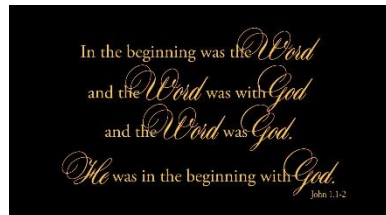




HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH RYDALMERE

The Nativity of the Lord
25 December 2018

Church: 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere
Mail: 2 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere 2116
Phone: (02) 9684.1541
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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
ANOINTING 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:	2 nd Sunday of month	11.30am

Please Pray For

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Carol Rosario, Rhonda Gaffney, Rebecca Herft, Orazio Coco, Peter McHugh, Maria Marnan, Melba Rillera Orpilla, Elizabeth Borger, Margaret Denton, Ivan Moore, Rosemarie Artates, Carmel Moses, Fr Denis Foley, Joseph Kaposi, Edith Elliot, Yvonne Solomon, George Whittle, Emile Saad.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Hope Johnson, Ursula Kennedy, Phyllis Ryder, Lynette Yates, Louise Gaffney, Frank Gaffney, Jack Kennedy, Robbie Keegan, Michael Saad, Katie Saad, Irene Szolta, Stanley Szolta, Muriel Turner, Maria Hatze, Bernard Griffin, Nancy Walsh, John Rizk - Colin Francis Wright, Andree Hardy, Frome Family, Saad Family, Fred Wickman, Wayne Williams, Bernard Otter, Desmond Howard, Autel Basha, Fr Brian Rooney, George Sant, Frederick Herft.

Rosters – 29/30 December

Altar Servers:	Vigil 5.30pm	Maddison, Mia & Gordon Boulous
	Sun. 9.30am	Christopher Mansour, Olivia Vassallo, Marcus Scrivener
Cleaning Ministry		Thess Davidson & family
		Frances Howard, Kathy Saad
Ministers of Communion:	Vigil 5.30pm	Paul Tsang, Jaycel Casupanan
	Sun. 9.30am	Lynette Rodrigues
Computer Operators:	Vigil 5.30pm	Mary Asic
	Sun. 7.30am	Glenys Oxlee
Counters:	Sun. 9.30am	Joe Zammit, Bernie & Pat Harrington
		Sr Maureen Crick, Anne Betteridge
Lectors:	Vigil 8.30pm	Astrid Kossim
	Sun. 7.30am	Romeo & Yolanda Urqueza
	Sun. 9.30am	



THANK YOU

A sincere thank you to all our parishioners for your love and support throughout the year. Our parish is growing every year. We still need more labourers in the field. May I wish all of you a happy and holy Christmas and a wonderful 2019.

Fr Peter

FRIDAY, 28 DECEMBER MASSES

There's NO morning prayer or Benediction and 9.15am Mass this Friday. A Funeral Mass for the late Carol Rosario will be celebrated at 10.00am.

There will be 5.30pm Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs.

THANK YOU



CHRISTMAS APPEAL BY THE RYDALMERE CONFERENCE

Last week we reported the results of the recent Christmas Appeal and we included in our thanks to "The Lee Malkoun Team" this in fact is a misnomer for instead of a team an amazing outcome was achieved by Lee's appeal to his various followers on Facebook, Twitter etc. Lee's loyal band of supporters provided the Rydalmere Conference with \$1,550 of vouchers to Woolworth, Coles and Meyer plus over \$1,500 of groceries which is a stunning outcome for Conference and a reflection of Lee's influence and esteem to which he is held by his many supporters. On behalf of the clients of Rydalmere Conference a special thanks is extended to Lee and his loyal followers for assisting us in making Christmas a more enjoyable day for them. May the joy and blessing of Christmas be with you all.

Ron Della Vedova - Conference president.

THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE: THE JOURNEY OF THE MAGI

The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and an outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. Beginning at Emu Plains on 2 January and finishing 7 days later at Bell, pilgrims walk through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland and join parishioners in daily Mass, Adoration, prayer, catechesis and fellowship. To register for all or part of the pilgrimage, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org. For updates and to follow the journey see www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage

FOOTPRINTS OF JESUS

Trace the journey of Jesus from the land where he was born, through to the way he carried his cross and gave the eternal sacrifice. See places mentioned in the Old and New Testaments as the Bible comes alive in this 14-day pilgrimage that features Petra, Mt. Nebo, Bethlehem, Jericho, Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem, Dead Sea, Masada, Nazareth, Caesarea Philippi for an all-inclusive price of \$5690. The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfast & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. For enquiries & bookings call 03 03 8839 6615 or 1300721561 or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au. Departures Dates: Fr. Sebastian (24 March), Fr. Kenneth (26 May 19), Fr. Colin (31 May 19). Get special discount of \$200 additional for 24 March departure. Other Departure Dates available: 18 Aug 19, 8 Sep 19, 17 Sep 19, 13 Oct 19, 10 Nov 19.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

As followers of Christ we now come to the celebration of Christmas. The great event of the Incarnation, God coming down to us to be born of a virgin in a humble stable at Bethlehem. This beautiful mystery is sadly forgotten by our modern society. Rampant commercialism is clearly evident. Everywhere we are encouraged to buy gift after gift, gorge ourselves on unlimited food and drink. Christ was born to suffer and to die. He gave His life for our redemption. Let us as Catholics truly love and worship Him this Christmas. Let us also remember our brothers and sisters who are mourning the loss of loved ones. The countless others who are lonely and need love. May the Christ-child of Bethlehem, the son of God bring comfort to them. May peace reign forever. May the Lord bless all our parishioners during this holy time. A happy and holy Christmas to you all.

Fr Peter

FUND RAISING

Our parish redevelopment plan is progressing well. We have lodged DA with Parramatta Council. There will be no parish/school Fete next year, so we are looking at other ways to raise money. We propose to hold another Trivia Night in June next year. We also hope to host an **International Food Feast** in September next year. We are seeking a coordinator for the International Food Feast. If you can assist, please email or contact the parish office.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

Submissions to Plenary Council 2020 close on Ash Wednesday, 6 March 2019. YOUR voice matters! Make a personal submission now or join a small group. Our question is for everyone: "What you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" To make a submission or to find out more visit: <https://parracatholic.org/haveyoursayplenary2020/>

FEAST OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, 26 December – St Stephen

Like most of the early Christian leaders, he was Jewish, but may have come from among the Greek speaking or Hellenistic believers, the ones feeling slighted in the distribution of alms. Great preaching and miracles were attributed to Stephen. Stephen's popularity created enemies among some Jews, members of the Synagogue of Roman Freedmen. They debated with him, to generate evidence against him in furtherance of their persecution of the early Church. Stephen explained that Jesus had come to fulfil the law of Moses, not destroy it. He quoted extensively from the Hebrew scriptures to prove his case. Finally, he admonished the Sanhedrin, saying, "You stubborn people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears. You are always resisting the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Can you name a single prophet your ancestors never persecuted? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Upright One, and now you have become his betrayers, his murderers. In spite of being given the Law through angels, you have not kept it." As Stephen concluded his defence, the crowd rushed upon Stephen and carried him outside of the city to stone him to death.

