take time out to pray to God. This is more suited to private prayer. To pray with open hands is more suited to public prayer. To pray like this is to acknowledge that before God we are poor. Therefore we hold up our empty hands to God as a beggar holds out an empty bowl to passers-by. We are saying in effect, 'Lord, before you I am as poor as a beggar. I need you to fill my emptiness.'

The gesture of praying with open hands makes a powerful statement. It's a sermon in itself. The gesture is as old as the Bible. There's an example of it in the First Reading of today's Mass. We see Moses on a hilltop praying with extended hands for his people in their life-or-death battle with the Amalekites. When his hands dropped, the Amalekites prevailed. But when he kept them aloft to God, the Israelites prevailed. This is meant to illustrate the power of prayer. As long as the Jewish people put their faith in God, they moved forward. As soon as they forgot to look to God, they were forced to retreat.

Jesus urges us to keep on praying and not to lose heart. If we stop praying, we are likely to lose heart and give up. If we pray continually we will never lose heart. To pray means to put oneself and one's destiny in the hands of God. To pray means to rely on God's strength and not on our own. When we pray another kind of power becomes available to us.

The priest says the prayers of the Mass with outstretched hands. Like Moses, he is praying not just in his own name, but in the name of the worshipping community. Even if we don't pray like this ourselves, we can try to have the same attitude before God as this suggests - an attitude of humility and trust.

A prayer is answered, not when we get what we are asking for, but when we are granted a sense of God's nearness. The prayer of sick person is answered, not by having his disease disappear, but by his gaining a sense of God and that God has not abandoned him. Prayer may not change the world for us, but it can give us the courage to face it.

When we learn how to pray, we learn not just how to recite words, but how to open the heart. The practice that nourishes one most is quiet prayer of the heart. Just sitting very quietly and opening the heart and letting God in.

**Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies**  
**Flor McCarthy, SDB**

# Parish News and Happenings

## Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

**Thanksgiving** : Cris Artuz / Elia

**Wedding Anniversary** : Caroline & Aroon /  
Danny & Rose Cabacungan /  
Luka & Alwyn Noronha /

**Special Intentions** : Stacey McKay / Jocelyne /  
Avinash / Year 12 Students

## 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                |
| * Maria Vu                  | * Mason Dulalia         |
| * Alan & Margaret Raisbeck  | * Charo Doctor          |
| * Mick Jones                | * Elizabeth Messain     |
| * Noelene Bartlet           | * Danica Kutle          |
| * Wally Skoczylas           | * Jake Valte            |
| * Carmencita Palma          | * Monique Yongching     |
| * Dr. Cyd Orosco            | * John Unzillo          |
| * Agatha Go Ay Nio          | * Edward Webster        |
| * Resty Perez               | * Allan & Irma Torres   |
| * Vivian Martin             | * Norm Cook             |
| * Andrea Tuazon             | * Florentino San Miguel |
| * Nelia Ambat               | * Lisapeta Kalasito     |
| * Romulo Cabrera            | * Mike Enriquez         |
| * Arman Diola               | * Nestor Henriques      |
| * Antoinette Lie Njoek Djin | * Mary Bittar           |
| * Mary Hargreaves           | * Allison Dennis        |
| * Francoise Catherine       | * Helen Britichevic     |
| * David Dempsey             | * John Vukovic          |
| * Tania Thomas              | * Paul A. Viegas        |
| * Sheldon Crame             | * Fila Vukojevic        |
| * Michel Fajardo            | * Jacqueline Mcveay     |
| * Roberto Torres            | * Anita Menezes         |
| * Joseph Choi               |                         |
| * Aidan Pereira             |                         |



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



- ✠ David Hitchcock
- ✠ Elsa Abanales
- ✠ Mabel Artuz
- ✠ Gerard Sullivan
- ✠ Evelyne Sullivan
- ✠ Donald & Douglas Cochran
- ✠ Maria Hunkin
- ✠ Annette Ferrer
- ✠ Ramesh Boojharut
- ✠ Ann Marie Chinaya
- ✠ Joseph Panjikaran
- ✠ Irene Riveros
- ✠ Isabela Damicog
- ✠ All Souls in Purgatory



## A caring approach to help to say farewell



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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**

**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 - 25th & 26th October 2025

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

### 25/10 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| (1) Alisha Joseph                       | (2) Terry Beattie |
| (3) Noel E / Jisha J / Noel S / Maria D |                   |
| (4) Syona Miranda / Rosy D'Souza        |                   |

### 26/10 - 8:00 am

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| (1) Rachelle Fogarty                     | (2) Calvin Ambrose |
| (3) Steve N / Lucy N / Emelia B / Mimi C |                    |
| (4) Emmanuel Sailiese                    |                    |

### 26/10- 10.00 am

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| (1) Herbert Kreltszheim   | (2) Lucy Maher |
| (3) Carmen A / Threlly C / Nancy K / Eileen P / Tina P / Noel S |                |
| (4) Tomjo Rinson / Jayson Huynh                                 |                |

### Church Cleaners (25/10)

**Ruth**

Louise Phillips / Renato Guzman / Cynthia & Marie Fernando / Maureen Langley