

Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

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Divine Mercy Sunday - 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year B

Sunday, 7th April 2024



GOD'S MERCY IS FRESH AND NEW EVERY MORNING - Joyce Meyers

Emperor Napoleon was moved by a mother's plea for pardon for her soldier son. However, the emperor said that since it was the man's second major offense, justice demanded death. "I do not ask for justice", implored the mother, "I plead for mercy". But, "said the emperor, "He does not deserve mercy." Sir, cried the mother, "it would not be mercy if he deserved it, and mercy is all I ask for. The compassion and clarity of the mother's logic prompted Napoleon to respond, "Well then, I will have mercy."

The second Sunday of the Easter season invites us to reflect on God's infinite love and mercy for His people, as detailed in the Bible and as lived and taught by Jesus, and to practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. One of the beatitudes of Jesus is "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God".

"This reminds me of a joke about a lady who had her photograph taken and upon seeing the proof complained to the photographer. He said, "Ma'am what's wrong?" "Wrong? Why doesn't this picture do me justice." To which he looked at her and said, "Ma'am you don't need justice, you need mercy."

**A little bit of mercy
makes the world less
cold and more just.**

POPE FRANCIS

What is mercy? A blessing that is an act of divine favour or compassion. Being merciful is a disposition to show kindness or compassion. The Greek word for mercy, *eleos*, is used in relation to misery and its relief. Grace is God's free gift displayed in the forgiveness of sins. Grace is extended to men as they are guilty. Mercy is extended to them as they are miserable (ISBE Bible Dictionary).

In the first century Roman culture, mercy was not seen as a virtue, but was seen as a sign of weakness. One Roman philosopher called mercy "a disease of the soul". To them mercy was a sign that you did not have what it takes to be a real man and especially a real Roman. They glorified courage, justice, discipline, and absolute power. They looked down on mercy because they saw it as weakness, and weakness was despised above all other human limitations. So mercy was hard to find in that day and age. [Daniel Brown, SC]

Jesus showed mercy everywhere He went. His motivation came from the desire to please His Father, and from that flowed very deep love and mercy. God was very often referred to as full of mercy! His mercy endures for ever.

Believing in God's eternal love means believing in mercy. "The Lord of Divine Mercy", a drawing of Jesus based on the vision given to St. Faustina, shows Jesus raising his right hand in a gesture of blessing, with his left hand on his chest from which gush forth two rays, one red and one white. The picture contains the message "Jesus, I trust in You!". The rays streaming out have symbolic meaning: red for the blood of Jesus, which is the life of souls and white for the water which justifies souls. The whole image is symbolic of the mercy and love of God.

Mercy is a godlike quality! It cannot be legislated. It must come from the heart. It must be stirred up from within. It is part of the endowment each of us receives as a son or daughter of God and partaker of a divine birthright. Let us give greater expression and wider latitude to this instinct which lies within us. The God we believe in is the embodiment of mercy. His Son Jesus' ministry was one of compassion toward the poor, the sick, the oppressed, the victims of injustice and man's inhumanity to man. His sacrifice on the cross was an unparalleled act of mercy on behalf of all humanity.

If cultivated among all men, mercy would put an end not only to the corona virus but also to the emotional, economic, social, relational and psychological virus that seem to affect the people at large.



Heartfelt thanks to Bernadette and the team who have organized the Divine Mercy Sunday celebrations (starting at 12.30 pm marked by prayer, Eucharistic Procession and Holy Mass and fellowship). May I encourage our parish community to be a part of the spiritual events and experience the boundless mercy and love of Jesus!

God's blessings

Fr. Vince

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

Rejoice to the full in the glory that is yours, and give thanks to God who called you to His kingdom. Alleluia.

First Reading: Acts 4: 32-35

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117: 2-4, 15-18, 22-24

R: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, his love is everlasting

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:

'His love has no end'

Let those who fear the Lord say;

His love has no end.' **R**

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;

his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live

and recount his deeds.

I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,

but not doomed to die. **R**

The stone which the builders rejected;

has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,

a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord:

we rejoice and are glad. **R**

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has already overcome the world

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ

has been begotten by God;

and whoever loves the Father that begot him

loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God's children

if we love God himself and do what he has commanded

us;

this is what loving God is –

keeping his commandments;

and his commandments are not difficult,

because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith.

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God:

Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,

not with water only,

but with water and blood;

with the Spirit as another witness –

since the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel Acclamation

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;

happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel: John 20:19-31

After eight days Jesus came again and stood among them

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me,

so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not

with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We

have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that

the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the

holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I

refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the

house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were

closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be

with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger

here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into

my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My

Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the

disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These

are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ,

the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life

through his name.

Communion Antiphon:

Jesus spoke to Thomas; Put your hand here, and see the place of the nails.

Doubt no longer but believe, alleluia

PARISH ROSTERS

13/14 April 2024

	Computer Operators	Lectors	Altar Servers	EMHC	Counters	Cleaning Ministry	Altar Society
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Thomas Russo	Leah Garcia Anne-Marie Hewkins	Jemma L Matilda S	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	Lawrence Tsang Geoff & Barbara Rosario	Thomas & Sophie Russo	Linda Tsang Lily Hon Grace Coco Gabriella Spinetti Sheila Tapiador
Sun 8.00am	Glenys Oxlee	Samantha Winders Anton Fernando		Helen Wong Barbara Rosario			
Sun 10.00am	Anne Marie Lyons	Astrid Kossim Linda Tsang	Theo M Tashnie W	Elaine Gade Sheila Tapiador			

20/21 April 2024

	Computer Operators	Lectors	Altar Servers	EMHC	Counters	Cleaning Ministry	Altar Society
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Lynette Rodrigues	Eli Ogrizek Maddison Boulos	Judah M Jemma L	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Lawrence Tsang Bill O'Shea	Thess Davidson & family	Maria Greenfield Lily Hon
Sun 8.00am	Naom Younis	Will Finnane Angela Finnane		Lina Flores Helen Wong			
Sun 10.00am	Vartguess Markarian	Romeo Urqueza Yolanda Urqueza	Amanda D Isabella C	Sheila Tapiador Evelyn Artiga			

Let us pray for ...

Sick

Maree Buttenshaw,
Robert Power

Recently Deceased

Norma Williams, Jo Skinner, Michael Foster,
Manjula, Anthony Huynh Van Hoang,
Ruby Moses, Noelene Wilkinson,
Jaime Pablacio

Anniversaries

Tony Malkoun, Arthur Saad
Umberto Bruzzese
Carmen Boladian, Carlo Boladian
Jennifer, Yvonne, Mervyn, Robert,
Reginald

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

INSTALLATION OF FR VINCE AS THE PARISH PRIEST OF HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH

Fr Vincent will be installed as the **Parish Priest** of Holy Name of Mary parish on **21st April** at the **10am Mass** by our **Bishop Vincent Long**. It is a very special day for Fr Vince as he enters the 39th year of his ordination to Priesthood.

Everyone is invited to celebrate this blessed occasion and your presence will make this event a memorable experience for Fr Vince and our community.

We will gather at the school for a fellowship after the Mass.

Please bring a plate of finger food to share. If you can be of any assistance /volunteer to set up or preparation of food please fill in your details on the clip board placed at the back of the church.

Please contact **Nancy M) 0434 541 287** or **Lyn M) 0439 115 450** for further enquiries.

Time to Return Your Project Compassion Donation



If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week.

Thank you for your generous support.



THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Parishioners who have offered to contribute to the Planned Giving/Thanksgiving Envelopes please collect your boxes from the back of the church.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Easter | Autumn 2024 Catholic Outlook Magazine

The Easter | Autumn 2024 edition of the Catholic Outlook Magazine is out now! Copies are located at the back of the church.

CatholicOutlook
News from the Diocese of Parramatta

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2024

Getting married in 2024? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit :

www.parracatholic.org/celebrate/marriage/marriage-preparation to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called **SmartLoving** can also be booked via the website. For more information, email marriage@parracatholic.org or Marisa on **0412 280 017**.

Diocesan Food Drives

Many vulnerable people in our community rely on the 'food banks' run by Jesuit Refugee Services and the House of Welcome, which operate thanks to donations from community food drives. All parishes and schools are encouraged to run a food drive for those seeking safety in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

Find out more information about how you can help at <https://parracatholic.org/contribute/volunteer/#food-drive> or emailing james.atanasious@parracatholic.org

Mount Schoenstatt Shrine Time Holy Hour for Youth

The Mount Schoenstatt community invite youth and young adults for Holy Hour every **fourth Sunday of the month** from **7pm to 8pm** at the **Mt Schoenstatt Shrine, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa**, followed by a social gathering afterwards. There will be opportunities for praise and worship, prayer, reflection, confession and benediction. For more information, please contact Sr M Rita on **0493 026 628** or srrita@schoenstatt.org.au

Parramatta Catholic Foundation BISHOP'S GOOD SHEPHERD APPEAL Weekend of 20/21 April

Support our seminarians to "go out into the deep"
This appeal will be held on the weekend of 20/21 April.
Please give generously.

Prayer for Vocations



Almighty Father

You have created for us some definite purpose.

Grant us the grace to know the path

You have planned for us in this life,
and to respond with a generous "Yes."

Make our Diocese, parishes, homes, and hearts
fruitful ground for Your gift of vocations.

May our young people respond to Your call
with courage and zeal.

Stir among our men a desire and the strength
to be good and holy priests.

Bless us with consecrated religious and those
called to a chaste single life, permanent deacons, and
faithful husbands and wives, who are a sign
of Christ's love for His church.

We commend our prayer for vocations
to You, Father, through the intercession of
Mary our Mother, in the Holy Spirit,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue - Wed - Thu - Fri - Sat 9:15 am

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday (Vigil) 5:30 pm
Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am

ADORATION (EXPOSITION)

Saturday 8:30 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8:30 am - 9:00 am

BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sunday of the
Month 11:30 am

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Vincent Savarimuthu

Parish Priest

Cheryl Percan

Parish Secretary
Tue / Wed / Fri
10am to 5pm

Susie Lee

Finance Secretary
Thur
10am to 2pm

Sacramental Coordinator

Diane O'Shea

Childrens Liturgy Coordinator

Allison Markarian

Lectors Coordinator

Glenys Oxlee

Senior Server Coordinator

Anton Massillamany

Finance Chairman

Ron Della Vedova

St Vincent De Paul President

Ron Della Vedova

Rydalmen Coordinator

Shane Young

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Mary's Primary School

1 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere NSW 2116

Ph: (02) 8844 5700

Email: StMarysRydal@parra.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Richard Blissenden

St. Patrick's Marist College

171 Kirby Street, Dundas NSW 2117

Ph: (02) 8841 7900

Email: stpatsdundas@parra.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Paul Ryan