



# Weekly Bulletin

**Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish**

**4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere**

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**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C**

**Sunday, 16 February 2025**

**“DON'T JUST COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS. BE THE BLESSING OTHER PEOPLE COUNT ON”**

— ANONYMOUS

Jerry was at a marriage seminar, and the leader of the seminar, a lady, was asking everybody how long they were married for. When it was Jerry's turn Jerry said that he was married for almost 50 years. “Wow” the leader gushed, “that's amazing, perhaps you can take a few minutes to share some insights with everybody, and how you stay married to the same woman for so long. “Well,” Jerry said after thinking for a few moments, “I try to treat her nice, buy her presents, take her on trips...and best of all, for our 25th anniversary I took her to the Bahamas.” “Well, that's really beautiful, and a true inspiration for all of us” the lady said. “Maybe you can tell us what you are going to do for your 50th anniversary” she said with a smile. “Well”, Jerry said “I'm thinking of going back to the Bahamas to pick her up.”

Who do we consider blessed in our contemporary time? Those who seem to have everything! The intelligent, good-looking, socially and economically stable and well placed and connected in the public arena. Right! Is this type of valuation correct? Who in fact is truly blessed or cursed. (Mind that God never curses us...it is we ourselves in that situation).

Dr. Harold Treffert is the director of the Winnebago Mental Health Institute in Wisconsin. In an article entitled “The American Fairy Tale,” he discusses five dangerous ideas we have about the meaning of happiness. First, happiness is things. The more you accumulate and have, the happier you will be. Second, happiness is what you do. The more you produce and earn, the happier you will be. Third, happiness is being the same as others. The more you are fashionable and conform with the times, the happier you will be. Fourth, happiness is mental health. The fewer problems you have and the more carefree you are, the happier you will be. Fifth, happiness is communicating with electronic gadgets. The more you can communicate with a television set, a satellite or a computer, the happier you will be. According to Dr. Treffert, these five myths about happiness are the cause of many mental health problems today. If happiness cannot be found through these five myths of “The American Fairy Tale,” then where do we find it? Jesus gives us the answer when he outlines the beatitudes in today's reading from Luke. (Albert Cylwicki in His Word Resounds)

I think it is important to attend in particular to two things: the context in which the Beatitudes are pronounced and the biblical meaning of beatitude. The context is that Jesus is instructing his disciples before large crowds. Burdened and afflicted, these people have come from far and near to access his healing power (Luke 6:17-19). The implication is that the disciples, by adopting the values enshrined in the Beatitudes, are to become themselves instruments of hope and healing for this troubled wider group.

Strictly speaking, in the biblical tradition ‘blessed’ does not commend a moral attitude to be adopted. The formula declares a person to be in a fortunate or advantageous position. It almost amounts to ‘Congratulations!’ However, in the tradition of Israel the declaration of a person as ‘blessed’ is usually in view of a coming action of God.

The Prophet Jeremiah provides a background for this sense of being blessed or cursed. Blessedness is based on whether or not one puts one's trust in God. St Paul reiterates the same view in the second reading that those who are so obsessed only with the temporal life and happiness and hope for the same in Christ are the most pitiable people of all.

Coming to the Gospel, the beatitudes are highly provocative. The beatitudes and the woes make sense only in the light of the reversal of fortune to be brought about by God. In the canticle of Mary, the Magnificat, this is clearly anticipated: He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.

Besides the beatitudes implicate the truth that God is on the side of the poor and marginalised rather than the rich and powerful. Jesus challenges everything: our ‘me –first’ attitude, consumer –oriented, market driven, and what society holds dear today. Conversely, Jesus upholds selflessness, compassion and he invites us to embrace a new vision, a new fortune: to seek the common good before our own needs, to bring compassion and forgiveness to others despite our own anger and humiliation, to free ourselves from the pursuit of the things of this world in order to seek the lasting things of God. Jesus underlines that poverty and hunger are intrinsically evils and to be eradicated. (Sources are duly acknowledged)

**God's blessings**

**Fr. Vince**

# This Sunday's Readings



## Entrance Antiphon:

Be my protector, O God,  
a mighty stronghold to save me.  
For you are my rock, my stronghold!  
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

## First reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

*A curse on those who trust in humanity; a blessing on those who trust the Lord.*

*The Lord says this:*

*'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man,  
who relies on things of flesh,  
whose heart turns from the Lord.*

*He is like dry scrub in the wastelands:  
if good comes, he has no eyes for it,  
he settles in the parched places of the wilderness,  
a salt land, uninhabited.*

*'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord,  
with the Lord for his hope.*

*He is like a tree by the waterside  
that thrusts its roots to the stream:  
when the heat comes it feels no alarm,  
its foliage stays green;  
it has no worries in a year of drought,  
and never ceases to bear fruit.*

## Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 1:1-4

**℟: Happy are they who hope in the Lord.**

Happy indeed is the man  
who follows not the counsel of the wicked;  
nor lingers in the way of sinners  
nor sits in the company of scorners,  
but whose delight is the law of the Lord  
and who ponders his law day and night. **℟**

He is like a tree that is planted  
beside the flowing waters,  
that yields its fruit in due season  
and whose leaves shall never fade;  
and all that he does shall prosper. **℟**

Not so are the wicked, not so!  
For they like winnowed chaff  
shall be driven away by the wind.  
For the Lord guards the way of the just  
but the way of the wicked leads to doom. **℟**

## Second reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

*If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith is in vain.*

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead?

For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

## Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Rejoice and be glad;  
your reward is great in heaven.

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

*Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!*

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

## Communion Antiphon:

God so loved the world  
that he gave his Only Begotten Son,  
so that all who believe in him may not perish,  
but may have eternal life.

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

## 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

- Readers
- 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

**THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING TO SERVE OUR PARISH!**



## *Return of the Blessed Palms*

*Palms blessed on Palm Sunday become a "sacramental". These palms are burned and the ashes are used for the Ash Wednesday service.*

The palms blessed and collected last year should be returned to the Parish by Sunday 2nd March 2025 and placed in the basket located at the back of the church.



Congratulations to  
**Rose & Frank Camilleri** on their  
**60th Wedding Anniversary**

## 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.**



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  
Sandra Ylagan  
Adrian Seah

### *Recently Deceased*

Danilo De Los Reyes  
Madhalaimary  
Christy Angelo Retnasingham

### *Anniversaries*

Charles Camilleri  
Carmen Vella  
Thomas (Tom)Donohoe  
Joseph Wehbe

# PARISH ROSTERS

## 22/23 February 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>	Ben Garcia	Romeo Urqueza Yolanda Urqueza	Harriet S Zachary C	Susan Boulous Kathy Saad	David Boulous Sue Boulous	Thomas Russo Sophie Russo	Maria Greenfield Lily Hon O.Ham
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Michael Majoor	Rozz Morris Helen Wong	Maya R Tara C	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Bill O'Shea		
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Lynette Rodrigues	Joseph Andrews Julia Tapiador	Angelina B Joanne J	Sheila Tapiador Elaine Gade			

## 1/2 March 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>	Jenny Hendry	Anne-Marie Hewkins Leah Garcia	Oscar G	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	Kathleen Burrows	Thess Davidson & Family	Therese Ball Lesley Long
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Anthony Wong	Ron Della Vedova Anton Fernando	Maya R Cristian A	Helen Wong Lina Flores	Tuti Sugita		
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Vartguess Markarian	Lorna Argal Linda Tsang	Ava E Isabella C Tashnie W Tashen W	Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues	<u>Lawn and Garden</u> <u>Children's Liturgy</u>	Romeo Urqueza Sunday 2/3/2025 at 10am	

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

## FaithLIFE Scripture Short Courses

for adults: 12-26 February

Are you looking to read the Bible more in 2025 but don't know where to start? Consider the **FREE** FaithLIFE Scripture Short Course guided by Scripture scholar,

Dr Michele Connolly RSJ.

On **Wednesdays, 12, 19, & 26 February 2025**

at **6:30pm - 8:30pm**

Location: 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown  
-Bishop Bede Heather Centre.

**RSVP via <https://parracatholic.org/faithlife>  
or email: [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.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**



**2025**

## CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS

This year we start our sacramental program with the Sacrament of Confirmation which is offered to children in Year 5 onwards who have received their First Eucharist.

If you are considering enrolling your child for the program, please provide all required documentation to the parish office.

\*Please note that enrolment is completed by attendance at the compulsory Parent Information evening.

**BELOW ARE DATES FOR THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025:**

**Confirmation - Friday 23rd May**

**Completed enrolment form to parish office - Friday 7th March**

**\*Parent Information Evening - Thursday 13th March**

**Commitment Mass - 22nd / 23rd March**

**First Reconciliation - Thursday 26th June**

Details for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the First Holy Eucharist to follow.

**First Eucharist - 21st Sept. 12 noon**

Enrolment forms are located at the back of the church.

## 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](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