



# Weekly Bulletin

**Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish**

**4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere**

Office: 2 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere 2116

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

Website: [www.holymary.org.au](http://www.holymary.org.au)

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Sunday, 30 March 2025**

**“A LITTLE BIT OF MERCY MAKES THE WORLD LESS COLD AND MORE JUST.”**

— POPE FRANCIS

The gospel passage has different names, depending on which person in the story we refer to. If our focus is the elder son, then it is a parable of a Complaining Son; if the younger son, then it is a parable of a Prodigal Son. But if our focus is the father, who is the centre of the parable, it is viewed as a parable of a Merciful, Loving Father. The gospel is a story about breakups and reconciliation, about love that covers all sorts of happenings to the end. Emerson called this story, "The most beautiful short story in all of human literature." This is one of the stories that never grows old. It is so heart-warming and invigorating every time we hear or read it.

Reflection on the gospel, we find both the sons are self-centred. Both demonstrated their desire for satisfying themselves. On the one hand, the younger son is a squanderer, a wastrel. He took what is rightfully his, and spent everything. Well, it tells us of ourselves, that is, our greed or tendency to be greedy; inclined to be frivolous; on the other, the elder son is a complainer. He had the reason to complain to his father. This attitude also tells us about ourselves, that is, our own envy, jealousy, and resentment.

Secondly, it is the younger son who underwent a process of conversion. The virtues of humility and repentance are very much present in the younger son. As we have seen, the key to repentance is the humble admission of sin and guilt. At first blush, we find the younger son as more wicked than the elder son. But later, we can appreciate him for his sincere humility that he has committed a sin. I think we all agree that the humble admission of sin is something difficult for us to do because of pride. In relationships, whether in friendship, sibling relationship or husband-wife relationship, this is usually the case. There are small problems which become worse because no one admits that he or she is sinning. Our tendency is to show and prove that we are that perfect. If ever there is a problem, most people often blame others for the problem or for the sin committed. The first man, caught in the first sin, turns to blame his wife. And he extends the blame to God as well! He implies that he would have remained innocent if God hadn't put Eve in the garden with him.

The blame-shifting in the Garden continues today. Our proud hearts send us desperately looking for someone else to point to, every time we're confronted with our own sin. There must be someone else—our spouse, sibling, parent, boss, co-worker, pastor, friend, or God himself. We have to look for the good attitude of the younger son, that is, the humble admission of sin. We look for the capacity of the person to be humble.

Third, the father's attitude is something that we look forward to in the process of conversion. Pope John Paul II describes the Father as Rich in Mercy. This is something that he wants us to experience. The gospel today encourages us to love as we have been loved with the love that is merciful. People all do wrong - often great wrong. We need a lot of mercy in our families and country now, but we can't hold bitterness forever. The Sacrament of Reconciliation Jesus has given us, helps us in three ways: First, reconciliation with God. Second, reconciliation with our brothers and sister, reconciliation with oneself. One leads to the other. Our reconciliation with God is strongly dependent on our reconciliation with others and, of course, with ourselves. This sacrament is a blessing to all of us because it mediates God's grace to us. It is a coming home to the Father, it is an experience of being embraced with fatherly love. May I encourage our parishioners to avail the opportunity of experiencing the healing love of Jesus through the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) scheduled in our parish on 3rd April 5.30 pm and 7 pm. "Trust the past to the mercy of God, the present to His love, and the future to His providence". -Saint Augustine. ( Sources duly acknowledged)

**God's blessings**

**Fr. Vince**

# This Sunday's Readings



## Entrance Antiphon:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.  
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;  
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

## First reading: Joshua 5:9-12

*The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.*

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

## Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 33:2-7

**R: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
In the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R**

Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free. **R**

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called, the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress. **R**

## Second reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

*God reconciled himself to us through Christ*

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

## Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:  
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.  
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

*Your brother here was dead and has come to life.*

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man', they said, 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

## Communion Antiphon:

You must rejoice, my son,  
for your brother was dead and has come to life;  
he was lost and is found.

# 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.



## 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



## 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](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

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

## PALM CROSS making

Friday 11th April at 6:30pm  
Saturday 12th April at 10am

Seeking volunteers to assist with making of the crosses please 🙏

For more details please contact:  
Allison on 0411 013 032  
or Anne Marie on 0421 915 744

We are looking for 12 volunteers to participate in the **Washing of the Feet** at the Holy Thursday celebration on 17th April 2025 at 7pm.

If you are interested, please provide your name in the list provided at the back of the Church.

## 'RYDALMEN'

Building up fellowship among men of different age brackets

The Lenten Program for Rydalmen each Thursday will be as follows:

Redeemed: 3 Apr

Embrace: 10 Apr

Life: 17 Apr

Where: Parish Meeting Room

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

What to Bring: Small plate of nibbles (Optional)

## MY WEEKLY COMMITMENT

Holy Name of Mary Rydalmere



Amount \$ .....

Weekly Commitment Envelopes are now available for collection at the back of the church.

## Enrolments for St Mary's Primary School are currently being accepted

Did you know? St Mary's Primary has its own Instagram account? You can follow them @stmarysrydalmere. The school posts photos, videos and news stories on Instagram.

## Let us pray for the ...

### Wellbeing & Health

Romenda McGregor  
Pia Ylagan  
Kaz Seremet

### Recently Deceased

Ruben Pablocio  
Clara Delos Reyes

### Anniversaries

Umberto Bruzzese  
Delfin Rafael Gonzalez  
Ivka Lucin  
Reynaldo Real  
Thomas Solomon  
Sheila Tallon

# PARISH ROSTERS

## 5/6 April 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>
<b>Sat Vigil 5.30pm</b>	Eric Flores	Sr Maureen Eli Ogrizek	Harriet S	Susan Boulos Kathy Saad	Sheila Tapiador	Susan Boulous & Family	Lily Hon O.Ham Maria Greenfield
<b>Sun 8.00am</b>	Lindsay Keur	Barbara Rosario Daniel Cakarun	Daniela M Tara C	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Marthe Nalletamby		
<b>Sun 10.00am</b>	Lynette Rodrigues	Marco Tapiador Sam Markarian	Angelina B Avril L	Sheila Tapiador Elaine Gade			

## 12/13 April 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>
<b>Sat Vigil 5.30pm</b>	Ben Garcia	Romeo Urqueza Yolanda Urqueza	Cristian A Jemma L	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	Sheila Tapiador	Anton Massillamany Vartguess Markarian	Barbara Rosario Lynette Rodrigues
<b>Sun 8.00am</b>	Anne Marie Lyons	Anton Fernando Ron Della Vedova	Jensen M Judah M	Helen Wong Lina Flores	Bill o'Shea		
<b>Sun 10.00am</b>	Eddie Appleby	Nada Coorey Lorna Argal	Theo Tashnie W Tashen W	Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues	<b>Lawn and Garden</b>	Romeo Urqueza	
					<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	Sunday 13/04/2025 at 10am	

# 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: Saturday 5 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.**



## SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

**This Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 5:30pm & 7pm**

## *Thank You To Our Catechists*

This weekend we acknowledge our parish Catechists and thank them for their ongoing commitment to the children in our 5 State Primary Schools.

We are also asking for more volunteers to join in sharing the Faith with these young student.

For more details, please contact Diane O'Shea via email at [dcoshea@bigpond.net.au](mailto:dcoshea@bigpond.net.au)



## 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**

## Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal This Weekend

**Please give generously.**

**Donations are tax deductible.**

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for Catholic Care's chaplaincy services. This Lent, will you be a pilgrim of hope to people who may break in the face of suffering? Your kind-hearted gift and prayers will help our chaplains at Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains offer pastoral care, comfort and Christian companionship that can bring healing and transformation.



Support our Chaplains to restore hope with merciful acts of charity and love. Thank you.

## 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/Thu/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](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