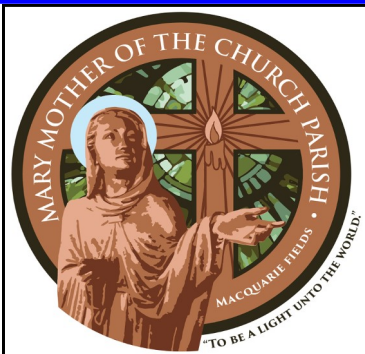




MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH

58 EDGAR STREET or PO BOX 18 MACQUARIE FIELDS NSW 2564

Phone: 02 9605 6169

Email: mfilds@dow.org.au

Website : mmotc.org.au

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: TO BE A LIGHT UNTO THE WORLD

Parish Priest : Fr. Iosefo Asaeli Rass SVD - 0429 378 073

Assistant Priest: Fr. Peter Wang SVD - 0478 898 580

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.

*18th Sunday in Ordinary Year
Year A - 1st & 2nd August 2026*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my
rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (55:1-3)

(Hasten and eat).

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 144)

All: The hand of the Lord feeds us, he answers all our needs.

Reader: The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.

All: The hand of the Lord feeds us, he answers all our needs.

Reader: The eyes of all creatures look to you and you give them their food in due time. You open wide your hand, grant the desires of all who live.

All: The hand of the Lord feeds us, he answers all our needs.

Reader: The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, call on him from their hearts.

All: The hand of the Lord feeds us, he answers all our needs.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (8:35, 37-39)

(No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ).

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Parish News and Happenings

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

Matthew (14:13-21)

(They all ate and were satisfied).

Communion Antiphon

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

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 11:00am

A Biblical walk through the Mass :

Facilitated by Charbel Raish. A journey that will transform your faith.

Thursday 6 August ; 7pm to 8:30pm at Holy Family Parish Ingleburn. Please register via their parish website : hfi.org.au

What's on in August for the MMOC Youth Group?

Join us every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month in the Logos Centre from 6:30-9:00pm to encounter a space where faith and friendship meet. Ages 16-25 welcome!

2nd Friday (14/8): Craft Night - DIY Pocket Shrines

4th Friday (28/8): Mary's "Yes": Trusting God's Plan - A Talk by Fr. Peter

For more, follow @mmoc.youthgroup on Instagram

Going to World Youth Day 2027?

If you're aged 16-25 and planning to attend World Youth Day in Seoul, you're invited to connect with other parish pilgrims as we take part in fundraising opportunities this year and prepare together through formation events in the lead-up to WYD27. If you're interested, please contact Jaiden at 0468 638 087 or the parish office.

Parish Volunteers Needed

Our parish is seeking **volunteers** to serve in the following ministries:

♦ **Parish Safeguarding Support Officers (PSSO)**

We are searching for **two** part-time PSSO. It is a volunteer role that supports and assists the Parish Priest in his safeguarding responsibilities to ensure our parish policies and protocols are established and maintained to create child safe environments in the Diocese of Wollongong. This role is to support the Parish Priest and parish community in implementing preventative Safeguarding strategies.

♦ **Parish Work Health & Safety Officers**

A Parish Work Health and Safety (WHS) Officer ensures the church and its facilities comply with safety legislation. Responsibilities include identifying hazards, conducting risk assessments, managing emergency procedures, overseeing volunteer safety. The parish needs **two** part-time volunteers to undertake this important ministry.

♦ **Parish Weekday Sacristan**

The parish needs a weekday sacristan (Monday-Friday). He or she is a vital behind-the-scenes "liturgical officer" responsible for the care of the sacristy, the sanctuary, and all the sacred vessels, vestments, and liturgical books used in church services. They ensure that everything necessary for Mass and the sacraments is properly arranged and reverently maintained prior to the Mass.

If you feel called to share your time and talents in these important ministries, please speak with Fr Rass, PPC Chair or contact the Parish Office for more information.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others." — 1 Peter 4:10

Spiritual Direction – An Invitation to Grow in Faith

Are you longing to deepen your relationship with God? **Spiritual Direction** is a confidential, one-to-one conversation that helps you become more aware of God's presence and guidance in your everyday life. It is not counselling confession, or advice-giving, but a prayerful journey of listening to the Holy Spirit and discerning where God is leading you.

Meeting with a spiritual director **once a month or every two months** can help you:

- Deepen your prayer life
- Discern life's decisions
- Find peace during times of change

Grow in faith and spiritual awareness

If you would like to explore Spiritual Direction, please contact **Fr Rass** through the Parish Office to arrange an appointment.

Parish News and Happenings

Assumption Day Pilgrimage – Penrose Park

To celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our parish will be making a pilgrimage to the **Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy, Penrose Park** on **Saturday, 15 August**, and anyone who would like to join is most welcome.

Proposed Schedule :

- **Around 9:30 am** – Depart
- Rosary, personal prayer time at the Shrine
- Bring your own picnic lunch
- Return to Parish around 3pm

Further details will be provided once registrations are received. Depending on the number of participants, we may be able to use the parish bus, with additional carpooling if required. You are also welcome to make your own travel arrangements. Everyone is warmly welcome to join us as we honour Our Blessed Mother on her feast day. Bring your **personal intentions, your families, and the needs of others to join with us.**

Parish Multicultural Day Celebration

Join us for a vibrant celebration of our diverse community on **Sunday, September 13, 2026** following the 9:00 AM Mass, which will be the only Mass of the day.

Ways to Participate:

- **Donate Boxed Items:** Contribute boxed items for our white elephant stall.
- **Organize a Food Stall:** Showcase flavors from your country by setting up a food stall. Contact Tina Pineda - 0408785626 to reserve your stall space.
- **Solo or Group Performance:** Share your talents with the community through a cultural performance. Register your act in advance by contacting Jessica Parsons - jessmp1997@live.com
- **Invite Friends and Family:** Extend the celebration by inviting loved ones to join us for this special day.
- **Wear a Costume:** Embrace your heritage by dressing in traditional attire from your country.
- Help to clean up.

Let's come together to celebrate our diversity and unity as a parish community!

If you have any queries, would like to participate, or are interested in volunteering, please contact the Parish Office or Eric D'Silva on 0434 869 426. Alternatively, you can leave your name and contact number on the sign-up sheet located in the church foyer. Thank you for your support.

Reflection : Miracle of generosity

Today's Gospel tells us how Jesus took five loaves and two fish, blessed them, and transformed a small offering into enough food to feed a huge crowd.

This Gospel reminds me of my family's experience when I was young. In my hometown, there are two famous pilgrimage mountains. One is about 1.5 hours away, and another is only about 15 minutes away. Every year, especially during May, many pilgrims come to visit these holy places. After their pilgrimage, some of them would come to our hometown to visit our parish, which is the largest church in China.

Because my family came from an underground church community, we often received requests from pilgrims who came from different provinces. They would ask if our family could prepare dinner for them. Sometimes, they came in very large groups, even around two hundred people. I still remember my mother's reaction whenever she heard this news. She was always worried. She would think, "Do we have enough bread? Do we have enough vegetables? How can we prepare enough food for so many people?" Looking only at what we had, it seemed impossible.

But every time, something amazing happened. After everyone had eaten, there was always enough food. Sometimes, there were even leftovers. My father would smile and say to my mother, "Why are you worrying so much? Trust in God. God will provide." These words from my father stayed in my heart. When I read today's Gospel, I think about my family's experience. In a small way, we witnessed the same message as the Gospel: when we place what we have in God's hands, God can make it more than enough.

Sometimes we are like my mother. We look at our lives and wonder, "Is what I have enough?" We may feel that we do not have enough time, enough ability, enough resources, or enough strength to serve others. But Jesus reminds us that he does not ask for something perfect. He only asks us to offer what we have.

Let us reflect: what can we offer to God today? It may be something small—a kind word, a little time, a simple prayer, or a small gift. When we place it into God's hands, he can make it into something greater than we can imagine.

This miracle is not only about food; it is about trust. May we have the courage to offer what we have and trust that God will always provide to us.

- Fr. Peter Wang

Parish News and Happenings

Invitation to Host a Food Stall and Cultural performance on Multicultural Day on 13th September

We warmly invite **all ethnic and cultural groups** to participate in our upcoming multicultural day by **organizing a food stall** and **presenting the cultural performance**.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share the unique flavours and traditions of your country with the wider community. To reserve your stall or for Cultural performance, please contact the parish office or Tina Pineda or Jessica. We look forward to celebrating together.

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Budi Dharma /

Thanksgiving : Danica Pineda / Sam Lacin

Wedding Anniversary : Ellen and Manny Padilla

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 | * Mercy Espiritu |
| * Romulo Cabrera | * Czeslawa Piela |
| * Lydia, Jocelyn & Janice de Jesus | * Allan Titmarsh |
| * Logan Wall | * Jovencio Gregorio |
| * Jean Yongching | * Mary Clout |
| * Mason Dulalia | * John Richnson |
| * Mycka Dimasangal | * Lisa Kalasito |
| * Roseline Rivet | * Maiava Vilo |
| * Rani | * Marissa A Patricio |
| * Jude | * Jake Valte |
| * Jacquie Heeraman | * Michael Patterson |
| * Joe Duval | |



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

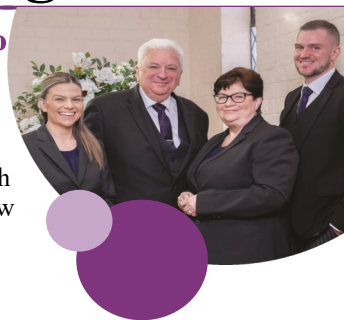


- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ✠ Lucien Sullivan | ✠ Soniya Dias |
| ✠ Danica & Mile Vukovic | ✠ Chandra Fernando |
| ✠ Manuel Antonia | ✠ Cecilia Quiah |
| ✠ Anson Manuel | ✠ Raynu Quiah |
| ✠ Yagappan Antonia | ✠ Deceased members of Helene Family |
| ✠ Jennifer Nagarajan | |
| ✠ Mary Thi Mong Le | |
| ✠ Alexis Ngoc Bui | |
| ✠ 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 - 8th & 9th August 2026

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

08/08 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| (1) Terry Beattie | (2) Noel Santos |
| (3) Andres C / Noel S / Noel E / Maria D | |
| (4) Rosy | |

09/08 - 8.00 am Mass

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

09/08 - 10.00 am Mass

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| (1) Elisha Sailago | (2) Tina Pineda |
| (3) Laa F / Nancy K / Alvin M / Tina P / Bennette / Elisha S | |
| (4) Neejay / Nerayo Santos | |

Church Cleaners (09/08)

Exodus

Sue Titmarsh / Marieta Collins / George H / Niko W