



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. Bosco Sangbok Son 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.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

4th & 5th January 2025

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon (Vigil Mass)

Arise, Jerusalem, and look to the East and see your children gathered from the rising to the setting of the sun.

Entrance Antiphon (Day Mass)

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (60:1-6)

(The glory of the Lord shines upon you).

Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; Camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 71)

All: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Reader: O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement.

All: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Reader: In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds.

All: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Reader: The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him.

All: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Reader: For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor.

All: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians (3:2-3, 5-6)

(The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body).

Parish News and Happenings

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the Gospel.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

(We have come from the East to worship the King.)

Communion Antiphon (Vigil Mass)

The brightness of God illumined the holy city Jerusalem, and the nations will walk by its light.

Communion Antiphon (Day Mass)

We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

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,
6:30pm Rosary followed by Novena Prayers

Bible Study : Fortnightly on Sundays at 2.30pm
in the Logos Centre.

Sunday School : Every Sundays during 10am Mass
in the Logos Centre. (during the School Term)

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

READINGS FOR THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Year C : 11th & 12th January 2025

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7;

Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Thank you Note:

As we celebrate the joyous season of Christmas and welcome the New Year, I am filled with immense gratitude for the vibrant and faith-filled community that our parish has become, thanks to the dedicated efforts of so many individuals.

To our Parish Ministry volunteers, I offer my heartfelt thanks. Your time, talents, and commitment have been instrumental in shaping our parish into the spirited and caring community we cherish today.

I am also deeply grateful to all who have generously contributed throughout the year - whether financially or through your voluntary work. Your kindness and generosity have truly made a difference.

Thank you for being an integral part of our parish family. May the coming year bring you joy, fulfillment, and abundant blessings.

Fr. Bosco

Christmas Donations

Thank you for your wonderful support for our Parish:
Dawn Masses Donation : \$ 8,078.80
My Gift to Baby Jesus Donation : \$3,561.30
(will be forwarded to Caritas Vanuatu appeal)
Christmas Donation: \$ 220
Thank you all for your generosity. God Bless!

Parish News and Happenings

Parish Profit and Loss Statement - 2024

Total Income : \$ 317,059.00

Total Expenses : \$ 210,045.00

Summary of Major Works Completed in 2024:

- Tree cutting
- Hall windows replacement and interior painting
- Church lights upgrade

Future Projects Planned:

- Complete Church Painting
- Installation of New Air Conditioning System
- Construction of New Toilets

Resumption of Communion from the Chalice in the Diocese of Wollongong

Bishop Brian has announced the lifting of the restriction on Communion from the chalice in the Diocese of Wollongong, which had been in place during the COVID pandemic. In our parish, Communion from the chalice will resume **on the weekend of January 11–12, 2025.**

Please note that receiving from the chalice is entirely optional. Those experiencing symptoms of a cold, flu, covid, or any other illness are kindly asked to refrain from sharing the chalice. The practice of wiping the chalice after each communicant will be observed to maintain hygiene.

The WORD in other words - Bible Diary 2025

Is now available for sale. **The cost is \$25.00 / each.** For enquiries : please contact Tina Pineda on 0408 785 626 or Lina De Santis on 0418 264 696

A Women's Opportunity to Experience A Cursillo 3-Day Weekend. A Cursillo weekend will be held at Carmel House, Varroville (Near Campbelltown) from Thursday evening 6 March to Sunday afternoon 9 March 2025. Please email cursillo3dayweekend@hotmail.com or ring Margaret on 0417 041 721 if interested.

REFLECTION : *They Opened Their Treasures*

Once the people of a very poor parish set their hearts on acquiring an expensive set of figures for their Christmas crib. They worked hard to scrape together the money to buy the figures which were made of rare porcelain. Even-

tually they had their crib. And they were proud of it.

The church was left open all Christmas Day so that people could visit the crib. In the evening the parish priest went out to lock up. Before doing so he looked in at the crib. To his consternation he discovered that the baby Jesus was missing. He wondered how anyone could stoop so low as to steal baby Jesus.

As he stood there he spotted a little girl with a small pram entering the church. She made straight for the crib. Then she took the baby Jesus out of the pram and lovingly put him back where he belonged - right in front of Mary and Joseph and the adoring donkey and oxen. Before leaving she knelt and said a prayer in front of the crib.

As she was on her way out, the parish priest stopped her and asked her what she was doing with the baby Jesus. She told him that before Christmas, she had prayed to baby Jesus for a pram. She promised him that if she got the pram, he would have the first ride in it. As she had got her pram, she was keeping her side of the bargain.

This little story shows the power of Christmas. Christmas evokes generosity in people, especially children. To look at the poverty of the infant King of the Universe causes us to open our hearts. By coming in weakness, God's Son evokes in us a feeling of compassion, thereby bringing our hearts to life.

It was the poverty of the child Jesus that evoked that lovely act of generosity in the little girl. It was the poverty of Jesus that caused the Magi to open our treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and lay then before him.

It has always been the poor who have had to pay homage to the rich - through labour, payment of taxes, and so on. But in the visit of the Magi to the Christ-child, we see a reversal of the established order of things. It was only the first of many radical changes Christ would bring about.

Instead of being impoverished, the Magi were enriched. It is through giving that we are enriched, because, through giving, we discover our own riches.

The poverty of Jesus is a challenge to us too. It gives us an opportunity to open our hearts. To open one's heart is to begin to live. Jesus no longer needs our gifts. But other people may. He wants us to share ourselves with one another. And we too will find ourselves enriched if, as a result of knowing Jesus, we are able to open the treasures of our hearts and share with others.

New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies
Flor McCarthy SDB

Parish News and Happenings

Thanksgiving & Special Intention Mass offered for:

Birthday : Jaiden Valencia / Mark Shane Coalim / Louisa

Thanksgiving: Joseph Quiah /Sheeba & Family / Tina Pineda, Danica Lacin & Family

Special Intentions : Maria Bittar

Wedding Anniversary : Bert & Leni Valencia / Edwin & Jayne / Dominic & Maria Dinh

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



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| * Dr Lydia de Jesus | * Eva Silang |
| * Dr Joycelyn de Jesus | * Carole Dimayuga |
| * Jaypee Masangkay | * Selda Dimayuga |
| * Aida Dayao | * Nancie |
| * Nelia Ambat | * Mason Dulalia |
| * Vivian Martin | * Jun & Charo Doctors |
| * Lucinda Rose | * Catherine Nguyen |
| * Maria Vu | * Resty Perez |
| * Vlado Kutle | * Susan Biag |
| * Luis Vincente Marcelo | * Jake Valte |
| * Carla Geronimo | * Andrea Tuazon |
| * Hania Stoklosa | * Mabel Artuz |
| * Alan & Margaret Raisbeck | * Katarina Klindic |
| * Mirella Autard-Catherine | * Dominique Autard |
| * Mick Jones | * June Carroll |
| * Noelene Bartlet | * Fellie Duggan |
| * Wally Skoczylas | * Danica Pineda Lacin |
| * Herve Ducasse | * Stanislava |
| | * Anthony Smith |

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



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|-----------------------------|------------------|
| ✠ Lizzie Fernando | ✠ Anthony Fowler |
| ✠ Josephine Suvoandaradne | ✠ William Robert |
| ✠ Yvan Pierrot | ✠ Danica Vukovic |
| ✠ Dragica Lovic | ✠ Marie Rafaud |
| ✠ Vincent Stenson | ✠ Charles Rivera |
| ✠ Basilia Gutierrez | ✠ Amy Francis |
| ✠ Mary Fowler | ✠ Mary Alphonso |
| ✠ Pierre St. Guillaume | ✠ Rufus Scheffer |
| ✠ Grace Brito | ✠ Colin Burns |
| ✠ Desamparados dela Paz | ✠ Wisan Kado |
| ✠ Catherine Thi Bong Nguyen | |
| ✠ Maria Thi Ho Nguyen | |
| ✠ Mary Alfonso | |
| ✠ Olga Senat | |
| ✠ Christopher Harrison | |
| ✠ Vincent Silvestre Jr | |
| ✠ 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 January 2025

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

11/01 - 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

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| (1) Edyleen Santos | (2) Noel Santos |
| (3) Terry B / Teresa B / Irma Guzman / Jisha J | |
| (4) Syona & Rosy | |

12/01- 8.00 am

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| (1) Koreti Faasoa | (2) Louise Phillips |
| (3) Emelia B / Mimi C / Alla B / Steve N | |
| (4) Shakira & Audrey Liutai | |

12/01- 10.00 am Mass

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|--|-------------------------|
| (1) Marc Ghignone | (2) Herbert Kreltszheim |
| (3) Carmen A / Marc G / Nancy K / Eileen P | |
| (4) Neejay & Nerayo Santos | |

Church Cleaners (11/01)

Kings

John Moors / Rudy
 Frank D'Souza/ Philip Mendonca