



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.

5th Sunday of Easter - Year A

2nd & 3rd May 2026

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (6:1-7)

(They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom).

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 32)

All: Lord, Let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Reader: Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.

All: Lord, Let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Reader: For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.

All: Lord, Let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Reader: The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

All: Lord, Let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of Peter (2:4-9)

(You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood).

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I

Parish News and Happenings

have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John (14:1-12)

(I am the way, the truth and the life).

Communion Antiphon

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

Readings for 6th Sunday of Easter
9th & 10th May 2026

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Pet 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21

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 Cuppa Weekend

WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY will be holding the monthly Parish Weekend Cuppa this weekend after all the masses. Please join us after the mass. Gold coin donation appreciated.

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.

Confirmation 2026 – Important Dates

Lessons: Five Lessons will be held on Sundays from **11:30 AM to 12:30 PM**, starting this **Sunday, 2nd May 2026.**

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.

Upcoming Meeting

PPC & Events Committee meeting will be held on **Thursday 7th May 2026 at 6:30pm** in the Logos Centre. All members are requested to attend.

Thank You: As a parish, we have raised the following funds:

Project Compassion: \$5,137.70
Holy Land: \$2,595.00.

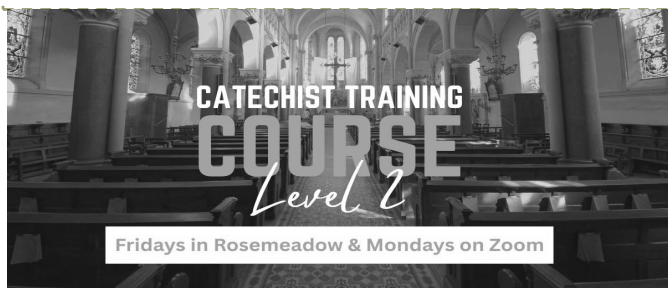
Thank you for your generosity and support.

Journeying Together – don't forget to grab the first bi-monthly publication from the church foyer, "Journeying Together in faith & Mission", announcing news and events from the Diocese of Wollongong.

Lost & Found : A reminder to all parishioners that a **Lost and Found Basket** is located in the church foyer. If you have misplaced any items, please check the basket at your convenience. Items left unclaimed will be cleared at the end of each month and donated to St Vincent de Paul.

Thank you

Parish News and Happenings



MMOC Young Adults – Instagram

Stay connected and up to date with all our upcoming events by following our Instagram page: @mmocyoungadults

National Mass Attendance Count

In May, all parishes across Australia will take part in the National Count of Mass Attendance, conducted by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. The count will occur over the first four weekends of May and includes all who attend Mass (of all ages), This important initiative helps the Church better understand and respond to the pastoral needs of our communities. Please be assured that this exercise does not disrupt Mass.

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 : Faith in a time of crisis

There come times in the lives of all believers when things get very dark, and they have to believe what they cannot prove, and to accept even though they cannot understand or make sense of what's happening. It's at such times that we really need strong faith, but its precisely at such times that our faith fails us.

It's easy to convince ourselves that we have a strong faith when things are going well. When a crisis arises we discover what kind of faith we have, or if we have any faith at all. By faith here I mean trust in God.

Of course, there are people who think that if God was with them, and if he really loved them, then no storm would ever hit them. Life should be all plain sailing. So, when a storm does hit them, they experience a deep crisis of faith, thinking that God has abandoned them.

During the Last Supper the apostles were thrown into crisis when Jesus started to talk about his death. On hearing this their hearts were troubled and filled with fear. Knowing that their faith would be severely tested, Jesus tried to prepare them for the ordeal. He said to them, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Believe in God, and believe also in me.' Since the apostles already believed, in effect what he was saying to them was, 'You must go on believing in God and in me.'

At a time of crisis people feel that God has abandoned them. But Jesus assured the apostles that, even though he was leaving them, he was not abandoning them. Rather, he was going to prepare a home for them, and would return to take them to that home. Hence, no matter what happened, no matter how difficult things might get (and they would get very difficult), they must go on believing, go on trusting in him and in the Father. That's all they would have to do. Go on believing, go on trusting. Easier said than done.

But at a time of crisis that is the only thing we can do - go on stubbornly trusting in God. Trust is the greatest thing we can give to another person. At that hour we must believe that somehow there is a purpose to it all, and that good will come of it. Then the unbearable becomes bearable, and in the darkness a glimmer of light appears.

What real faith does is assure us that God is with us in the midst of the crisis. It is that feeling, that conviction, that we are not alone, that we are not abandoned, which enables us to get through the crisis. A person with a grain of faith in God never loses hope, because he believes in the ultimate triumph of truth (Gandhi).

So when things are bad, may we hear the gentle words of Jesus: 'Believe in God, and believe also in me.'

New Sunday & Holy Day

Parish News and Happenings

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Tulasunui Ropati / Faamausili Ailua / Dell Smith / Anishka / Jocelyne

Thanksgiving : Lucy Maher / Bakulic Family / Angelina Smith /

Wedding Anniversary : Luca & Dominica / Thomas & Theresia

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



- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| * Jaypee Masangkay | * Carole Dimayuga |
| * Aida Dayao | * Selda Dimayuga |
| * Jamie Masangkay | * Nancie |
| * Mr. Vu | * Charo Doctor |
| * Alan & Margaret Raisbeck | * Lisapeta Kalasito |
| * Mick Jones | * 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 | * Czeslawa Piela |
| * Logan Wall | * Allan Titmarsh |
| * Jean Yongching | * Drago Kukavica |
| * Bernard Scott | * Leslie Miller |
| * Elizabeth Gutierrez | * Kylie & Justin King |
| * Mason Dulalia | * Harold Maurice |
| * Mycka Dimasangal | * Jovencio Gregorio |
| * Brian Devine | * Lisapeta Kalasito |
| * Jennifer Cooper | * Mary Clout |
| * Kathryn Weidenbach | * John Richnson |
| * Kylie | |
| * Mary Jane Van Miguel | |



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



- ✠ Robert Stanley
- ✠ Stanley & Phyllis Rozario
- ✠ Percy Langley
- ✠ Abel Gomez
- ✠ Chandra Fernando
- ✠ Maria Vu
- ✠ 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 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 - 9th & 10 May 2026

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

09/05 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

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| (1) Edyleen Santos | (2) Noel Santos |
| (3) Noel E / Jisha J / Noel S / Irma G | |
| (4) Rosy D'Souza / Jayson Huynh | |

10/05 - 8.00 am Mass

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|---|-----------------|
| (1) Lucy Niumata | 2) Robyn Ashley |
| (3) Alla B / Stev N / Lucy N / Emelia B | |
| (4) Emmanuel S | |

10/05 - 10.00 am Mass

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| (1) Noel Santos | 2) Edyleen Santos |
| (3) Noel S / John T / Peter T / Carmen A / Threlly C / Laa F | |
| (4) Neejay / Nerayo Santos | |

Church Cleaners (09/05)

Deuteronomy

Catherine & Pierre Rochecouste / Jennifer & Mario K