

# Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

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Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year B

Sunday, 5 May 2024



**“There is only one happiness in this life, to love and be loved-  
George Sand**

After telling the parable of the vine and branches last Sunday, Jesus, in today's Gospel, teaches the disciples that they are to obey his commandment of love just as Jesus has obeyed his Heavenly Father's will by fulfilling His commandments and remaining inseparably bonded with his Father. Jesus' unconditional, forgiving, selfless, sacrificial love for us must be the criterion of our love for others.

When we hear the Word 'commandment' we are a bit uneasy. When someone commands us, our instinct is to rebel. When you ask your children to do something

... What reaction do you get – No, I won't. What Jesus is asking of us is not a slavish obedience to God. God is not interested in keeping us in line. He is not watching to see if we step out of line, he is not a policeman God. God wants what is the best for us, for our peace, happiness, and love. The essence of Christianity is love's self-forgetfulness (not dementia) and total dedication.

*In a certain village in the Swiss Alps there is a small church which has been used by generations of worshippers. What makes it so beautiful is the story of how it came to be built on that particular spot.*

*Once there were two brothers working and living together on their farm. The older brother was married with a large family and the younger one was single. At the end of every day, the two brothers share the produce and profit and anything they get from the farm equally.*

*Then one day the younger brother said to himself, "It's not fair that we should share the produce and the profit equally. I'm alone and my needs are simple." So, each night he took a sack of grain from his bin and crept across the field between their houses, dumping it into his brother's bin.*

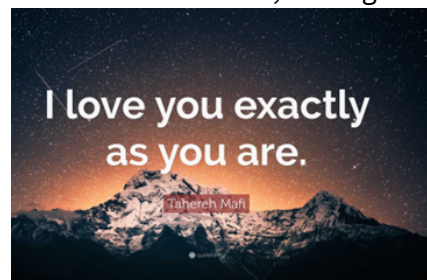
*Meanwhile, the married brother said to himself, "It's not fair that we should share the produce and the profit equally. After all, I'm married and I have my wife and my children to look after me in years to come. My brother has no one, and no one to take care of his future." So each night, he took a sack of grain and dumped it into his single brother's bin.*

*This continued for years and both of them were puzzled in light of the fact that their supply of grain never dwindled. Then at one very dark night the two brothers bumped into each other. Gradually it occurred to them what was going on. They dropped their sacks and hugged each other. Suddenly a voice from heaven said: 'here I will build my church. For where people meet in love, there my presence shall be'*

We practice our faith in Jesus with a gap of a long time to the apostles. We cannot have the same intensity of Jesus's experience of the Apostles. Still, we are called to follow and proclaim Jesus. That may be a challenge for us. But we can feel Jesus, his love – in the sacraments and in his Gospel and sometimes through his loving community.

We are his present followers; that means, as St. Peter we have the duty to uplift people, with our words, through our human and caring deeds. We can also reciprocate to the love of God and feel him as a friend and guide if we will. We can be the apostles of the Love of God as St John- of course in our manner. Let us seek this personal experience of God in this church, in this community and in our gatherings, in our family.

*A story to ponder: "I was a neurotic for years. Anxious, depressed, selfish. And everyone kept telling me to change. And I resented them, and agreed with them, and wanted to change, but simply couldn't, no matter how I tried.*



*What hurt the most was that, like the others, my closest friend kept urging me to change. So, I felt powerless and trapped. One day he said, "Don't change. I love you as you are". Those words were music to my ears: Don't change, don't change, don't change... I love you as you are" I relaxed; I came alive. And, suddenly, I changed! Now I know that I couldn't really change till I found someone to love me whether I changed or not" (The Song of the Bird).*

Have a wonderful week ahead!

God's blessings

Fr. Vince



# This Sunday's Readings



## Entrance Antiphon:

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;  
proclaim to the ends of the earth:  
The Lord has freed his people. Alleluia.

## First Reading: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

*The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.*

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

## Responsorial Psalm: Ps 97:1-4

### **R: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power**

Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation. **R**

The Lord has made known his salvation;  
has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love  
for the house of Israel. **R**

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord all the earth,  
ring out your joy. **R**

## Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-10

*God is love.*

My dear people, let us love one another  
since love comes from God  
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and  
knows God.

Anyone who fails to love can never have known  
God,  
because God is love.

God's love for us was revealed  
when God sent into the world his only Son  
so that we could have life through him;  
this is the love I mean:  
not our love for God,  
but God's love for us when he sent his Son  
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

## Gospel Acclamation

### **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

### **Alleluia!**

## Gospel: John 15:9-17

*No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me,  
so I have loved you.

Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments  
you will remain in my love,  
just as I have kept my Father's commandments  
and remain in his love.

I have told you this  
so that my own joy may be in you  
and your joy be complete.

This is my commandment:

love one another, as I have loved you.  
A man can have no greater love  
than to lay down his life for his friends.

You are my friends,  
if you do what I command you.

I shall not call you servants any more,  
because a servant does not know  
his master's business;  
I call you friends,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me:

no, I chose you;  
and I commissioned you  
to go out and to bear fruit,  
fruit that will last;  
and then the Father will give you  
anything you ask him in my name.

What I command you  
is to love one another.'

## Communion Antiphon:

If you love me, keep my commandments says the Lord,  
and I will ask the Father and he will send you another  
Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

A Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative group, the council assists the Parish Priest in his pastoral ministry by providing advice and recommendations on a variety of parish matters, such as engaging youth and young families, worship and evangelisation, service, or fundraising. "Parish pastoral councils will play a key role in discerning the present opportunities and challenges for the parish in growing and sharing its faith, and selecting those actions of the Pastoral Plan which will best equip the parish to respond to local needs and potential"

The Ex – officio members of this council are the Chairperson of the finance committee, the principal, or his representative from St Mary’s Primary School.

We need six more members representing all ages (from adolescence to elderly) to constitute a council in our parish. Those who are willing to be a part of this council may nominate themselves with a few basic details. Kindly, get in touch with the parish office!

**Fr Vince**

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024



### Parent Session

**9th May - 7:00pm** in the church

### Children’s Preparation Sessions

**11th and 18th May - 3 - 4:30pm** in the Parish Hall

### **CELEBRATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION**

**26TH MAY & 1ST JUNE -12:00 NOON**

## TECHNICAL ISSUES

As we have been experiencing technical difficulties in the last week, we have been unable to view or reply to any emails.

We are trying to fix the issues at the very earliest. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause you.

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

**POPE FRANCIS**

## Let us pray for ...

### *Sick*

Linda Dysoco, Judy,  
Naza Nazah  
Maree Buttenshaw,  
Robert Power

### *Recently Deceased*

Kevin Holden, Alojz Žnidarsic,  
John Romanous,  
Cecile Modesto, Kang Ho Mui,

### *Anniversaries*

Elena Ramos  
Jelica Dzido

# PARISH ROSTERS

## 11/12 May 2024

	Computer Operators	Lectors	Altar Servers	EMHC	Counters	Cleaning Ministry	Altar Society
<b>Sat Vigil 5.30pm</b>	Lynette Rodrigues	Romeo & Yolanda Urqueza		Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	David & Sue Boulous Sheila Tapiador	Sue Galletto Robert Saad	Therese Ball Lesley Long
<b>Sun 8.00am</b>	Christopher Younis	Helen Wong Gail Dick		Helen Wong Barbara Rosario			
<b>Sun 10.00am</b>	Anne Marie Lyons	Samantha Winders Astrid Kossim		Elaine Gade Sheila Tapiador			

## 18/19 May 2024

	Computer Operators	Lectors	Altar Servers	EMHC	Counters	Cleaning Ministry	Altar Society
<b>Sat Vigil 5.30pm</b>	George Davidson	Maddison Boulous Samantha Winders		Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	David & Sue Boulous Francis Mathew	Monica Jung	Barbara Rosario Lynette Rodrigues
<b>Sun 8.00am</b>	Anne Marie Lyons	Ron Della Vedova Anton Fernando		Lina Flores Helen Wong			
<b>Sun 10.00am</b>	Glenys Oxlee	Joseph Andrews Nada Coorey		Sheila Tapiador Evelyn Artiaga			

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



## Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Every Wednesday 7pm

Join the Novena and let us pray to our Mother Mary for the welfare of human beings, especially those who seek her intercession.

### MAY - Month dedicated to Our MOTHER MARY

Please join us at **7pm every night** in the month of May to recite the Rosary and honour our Mother Mary.

**Please note:** On **Thursday 9th May**, Rosary will be recited at **8:00pm** in the church.



## COMPUTER OPERATORS

We are desperately short of people to operate the computer at weekend Masses. Please seriously consider volunteering for this role. The Power point slides are prepared for you, all you need to do is press Enter for the next slide. Training will be given as well as support for your first few turns. Please contact **Glenys Oxlee** on **M) 0488 228 633** by **Friday 17th May** if you can help.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE LAWN AND CO-ORDINATING RYDALMEN.

Please call or email the Parish Office if you can assist.

## CCD Formation Opportunities: May and June 2024

SRE catechists and all members of our faith communities are invited to participate in a series of formation opportunities organised by the Diocesan Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD). Delve into St John's Gospel with a scripture expert,

**Dr Laurie Woods**, over 5 weeks on **10, 17, 24** and **31 May**. Continue your Journey of Faith for 5 weeks with

**Merilyn Hancock** (Head, CCD) on **7, 14, 21, 28 June** and **5 July**.

All sessions will be held at the **Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown**, from **9.30am to 1.30pm**. For SRE Catechists to be accredited with Level 3 training, they must attend both sessions. Morning Tea will be provided. Enrol for one or both sessions via [parracatholic.org/events](http://parracatholic.org/events) or email [ccd.training@parracatholic.org](mailto:ccd.training@parracatholic.org)

## CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL NSW CELEBRATING PENTECOST EVE "ANOINTING"

Join the Catholic Charismatic Renewal NSW in celebrating Pentecost Eve "**Anointing**" on **Saturday 18th May** at **Servants of Jesus Centre**, 15 Park Road, **Seven Hills** for an afternoon of Praise & Worship, Testimonies and Prayer Ministry from **4-7pm**. Booking is essential, register with link. <https://www.trybooking.com/CPMXQ?qr=true>. Any inquires email: [email@ccrnsw.org.au](mailto:email@ccrnsw.org.au)

### WEEKDAY MASSES

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

*Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Succour  
Every Wednesday 7:00pm*

### First Friday of the Month

7:00pm - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Mass

### SUNDAY MASSES

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

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8:30 am - 9:00 am

### ADORATION (EXPOSITION)

Saturday 8:30 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  
9am to 4pm

**Deacon Leon**  
Finance Secretary  
Thur  
10am to 2pm

**Sacramental Coordinator**  
**Childrens Liturgy Coordinator**  
**Lectors Coordinator**  
**Senior Server Coordinator**  
**Finance Chairman**  
**St Vincent De Paul President**  
**Rydalmen Coordinator**

Diane O'Shea  
Allison Markarian  
Glenys Oxlee  
Anton Massillamany  
Ron Della Vedova  
Ron Della Vedova

## PARISH SCHOOLS

**St. Mary's Primary School**  
1 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere NSW 2116  
**Ph:** (02) 8844 5700  
**Email:** [StMarysRydal@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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](mailto:stpatsdundas@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
**Principal:** Mr. Paul Ryan