



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, 8 December 2024

“THE MOST PATHETIC PERSON IN THE WORLD IS SOMEONE WHO HAS SIGHT BUT NO VISION”

— HELEN KELLER

Makeover shows are very popular on TV. Many are hooked up watching *The Block* and other similar shows on TV. The theme is always the same: an ugly, broken-down house is transformed into a beautiful dwelling. These shows are exotic and commercial so as to fan the desire of the people for cosy houses. Baruch called for some sort of makeover for Jerusalem. He wanted the people who were living in exile, and agony, to think in a new way and to have a new vision even in the midst of utter darkness. The religious vision prophesied by Baruch did create a sense of hope in the oppressed people and they were able to realise God's fidelity in loving them and caring for them (First Reading).

In our own time, we need such vision. Pope Francis has provided many with just such hope, and most people have responded eagerly and joyfully – even those who do not share his religious faith. It is a mystery why some find his hopeful vision of love and mercy so frightening and threatening. In our own words, thoughts and deeds, it is important to live out this vision of hope for the sake of the world. The world is still often a dark and scary place, perhaps now more than ever. Many people still yearn for peace, freedom and prosperity. The God response is still the same: put aside the ways of fear, violence, greed, hatred and selfishness. Even in the midst of darkness, uncertainty, fear and chaos, God is very present, and God always has the last word.

Far too many of us live in a schizophrenic value world. Far too many of us believe that our society is in bad shape while at the same time asserting that our personal lives are in good shape. Far too many are quick to point out that others need conversion and repentance and yet they themselves need not confess their sins and repent. We will not be able to sustain such a schizophrenic and sick culture very much longer. Living with such split vision is not living at all. That's why, John the Baptist invites us to fix our lives in order with a clear vision of experiencing the true freedom and joy emanating from a sincere repentance/reconstruction of our lives. Are we willing to acquire that vision? It is a matter of choice and never a matter of feeling like it. It is not up to God; it is up to us. (Excerpted from Fr. Scott Lewis and Fr. Charles Irvin and edited).

A monk was passing through a dangerous and deserted highway. He came across a wounded man with high fever lying helplessly on the roadside. The monk took compassion on him and began to take care of him. He cleaned his wounds and tied them with medicinal leaves; he shared his food with him and spent the night taking care of him. The following morning the man was a little better and he was able to proceed on his own. When the monk was about to take leave, the stranger turned towards the monk and said to him, “Sir, you do not know who I am, neither my name, nor my race or caste or language, yet you bound my wounds, shared your food and spent the night taking care of me. Tell me, what made you do all these things for me?” Then the monk replied, “The Lord who created me said, ‘What you do to the least of your brethren, you do it for me.’ You are my brother. What I had done to you, I had done to my Lord.” Then the man said, “Sir who is your God? If your God makes you do all these things to a stranger, then I need that God. Give your God to me.” The monk paved the way for God in that man's life. It is said that a saint is one who makes it easy for others to believe in God. “Prepare the way for God...” (Anonymous)

God's blessings to us all!

Fr. Vince

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

First reading: Baruch, 5:1-9

Jerusalem - God will show you splendour.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:
since God means to show your splendour to every nation
under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be,
'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.'
Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights
and turn your eyes to the east:
see your sons reassembled from west and east
at the command of the Holy One,
jubilant that God has remembered them.
Though they left you on foot,
with enemies for an escort,
now God brings them back to you
like royal princes carried back in glory.
For God has decreed the flattening
of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,
the filling of the valleys to make the ground level
so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.
And the forests and every fragrant tree will
provide shade for Israel at the command of God;
for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory
with his mercy and integrity for escort.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 125

**℟: The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.**

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs **℟**

The heathens themselves said:
'What marvels the Lord worked for them!
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **℟**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **℟**

They go out, they go out, full of tears
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **℟**

Second reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Show yourself sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy,
remembering how you have helped to spread the
Good News from the day you first heard it right up to
the present. I am quite certain that the One who
began this good work in you will see that it is finished
when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how
much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves
you. My prayer is that your love for each other may
increase more and more and never stop improving
your knowledge and deepening your perception so
that you can always recognise what is best. This will
help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare
you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the
perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us
for the glory and praise of God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his
paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

All people shall see the salvation of God.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign,
when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod
tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the
lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch
of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and
Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of
Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the
whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of
repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is
written in the book of the sayings of the prophet
Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened
and rough roads made smooth.
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Communion Antiphon:

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 9th - The **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**
of the **BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Friday 13th - **St Lucy**, virgin, martyr

Saturday 14th - **St John of the Cross**, priest, doctor

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



Second Rite Reconciliation

Tuesday, 10th December: 7pm



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



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



Thank you to Mary Towers and Tia Gouw who donated the new Yamaha piano to the Parish



THANK YOU TO



OUR WONDERFUL TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS
Teamwork makes the dream work!



St Vincent De Paul Conference thanks Michael, Patrick, Charlie, Connor and Peter who unloaded the food hampers & transferred them to the hall on Tuesday.

Many hands make light work. Thank you from Ron and Glenys.

"RYDALMEN"

Building up fellowship among men of different age brackets

Meets on The Third Thursday of every Month

Where: Parish Meeting Room

Time : 7:15pm for 7:30pm to 9:00pm

What to Bring : *Our true self*

Next Meeting : 19th December 2024

Discussion Point : Festive Songs

and passages from our journey in 2024 which we will reflect on.

FUNERAL OF PATRICIA ANN DUNNE

The funeral for our dearly beloved, long term parishioner **Patricia Ann Dunne** will be on **Wednesday 11th December at 11am.** Our deepest condolences and prayers go out to the family.

FUNERAL OF JOHN BERNARD GOODALL

The funeral for our dearly beloved, long term parishioner **John Bernard Goodall** will be on **Friday 13th December at 11am.** Our deepest condolences and prayers go out to the family.

Let us pray for ...

Sick

Lawrence
Joan Nayler
Danilo De Los Reyes
Sandra Ylagan

Recently Deceased

Patricia Ann Dunne
John Bernard Goodall

Anniversaries

Martha Abraham
Shirley Ball
Terry Chia
Margreth Coughlan
Desmond James Howard
Gerard Patrick Howard
John Joseph Khalil
George Kheir
Joseph Kotajczyk
Varini Massillamany
Efren De Los Reyes
Colin Francis Wright

PARISH ROSTERS

14/15 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	Thomas Russo	Romeo Urqueza Yolanda Urqueza	Matilda S Harriet S	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Dominic & Lynette Rodrigues	Pierre Salomon	Barbara Rosario Lynette Rodrigues
Sun 8.00am	Pamela McKay	Helen Wong Daniel Cakarun	Daniella M Tara C	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Geoff & Barbara Rosario		
Sun 10.00am	Lynette Rodrigues	Khush Jilla Marco Tapiador	Angelina B Avril L	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade			

Lawn & Garden

Volunteer Positions Available

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



21/22 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	Lynette Rodrigues	Sr Maureen Leah Garcia	Cristian A Jemma L	Susan Boulos Kathy Saad	David & Sue Boulos	Thomas & Sophie Russo	Linda Tsang Grace Coco Gabriella Spinetti Sheila Tapiador
Sun 8.00am	Christopher Younis	Glenys Oxlee Barbara Rosario	Jensen M Judah M	Barbara Rosario Lina Flores	Marthe Nalletamby		
Sun 10.00am	Juvy Austria	Nada Coorey Sam Markarian	Theo M Tashnie W Tashen W	Sheila Tapiador Evelyn Artiaga	Lawn and Garden	Robert Spinetti	

Children's Liturgy Sunday 22/12/2024 at 10am

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



AVAILABLE THIS WEEKEND
CHRISTMAS CARDS
&
2025 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

Your local Rydalmere Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society will be selling
2025 Columban Calendars: \$10.00 each
10 pack Christmas Cards: \$10.00 each

Proceeds go to our St Vincent de Paul Rydalmere Conference clients.

Thank you for your support.



PARRAMATTA
CATHOLIC FOUNDATION



Homeless young mothers and their children desperately need your help this Christmas

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

Your kind-hearted gift and prayers will provide practical and emotional support, and a safe haven to call home.

parracatholic.org/appeal



YOUTH 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**

If you would like to attend our next lunch, you are invited to write your name on the sheet located at the back of the church, this is to assist Allison with the booking reservation.
Looking forward to seeing everyone there!



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 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