



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

Office: 2 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere 2116

Email: admin@holymary.org.au Phone: **(02) 9684 1541**

Website: www.holymary.org.au

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, 22 December 2024

**“VISITATION OF GOD’S PRESENCE IS A BYPRODUCT OF WORSHIP. HOWEVER, WE DON’T WORSHIP
IN ORDER TO GAIN HIS PRESENCE. HE IS WORTHY TO BE WORSHIPPED WHETHER
OR NOT HE CHOOSES TO SHOW UP”**

– JOHN WIMBER

On this fourth Sunday of advent, we reflect on Mary visiting her cousin Elizabeth in her pregnant state (the second mystery of the Joyful mysteries of the Rosary). Recently, we visited that Biblical “hill country” called Ein Karem, the village of Zachariah and Elizabeth. Ein Karem is 90 kilometres away from Nazareth and by foot it took a week to travel. I could see how difficult the journey would have been for the pregnant Mary at a time when the road was rough, and no easy transportation was viable. Mary embodies the core of Christianity here at its best- caring, committed to the well-being of others. The visitation was a journey of service, a visit to her cousin who needed help. Mary rightly understood the longing of Elizabeth at that point in time of her life.

We are just two days away from the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Though it is a time of joy and celebration, this can be a time of loneliness, or intense sorrow for some people. As we get ready to celebrate this historical event of God becoming a Man, we also welcome and reach out to neighbourhoods, especially those who are suffering the most during these days. I presume that you are able to reach out at least once in this time and share God-given blessings. The visitation of our Mother Mary is a gentle reminder that we should keep the spirit of caring, sharing and persevering until the end of time.

“Mary and Elizabeth had something else to share – their faith. The prayers they said have been said ever since. The stage was small, but the audience has been millions ever since. They were not shy about their faith in their God. In times like ours, we need to externalize our faith in concrete actions both religious and corporal. We need to find God again, and let ourselves be open to him in the deepest areas of life, just like the husbands of these women, Joseph, and Zechariah, as well as their wives, were open to God”

(Donal Neary S.J.)

The country doctor Bruney had just said goodbye to his colleagues who had confirmed that Jean, the doctor’s only son, would die in a few hours of diphtheria. The anti-toxin injections had been too late. As he now sat with his wife by the boy’s bedside awaiting the child’s death the doorbell rang. The doctor shouted to his secretary, “I don’t want to see anyone.” But the visitor would not go away. It was the farmer Rivaz who had walked 10 kilometres from Roseland. His son was sick. “I’ll come tomorrow” the doctor told him. “But if you don’t come now, he won’t make it through the night,” the farmer insisted. They began a discussion. “You can cure my son.” “But mine’s lost, he’s beyond all cure.” “But mine isn’t.” “Well, I’ll come tomorrow morning.” “Then it will be too late.” “Let me close the eyes of my dying child.” “But if you cannot help him any longer.” “As long as my son is alive, I’ll remain with him.” “All right, then both the children will die.” The doctor then asked for the symptoms of the boy’s sickness, and they were the same as his son’s had been. But it was still not too late to save him. So, the doctor decided to go with the farmer.

(Ludolf Ulrich in ‘1000 Stories You Can Use’)

Looking forward to celebrate Christmas with you!

God’s blessings!

Fr. Vince

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

First reading: Micah 5:1-4

Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
the least of the clans of Judah,
out of you will be born for me
the one who is to rule over Israel;
his origin goes back to the distant past,
to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them
till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth.
Then the remnant of his brothers will come back
to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock
with the power of the Lord,
with the majesty of the name of his God.
They will live secure, for from then on he will extend
his power to the ends of the land.
He himself will be peace.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

**℟: Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

O sheperd of Isreal, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. **℟**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **℟**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. **℟**

Second reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

I am coming to do your will.

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:
You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,
prepared a body for me.
You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin;

then I said,
just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,
'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 1:39-44

Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

Communion Antiphon:

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Wednesday 25th - **The NATIVITY of the LORD**, Christmas

Thursday 26th - **St Stephen**, the first martyr

Friday 27th - **St John**, apostle, evangelist

Saturday 28th - **The Holy Innocents**, martyrs

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Christmas Choir

Rehearsals for the 9pm Christmas Eve Mass, have commenced.
 We welcome you all to come along
 and join us at rehearsals, on **Monday evenings**
 at **7.30pm** at the **Parish**, until Christmas.
 For any enquiries, please phone or text
 Catherine on 0417 060 021



Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve, 24th December
5:30pm - Carols followed by family Mass
9pm - Mass

(Please note there will be NO Midnight Mass)

Christmas Day, 25th December: 8am - Mass
10am - Mass

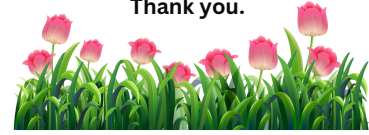
No mass from 26th - 28th Dec. in the morning

Masses resume Saturday 28th December in the Evening

Garden Flowers

The Altar Society would be grateful for any donation of
 Agapanthus or any flowers from your garden.
 Please leave them in the meeting room on 23/12/2024
 or early on the 24/12/2024.

Thank you.



Lawn & Garden

Volunteer Positions Available

+

New or Used Lawn Mower Wanted

If you are able to assist, please contact
 Romeo via email: romqueza@hotmail.com

Thank you.



Please continue to pray
 for the completion of the project
 of the Parish Admin Office
 and Priest Residence



Let us pray for ...

Sick

Lawrence
 Joan Nayler
 Danilo De Los Reyes
 Sandra Ylagan

Recently Deceased

Patricia Marie Charker (Pat)
 Patricia Ann Dunne
 John Bernard Goodall

Anniversaries

Frank Aboud	Brian Oxlee
Morrie Aboud	Arthur Saad
Charles Camilleri	Anthony Vella
Emilia Camilleri	Carmen Vella
Robbie Keegan	Colin Francis Wright
Bernie Otter	

PARISH ROSTERS

28/29 December 2024

	<u>Computer Operators</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>EMHC</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Cleaning Ministry</u>	<u>Altar Society</u>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Eric Flores	Romeo Urqueza Yolanda Urqueza	Matilda S Harriet S	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	David & Sue Boulous	Thess Davidson & Family	Maria Greenfield Lily Hon
Sun 8.00am	Michael Majoor	Helen Wong Glenys Oxlee	Maya R Tara C	Lina Flores Helen Wong	Bill O'Shea		
Sun 10.00am	Vartgness Markarian	Julie Tapiador Khush Jilla	Angelina B Joanne J	Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues			

4/5 January 2025

	<u>Computer Operators</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>EMHC</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Cleaning Ministry</u>	<u>Altar Society</u>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Ben Garcia	Lynette Rodrigues Leah Garcia	Oscar G Isabella W	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Kathleen Burrows	Anton & Anne Fernando	Pam McKay Annabel Manlutac Gail Dick
Sun 8.00am	Anthony Wong	Angela Finnane Will Finnane	Maya R Cristian A	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Tuti Sugita		
Sun 10.00am	Anne Fernando	Marco Tapiador Linda Tsang	Ava E Isabella C Tashnie & Tashen W	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade	Lawn and Garden	Richard Corney	

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME (SECOND COLLECTION)

If you would like to support the Parish through the Planned Giving Programme (Second Collection)

please complete the application form located at the back of the church.

Parishioners are encouraged to increase their contribution to the second collection via Direct Debit or Credit Card.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE AND FIESTA 2-9 JANUARY 2025

Commit the first fruits of your new year to Christ with the 2025 Epiphany Pilgrimage.

Enjoy 7 days of bushwalking, fellowship and prayer as we journey from Emu Plains to the top of the Blue Mountains, experiencing the wonderful hospitality of parish communities along the way.

Day 1 is a family-friendly day, with the option for a children's pilgrimage finishing with the Finnies Fiesta at St Finbars, Glenbrook.

For more information and to register for all or part of the journey, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org



GROUP

We are working to engage young people aged between 12 and 35 to join our group.

We encourage our youth to come onboard.

If you would like to join us, we invite you to write your contact details on our Youth Group Register located at the back of the church.

The next Youth Group Meeting will be announced shortly.

For more details please contact:
Nazli Guler on 0426 243 016

Join Us for Our Monthly Parish Lunch

Dear Parishioners,

We're excited to invite you to our Monthly Parish Lunch! This is a wonderful opportunity to gather **once a month on a Sunday after 10am Mass** to enjoy great company and good food.

Each one pays for their own meal and drinks.

When: Sunday 22nd December 2024

Where: The Family Inn

Everyone is welcome—bring your family and friends!

This initiative aims to foster fellowship and strengthen our community ties.

For more details contact **Allison on 0411 013 032**



WEEKDAY MASSES

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

Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Every Wednesday 7:00pm

ROSARY at 3:00pm on the last Saturday of every month at Ermington Shopping Centre (near the Post Office).

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

Maritza Graciela
Parish Secretary
Tue/Wed/Thur/Fri
9:30am to 5:30pm

Deacon Leon
Finance Secretary
Thur
10am to 2pm

Sacramental Coordinator	Lynette Rodrigues
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	Mark Bannister
Social Celebrations Coordinator	Nancy Grugan
Parish Pastoral Council Chair	Allison Markarian

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