



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

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.

1st Sunday of Lent

Year A – 21st & 22nd February 2026

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 Genesis

(2:7-9; 3:1-7)

(Creation of our first parents, and sin).

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the East and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took

some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 50)

All: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Reader: Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.

All: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Reader: My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done.

All: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Reader: A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

All: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Reader: Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise.

All: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Parish News and Happenings

SECOND READING

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans
(5:12-19)
(Where sin increased, there grace abounded
all the more).*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking, yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

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: Matthew (4:1-11)

*(Such was said to your ancestors;
but I say to you).*

Communion Antiphon

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

**Readings for 2nd Sunday of Lent
28th Feb & 1st March 2026
Gen 12:1-4; 2 Tim 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9**

Upcoming Meeting:

- Meeting with Choir Leaders on Tuesday 24th February at 7pm
- All choir leaders are requested to attend.

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent at 7pm in the Church

Acolyte:

Final call for anyone wishing to become an acolyte. Please register your name by Tuesday, 24 February to secure a place at the training session held at Good Shepherd Church, Hoxton Park. Call the parish office or email if you are interested.

Parish Cuppa Weekend

WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY will be holding the monthly Parish Weekend Cuppa on the weekend of **28th Feb—6pm vigil & 1st March - 8am** mass. You are welcome to bring something sweet or savoury to share. Gold Coin donation appreciated.

Fr. Bosco's Birthday Celebrations:

Please join us one last time before Fr. Bosco moves to his new parish. We will celebrate his birthday on **Sunday, 1 March 2026**, after the **10:00 AM Mass** in the parish hall. A birthday card is available in the church foyer for you to share your best wishes. Kindly bring a plate to share.

Save the date:

Farewell for Fr. Bosco — Sunday, 19 April 2026

Mass: 9:00 AM (only one Mass)

The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Brian with Fr. Boni - SVD provincial. More details to follow.

Parish News and Happenings

Compassio - Lenten Program 2026

Copies of the 2026 Diocesan Lenten Book, "Compassio" are available for purchase from the table in the Church foyer for **\$6.00**. Please see Lina for your copy.

Lenten Reflection

You're warmly invited to our Lenten Program Reflections every Sunday at 3:00 PM in the Logos Centre. Come and deepen your faith with us this Lenten season. Everyone is welcome.

Catechist Commissioning Sunday

This Sunday, 21st February 2026, during the 8:00 am mass we will commission our SRE Catechist teachers, helpers, and Sunday School teachers. These dedicated volunteers come from all walks of life, sharing God's love and teachings with the children of our parish.

Please keep them in your prayers as they begin another year of guiding young hearts and minds in faith. There are still more children that we could be reaching! Can you give around an hour of your time a week to teach or help out in a class room? please speak to our Parish priest / Catechist coordinator if you would like to get involved.



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Project Compassion 2026 shares four stories from around the world. We'll meet Sisilia from Tanzania, Monoranjon from Bangladesh, Manaini from Fiji and Ahmad from Gaza.

Each of this year's stories highlights unique challenges, yet they are united by the determination to rise above adversity and to build brighter, more hopeful futures for themselves, their families and their communities.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes (available in the Church Foyer) or by scanning the QR code.

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

Reflection : Value of learning

Nelson Mandela said that education was the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world. There are plenty of people who would agree with him. One of them is Oprah Winfrey who said that education was the way to move mountains, build bridges and, yes, to change the world.

Today's readings certainly suggest the value of learning. The story from the Book of Genesis comes from pre-history. It has often been misunderstood to suggest that sin entered the world through one woman. This is not true. On the contrary, the readings tell us that the world is good. When humans try to overstretch their boundaries, trouble follows, and the experience of beauty and harmony is threatened. We need to choose our teachers. Are we going to listen to God or the serpent? In our modern world, the serpent takes many forms. There are countless threats to the harmony of the human race and the beauty of our natural environment.

Likewise, today's story of the temptations in the wilderness from Matthew's Gospel shows us that some lessons are difficult. Jesus teaches the devil. He tells the evil one that God is in charge. Jesus must decide which voices he will follow. He must learn that some ideas may not be as good as they sound. All the kingdoms of the world, Jesus learns, are no substitute for an honest and life-giving relationship with God.

Each week during Lent, Caritas Australia asks us to think about the world and learn more about our role in building God's kingdom. Today we start with an introduction to Project Compassion, which allows us to appreciate how much the Catholic community, has been able to achieve across the decades for the most marginalised people of the world. We are all still learning. Pope Leo XIV has reminded us that the vulnerable are great teachers.

In Dilexi Te he writes:

Christians must not abandon almsgiving... It is always better at least to do something rather than nothing. Whatever form it may take, almsgiving will touch and soften our hardened hearts... for our part, we need to give alms as a way of reaching out and touching the suffering flesh of the poor.

**Caritas Australia
Project compassion reflections**

Parish News and Happenings

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Ruby Houbert / Leoni Constantino / Mary, Novena & Maria Faustina / Carmen Bacay

Thanksgiving : Allan & Irma Torres / Geol Family

Special Intentions : Maria D'Souza

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



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|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| * Jaypee Masangkay | * Carole Dimayuga |
| * Aida Dayao | * Selda Dimayuga |
| * Maria & Mr. Vu | * Nancie |
| * Alan & Margaret Raisbeck | * Charo Doctor |
| * Mick Jones | * Lisapeta Kalasito |
| * Monique Yongching | * Nestor Henriques |
| * Wally Skoczylas | * Iya Gozum |
| * Resty Perez | * Olga Peric |
| * Andrea Tuazon | * John Vukovic |
| * Nelia Ambat | * Jovencio Gregori |
| * Romulo Cabrera | * Monica Djoneski |
| * Lydia, Jocelyn & Janice de Jesus | * Mercy Espiritu |
| * Logan Wall | * Czeslawa Piela |
| * Jean Yongching | * Allan Titmarsh |
| * Bernard Scott | * Drago Kukavica |
| * Elizabeth Gutierrez | * Leslie Miller |
| * Mason Dulalia | * Kylie & Justin King |
| * Mycka Dimasangal | * Shirley Suggun |
| * Brian Devine | * Irma Torres |
| * Jennifer Cooper | * Harold Maurice |
| * Kathryn Weidenbach | |
| * Mary Clout | |
| * John & Leila Khoury | |
| * Elie & Linda Khoury | |
| * Tamara & Grant James | |



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



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|---------------------------|---------------------|
| † Danielle & Pierre Huron | † Rupert Toohey |
| † Ong Agus Murdono | † Johny Domingo |
| † Josephine McKay | † Bambi Graham |
| † Ivor Collom | † Joe Calago |
| † Roy & Anne-Marie | † Cesar De Leon |
| † Christopher Nathan | † Alfonso Aranda Sr |
| † Tony Fitzpatrick | † Ron Bundenell |
| † Winifred O'Neill | † Norman Gaynor |
| † Nora Doohan | † John Milazzo |
| † Harold Mayne | † Elpidio Dumrigue |
| † Margaret Hodgkinson | † George Houbert |
| † John Hodgkinson | † Norman Sheppard |
| † Socorro Episcopo | † Denise Caramsing |
| † All souls in Purgatory | † Margaret Brennan |



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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 - 28th Feb & 1st March 2026

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

28/02 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

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| (1) Davitah S | 2) Jennet Menezes |
| (3) Noel E / Jisha J / Noel S / Irma G | |
| (4) Rosy / Jayson | |

01/03- 8.00 am Mass

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

01/03- 10.00 am Mass

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|---|--------------------|
| (1) Jeanette Sagana | (2) Elisha Sailago |
| (3) Nancy K / Alvin M / Tina P / Noel S / Bennette / Elisha S | |
| 4) Nerayo Santos | |

Church Cleaners (28/02) **Ruth**

Louise Phillips / Cynthia K / Marie F / Maureen L / Jeannett Sagana