



MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH

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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.

The Ascension of the Lord- Year A *16th & 17th May 2026*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon (Vigil Mass)

**You kingdoms of the earth, sing to God;
praise the Lord, who ascends above the
highest heavens; his majesty and might are in
the skies, alleluia.**

Entrance Antiphon (Day Mass)

**Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the
heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending
into heaven will return as you saw him go,
alleluia.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1:1-11)

*(Why are you standing here looking into the sky?
Jesus has been taken into heaven.)*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there'.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 46)

All: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Reader: All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth.

All: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Reader: God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise.

All: God mounts his throne to shouts

Parish News and Happenings

of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Reader: God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne.

All: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Ephesians (1:17-23)

(He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.)

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit on his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with You always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew (28:16-20)

(All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.)

Communion Antiphon

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

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 Dinner Dance :

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the parish will not be holding the Annual Parish Dinner Dance Event this year. We know that many parishioners and friends of the parish were looking forward to this special evening of fellowship, celebration, and community spirit, and we sincerely regret any disappointment this may cause.

The Annual Dinner Dance has always been a wonderful opportunity for our parish community to come together socially and strengthen the bonds of friendship within the parish. Unfortunately, after careful consideration, we have made the difficult decision **to cancel this year's event**. We thank everyone for their understanding and continued Support.

MMOC Young Adults: (aged 12 - 35)

Our Parish is exploring new opportunities for youth & young adults to connect, grow and belong. Fill out this expression of interest form to get involved! For more updates, please visit @mmocyoungadults on Instagram.



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.**

Parish News and Happenings

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.

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 :

Jesus Leaving

Jesus is going to the Father, going to glory. But in his going he is not thinking only of himself. His going is connected with the sending of the Spirit. His going was necessary for him and for the apostles.

It was necessary for him because thus he was entering into his glory. It was necessary for the apostles because otherwise the Spirit could not come. 'Unless I go, the Spirit cannot come. But if I go I will send him to you.' Thus, in his going he was not thinking just of himself and his own glory, but of the needs of his friends.

The apostles seemed to understand this because St Luke says that they returned in joy to Jerusalem. However, pain was mingled with their joy. They were glad that Jesus was going to glory, but sad that he was leaving them.

Yet they glimpsed that somehow his going was necessary. There are things people can give us and do for us in their absence which they can't give us or do for us in their presence. In their absence we see their true worth. We get a fuller picture of their characters and a better appreciation of their achievements and of what they have meant to us and done for us.

There is a sense in which they enrich us through their going. By going they make space for us. They give us room and freedom. They give us a chance to assume responsibility. They show confidence in us by the trust they place in us. And we know that they are still interested in us, and still love us. We still enjoy their support.

The leaving of a dear one is a painful thing because we become conscious of his or her absence, and of our own emptiness and aloneness. But this pain has to be faced. Jesus honoured his apostles (and now honours us) by entrusting them with the task of carrying on his mission. That task was first of all one of preaching. They were to tell the Good News to all those who had never heard it.

Secondly, the task was one of healing. Christianity is concerned not just with the soul but also with the body. Jesus wished his followers to bring health of mind and body to people. The only assurance he gave them was that he would be with them always: 'I'll be with you always; yes, to the end of time'. However, that assurance would give them the courage and strength to face whatever difficulties lay ahead.

The idea that they could drink a poisoned drink or pick up a dangerous snake and come to no harm must not be taken literally. These are symbols of evil, and Jesus was saying that his power would enable them to triumph over evil.

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 : Paulaa Faamausili Ailua

Thanksgiving : Crisbel Artuz / Tina Pineda / Louis & Nathalie Ratinon / Bui Family /

Wedding Anniversary : Graziella & Jason

Special Intentions : Novalyn Catalan

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



- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| * 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 | * Mercy Espiritu |
| * Lydia, Jocelyn & Janice de Jesus | * Czeslawa Piela |
| * Logan Wall | * Allan Titmarsh |
| * Jean Yongching | * Leslie Miller |
| * Mason Dulalia | * Harold Maurice |
| * Mycka Dimasangal | * Jovencio Gregorio |
| * Brian Devine | * Lisapeta Kalasito |
| * Jennifer Cooper | * Mary Clout |
| * Kathryn Weidenbach | * John Richnson |
| * Kylie | * David Ashley |
| * Mary Jane Van Miguel | |



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



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|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ✠ Mabel Artuz | ✠ Kate & Maria |
| ✠ Rufino Artuz Jr. | ✠ George |
| ✠ Jesus del Rosario Sr. | ✠ Ama Parsons |
| ✠ Lorraine Fay Kenworthy | ✠ Iaeli Maiava |
| ✠ Chandra Fernando | ✠ All souls in Purgatory |
| ✠ Deceased members of: | |
| - Milazzo Family | |
| - Quintao Family | |
| - Lobato Family | |



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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 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 - 23rd & 24th May 2026

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

23/05 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

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| (1) Davitah S | (2) Jennet Menezes |
| (3) Noel E / Jisha J / Andres C / Maria D | |
| (4) Rosy D'Souza | |

24/05 - 8.00 am Mass

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

24/05 - 10.00 am Mass

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| (1) Jaiden Valencia | 2) Ashley Valencia |
| (3) John T / Peter T / Carmen A / Threlly C / Laa F / Nancy K | |
| (4) Neejay & Nerayo Santos | |

Church Cleaners (23/05)

Ruth

Louise Phillips / Cynthia K / Marie F / Maureen L