



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.

5th Sunday of Lent

Year A – 21st & 22nd March 2026

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

FIRST READING

*A reading from the prophet Ezekiel (37:12-14)
(I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live).*

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this - it is the Lord who speaks.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 129)

All: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Reader: Out of the depth I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading.

All: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Reader: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, Who would survive? But with

you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

All: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Reader: My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak. (Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.)

All: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Reader: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (8:8-11)

(If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies).

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the

Parish News and Happenings

Reconciliation (1st Rite) :

Parishioners are invited to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Rite) on **Tuesday, 24th March 2026 at 6:00 pm**. There will be **four priests available**, providing ample opportunity for individual confession.

All are warmly encouraged to attend and prepare their hearts during this Lenten season.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday : 29th March 2026 - Usual Sunday Masses

Holy Thursday, 02nd April 2026

Mass at 7pm

Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament till 10pm. The faithful are encouraged to spend a suitable period of time during the night in the hall in adoration)

Good Friday, 03rd April 2026:

Stations of the Cross at 9am

First Rite of Reconciliation at 10am

Celebration of the passion of the Lord at 3pm

The Veneration of the Cross :

You are welcome to bring your own cross for the veneration on Good Friday. You are welcome to touch the cross but no kissing of the cross.

Holy Saturday, 04th April 2026:

Easter Vigil Mass at 7pm

Easter Sunday, 5th April 2026:

Mass at 8am & 10am

Reflection : World of emotion

It must be difficult for somebody who has never experienced love to understand the Gospels. They are so full of different emotions, many of them tender. Just think of the beautiful reconciliation between Jesus and Peter after the resurrection. Jesus allows Peter to say that he loves him on no less than three occasions. Thankfully, most of us can write down a long list of people we have loved and who have loved us. Many names would appear on both lists! We keep a special place in our hearts and prayers for the people we know who have died. Even after a long time, their memory will still bring a tear to our eyes. That sorrow comes from a place of deep gratitude. God changes the world one heart at a time.

When we encounter today's Gospel, the story of the raising of Lazarus, we are in a world of emotion. Martha and Mary are grieving for their brother. Jesus loves these two women. Thomas, the twin, is full of bravado and bluster, just as he was later when he wanted proof of the resurrection. Both Martha and Mary are disappointed, even angry, that Jesus has not come sooner. Jesus weeps at the grave of his friend. The mourners who have come to comfort the family must also have been sensitive to the situation. When Jesus says, 'I am the resurrection and the life', he is not explaining an idea. He is responding to the deepest longings of our hearts, as he always does. Today's Psalm reminds us, 'My soul is longing for the Lord more than the watcher for day-break.'

Over the last few weeks, we have shared some of the stories presented to us by Caritas Australia to make us more aware of the inspirational work we can support through Project Compassion. They call us to *Unite Against Poverty*.

This week Project Compassion asks us to learn more about the work of Caritas Australia in humanitarian emergencies. There are so many situations around the world that require a timely response. Caritas is active in the aftermath of earthquakes, floods, storms, plagues, drought and failed harvests. Of course, there will be time to enquire about the causes and to ask if climate change may have been a factor or if poor building standards caused problems. But first, people and communities need to survive, and Caritas has a lot of experience in this area. Your generosity to Project Compassion makes a wonderful difference to people in need. Thank you for helping to bring light to dark places. Jesus says about Lazarus, 'unbind him, let him go free.' We too can set people free.

Caritas Australia : Project Compassion Reflections



Since October 2023, Caritas Jerusalem staff in Gaza have endured displacement, personal loss, and danger alongside the communities they serve. Despite unimaginable challenges, they remain committed to providing lifesaving support, standing in solidarity with families enduring this conflict.

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*.

Parish News and Happenings

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Thanksgiving : Anthony Smith
Birthday : Miles Carbero

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 | * Harold Maurice |
| * Jennifer Cooper | * Jovencio Gregorio |
| * Kathryn Weidenbach | |
| * Mary Clout | |
| * Kylie | |



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



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|----------------------------|--|
| ✠ Aleyamma | ✠ Gregorio Lanao |
| ✠ Linda Yahya | ✠ Jorge Yanez |
| ✠ Steve Hendrawan | ✠ Elvio Jrdoslavic |
| ✠ Victoria Gondaya Javines | ✠ Josef Pospischil |
| ✠ Rosemay Fauvette | ✠ Romeo Kabigting |
| ✠ Eligio Garcia Sr | ✠ Mary Vida Roche |
| ✠ Milagros Garcia | ✠ Peter Gaynor |
| ✠ Joseph Gomez | ✠ ConsolationZabat |
| ✠ Sr Doreen Dyson | ✠ Brian Ireland |
| ✠ Rostina | ✠ Deceased members of : Jesuina Quintao family |
| ✠ Thomas James | |
| ✠ Valsa Devassy | |
| ✠ Ivor Collom | |
| ✠ 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 - 28th & 29th March 2026

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

28/03 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass PALM SUNDAY

- (1) Noel Santos 2) Terry Beattie
 Narrator : Pierre R ; Reader 1 & 2- Davitha S & Maria D'souza
 (3) Noel E / Jisha J / Noel S / Maria D
 (4) Rosy / Jayson

29/03- 8.00 am Mass

- (1) Corrine Patterson 2) Rachelle Fogarty
 Narrator : Calvin Ambrose; 1 & 2- Robyn Ashley & Jim Fogarty
 (3) Alla B / Steve N / Lucy N / Emelia B
 (4) Emmanuel S

29/03- 10.00 am Mass

- (1) Marissa Manoto 2) Threlly Cabacungan
 Narrator : Marc Ghignone ; Reader 1 & 2- Alvin M & Harry M
 (3) Tina P / Noel S / Bennette / Elisha S / John T / Peter T
 (4) Gabriel Wijaya / Tomjo Rinson

Church Cleaners (28/03)

Deuteronomy

Catherine & Pierre R / Jenny & Mario K