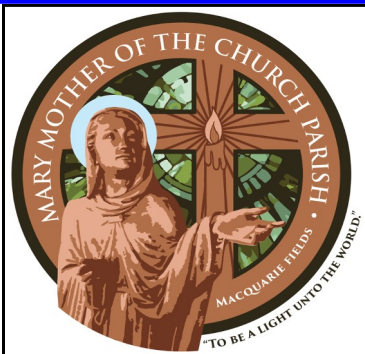




MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH

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

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.

22nd Sunday - Social Justice Sunday

Year A - 29th & 30th August 2026

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah (20:7-9)

(The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me).

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, Everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, I will not think about him,' I will not speak in his name any more.' Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 62)

All: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Reader: O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water.

All: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Reader: So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise.

All: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Reader: So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy.

All: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Reader: For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

All: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (12:1-2)
(May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice).

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behavior of the world around you, but let your behavior change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

The Word of the Lord.

Parish News and Happenings

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

Matthew (16:21-27)

(Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself).

Communion Antiphon

How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

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

Synodality talk : With Fr Rass (Flyer is in the church notice board)

When: **Thursday 3 September 2026**

Time : 7:00—8:30pm

Place : Holy Family Parish Ingleburn.

Please register on www.hfi.org.au

Formation Pathway: The Next Faithful Step

Discerning what God is asking of our parish

Campbelltown

Tuesday 1 September;

7:00—9:00pm

Wollongong + Zoom

Wednesday 2 September; 7:00—9:00pm

To Register : scan the QR code



MMOC Youth Group

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:20)

The MMOC Youth Group provides a space for young people to come together and recall our common purpose: to glorify God. If this sounds like something you want to be part of, join us every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month in the Logos Centre from 6:30-9:00pm.

Follow @mmoc.youthgroup on Instagram for more details.

Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary & SVD Anniversary

Join us on **Tuesday, September 8th** for a dual celebration as we honour the birth of our Blessed Mother—the dawn of our salvation—and mark the foundational anniversary of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD).

Mass Time: 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

A Journey of Healing and Hope :

The conviction of Bishop Christopher Saunders, former Bishop of Broome, on 13 sexual abuse offences against two young Aboriginal men has brought deep pain and sadness to the Catholic community.

Bishop Timothy Norton SVD, the current Bishop of Broome, and President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB, have expressed his profound sorrow to the victims and survivors and acknowledged the hurt, shame and betrayal they have experienced. He also recognises that this pain extends to many Catholics whose trust in the Church and its leadership has been deeply affected.

"It is distressing, demoralising and humbling that in the Church in Australia we are still being confronted by such dreadful failures and still being challenged by such probing questions. We must never think that the sexual abuse crisis is somehow behind us. We must never relax our vigilance or lower our expectations in relation to safeguarding. There is still much to do",

Archbishop Timothy. 14/08/2026

Bishop Norton has pledged a renewed commitment to **safety, respect, accountability and listening**. He will visit communities across the Kimberley to listen, accompany people in their grief and support the Diocese on its journey towards healing. As a Church, we pray especially for the victims and survivors and for all those affected. We pray that truth may be heard, justice respected, wounds acknowledged and trust rebuilt.

Parish Weekly Collections & Monthly Expenditure

Collections (Cash & Envelops)	20th Sunday Ordinary Time	21st Sunday Ordinary Time
First (for Diocesan Presbytery)	\$ 689.90	\$ 715.05
Second loose (for Parish)	\$ 954.35	\$ 929.80
Planned Giving (for Parish)	\$895.00	\$1,102.00
July Expenditure	\$ 9,982.75	

Parish News and Happenings

PROPOSED RENOVATION OF PARISH TOILETS & BUILD NEW CUBICLES

Our Parish and Finance Councils are considering renovating the current parish toilets. With the growing number of parishioners using our facilities, together with the increasing number of groups and activities accessing our parish halls, we are experiencing longer waiting times and greater pressure on the existing facilities. The proposal is to **upgrade the current toilets to appropriate modern standards and add three new cubicles**.

It will be a significant and costly project, perhaps less than \$200k after two quotations but we believe our parishioners and visitors deserve safe, clean and accessible facilities.

But before we go any further, we want to hear from you.

In the spirit of **synodality—listening, discerning together—we would like to know what you think**. Do you support the proposal? Do you have concerns or alternative suggestions? Are there any specialist, supervisors or skilled builders who could assist? Please feel free to share your thoughts with any member of the **Parish Council or Finance Council** or provide your feedback directly to the parish. It may only be a toilet project—but it is also about how we care for the people who come through our parish doors.

Your voice matters.

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!

Reflection : Journey

Last Tuesday, I drove back from Melbourne to Sydney by myself. I hardly slept the night before, so I got up at 4:30am in the morning and decided to drive back.

At the beginning, the weather was terrible. There was strong wind and heavy rain. The road was difficult, and after just 20mins driving, I felt tired. I started thinking, "Should I stop on the side and wait for the rain to stop? Should I take a break? Maybe I should turn back."

For a moment, I really wanted to give up. But I kept driving. Because I was alone in the car, I had a lot of time to think. As I drove, I started thinking about Sunday's Gospel, where Jesus says, "Take up your cross and follow me." I have heard this Gospel many times. But that morning, it felt different. I began to think: What does it really mean to carry my cross?

My journey was only about driving nine hours. It is nothing compared with the difficulties that many people carry every day. Some people carry sickness. Some carry family problems. Some carry loneliness, disappointment, or worries about the future.

But during those nine hours, I experienced something small but real. I was tired. I was uncomfortable. I wanted to stop. I wanted to turn back. And I realised that sometimes carrying the cross is simply not giving up.

As I continued driving, the weather slowly changed. The rain became lighter, and I began to enjoy the scenery along the road. I slow down and simply looked around. It made me realise that sometimes I am so focused on getting to the destination that I forget to enjoy the journey. Life is also like that.

There are times when we feel tired or uncertain. There are times when we ask ourselves, "Do I really want to continue?" But perhaps faith is not always about knowing exactly what will happen next. Sometimes faith is simply saying, "I don't know what is ahead, but I will take the next step." Looking back, I am grateful that I did not turn back that morning. The journey was not easy, but it gave me time to reflect. Perhaps carrying the cross is not always about doing something extraordinary. Sometimes it is simply having the courage to keep going, trusting that God is with us even when the road ahead is difficult.

And maybe that is what we need to remember: We do not have to see the whole road. We only need to trust God enough to take the next step.

: Fr Peter Wang SVD

Parish Cuppa Weekend

WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY will be holding the monthly Parish Weekend Cuppa next weekend on **5th & 6th September** after weekend masses. Please get a plate to share. Gold Coin donation appreciated. Thanks

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. Sign up sheet is in the foyer.

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Ashley C Pereira / Aiza Taouk / V.K. Jose

Thanksgiving : Nancy Kalaquian / Lydia Romero /

Special Intentions : Nguyen 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 Piel |
| * Lydia, Jocelyn & Janice de Jesus | * Allan Titmarsh |
| * Logan Wall | * Jovencio Gregorio |
| * Jean Yongching | * Mary Clout |
| * Mason Dulalia | * Maiava Vilo |
| * Mycka Dimasangal | * Marissa A Patricio |
| * Roseline Rivet | * Michael Patterson |
| * Jude | * Joseph Sequeira |
| * Jacquie Heeraman | * Daniel Maher |
| * Joe Duval | * |



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

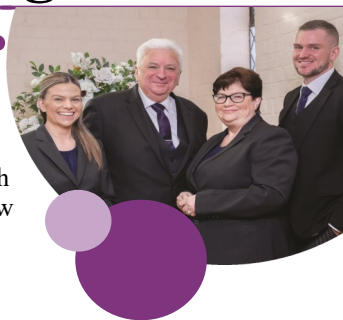


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|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| ✠ K.P. Thankachan | ✠ Genaro San Miguel |
| ✠ Maria Lourdes Ynfante | ✠ Tony Manzo |
| ✠ Felizardo & Felicidad Berioso | ✠ Rodolfo Kalaquian |
| ✠ Gabriel de Almeida and family | |
| ✠ Frank & Patricia Melit | |
| ✠ Carla & Joaquim Quintao | |
| ✠ Paulo Quintao & Family | |
| ✠ Teresta Antiola Codera | |
| ✠ Richard Graham Timms | |
| ✠ 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 f5or Next Week - 5th & 6th September 2026

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

05/09 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

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|--|------------------|
| (1) Alisha Jospheh | (2) Rosy D'Souza |
| (3) Terry B / Noel S / Jisha J / Maria D | |
| (4) Nerayo / Neejay Santos | |

06/09 - 8.00 am Mass

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

06/09 - 10.00 am Mass

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| (1) Tess Valesini | 2) Threlly Cabacungan |
| (3) Noel S / Bennette / Elisha S / John t / Carmen A / Threlly C | |
| (4) Tomjo Rinson / Jayson Huynh | |

Church Cleaners (05/08)

Judges

Corrine & Michael Patterson / Sharon & Calvin Ambrose