



MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH

58 EDGAR STREET or PO BOX 18 MACQUARIE FIELDS NSW 2564

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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.

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year 24th & 25th January 2026

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (8:23-9:3)

(In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light).

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; On those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence and men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 26)

All: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Reader: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink?

All: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Reader: There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long, to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life, to savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple.

All: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Reader: I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord!

All: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1:10-13, 17)

(I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you).

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for

Parish News and Happenings

Paul, 'I am for Apollos,' 'I am for Cephas,' 'I am for Christ.' Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the Kingdom, and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew (4:12-23)

(He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled).

Communion Antiphon

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

Readings for 4th Sunday Ordinary Time 31st January & 1st Feb 2026

Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12

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 after Easter

Sunday School : Resume in February 2026

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

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.

Lenten Reflection :

Starting Sunday 22nd February at 3:00pm in the Logos Centre. All are welcome. Please contact Tina Pineda 0408 785 626 for more information.

Upcoming Meeting : Combined Liturgy, Events & PPC meeting on Wednesday 28th January at 6:30pm in the Logos Centre. Members please attend.

Sunday School : Sunday School will resume on Sunday 15th February during 10am mass.

Parish Notice :

We wish to inform the parish community that **Fr. Bosco** has been appointed to a new parish and will be moving to **St Mark's Parish, Inala (Brisbane) after Easter**. We thank him sincerely for his devoted service and keep him in our prayers as he begins this new chapter of ministry.

We are also pleased to announce that **a new Parish Priest - Fr. Asaeli Raas & Assistant Priest - Fr. Peter Wang** will be joining our parish after Easter. Fr. Bosco's farewell details will be shared in due course.

Parish News and Happenings

Compassio - Lenten Program 2026

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 rediscover 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

Australia Day : You are warmly invited to join us for Australia Day Mass at **9:00am on Monday, 26 January**. Let us come together in thanksgiving for the gift of our nation, —its people, culture, and rich diversity and blessings of peace and freedom we enjoy.



Catechist Ministry - Share the Good News

As the new school year begins soon, we are reminded that at the end of every Mass, we are sent out to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. One meaningful way to do this is by joining our **Parish Catechist Ministry**. This ministry gives you the opportunity to share God's love and the teachings of Jesus with Catholic children in our local State Schools.

If you can offer **30–45 minutes on Wednesday or Thursday afternoons during the school term**, we would love your help. Full training, resources, ongoing support are provided.

Our Catechists will be available **after all weekend Masses next week (31 January & 1 Feb 2026)** to answer questions and share more information. If you are interested, please contact our **Catechist Coordinator, Maria Nash**, at maria.p.nash@gmail.com, or contact the parish office. Thank you!

Reflection : Allowing the light to enter

Matthew compares the arrival of Jesus on the scene to the coming of a great light to a people who had been living in deep darkness. He saw Jesus as fulfilling the great prophecy of Isaiah: 'The people that lived in darkness have seen a great light: on

those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned.'

Mother Teresa gives us a beautiful example of a man who was brought out of darkness into the light. One day in Melbourne, she visited a poor man whom nobody knew existed. The room in which he was living was in a terrible state of untidiness and neglect. There was no light in the room. The man hardly ever opened the blinds. He hadn't a friend in the world.

She started to clean and tidy the room. At first he protested, saying, 'Leave it alone. It's all right as it is.' But she went ahead anyway. Under a pile of rubbish she found a beautiful oil lamp but it was covered with dust. She cleaned and polished it. Then she asked him, 'How come you never light the lamp?'

'Why should I light it?' he replied. 'No one ever comes to see me. I never see anybody.' 'Will you promise to light it if one of my sisters comes to see you?' 'Yes,' he replied. 'If I hear a human voice I'll light the lamp.'

Two of Mother Teresa's nuns began to visit him on a regular basis. Things gradually improved for him. Then one day he said to the nuns, 'Sisters, I'll be able to manage on my own from now on. But do me a favour. Tell that first sister who came to see me that the light she lit in my life is still burning.'

At first he did not like the light. He felt threatened by it. It made him uncomfortable. Why? Because it showed up the misery in which he was living; first of all the physical misery, then the misery of spirit. But gradually he came to see it as a friend, which comforted him and brought hope into his dark existence. Thus he slowly turned his life around. The light had saved him. Of course, it wasn't the lamp itself that had done this, but the kindness and goodness it symbolized, first in Mother Teresa, then in her Sisters.

In order to appreciate a light, one must be conscious of one's darkness, and desire to escape from it. One must realize one's need to change, and want to change. Before people seek redemption, things must go badly for them. They must have experienced the darkness of sorrow and disappointment. Then they are ripe for the light of salvation.

This is why Jesus began His preaching with the message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' To repent is to admit the darkness in which we are living, and to open ourselves to the light. We show our repentance by a new way of living. To be saved is to have come out of darkness into the light.

Each of us has areas of darkness in our lives — fear, illness, pain, sin, guilt, loneliness, and so on. Society too has its dark areas. Hence our need of the light of Christ. Though the light comes as a friend, it also disturbs because it shows up what is wrong.

New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies

Parish News and Happenings

2026 Rite of Election :

The Rite of Election will occur on Sunday 22 February 2026. For Catechumens, this Rite “marks the beginning of the period of final, more intense preparation for the sacraments of initiation, during which the elect will be encouraged to follow Christ with greater generosity”.

Date: Sunday 22 February 2026 **Time:** 2:00pm

Location: St Francis Xavier’s Cathedral, Wollongong
Parishioners, guests, family, and sponsors are invited to attend this significant event in the life of the Diocese.

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Elizabeth / Nino Pineda / Sofia

Thanksgiving : Isabelle Noronha / Fr. Gerard Sullivan / Gerry & Tina Pineda / Fr. Christopher Maher OFM Cap / Stephanie Wico / Rudy Setiawan /

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 | * Jovencio Gregori |
| * Nelia Ambat | * Monica Djoneski |
| * Romulo Cabrera | * Mercy Espiritu |
| * Lydia, Jocelyn & Janice de Jesus | |
| * Logan Wall | |



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



- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| ✠ Raphel N.P | ✠ Juan Nellas |
| ✠ Jacob N.P | ✠ Cedric Hill |
| ✠ Tristram Patterson | ✠ Carlos Carbo |
| ✠ Joanna Marie Villasis | ✠ Leslie Fanning |
| ✠ David Beattie | ✠ Heath Ledger |
| ✠ Rajan George | ✠ Fred Boorman |
| ✠ Chandra Fernando | ✠ William Doggett |
| ✠ Amy Dorothy Francis | ✠ Anthony Sultana |
| ✠ Rogerio Pineda | ✠ Carmen Ibanez |
| ✠ Alexandra Dederá | ✠ Arthur Gallghen |
| ✠ Winnifreda Biacolo | |
| ✠ Benjamin Silverio | |
| ✠ Magdalena Torres | |
| ✠ 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 - 31st Jan & 1st Feb 2026

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

31/01 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

- (1) Jenny Kreltszheim (2) Chloe Kreltszheim
(3) Noel E / Jisha J / Noel S / Maria D
(4) Rosy D

01/02- 8.00 am Mass

- (1) Corrine Patterson (2) Rachelle Fogarty
(3) Mimi C / Robyn A / Alla B / Steve N
(4) Emmanuel S

01/02- 10.00 am Mass

- (1) Marc Ghignone (2) Jackie Heeraman
(3) Threlly C / Laa F / Nancy K / Alvin M / Tina P / Noel S
(4) Neejay S & Nerayo S

Church Cleaners (31/01)

Niumata Family / Regimol Jaison / Sheeba / Hyein

Proverbs