



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday, 16 March 2025

“IT’S NOT ABOUT PERFECT. IT’S ABOUT EFFORT. AND WHEN YOU IMPLEMENT THAT EFFORT INTO YOUR LIFE. EVERY SINGLE DAY, THAT’S WHERE TRANSFORMATION HAPPENS. THAT’S HOW CHANGE OCCURS. KEEP GOING. REMEMBER WHY YOU STARTED.”

— ANONYMOUS

Last week we journeyed through the desert as Jesus overcame the temptations. As Jesus emerged victorious, the angels were at His service. This Sunday we are climbing the mountain to experience the transformative power of God and we are reminded of the basic truths of life. The gospel speaks about the transfiguration of Jesus. The word transfiguration means a change in form or appearance. Biologists call it meta-morphosis to describe the change that occurs when a caterpillar becomes a butterfly. Fr. Anthony De Mello tells the story of such a metamorphosis in the prayer life of an old man. “I was a revolutionary when I was young and all my prayer to God was: ‘Lord, give me the grace to change the world.’ As I approached middle age and realized that half of my life was gone without changing a single soul, I changed my prayer to: ‘Lord, give me the grace to change all those who come in contact with me; just my family and friends and I shall be satisfied.’ Now that I am old and my days are numbered, I have begun to see how foolish I have been. My one prayer now is: ‘Lord, give me the grace to change myself.’ If I had prayed for this right from the start, I should not have wasted my life.”- Yes, the change starts here and now and it’s always with me!

The transfiguration of Jesus is all about understanding the person of Jesus (his vision or purpose of life, his journey towards it marked by proclamation, healing, doing good to the people, which culminated in agonizing death on the Cross followed by victory and glory) and welcoming him into our lives.

Jesus is the ‘chosen One’- as authenticated by His Father’s voice. He is not just an inspiring person who offers a wonderful vision of life, but He is Life itself. We welcome Life by welcoming Christ! Without Jesus, our life is meaningless.

Jesus is the person who found meaning in the suffering – Jesus proved that resurrection is inseparable from crucifixion and suffering is the stepping stone for victory. No Cross No Resurrection is the simple logic we learn from the transfiguration. Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets respectively and the presence of these two prominent figures indicate the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets in the person of Jesus. It is this Jesus we welcome in our lives. In our human experience, we are tempted just like Peter, James and John to desire the mountaintop experience and avoid the valley experience. But we really must live the valley experience if we want to see the glory of God in our lives. It is in the valley experience that we discover our frailties and the follies of our intelligence, when inflated egos are punctured and we discover our great need for God.

When we find it hard to trust God in the "valley experience" of your life, we could think of little chickens under the wings of a hen. There is darkness under its wings, the little chicks cannot see anything, yet they feel the warm, reassuring protection of their mother. As the Psalmist puts it, “The Lord will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings we will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and your rampart.” (Ps 91:4). Whether in the valley or on the mountain-top, we need the affirmation of God, for the God in the valley is the same God on the mountains.

Jesus made Peter understand this truth and empowered him to climb down and face the reality of life. It may be easier to deal with Christ in heaven, Christ in the tabernacle, Christ in baptism, wedding and funeral than with Christ in our heart, family, in our daily routines. Am I ready to welcome Jesus into my heart, family, school, working centres, sports and recreational clubs, plazas? How different it would be if Jesus were to be welcomed there and we abide in His life-giving presence! (Sources duly acknowledged)

We need to make our relationship with Jesus personal and it needs constant renewal. It is through prayer, consistent participation in the Sacramental celebrations, and sharing the blessings with the less fortunate ones that we renew our relationship with Jesus and keep the relationship alive. Let us transform the world by receiving the power of Love from Jesus.

God’s blessings

Fr. Vince

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

First reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

God made a Covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Taking Abram outside, the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord,' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land,
from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 26:1, 7-9, 13-14

℟: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink? **℟**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.

Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.' **℟**

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face.

Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help. **℟**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.

Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.

Hope in the Lord! **℟**

Second reading: Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ.

They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things.

For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Alleluia!

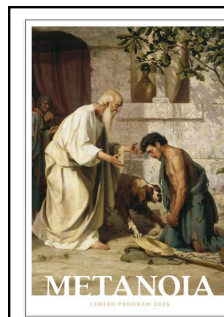
Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

Communion Antiphon:

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.



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

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*.



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

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS GO TO RON DELLA VEDOVA AND THE ENTIRE FAMILY

at the passing of his sister Gabriella Della Vedova-Conti.

May she rest in peace.

Enrolments

for St Mary's Primary School are currently being accepted

Did you know? Enrolments for children starting school in 2026 are currently being accepted through the St Mary's school office.

Please call 8844 5700 for more information.

Enrolment forms are available online

via the school's website

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

Let us pray for the ...

Wellbeing & Health

Kaz Seremet
Lawrence
Joan Nayler
Sandra Ylagan
Adrian Seah

Recently Deceased

Gabriella Della Vedova-Conti
Olivia Cinque
Giuseppe Di Ruocco

Anniversaries

Rebecca Orsini

PARISH ROSTERS

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			

29/30 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	Mark Salter	Leah Garcia Anne-Marie Hewkins	Oscar G	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Francis Mathew Patrick Edouard-Betsy	Monica Jung	Pam McKay Annabel Manlutac Gail Dick
Sun 8.00am	Anne Fernando	Michael Clark Glenys Oxlee	Maya R Cristian A	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Evelyn Noviza		
Sun 10.00am	Delilah Rodrigues	George Lattouf Lynette Rodrigues	Ava E Isabella C Tashnie W Tashen W	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade	Lawn and Garden	Michael Clark	

Children's Liturgy Sunday 30/3/2025 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: Sunday 16 March 11am for 11:30am

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.



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 NOTE - IMPORTANT DATES:

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

Attendance at both sessions are compulsory for parents and children.



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.

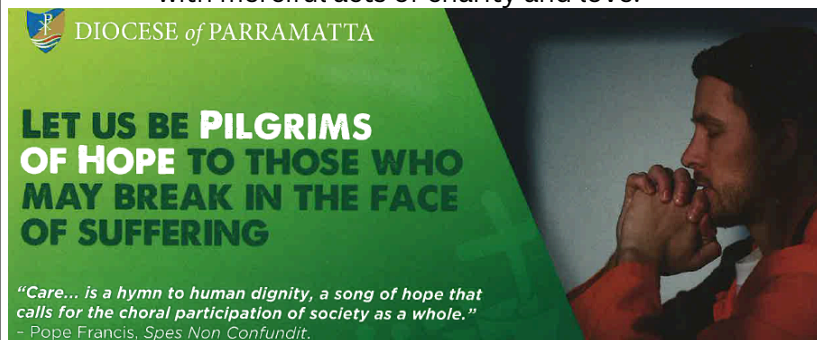
The next Youth Group Meeting will be announced shortly.

For more details please contact:

Nazli Guler on 0426 243 016

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal March 2025

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



LET US BE PILGRIMS OF HOPE TO THOSE WHO MAY BREAK IN THE FACE OF SUFFERING

*"Care... is a hymn to human dignity, a song of hope that calls for the choral participation of society as a whole."
- Pope Francis, Spes Non Confundit.*

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
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