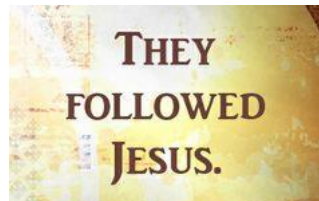




HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH RYDALMERE

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time / B
14 January 2018

Church: 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere
Mail: 2 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere 2116
Phone: (02) 9684.1541
Fax: (02) 9638.6326
Email: admin@holymary.org.au



Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Lamont
St Mary's School: Mr. Richard Blissenden
St Patrick's Marist: Mrs. Angela Hay

Website: www.holymary.org.au

MASS TIMES

SUNDAY EUCHARIST:	Saturday Vigil	5.30pm
	Sunday	7.30am & 9.30am
WEEKDAY EUCHARIST:	Tuesday - Saturday	9.15am
RECONCILIATION:	Saturday	4.30pm - 5.15pm
ANOIDING OF SICK WITHIN MASS	1st Saturday bi monthly (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)	9.15am
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & BENEDICTION	Exposition/Benediction: Friday	8.30am
	Exposition: Wednesday & Saturday	8.30am
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:	Tuesday	9.00am
	Friday	8.30am
BAPTISMS:	1 st & 3 rd Sunday of month	11.30am

Please Pray For

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Clive Constable, John Rizk, Fr Brian Rooney, Joseph Kutajczyk, Sunta Spinetti, Amada Enaje, Mariapia Ferioli, Abigail Tugaga, Claudio Spinetti, Patricius Hon, Rogato Meteoro, Eileen Platton, Mgr John Lyne, Kathleen Birrell.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mark Daley, Maryann Brewer, Robyn Murray, Catherine Murray, Camilleri Families, Vella Families, Brian Oxlee, Tom Egan, Reta Egan, Maurice Egan, Cecil Ayres, Hana Elbayeh, George Kheir, George Sant, Edna Pyne, Joseph Wehbe, Anita Moubarak, Augustin Moubarak - Aileen Clarke, Nancy Hancock, Nat O'Laughlin, John Zouki, Cecilia Hiutama-Purnama, Frederick Herft.

Rosters –20/21 January

Altar Servers:	Vigil 5.30pm	Jan & Trinity Tecala, Isobella Barakat
	Sun. 9.30am	Stephanie & Chloe Belford, Olivia Vassallo
Ministers of Communion:	Vigil 5.30pm	Ron & Debbie Horne
	Sun. 9.30am	Gabrielle Spinetti, Elaine Gade
Counters:		Joe Zammit, Ken Elias, David Boulous
		Anne-Marie Hewkins, Leah Garcia
Lectors:	Vigil 8.30pm	Sue & Len Farrugia
	Sun. 7.30am	Sue & Len Farrugia
	Sun. 9.30am	Geoff Kirby, Anne-Marie Lyons



CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS COURSE

The Catholic faith is a treasure given to us by God. The fortnightly course will continue on Tuesday, 30th January in the Parish Meeting Room at 7.30pm. This course is open to anyone who would like to become a Catholic. The course is also geared towards Catholics who would like to enhance their faith. The course will run over a number of months. Please contact Fr Peter for details on 9684 1541.

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The reception of Holy Communion is a Sacred honour given to us by our Lord. Only Catholics free from mortal sin can receive Holy Communion. Non-Catholics and Non-Christians cannot receive Holy Communion. A Catholic who receives the Host must consume the Host in the presence of the priest or the Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. It is absolutely forbidden to take the Host back to your seat.

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP: A GIFT TO THE WORLD

For women of any age and experience in formal leadership positions and for those who exercise leadership without a formal title in business, schools, homes, offices, parishes etc. The inspirational Sr Hilda Scott OSB (presenter at ACYF) and Dr Leoni Degenhardt will be the presenters. April 13-15 2018 at Benedictine Abbey, 695 Mountain Road, Jamberoo. Info: cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au or 02 4236 0533.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP

The group meet after 9.15am Mass and reflect on Sunday's Liturgy of the Word. All welcome. Contact Irene 0418 403 358 if you need transport.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN 2018

The dates have been set for the Sacramental Program for 2018 and a list of all dates and times can be collected at the entrance of the church.

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE HOMELESS NEEDED

The Order of Malta requires volunteers to visit 'homeless hotspots' around Parramatta. Volunteer drivers, nurses and paramedics are needed to provide this service to Parramatta's homeless. If you would like to learn more, please email info@smom.org.au

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS: 1 FEBRUARY

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cordially invite young adults (aged 18-35) to join them for Holy Hour for Vocations. Thursday, 1st February 2018, at 7:00 pm. Join us also for pizza at 8:00pm. Holy Spirit Convent, 120 Capuchin Way, Plumpton. RSVP: Sr Paula email: vocationscsfn@gmail.com or mobile 0449 656 406.

GRIEF TO GRACE: 8 – 13 APRIL

Healing the Wounds of Abuse – is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griefftoGrace.org.au or phone 0407704539. For more information visit www.griefftoGrace.org

EASTERN DEANERY REPORT

Within each Diocese the Bishop has the possibility to join together several neighbouring parishes into special groups called deaneries. In our Diocese we have a number of Deaneries, based on geographical criteria: Mountain, Western, Central, Hills and Eastern Deaneries. Each Deanery has a priest who is appointed as Dean. His duties within wide and variable.

The Eastern Deanery comprises of the following parishes: Cathedral parish, North Parramatta, Dundas Valley, Westmead, Merrylands, Slovene Community Merrylands, Guildford, Rydalmere, Harris Park, Granville, East Granville as well as the retired clergy living in the Deanery and the Camillian Order (Hospital Ministry).

Our Deanery meets six times a year (usually the third Tuesday of the month) every second month beginning in February, at the Cathedral Parish. Each meeting begins with a prayer session based on the Gospel for the following Sunday, then we have a formational section, followed by agenda items that deal with pastoral needs. We conclude the gathering with lunch at the Cathedral House. Very Rev Fr Robert Bossini is the Dean of Eastern Deanery.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saturday, 20 January – St. Sebastian

Nothing is known about St. Sebastian's youth other than the fact he may have come from southern France and he was educated in Milan. He joined the Roman Army in 283 AD, ostensibly to be of service to other Christians who were being persecuted by the Romans. St. Sebastian distinguished himself and for his excellent service, he was promoted to serve in the Praetorian Guard to protect Emperor Diocletian.

While serving as a Praetorian Guard, Marcus and Marcellian, twin brothers, were imprisoned for refusing to make public sacrifices to the Roman gods. The brothers were deacons of the Christian Church. During their imprisonment, their parents visited them to implore them to renounce Christianity. However, St. Sebastian convinced both parents to convert to Christianity. St. Sebastian also converted several other prominent individuals, including the local prefect. This led to his discovery and he was reported as a Christian to Emperor Diocletian in 286. The Emperor, who was already infamous for ordering the deaths of hundreds of Christians, scolded Sebastian and ordered him to be killed by having him tied to a stake on a training field and used as target practice.

Archers riddled his body with arrows, his body was described as, "full of arrows as an urchin." Believed to be dead, the archers left his body for retrieval and burial. He was recovered by Irene of Rome, whose Christian husband was a servant to Diocletian and also martyred. Irene discovered that Sebastian was still living and she hid him and nursed him back to health.

Once well, Sebastian went in search of Diocletian to surprise him. He managed to catch Diocletian by a stairwell and proceeded to criticize him loudly and publically for his persecution of the Christians. Diocletian, surprised that Sebastian was still alive, was immediately taken aback, but recovered his composure. This time, he would not permit Sebastian to escape with his life. He ordered his former guard to be beaten to death with clubs, then thrown into the sewers. His body was recovered by a Christian woman, named Lucina, and she secretly buried him in the catacombs beneath Rome.

Nearly 80 years after his death, around 367, his remains were moved to a basilica in Rome, built by Pope Damasus I. His body, or at least some relics from his body were reportedly removed and shared with a community of monks in France. His cranium was sent to a German monastery where it was placed in a special silver case in 934. The relic remains in its case today in a special reliquary in Ebersberg. St. Sebastian was commonly invoked as a protector against the plague. According to historical records, he defended the city of Rome against the plague in 680. His association with the plague could be because he survived being shot full of arrows and in pagan belief, pestilence was delivered by arrows shot by the gods above. Even Christian Romans would appreciate this symbolism. That symbolism is even captured in artwork as late as the Renaissance, where artists painted plague victims with black arrows in their body.

In artwork, St. Sebastian is depicted with arrows shot into his body, often tied to a post or a tree. His second execution is virtually never depicted.

St. Sebastian is the patron saint of soldiers, athletes, and those who desire a saintly death.

