

## MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH

58 EDGAR STREET or PO BOX 18 MACQUARIE FIELDS NSW 2564

Phone: 02 9605 6169

Email: [mfields@dow.org.au](mailto:mfields@dow.org.au)

Website : [mmotc.org.au](http://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.

### *2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year 17th & 18th January 2026*

#### **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

##### **Entrance Antiphon**

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

##### **FIRST READING**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (49:3, 5-6)

*(I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth).*

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified'; I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength. And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations, so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

The Word of the Lord.

##### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

(Ps 39)

**All: Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

**Reader:** I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God.

**All: Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

**Reader:** You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear. You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I.

**All: Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

**Reader:** In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will. My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart.

**All: Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

**Reader:** Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly. My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord.

**All: Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

##### **SECOND READING**

*A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1:1-3)*

*(The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you).*

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than

# Parish News and Happenings

ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God.

**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL:** John (1:29-34)

*(This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world).*

## Communion Antiphon

You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

## **A vocation view**

Gratitude leads to praise. For what are you thankful? Share your gratitude. (Luke 17:11-19)

If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at [vocations@dow.org.au](mailto:vocations@dow.org.au)

## 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 pm Rosary followed by Novena Prayers

**Bible Study : Resume in February 2026**

**Sunday School : Resume in February 2026**

## **BAPTISMS are open.**

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

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

## **Readings for 3rd Sunday Ordinary Time**

**24th & 25th January 2026**

**Is 8:23-9:3; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17;**

**Mt 4:12-23**

## **Parish Profit and Loss Statement - 2025**

**Total Income : \$ 323,169.00**

**Total Expenses : \$ 221,249.00**

**Summary of Major Works Completed in 2025:**

- Logos centre toilet repair & Tree cutting
- Installation of Hall Blinds
- Church AC unit upgrade
- Church external Painting

## **Future Projects Planned:**

- Construction of New Toilets
- Presbytery painting & Blinds replacement

## **2026 SACRAMENTS**

Our Parish 2026 Sacramental dates are now available on the Parish Website. Those families wishing to enrol their children in 2026 for 1st Holy Communion or Confirmation are asked to visit the website and note the dates and when the enrolments will be available.

## **Celebration St. Arnold Janssen's Feast Day - January 15**

January 15, is the feast day of St Arnold Janssen, the founder of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD), the Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters (SSpS) and the Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters (SSpSAP)

When Fr. Arnold Janssen founded Divine Word Missionaries in 1875, his dream was to make Jesus known to every person in every nation. Today, he is remembered as a saint of the Catholic Church and as the founder of the Society of the Divine Word, the largest Catholic missionary order in the world. The Arnoldus Family has its presence in more than 80 countries all over the world. May the Lord continue to inspire more people to be missionaries and proclaim the Word of God in foreign countries, in the local church, and even in one's families.

# Parish News and Happenings

## Compassio - Lenten Program 2026

This Lent, enter into the heart of *compassion* - to "suffer with" - a grace-filled invitation to stand with Christ and with one another. Let this beautifully designed, 76-page, full-colour companion guide you through daily reflections, Sunday Gospel readings and reflections, spiritual direction, prayers, and group discussion questions, all crafted to deepen your encounter with God's mercy.

The daily reflections have been prayerfully written by 20 clergy, religious, and lay contributors from across Australia and beyond. *Compassio* offers rich insights that invite, challenge, and console—ideal for both individual prayer and group study. Whether journeying alone or in community, *Compassio* provides the tools to re-discover hope, solidarity, and the healing love of Christ.

Books are available for sale in the church foyer. Please see Lina for your copy.

**Price : \$6/book**

We have limited copies only.

## Assistance for Parents in Macarthur for Back-to-School Expenses :

Do you live in the Macarthur region, have kids at school, and could use \$50 per child to help with those expenses? Macarthur Social Justice Network has funds available to be used toward the purchase of shoes, uniforms, winter coats and gloves, books and materials, subscriptions, or other miscellaneous school expenses.

Visit [www.msjn.org](http://www.msjn.org) to find out more and submit your request. Available while funds last.

## Reflection

### Taking away our sins

When John the Baptist said of Jesus, 'there is the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world...' he uttered a great truth about the mission of Jesus. Jesus' mission was directed at sinners. Jesus was the Servant, whose coming was foretold by Isaiah, and whose mission would be to bring sinners back to God. But how was he to do this?

In Old Testament times, on the day of atonement the Jews would choose a goat. The priest made a list of the sins of the people, while at the same time calling on them to repent. Then

placing his hands on the goat's head, he pressed down, thereby imposing the sins on the goat, as if he and he alone was guilty. Then, laden with the sins of the people, the goat was sent into the desert.

Is this the kind of thing John the Baptist had in mind? That all we have to do is dump our sins on Jesus and then forget about them. Could it be that simple? That easy?

Jesus does indeed take away our sins in the sense that through him we have forgiveness for our sins, and so are to put them behind us. When we are forgiven, a very real load, a great burden, is lifted from us, and we are able to go forward freely and joyfully.

But we also have to accept responsibility for our sins. And even when we are forgiven, everything doesn't magically come right for us. We don't suddenly become new people. Our old weaknesses, habits and compulsions are still with us. Which means we still have to struggle.

Sin is not an object that can be removed from us. We are a sinful people - that is the plain truth. Our sinfulness is not the same as our sins. The first is the disease, the second the symptoms. Sin is a condition in which we live, a condition from which we need to be redeemed. Jesus came to redeem us from that condition, and to enable us to live a new life.

How did he get sinners to change their way of life? He did so, not by condemning them and keeping his distance from them, but by befriending them. He put them in touch with that core of goodness which exists in everyone. Through his own luminous goodness he evoked goodness in them.

Jesus befriends us too. And he evokes goodness in us too. That is the only way to go if we wish to overcome sin. Evil can be overcome only by goodness. Here the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is a great help. It is a place where we can experience the love of Jesus for us in our sins. It is not an impersonal getting rid of sins. Rather, it is a loving encounter with Jesus our Saviour, who calls us away from sin to goodness of life.

Victory over sin comes about a s lifelong struggle. We must not become depressed when we see ourselves making what seems like very little progress. What is important is the struggle for goodness. The purpose of a good life is not to win the battle, but to wage it unceasingly.

Besides personal sin and personal redemption, there is social sin and social redemption. The whole human family is damaged because of sin. Jesus came to bring us back into relationship with God and with one another.

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

# Parish News and Happenings

**Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:**

**Wedding Anniversary :** Martin & Vanessa  
**Special Intentions :** Ghislain Pierre & Family / Rey, Crisbel & Cris Artuz  
**Thanksgiving :** Lerma N / Stipe & Alla Bakulic

**This week masses have been offered for the Sick and Special needs of :**

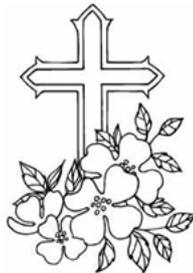


- |                                    |                     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| * Jaypee Masangkay                 | * Carole Dimayuga   |
| * Aida Dayao                       | * Selda Dimayuga    |
| * Maria & Mr. Vu                   | * Nancie            |
| * Alan & Margaret Raisbeck         | * Charo Doctor      |
| * Mick Jones                       | * Lisapeta Kalasito |
| * Noelene Bartlet                  | * Nestor Henriques  |
| * Monique Yongching                | * Iya Gozum         |
| * Wally Skoczylas                  | * Olga Peric        |
| * Resty Perez                      | * John Vukovic      |
| * Andrea Tuazon                    | * Gerard Sullivan   |
| * Nelia Ambat                      | * Jovencio Gregori  |
| * Romulo Cabrera                   |                     |
| * Lydia, Jocelyn & Janice de Jesus |                     |
| * Logan Wall                       |                     |



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

- |                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| ✠ Wal Glynn                | ✠ Anacleto Solano |
| ✠ Helga Kopeinig           | ✠ Kathy Cross     |
| ✠ Langusch & Hass Families | ✠ Leocine Dauguet |
| ✠ Chandra Fernando         | ✠ Luz U. Lopez    |
| ✠ Annette Ferrer           |                   |
| ✠ Lawrence Fernandes       |                   |
| ✠ Jesus del Rosario Sr.    |                   |
| ✠ Mabel Artuz              |                   |
| ✠ Mariam Varkey            |                   |
| ✠ Frank Medill             |                   |
| ✠ Jose Ravino              |                   |
| ✠ Irene Patterson          |                   |
| ✠ Anne Roman               |                   |
| ✠ Eric Gaynor Sr           |                   |
| ✠ Wilson Asuit             |                   |
| ✠ Gene Ronas               |                   |
| ✠ Genevieve Hancock        |                   |
| ✠ Abraham Bittar           |                   |
| ✠ Therese Heeraman         |                   |
| ✠ Johnny Domingo           |                   |
| ✠ Ruben Smith              |                   |
| ✠ Romeo Kabigting III      |                   |
| ✠ Anes Dagonne             |                   |
| ✠ Reynaldo de Guzman       |                   |
| ✠ All souls in Purgatory   |                   |



## A caring approach to help to say farewell

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Preferred Partner

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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 wondrous 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 - 24th & 25th January 2026

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

### 24/01 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| (1) Jannet M                               | (2) Pierre R |
| (3) Andres C / Irma G / Maria D / Teresa B |              |
| (4) Rosy D                                 |              |

### 25/01 - 8.00 am Mass

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| (1) Jim Fogarty                          | (2) Calvin Ambrose |
| (3) Alla B / Steve N / Lucy N / Emelia B |                    |
| (4) Emmanuel S                           |                    |

### 25/01 - 10.00 am Mass

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| (1) Threlly Cabacungan   | (2) Marissa Manato |
| (3) Noel S / Bennette / Elisha S / John T / Peter T / Carmen A |                    |
| (4) Neejay S & Nerayo S  |                    |

### Church Cleaners (24/01)

### Kings

Frank D'Souza / Philip Mendonca / Rudy / Babitha Constant