



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

Administrator: Fr. Peter Wang 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.

6th Sunday of Easter - Year A

9th & 10th May 2026

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord
has freed his people, alleluia.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
(8:5-8, 14-17)
*(They laid hands on them, and they received
the Holy Spirit.)*

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 65)

All: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Reader: Cry out with joy to God all the earth, O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise. Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!

All: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Reader: 'Before you all the earth shall bow; shall sing to you, sing to your name!' Come and see the works of God, tremendous his deeds among men.

All: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Reader: He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the river dry-shod. Let our joy then be in him; he rules for ever by his might.

All: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Reader: Come and hear, all who fear God. I will tell what he did for my soul: Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer nor withhold his love for me.

All: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of Peter (3:15-18)

(In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.)

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But

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give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John (14:15-21)

(I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate).

Communion Antiphon

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

**Readings for The Ascension of the Lord
16th & 17th May 2026
Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20**

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

Garden Maintenance

Thank you all who volunteered to be part of the Garden Group. Our first working bee will be held 9 - 11am 16th May 2026; details will be forwarded to you. Not all can attend, based on your responses but other opportunities will arise in the future. Thank you kindly. - Alla Bakulic.

Prayer For All Our Mothers and Mother-figures

Loving and gracious God, we thank You for the precious gift of mothers and grandmothers. Bless them with Your love, strength, wisdom, and peace. May they continue to reflect Your compassion through their kindness, patience, generosity, and selfless care. Fill their hearts with joy, their homes with peace, and their lives with the comfort of Your presence. We also give thanks for all women who nurture and care for others with a mother's heart, sharing their love, guidance, and encouragement so generously. We entrust all mothers and mother-figures to the loving care of Mary, Mother of Jesus. May she watch over and protect them, and may Your Son, Jesus, bless them abundantly. We also remember with love those mothers who are no longer with us, and those who find this day difficult. May they be comforted by Your gentle presence and peace. May God bless all mothers and mother-figures, today and always. Amen.



Celebrating New Catholics:

A celebration of those who have become Catholics in the last 12 months will occur on Sunday, 24 May 2026 with Evening Prayer at 2pm in St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong, to be followed by light refreshments.

New Catholics and their families and their Godparents are invited to take part in this celebration.

If you are going please let the parish office know.

Confirmation 2026 – Important Dates

**Reconciliation before the confirmation day:
Monday, 1st June 2026 at 5pm**

Sacrament of Confirmation: Celebrated on **Saturday, 20th June 2026** during the **10:00am** Mass.

Parish Feast Day : Monday 25th May, following the great feast of Pentecost, we celebrate the Feast day of Mary Mother of the church. Mass will be at the normal time of 9am on the day. However, please join us for a special cuppa to celebrate the feast day on the weekend of **23rd / 24th May (Pentecost Sunday) after weekend masses.**

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Recycling Bottles: Fr Peter kindly requests that if you have any 10c return & earn recyclable bottles or cans to donate, please leave them in front of the garage door. All proceeds raised will go towards helping those in need.

Notice: If you would like a copy of your photos taken with Fr. Bosco on the farewell day, please contact the parish office, and the photos will be sent to you individually. Thank you.

Deceased Name Inscribed In The Memorial Garden Plaque

If you wish to have your beloved deceased family member's names to be inscribed in the Memorial Garden plaque of our parish, please email the names to the parish office by **30th June 2026**. A donation of \$300 for each name required. A Special Mass in memory of those departed faithful will be offered by the parish priest every year in the month of November. We will proceed with the plaque only if we get enough names. Thank You.

MULTICULTURAL DAY RAFFLE

Trying to think of a way to support our parish? Collect a book of raffle tickets to sell to family and friends.

**1st Prize : \$500 ; 2nd Prize : \$300 ;
3rd Prize : \$200
Plus 5 Consolation Prizes
Ticket price : \$5/ticket
Draw : 13th September 2026**

All proceedings will go towards parish projects. Please see Lina for your book.

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

Sunday School : Every Sundays during 10am Mass in the parish hall. (during the School Term)

Reflection :

Love & obedience

In today's Gospel passage we have part of the farewell discourse of Jesus during the last supper. In these last hours with his apostles he spoke about essentials. Many of the things he said were naturally directed towards the future, at how he wanted them to live when he was gone. One of the things he said to them was: 'If you love me, keep my commandments'.

We are not talking about keeping a specific set of commandments but rather about following his way of life. What is involved here is Christian discipleship. We can't truly call ourselves disciples of Jesus if we don't listen to his words and make an effort to live by them. One wouldn't be much of a Christian if one didn't try to live as Jesus taught.

But we must be clear about one thing. We don't keep his commandments so that he will love us; we keep his commandments because he loves us. During the same supper Jesus said, 'Love one another as I have loved you.' It was he who first loved the apostles, and loved them unconditionally.

The greatest need each one of us has is for real, unconditional love. Yet we find it hard to believe that this is how God loves us. We tend to believe that God will love us only if we are good. God loves us, not because we are good, but because he is good. Our very existence is a sign of God's love. God's unconditional love for us is the Good News. Our response is to try to return that love.

Jesus knew that the Father loved him. He responded by loving the Father. He showed his love for the Father through his obedience, even though that obedience cost him his life. And it is through obedience that we are to show our love for Jesus. What does this mean in practice? It means listening to his word and putting it in action. To love is to obey and to obey is to love.

There are those who proclaim their love for Jesus in words, but who deny him in their deeds or by their way of life. Real love is shown in deeds. People know us by our acts, not by what we say with our lips.

It is not easy to live as a disciple of Jesus in the modern world. It never was an easy thing. But for that reason Jesus has given us the Holy Spirit. When we are weak we must pray to the Spirit. The Spirit comforts us in times of sorrow, enlightens us in times of darkness, and makes us brave and strong in times of weakness.

The word Jesus used for the Spirit is 'Advocate', a legal term for one who supports a defendant at a trial. The Spirit will be the great defender of the disciples in time of trial. And the follower of Jesus can expect to suffer. But, as St Peter says, it is better to suffer for doing the right thing than for doing the wrong thing. Knowing that our cause is right gives us great strength. Besides, we have the example of Christ who, though innocent, suffered and died for our sins.

The apostles knew that Jesus loves them. And we know that Jesus loves us too. There is no mistaking love. You feel it in your heart. It is like a flame that warms your soul, energises your spirit and supplies passion to your life. Love is our connection to God and to each other. Love is the climate in which the Christian lives.

New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies

Parish News and Happenings

Church Cleaning : We kindly remind all parishioners to help us keep our church clean and welcoming. Our cleaning volunteers often find biscuit crumbs, tissues and other litter left inside the church. Please also remember to wipe your shoes before entering the church, especially on wet weather. This small gesture greatly helps in maintaining the dignity and cleanliness of our sacred space.

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Sharon & Calvin Ambrose /
Noreen Meyne / Nathalie

Thanksgiving : Jeremy Johannes

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 |
| * Jamie Masangkay | * Nancie |
| * Alan & Margaret Raisbeck | * Charo Doctor |
| * Monique Yongching | * Lisapeta Kalasito |
| * Wally Skoczylas | * Nestor Henriques |
| * Resty Perez | * Iya Gozum |
| * Andrea Tuazon | * Olga Peric |
| * Nelia Ambat | * John Vukovic |
| * Romulo Cabrera | * Jovencio Gregori |
| * Lydia, Jocelyn & Janice de Jesus | * Monica Djoneski |
| * Logan Wall | * Mercy Espiritu |
| * Jean Yongching | * Czeslawa Piela |
| * Bernard Scott | * Allan Titmarsh |
| * Elizabeth Gutierrez | * Drago Kukavica |
| * Mason Dulalia | * Leslie Miller |
| * Mycka Dimasangal | * Kylie & Justin King |
| * Brian Devine | * Harold Maurice |
| * Jennifer Cooper | * Jovencio Gregorio |
| * Kathryn Weidenbach | * Lisapeta Kalasito |
| * Kylie | * Mary Clout |
| * Mary Jane Van Miguel | * John Richnson |



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



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|---|------------------|
| ✠ Mick Jones | ✠ Terry McNamara |
| ✠ Mary Michael Suker | ✠ Terry Touzell |
| ✠ Heather Penny | ✠ Margaret Ward |
| ✠ Patricia McNamara | |
| ✠ Chandra Fernando | |
| ✠ Deceased members of: - Noronha & Sequeira Families | |
| ✠ 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 - 16th & 17 May 2026

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

16/05 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

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| (1) Terry Beattie | (2) Herbert Kreltszheim |
| (3) Andres C / Maria D / Irma G / Teresa B | |
| (4) Rosy D'Souza | |

17/05 - 8.00 am Mass

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|---|-------------------|
| (1) Jim Fogarty | 2) Calvin Ambrose |
| (3) Mimi C / Robyn A / Alla B / Steve N | |
| (4) Emmanuel S | |

17/05 - 10.00 am Mass

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|--|---------------------|
| (1) Tess Valesini | 2) Peter Thankachan |
| (3) Nancy K / Alvin M / Tina P / Noel S / Benette / Elisha S | |
| (4) Gabriel Wijaya | |

Church Cleaners (16/05)

Exodus

Sue Titmarsh / Marieta Collins / George Hogan / Niko