



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday, 9 March 2025

THOSE WHO OPERATE THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT ARE MORE EQUIPPED TO RESIST TEMPTATION

— MONICA JOHNSON

A husband was struggling to make ends meet at home on one salary. Then one day he had to confront his wife with a receipt for a \$250.00 dress she had bought. “How could you do this?” I was outside the store looking at the dress in the window, and then I found myself trying it on, “she explained. “It was like Satan whispering in my ear, “You look fabulous in that dress. Buy it!” “Well,” the husband replied, “You know how I deal with that kind of temptation. I say, “Get behind me Satan!” His wife replied, “I did that, but then he said, “It looks fabulous from the back too!”

Temptation is an ever-present reality in life. The urge to be true to God is as real as the urge to be untrue. St Paul describes the inner struggle as a “spiritual combat”. Presenting the temptations of Jesus in the wilderness, Luke, the gospel writer invites us to confront the desert, and the wilderness of our lives. As we are to reflect and pray over the account of Jesus being tempted in the desert, we are reminded that every single choice we make carries consequences and every single choice we make will either strengthen or weaken our commitment to God and to others and ourselves.

The 3 temptations of Jesus symbolically implicate that Jesus was tempted by instant gratification, power and instant success. Jesus was promised fame, wealth and glory if he would listen to the suggestions of the evil force. But Jesus made a deliberate and distinctive choice always to please His Father in heaven with great love and fidelity. He went for God’s way or path, and he remained faithful through all the ups and downs of his ministry. He chose to trust the heavenly Father. For Luke, the presence of the Spirit is the evidence that God is with Jesus and that Jesus is from God. It is the Spirit that allows him to recognise the temptations of the devil for what they are, and it is the Spirit that guides him in his rejection of the temptation.

For every one of us, temptation is a constant struggle. We can all be highly idealistic, but we now also need to be realistic! Our temptations may not be about hunger, power or instant success, but our temptations will be just real and powerful. We are attracted to be unfaithful, to our marital or religious vows, to take revenge, to drink excessively, to cheat, to be slag in spiritual matters, to be unjust in our dealings and to be manipulative of others etc. There is a big temptation of taking God and people for granted, and be insensitive to the plight of the sick, the migrants and the strangers. The Image of God and God’s creation is trampled, marginalized and vulnerable individuals are used as scapegoats by the powerful and the affluent in the society today. Currently people are tempted to become savvy with electronics to the extent that they become ‘connectocholics’. Are we making enough effort to resist all that drives us off the track of the Holy Spirit?

We are in the first week of Lent. Lent is our time to focus on God’s grace, and then, with God’s grace, to work on our shortcomings and try to become a better person in all aspects of our living. Lent calls us to a deep decision making. It challenges us to test our faithfulness to God and to reject the evil forces and impulses from within and without. Can we pass the test?

Following Jesus, we walk into our Lenten journey seeking to dive deeper into our relationship with God and embracing our continued conversion away from the temptations of sin guided by the Holy Spirit. All our Lenten endeavours will be just a waste of time and effort if we are not guided by the Holy Spirit in what we do. Let us overcome our temptations with the Power of Jesus! (Sources duly acknowledged)

God’s blessings

Fr. Vince

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

The When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

First reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

The confession of faith of the elect.

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, the Lord, have given me."

'You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 90:1-2, 10-15

R: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' **R**

Upon you no evil shall fall,
no plague approach where you dwell.
For you has he commanded his angels,
to keep you in all your ways. **R**

They shall bear you upon their hands
lest you strike your foot against a stone.
On the lion and the viper you will tread
and trample the young lion and the dragon. **R**

His love he set on me, so I will rescue him;
protect him for he knows my name.
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you,'
I will save him in distress and give him glory. **R**

Second reading: Romans 10:8-13

The confession of faith of the believers in Christ.

Scripture says: The word (that is the faith we proclaim) is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God,
and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you
to guard you,
and again:

They will hold you up on their hands
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

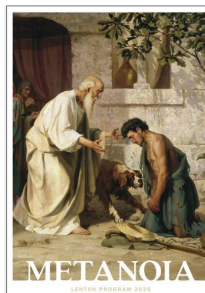
But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

Communion Antiphon:

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth
of God.



THE LENTEN PROGRAM

METANOIA

You are invited to attend the
Lenten Group Prayer & Reflection held every

Tuesday during Lent at 7pm

We will follow the book

Metanoia Lenten Program 2025

Available in the Parish: \$10 each, limited stock.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Pope Francis' message for Lent 2025 is to "journey together in hope".

Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and giving for Christians. It's a time to remember God's love and to develop a closer relationship with God.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS
EVERY FRIDAY AT 7PM
FOLLOWED BY
HOLY MASS
 Everyone is encouraged to participate.

'RYDALMEN'
 Building up fellowship among men of different age brackets
 The Lenten Program for Rydalmen each Thursday will be as follows:

1. Desert: 6 Mar
2. Summit: 13 Mar
3. Gardener: 20 Mar
4. Homecoming: 27 Mar
5. Redeemed: 3 Apr
6. Embrace: 10 Apr
7. Life: 17 Apr

Where : Parish Meeting Room
Time : 7:15pm for 7:30pm to 9:00pm
What to Bring : Small plate of nibbles (Optional)



Project Compassion March 2025

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*



NEXT SVDP CONFERENCE MEETING

on **Tuesday 11th March** at 7:30pm
 in the Parish Meeting Room
New members are welcome.

News from St Mary's Primary School 8/9 March 2025

Last week St Mary's began accepting enrolments for children starting school in 2026. During Catholic Schools Week the school held tours for New Families – if you missed out simply contact the office arrange a tour. Please call 8844 5700 for more information.

Enrolment forms are available online via the school's website

<http://www.stmarysrydalmere.catholic.edu.au/>

FUNERAL OF GIUSEPPE DI RUOCCO

The funeral for our dearly beloved, long term parishioner **Giuseppe Di Ruocco** will be on **Tuesday 11th March at 11am.**

Our deepest condolences and prayers go out to the family.

Wellbeing & Health

Kaz Seremet
 Lawrence
 Joan Nayler
 Sandra Ylagan
 Adrian Seah

Let us pray for the...

Recently Deceased

Giuseppe Di Ruocco
 Doreen Mutch
 Arlene C. Aumentado
 Edwina Co
 Juvenar Velasco
 Marie Holden

Anniversaries

Apolonia Banaag
 Linda Dysoco
 Arlette & Yves Flore
 Rebecca Orsini
 Arlette Raoul

PARISH ROSTERS

15/16 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>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Thomas Russo	Eli Ogrizek Lynette Rodrigues	Cristian A Jemma L	Susan Boulos Kathy Saad	Francis Mathew	Marthe Nalletamby	Linda Tsang Grace Coco Gabriella Spinetti Sheila Tapiador
Sun 8.00am	Pamela McKay	Angela Finnane Will Finnane	Jensen A Judah M	Barbara Rosario Lina Flores	Frank Camilleri	Jing Tapiador	
Sun 10.00am	Vincent Austria	Astrid Kossim Joseph Andrews	Theo M Tashnie W Tashen W	Sheila Tapiador Evelyn Artiaga	Lawn and Garden	Robert Spinetti	
					Children's Liturgy	Sunday 16/3/2025 at 10am	

22/23 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>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Lynette Rodrigues	Sue Farrugia Len Farrugia	Harriet S Zachary C	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	Francis Mathew	Sue Galletto	Maria Greenfield Lily Hon
Sun 8.00am	Christopher Younis	Anne Marie Lyons Helen Wong	Maya R Tara C	Lina Flores Helen Wong	Geoff Rosario Barbara Rosario		
Sun 10.00am	Glenys Oxlee	Cynthia Oscar Jessica Tapiador	Angelina B Joanne J	Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues			

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

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 to enjoy great company and good food. Each one pays for their own meal and drinks.

When: Sunday 16 March 11am for 11:30am

Saturday 12 April 6:30pm

Sunday 18 May 11am for 11:30am

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 and/or to RSVP contact Allison on 0411 013 032.

Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

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.



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



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION FRIDAY 23RD MAY 2025

As we approach the Sacrament of Confirmation our children in Year 5 onwards will commence preparation shortly.

Please return completed forms along with a copy of your child's Baptism certificate to the Parish office by 7th March 2025.

PLEASE NOTE - IMPORTANT DATES:

Parent Information Evening: Thursday 13th March at 7pm

**Commitment Mass: Saturday 22nd March at 5:30pm
&
Sunday 23rd March at 10am**

Attendance at both sessions are compulsory for parents and children.

Confirmation enrolment forms are located at the back of the church.

(Enrolment forms for other Sacraments will be provided later in the year)

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
Catechists Coordinator	Diane O'Shea
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