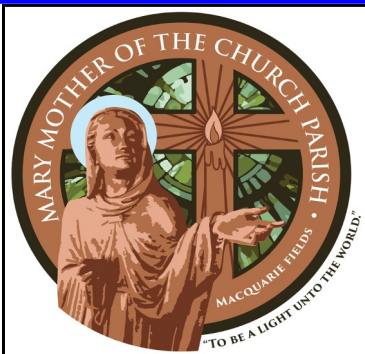




MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH

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.

24th Sunday in Ordinary time

Year A - 12th & 13th September 2026

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Sirach (27:30-28:7)

(Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven).

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then plead for his own sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 102)

All: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Reader: My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Reader: It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Reader: His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Reader: For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

(14:7-9)

(Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord).

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or

Parish News and Happenings

dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew (18:21-35)

*(I tell you that you forgive not seven times
but seventy times seven).*

Communion Antiphon

How precious is your mercy, O God!
The Children of men seek shelter in the
shadow of your wings.

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

Garden Group :

A big thank you to all the volunteers who attended last month's Garden Working Bee! Our next Garden Group Working Bee will be held on **Saturday 26 Sept 2026, from 9:30am to 11:30am**. Bring your smile, gardening spirit and a helping hand! Thank you.

Everyone is welcome!

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.

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL IN SUPPORT OF CLERGYCARE:

The Bishop's Annual Appeal will be promoted in our parish on the weekend of 19/20 September. A third collection will be taken to support this important appeal. Please come prepared and donate generously.

"Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. Offering dignified support and care for our retired clergy, who have always cared for us; and a sound and holistic formation of our young seminarians, our future priests, are my responsibilities as your Bishop.

I seek your prayers and practical support to help me ensure that I can do this. Your donation to this appeal is very much appreciated."+ **Bishop Brian**

Diocesan Launch of Catholic Mission Month

Most Rev Brian Mascord DD Bishop of Wollongong invites Clergy and Parish representatives to the Diocesan Launch of Catholic Mission Month Wednesday 16 September 2026 10:00 am - 12:00 noon St John the Evangelist Catholic Church 24 Jerematta Street, Dapto 9:30 am arrival, followed by light refreshments at conclusion of the Launch

Parish Multicultural Day

Multicultural Day of Mary Mother of The Church is this Sunday the **13th of September 2026**. **Mass is at 9:00am**, after 9:00am mass there will be live entertainment and many food stalls on the Church Grounds. We encourage all parishioners to come along for a fun filled day and partake in the community Spirit.

Festivities:

- * Procession at 8.45am
- * Cutting of a cake for Mother Mary
- * Singing of the Australian National Anthem
- * Cultural song and dance
- * International Food stalls
- * Sausage Sizzle & Tea Coffee Stall
- * White Elephant goods stall

Please help clean up after the festivities.

Parish Weekly Collections & Monthly Expenditure

Collections (Cash & Envelops)	22nd Sunday Ordinary Time	23rd Sunday Ordinary Time
First (for Diocesan Presbytery)	\$ 695	\$ 597.15
Second loose (for Parish)	\$ 751.15	\$ 795.00
Planned Giving (for Parish)	\$947.50	\$ 813.00
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.

Mary, Mother of All Nations: A Reflection for Our Multicultural Festival

"After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb."— Revelation 7:9

This powerful vision from the Book of Revelation gives us a glimpse of heaven: a beautifully diverse family united in worship. Our parish festival reflects this heavenly reality right here in our community under the patronage of Mary, Mother of All Nations. As a mother loves each of her children uniquely, Mary gathers us all into the single family of her Son, breaking down the artificial walls of racial prejudice, bias, and cultural division.

Truly knowing and respecting each other requires us to step out of our comfort zones. This festival is more than an occasion for good food and music—it is a sacred invitation to listen to one another's stories, celebrate our diverse heritages, and acknowledge the shared faith that binds us together. By seeing the face of Christ in neighbours of every background, we allow the Holy Spirit to transform unfamiliarity into deep, lasting friendship. Let us join hands under our Mother's mantle, striving to make our parish a living preview of God's heavenly kingdom. Much appreciation to our parish Event's Committee for all the hard work and planning. Enjoy this weekend. - **Fr. Rass SVD**

Reflection :

When I was back home in China, I did not have many opportunities to live closely with brothers from different countries and cultures. So, when I first came to Australia for my Overseas Training Programme, one of the new and meaningful experiences for me was living in community with brothers from different countries and cultures.

We had different languages, different food, different ways of doing things, and sometimes even different ways of thinking. At the beginning, it was not always easy. But slowly, I discovered something beautiful. We were different, but we were not divided.

We were different cultures, but we shared the same vocation. We prayed, cooked, shared meals, laughed together and supported one another. And somehow, those differences became not a problem, but a gift.

Today, I feel great joy to celebrate my first Multicultural Sunday here with all of you.

As I look around our parish, I see the same beauty again. And I was reminded of the theme that Fr Rass has been promoting last weekend: Different Cultures. One Faith. One Eucharistic Table. One Body of Christ. This connects beautifully with today's Gospel.

Jesus speaks to us about forgiveness and mercy. The servant receives huge mercy from his master, but he forgets to show that same mercy to someone else. Perhaps this is also an important message for a multicultural community.

When we come from different cultures, we will sometimes misunderstand one another. We may speak differently, think differently, worship differently, or have different traditions. What do we need?

That is only one word: Mercy. We need patience with one another. We need humility to listen. We need generosity to forgive. And we need to remember that before God, we are all people who have received His mercy.

So today, let us remember this: Many cultures, but one mercy, and one family of God. Our cultures may be different, our languages may be different, and our traditions may be different. But when we come to this Eucharistic table, we come as one family. We receive the same Lord. We share the same faith. And we become one Body of Christ.

Today, let us not simply celebrate our multicultural parish by appreciating our differences. Let us celebrate it by making room for one another, listening to one another, forgiving one another, and walking together as one family.

: Fr. Peter Wang

Parish News and Happenings

Multicultural day sponsors:

We sincerely thank **Kenneally's Funerals** for generously sponsoring the **1st Prize in our Raffle**. Your continued support as one of our valued top sponsors greatly contributes to our parish events and activities. We are truly grateful!

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Retheesh John / Nerayo Santos

Special Intentions : Neysha Santos & Paige Harlow

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 |
| * Nelia Ambat | * Olga Peric |
| * Romulo Cabrera | * Mercy Espiritu |
| * Lydia, Jocelyn & Janice de Jesus | * Czeslawa Piela |
| * Logan Wall | * Allan Titmarsh |
| * Jean Yongching | * Jovencio Gregorio |
| * Mason Dulalia | * Mary Clout |
| * Mycka Dimasangal | * Maiava Vilo |
| * Roseline Rivet | * Marissa A Patricio |
| * Jude | * Arsenio & Julian Mendoza |
| * Jacquie Heeraman | * Joseph Sequeira |
| * Joe Duval | * Daniel Maher |
| * Rosario Java | |

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



- ✠ Chandra Fernando
- ✠ KT Thomas
- ✠ Mrs Laila Joseph
- ✠ Francesco Milazzo
- ✠ Mary De Vesser
- ✠ Lolita C De Guzman
- ✠ Charlotte Sabellano
- ✠ Deceased members of :
 - Touzell & McNamara families
 - George Helene & Alfred Yongching families
- ✠ 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 - 19th & 20th September 2026

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

19/09 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

- (1) Edyleen Santos (2) Noel Santos
(3) Terry B / Irma G / Noel E / Maria D
(4) Rosy

20/09 - 8.00 am Mass

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

20/09 - 10.00 am Mass

- (1) Lucy Maher (2) Marissa Manoto
(3) Noel S / John T / Carmen A / Threlly C / Laa F / Nancy K
(4) Gabriel Wijaya / Tomjo Rinson

Church Cleaners (19/09)

Exodus

Sue Titmarsh / Marieta Collins / Niko Wijaya