



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sunday, 12 January 2025

“BAPTISM IS FAITH IN ACTION.”

– UNKNOWN

A young man once described his experience of sinking into insanity. He was a very bright university student, but he had abandoned his studies in favour of nightclubs and pornography. One night he retired to a hotel room. As he lay in bed, the window appeared to expand until it reached the floor. He heard a mocking voice in his mind saying, "What if you threw yourself out of that window?" The young man wrote: "Now my life was dominated by something I had never known before: fear. It was humiliating, this strange self-conscious watchfulness. It was a humiliation I had deserved more than I knew. I had refused to pay attention to the moral laws upon which all vitality and sanity depend." Well, this young man did begin to pay attention to the moral law. He began to put his life in order - and to experience inner peace. He eventually entered the Catholic Church and went on to become one of the most famous monks of the twentieth century. His name is Thomas Merton. Today's gospel on Jesus' baptism should challenge us, too, to examine if we are keeping our baptismal promises. (Fr. Phil Bloom)

The baptism by John was a very important event in the life of Jesus. First, it was a moment of decision to begin public ministry. Second, it was a moment of identification with us sinners. Third, it was a moment of approval when his heavenly Father approved Jesus as His "beloved Son." Fourth, it was a moment of conviction that his mission was to preach the good news of God's love and salvation and to atone for our sins by becoming the "suffering servant." Fifth, it was a moment of equipment when the Holy Spirit equipped Jesus for his ministry by descending on him in the form of a dove, giving him the power of preaching and healing.

The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our identity. It reminds us of who we are and who we belong to. At baptism, we are affirmed of being created in the image and likeness of God. You and me, everyone is a face of God; we are the signature of God's love. We are the temples of the Holy Spirit! The baptism of Jesus is the beginning of his saving mission and public ministry, and our own baptism incorporates us into that same mission and ministry.

We are called to continue the Mission of the Jesus Christ in His Spirit, His Holy Spirit. We are determined to complete the work of the Master. We do this through our vocations to the married life, to parenthood, to the priesthood, to religious life, or to the life of the committed Catholic single.

When we love others, we are continuing His Mission, for He is the Tremendous Lover. When we develop and use the gifts He has given to each of us to make the world beautiful for others, we are continuing His Mission. When those of you who are married put your spouse before yourselves, you are continuing His Mission to make love the motivation of life. When those of you who have children empty yourselves so that your children can grow into the reflections of God, He created them to be, you are continuing His Mission. When we strive to be the best at whatever it is that He calls us to do in our careers, we are continuing His Mission.

When we say "No!" to sin and "Yes" to care for all who are hurting, we are continuing His Mission. When we make time to be kind to those whom our society hates, the downtrodden, the socially unacceptable, the butt of jokes at school, at work, in the community, we are continuing His Mission. When we respond to the Grace to do something for someone else, we are continuing His Mission.

When we realise with our lives that we are not the centre of the universe, but that Jesus is the Centre, and our centre, we are continuing His Mission.

"You are my Beloved Son. With you I am well pleased." This was the voice of the Father over the Son after Jesus was baptized by John. The Father was pleased that Jesus embraced His Mission. He is pleased when we continue Christ's Mission.

What a gift we have been given in Jesus Christ. Some people think that life is meaningless, without purpose. But we Christians know why we were created and how we can live meaningful lives. We can make a difference in the world by uniting ourselves to the One who changed the world with His Life. We can continue the Mission of Jesus Christ.

(Source duly acknowledged)

God's blessings

Fr. Vince

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

First reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it.

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God.
‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and call to her that her time of service is ended,
that her sin is atoned for,
that she has received from the hand of the Lord
double punishment for all her crimes.’

A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
let every cliff become a plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.
Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah,
‘Here is your God.’

Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.
The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30

℟: Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!
You stretch out the heavens like a tent. **℟**

Above the rains you build your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot,
you walk on the wings of the wind,
you make the winds your messengers
and flashing fire your servants. **℟**

How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
There is the sea, vast and wide,
with its moving swarms past counting,
living things great and small. **℟**

All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up:
you open your hand, they have their fill. **℟**

you take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. **℟**

Second reading: Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7

He saved us through the water of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit.

God’s grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Cont. from Page 2

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'you are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

Communion Antiphon:

Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.



Congratulations

James, Mateo and Maya

who were Baptised on Sunday 5/1/2025

We welcome these children
our Parish family.



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

Anniversaries

Mary Hanna

PARISH ROSTERS

18/19 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>
<u>Sat Vigil 5.30pm</u>	George Davidson	Lynette Rodrigues Leah Garcia	Cristian A Jemma L	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	Lawrence Tsang	Sue Galletto	Therese Ball Lesley Long
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Anne Fernando	Jodie MacGregor Daniel Cakarun	Jensen M Judah M	Helen Wong Lina Flores	Sheila Tapiador		
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Glenys Oxlee	Nada Coorey Astrid Kossim	Theo M Tashnie & Tashen W	Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues	<u>Lawn and Garden</u>	Romeo Urqueza	

25/26 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>
<u>Sat Vigil 5.30pm</u>	Thomas Russo	Sue Farrugia Len Farrugia	Harriet S	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Lawrence Tsang	Monica Jung	Barbara Rosario Lynette Rodrigues
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Naom Younis	Gail Dick Anne Marie Lyons	Maya R Tara C	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Francis Mathew		
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Delilah Rodrigues	Jessica Tapiador Joseph Andrews	Angelina B Joanne J	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade			

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.



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

PARISH MINISTRY SIGN-UP

2025



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER,
YOU ARE INVITED TO WRITE YOUR NAME
ON THE SHEET LOCATED AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH
OR PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE**

Volunteer Positions Available

Altar Linen Washing

Altar Servers (Junior)

Altar Servers (Senior)

Altar Society

Catechists in Public Schools

Childrens Liturgy Facilitators

Church Cleaning

Counters

Eucharistic Ministers

Lawn & Garden

Readers

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING TO SERVE OUR PARISH!

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