

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED
Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R: Blessed be God for ever.
P: Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
R: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS
May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray, be offered to you unceasingly, to complete what was begun in sacred mystery and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work.
Through Christ our Lord.
R: Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
P: The Lord be with you.
R: And with your spirit.
P: Lift up your hearts.
R: We lift them up to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
R: It is right and just.

PREFACE I OR II OF ADVENT
After the Preface, we sing or say:
All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION
P: The mystery of faith
All: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

COMMUNION RITE
P: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:
All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...
P: Deliver us, Lord, we pray ...
All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.
P: Lord Jesus Christ, who said ...
R: Amen
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
R: And with your spirit.
P: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.
All exchange a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD
All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
P: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.
R: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Isa 35:4
Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
We implore your mercy, Lord, that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults

and prepare us for the coming feasts.
Through Christ our Lord.
R: Amen

THE CONCLUDING RITES
P: The Lord be with you.
R: And with your spirit.
P: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
R: Amen.
P: Go forth, the Mass is ended.
R: Thanks be to God.

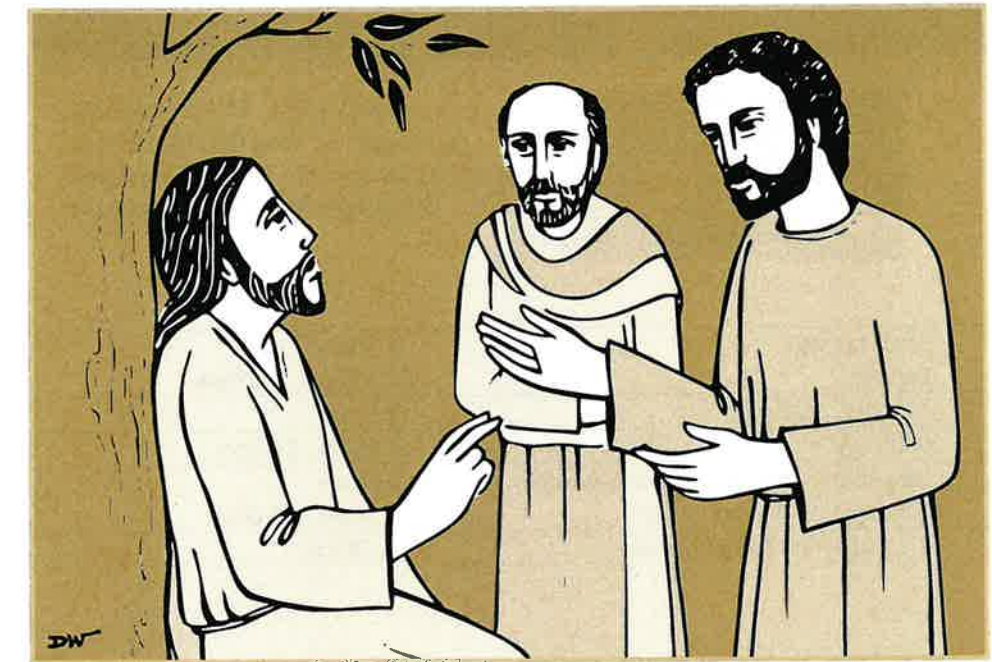
BREAKING OPEN THE WORD
ARE YOU THE ONE?

One can only begin to imagine the excitement, questioning and discussion that must have accompanied the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Reports were flying thick and fast about the carpenter-turned-preacher from Nazareth, whose preaching was accompanied by miraculous healings, and disconcerting sayings. Was it true that Isaiah's prophecy about the eyes of the blind being opened, and the deaf once again being able to hear was being fulfilled?
John the Baptist had spoken with courage about the messiah who was coming and this led to his imprisonment. He had preached that the coming messiah would be a figure of purification and judgement upon Israel. Could it be that Jesus was the promised one? John could not reconcile Jesus' message and ministry with the message for which he had risked his life. Jesus' response to John's question is simple – you must make your judgement based on what you see. If Isaiah's prophecy is being fulfilled, then there is no need to look any further.
A challenge for James' community was that they recognised Jesus was indeed the saviour, but how were they to manage until his return at the end of time? Their impatience for the Lord's return was leading them into the trap of being fractious with each other. James provides both them and us with the timely reminder that patience with the Lord and each other is a better way to prepare to greet the Lord on his return.
CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP
A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL
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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

11 DECEMBER 2022



THE BLIND SEE AGAIN. Many of the Jewish people did not expect a Messiah like Jesus. Many wondered: 'Are you the one who is to come?' Jesus came not to exercise sovereignty and power over the people but to bring blessing to the poor and needy. Let us celebrate his birth this Christmas by being good news for the poor.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Phil 4: 4-5
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

GREETING
P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT
P: Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.
P. Have mercy on us, O Lord.
R. For we have sinned against you.
P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.
R. And grant us your salvation.
P: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.
R. Amen.
V. Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
V. Christ, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.
The Gloria is not said during Advent.
COLLECT
O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever
R: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 35:1-6, 10
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
God himself will come and save us.
Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy.
The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God.
Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees

and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid.
'Look your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.'
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy, for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.
They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy in their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.
RESP PSALM Ps 145:6-10. R. cf. Isa 35:4
R. Lord, come and save us. (or Alleluia!)

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, / who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, / who raises up those who are bowed down, / the Lord, who protects the stranger / and upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**
3. It is the Lord who loves the just / but thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

SECOND READING James 5:7-10
A reading from the letter of St James
You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.
Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Isa 61:1; Lk 4:18
Alleluia, alleluia!
The spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!



HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH RYDALMERE

Third Sunday of Advent / A
11 December 2022

Church: 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere
Mail: 2 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere 2116
Phone: (02) 9684 1541, 0432 950 895
Email: admin@holymary.org.au
Website: www.holymary.org.au



Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Lamont
Ass. Priest: Fr. Yong Ho Jang (Fr. Pio)
St Mary's School: Mr. Richard Blissenden
St Patrick's Marist: Mr. Paul Ryan

MASS TIMES

SUNDAY EUCHARIST:	Saturday Vigil	5.30pm
	Sunday	7.30am & 10.00am
WEEKDAY EUCHARIST:	Tuesday - Saturday	9.15am
RECONCILIATION:	Saturday	4.30pm - 5.15pm
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT	Exposition: Wednesday and Saturday	8.30pm
	Exposition: Monday - Friday	7.00pm - 12.00am
BAPTISMS:	2 nd and 4 th Sunday of month	11.30am

Please Pray For

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Des Howard, Maurice Reid - Fr Peter Maher - Marco Lulic, Margaret Taylor, Alston Mortier - John Berchmans Jacobs

ANNIVERSARIES:

Brad Yates, Ursula Kennedy, Rhonda Gaffney, Phyllis Ryder, Lynne Yates, Ruth Rogan, Maria Martin, Orazio Coco, Anne Nolan, Alan Ball, Shirley Ball, Martha Abraham - Louise Nicholas, Varini Massillamany, Peter McHugh, Mariapia Ferioli, Fr Brian Larkey, Gerard Patrick Howard, Colin Francis Wright, Joseph Kutajczyk, Charbel Boustani.

Rosters - 17/18 December

Cleaning Ministry

Computer Operators:

Vigil 5.30pm
Sun. 7.30am
Sun. 10.00am

Marthe Nalletamb, Jing Tapiador
Thomas Russo
Anne Marie Lyons
Lynette Rodrigues

Counters:

Lectors:

Vigil 5.30pm
Sun. 7.30am
Sun. 9.30am

Patrick Edouard-Betsy, Bill O'Shea
Sr Maureen, Eli Ogrizek
Angela Finnane, Will Finnane
Romeo Urqueza, Yolanda Urqueza



CHOIR

The Choir for Christmas now has 20 members. Thanks to all. Practice continues this **Wednesday at 7.30pm** in the church.

Thank you to our 8 Catechists that so wonderfully attend the 5 State Schools in our Parish Your service and dedication and commitment to the young people in our parish is outstanding. Many blessings to you.

THANK-YOU

And, to the Sacramental Team in our parish, so many thanks for the great service you gave to the children receiving their Sacraments throughout this year. It has been a great joy working together and with the children and their families. The dates for 2023 for the Sacramental Program with

be available from next week.



DIocese of Parramatta 2022 Christmas Mass AND RECONCILIATION TIMES

Christmas Mass & Reconciliation Times from parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are available now on our Diocesan website (www.parracatholic.org), on Catholic Outlook (www.catholicoutlook.org) and on our Diocesan social media channels. Merry Christmas from the Diocese of Parramatta.

FAREWELL



St Mary's Primary School will farewell Mrs Rosmarie Gosper in a special liturgy on **Wednesday 14th December at 10.30am** in the Church. Parishioners are cordially invited to join the school for this liturgy.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S ADVENT 2022 RESOURCES

Journey through Advent with Caritas Australia's new Parish Resources, useful for small groups or individuals. Exploring seasonal themes of peace, hope, joy and love through a social justice lens, this resource offers Gospel readings, stories of people Caritas Australia serves, reflection questions, prayers, song suggestions and ideas for putting faith into action. Visit www.caritas.org.au/advent to download the resource.



DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE ONE DAY PILGRIMAGE RETREAT: 18 DECEMBER

The Divine Retreat Centre in Somersby, NSW is hosting a one-day pilgrimage from **9am to 4pm on Sunday 18 December** and will feature praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration and Holy Mass, with separate ministry for children and teenagers. Bookings are required and limited numbers are available. Please call (02) 4372 1598 or email drsydney@gmail.com to confirm attendance. Visit www.divineretreatcentre.org.au for more information.

ROSARY PRAYER

The Rosary will be said in the **Marion Garden** each Sunday at **9:20am** (before the 10am Holy Mass). The benefits and graces involved when you pray a group Rosary together are amazing. Pope St. Pius X said, "Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world."



CATHOLIC OUTLOOK MAGAZINE

Copies of the Summer 2022 edition of Catholic Outlook magazine are located at the back of the Church.

DIocese of Parramatta WYD23 PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATIONS OPEN!

Registration for WYD23 in Lisbon has now opened. Young people aged 16-35 can now view our itinerary, inclusions, indicative pricing, register and pay their \$800 deposit to secure their place. Limited spaces still available to join our team of 170 pilgrims with Bishop Vincent. Visit www.parrawyd.org

RYDALMEN

The Rydalmen Christmas Big Bash is on **Wednesday 14th December at 7.15pm for 7.30pm start** in the Parish meeting room. Newbies, semi-regulars and diehards are all very welcome to celebrate with an evening of Food, Fellowship, Faith and Music. Contact details: shane.young@ozemail.com.au, 0432 815 165.



DIocesan World Day of the Sick Mass

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on **Saturday 11 February 2023** at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2022 to met@parracatholic.org

FEAST OF THE WEEK

Monday, 12 December - Our Lady of Guadalupe

The intervention of God through his Holy Mother, the Virgin of Guadalupe was a marvellous masterpiece of cultural synthesis. The miraculous image of Our Lady imprinted on Juan Diego's tilma is an incredibly complex image and every detail had a meaning for the indigenous people of Mexico. One aspect is the black sash, the Aztec black maternity lace around Her waist is a sign of a pregnant woman, a mother about to give birth to a new life, a sign to the Indians that Someone is yet to come.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

MASSES

Christmas Eve, 24 December 6.00pm - Vigil Mass

8.30pm - Vigil Mass

Christmas Day, 25 December 7.30am and 10.00am

Please note there will be NO Midnight Mass.

FIRST RITE OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Saturday, 17th December 4.00pm - 5.15pm

Thursday, 22nd December 4.00pm - 5.15pm

Friday, 23rd December 4.00pm - 5.15pm

Confession after 9.15am Mass and anytime by appointment.

