



MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH

58 EDGAR STREET or PO BOX 18 MACQUARIE FIELDS NSW 2564

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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.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday

Year A - 4th & 5th July 2026

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

Your merciful love, O God,
We have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
Reaches the ends of the earth;
Your right hand is filled with saving justice.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Zechariah (9:9-10)

(See how humbly your king comes to you!).

The Lord says this:

'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem! See
now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he
is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on
a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will banish
chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim
peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch
from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the
earth.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 144)

**All: I will praise your name for ever,
my King and my God.**

Reader: I will give you glory, O God my King, I
will bless your name for ever. I will
bless you day after day and praise your
name for ever.

**All: I will praise your name for ever,
my King and my God.**

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: I will praise your name for ever,
my King and my God.**

Reader: All your creatures shall thank you, O
Lord, and your friends shall repeat their
blessing. They shall speak of the glory
of your reign and declare your might, O
God.

**All: I will praise your name for ever,
my King and my God.**

Reader: The Lord is faithful in all his words and
loving in all his deeds. The Lord
supports all who fall and raises all who
are bowed down.

**All: I will praise your name for ever,
my King and my God.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the
Romans (8:9, 11-13)

*(If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of
the body, you will live).*

Parish News and Happenings

Your interests 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, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew (11:25-30)
(I am gentle and humble of heart).

Communion Antiphon

**Taste and see that the Lord is good;
Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.**

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

Parish Cuppa Weekend

WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY will be holding the monthly Parish Weekend Cuppa this weekend on **4th & 5th July** after weekend masses. All are welcome to join in! Gold Coin donation appreciated.

What's on in July for MMOC's Young Adults?

Join us every 2nd and 4th Friday every 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 (10/7): Young Adults Social Night
4th Friday (24/7): A Talk - Loving Like Jesus
For more, follow @mmocyoungadults on Instagram

2026 Significant Marriage Anniversaries Mass

If you are celebrating 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 or over 60 years of marriage this year, you are warmly invited to the Significant Marriage Anniversaries, celebrated with Bishop Brian Mascord on Sunday 6 September 2026 at 2pm at the St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong.

Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the Xavier Centre Conference Room.

Registration is essential and must be completed online at dow.sh/ma26 by no later than Monday, 17 August 2026.

Any enquiries please email Helen Bennett helen.bennett@dow.org.au

Introducing your new Parish Priest

Fr Iosefo Asaeli Rass, SVD, is a member of the Society of the Divine Word, an international Roman Catholic missionary congregation dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel, fostering intercultural dialogue, and serving communities worldwide. A native of Fiji, he has served in pastoral, missionary, leadership, and formation ministries across Oceania, Australia, and the wider Church.



Since his priestly ordination in 2002, Fr Rass has served in parish leadership, missionary formation, retreat facilitation, and pastoral accompaniment among First Nations Australians. He also served as Provincial Superior of the SVD Australia Province for six years, providing leadership for Divine Word Missionaries in Australia, Thailand, Myanmar, New Zealand, and the Pacific.

Fr Rass has contributed to the Church's synodal renewal as a co-facilitator during the continental phase of the Synod of Bishops on Synodality (2023) and for the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania. After completing his term as Provincial Superior, he undertook a sabbatical in Fiji and the United States, where he facilitated workshops, retreats, and formation programs on synodality for Pacific Island Catholic communities in the diaspora.

As he begins this new ministry, Fr Rass looks forward to serving and journeying with the community towards a listening, inclusive, merciful and missionary Mary Mother of the Church parish. Fr. Rass will begin his ministry in our parish on **Wednesday, 1 July 2026**. Please keep him in your prayers and join us in extending a warm and heartfelt welcome.

Parish News and Happenings

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.

Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation & Holy Communion 2026

1st Reconciliation:

Briefing for parents: 21st of July at 7pm

Lessons : 26th July - 23rd August on Sundays at 11:30am

1st Reconciliation : 28th August 2026 at 5pm

1st Holy Communion:

Lessons : 18th October - 15th November on Sundays at 11:30am.

First Holy Communion :

Saturday 21st November 2026 -Time : TBA

Note: Our priests' mobile numbers are provided for **pastoral emergencies only**, such as urgent requests for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick or when someone is in danger of death. For all other parish enquiries, including bookings, appointments, and general administration, please contact the Parish Office during office hours.

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)

NATSICC Sunday 2026 Reflection

"Walking Together in Christ: 40 Years On!"

This year's NATSICC Sunday theme, *"Walking Together in Christ: 40 Years On!"*, invites us to remember with gratitude the enduring impact of the late Saint John Paul II's historic address in 1986, Central Australia. His powerful affirmation that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples "have a place in the heart of the Church" continues to inspire the Church to walk together in faith, justice, reconciliation, and hope.

The Gospel of reminds us of Jesus' invitation: "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened... for my yoke is easy and my burden light." Christ walks alongside those who carry heavy burdens, offering rest, healing, and dignity. This Gospel echoes the journey of First Nations peoples, whose faith, resilience, and deep spiritual connection to Country enrich the life of the Australian Church.

I give thanks for the privilege of spending eleven years in mission among First Nations Australians in Central Australia within the Diocese of Darwin. Those years transformed my understanding of the Gospel through listening, sharing, and walking together with Aboriginal communities. Their profound spirituality, respect for creation, and commitment to family and community remain a lasting gift in my priestly ministry.

We also remember with gratitude the faithful missionary witness of many religious orders, civil societies, and of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD), whose members have served Aboriginal communities across the Tiwi Islands, Alice Springs, Santa Teresa, Balgo, Broome, Palm Island, and many other remote communities. Through humble presence, proclamation of the Gospel, education, healthcare, and pastoral accompaniment, they have sought to build a Church that listens, learns, and journeys together.

As we celebrate forty years since Pope John Paul II's prophetic message, may we renew our commitment to walk together in Christ, embracing the richness of First Nations cultures as an essential gift to the Church and to Australia's future.

Fr. Rass SVD

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. Thank You.

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Joval Jose / Kathy Rodriguez /

Thanksgiving : Rita

Special Intentions : Touzell & McNamara Family

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 | * Harold Maurice |
| * Jean Yongching | * Jovencio Gregorio |
| * Mason Dulalia | * Mary Clout |
| * Mycka Dimasangal | * John Richnson |
| * Brian Devine | * Lisa Kalasito |
| * Jennifer Cooper | * Alana Beattie |
| * Kathryn Weidenbach | * Maiava Vilo |
| * Kylie | * Marissa A Patricio |
| * Mary Jane Van Miguel | * Jake Valte |
| * Rosalind James | * Rani |



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



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|----------------------------|----------------------|
| ✠ Noel and Danielle Helene | ✠ Leon Rego |
| ✠ Patrick John Maher | ✠ Norman Cook |
| ✠ Christiane Rochecouste | ✠ Shirley Suggun |
| ✠ Joaquim Quintao | ✠ Christopher Nathan |
| ✠ Carla Quintao | |
| ✠ Leela | |
| ✠ George | |
| ✠ Zofia Skoczylas | |
| ✠ Clara & Felix De Leon | |
| ✠ Cyril D Pereira | |
| ✠ 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 - 11th & 12th July 2026

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

11/07 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

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| (1) Jenny Kreltszheim | (2) Chloe Kreltszheim |
| (3) Terry B / Noel S / Jisha J / Maria D | |
| (4) Rosy D'Souza | |

12/07 - 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 | |

12/07 - 10.00 am Mass

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| (1) Threlly Cabacungan | 2) Tess Valesini |
| (3) Noel S / John T / Carmen A / Threlly C / Laa F / Nancy K | |
| (4) Neejay / Nerayo Santos | |

Church Cleaners (11/06)

Frank D'Souza / Phillip M / Rudy / Babitha C

Ruth