



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

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TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday, 7 September 2025

“LONG AGO, PERSONS WHO SACRIFICED THEIR SPIRITS, THEIR LIVES, THEIR IDENTITIES, THEIR WEALTH, AND EVEN THEIR LAUGHTER WERE CALLED SAINTS. BUT NOW, THEY ARE CALLED HUSBANDS!” JOKING ASIDE, THE KEY WORD FOR DISCIPLESHIP IS “SACRIFICE”.

In our present use-and-dispose world, some people have asserted that life-long commitments are at their end. As indicators, they cite among others the mounting cases of married couples, religious, and priests turning their backs on their vows. Jesus completely disagrees.

The gospel (Lk 14:25-33) tells us that while Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem, a vast crowd traveled with him. He knew that his mission to build his Kingdom in people's minds and hearts would culminate in Jerusalem where the cross awaited him. But did the crowd know what they were going into when they become his followers? Not wanting to delude anyone, Jesus said to them, if anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. In other words, it goes without saying that the cross is part of any disciple's life. If there is no cross, if there is no persecution, deprivation, even humiliation, in a disciple's life, he is not a true disciple, but a plain opportunist or a user. Remember, discipleship is not about us, but about Him. He calls us, we respond, according to His terms and conditions.

In Hebrew, “to hate” means to put one thing in second place to something else. Thus to be Jesus' disciple means to commit one's self completely to him, placing him above everything and everyone else—parents, wife, children, brothers and sisters and even life itself. This is what taking up one's cross daily means. To follow Jesus then is an all or nothing affair; there is no in-between.

True in one inspired moment we can be heroic when the moment calls for it, e.g., save a drowning child at the risk of our life. But to take up our cross daily and for life, is something else. We can also leave behind our loved ones and the comfort of home to respond to the call, say, to the priesthood or the religious life. But to persevere for life in this endeavor is an altogether different matter.

“Long ago, persons who sacrificed their spirits, their lives, their identities, their wealth, and even their laughter were called saints. But now, they are called husbands!” Joking aside, the key word for discipleship is “sacrifice.” If there is no sacrifice, discipleship boils down to “one for the money, two for the show.”

Most of us eventually end up raising our own families. Let us look at the daily demands on a married couple. Generally, the husband is the breadwinner of the family. So whether he is in the mood or not, he goes to work daily. Though there are problems at work and at home, he tries to put them aside so that his efficiency and productivity at work will not suffer. On the wife's part and this if she does not hold a job, aside from taking care of the children, she also does most of the house chores—from the moment she wakes up till she goes to bed at night. Underlying all this is the couple's common effort to provide a Christian home for the family—a 24-hour work indeed. For the couple, it is in doing all this that taking up their cross daily consists for the most part.

We really do not have to look for our crosses elsewhere. Our daily lives are already full of them. Yet, though carrying them out daily is difficult, they are very ordinary tasks and responsibilities. The key is to do them in an extraordinary way, that is, to do them out of love for God. Then they become meaningful. Then they become meritorious and redemptive. If other heavy crosses come our way, we may consider them as added bonus.

Jesus assists us in making a life-time commitment to him through two parables. First, he cites the case a man who wishes to construct a tower. Before he does so, he should first calculate the cost to determine if he has the needed resources for its completion. Otherwise, having laid the foundation, he would be unable to finish it, thus becoming everyone's laughing stock. Then there is the case of a king about to wage war against another. A war in those times was an all or nothing affair. If one side surrendered without a fight, its leaders were put to death while the rest of the population were made slaves. If the king fought and lost, then everyone—leaders and people—would be put to the sword. Thus if a king knew that his enemy had a stronger army, it would be wise for him to send emissaries to resolve their conflict in some other way. In both cases, Jesus places the emphasis on serious deliberation/discernment before making a major decision.

In something as serious as deciding to follow Jesus for which our loved ones and even life itself are put in second place, serious prayerful discernment is needed. It would help to realize that Jesus does not ask us to do anything that he had not done himself. He left the comfort of home and gave his all including his life for us and for our redemption. The driving force behind this is his love for us. In our case, to persevere in our commitment to be a disciple of Jesus—whether as an unmarried person, parent, a religious or a priest—also depends on our determination to take up our cross daily out of love for Jesus and everything that he stands for. For love alone can sustain us through the ups and downs of a truly Christian life.

“A sacrifice, to be real, must hurt, and must empty ourselves. Give ourselves fully to God. He will use us to accomplish great things on the condition that we believe much more in His love than in our weakness.” [St (Mother) Teresa of Calcutta].

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful
love.

First reading: Wisdom 9:13-18

Who can comprehend the will of God?

What man can know the intentions of God?

Who can divine the will of the Lord?

The reasonings of mortals are unsure
and our intentions unstable;

for a perishable body presses down the soul,
and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.
It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth,
laborious to know what lies within our reach;
who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?

As for your intention, who could have learnt it,
had you not granted Wisdom
and sent your holy spirit from above?
Thus have the paths of those on earth been
straightened and men been taught what pleases
you, and saved, by Wisdom.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 89:3-6, 12-14, 17

R: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back to dust
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. **R**

You sweep men away like a dream,
like the grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers:
by evening it withers and fades. **R**

Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. **R**

In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands. **R**

Second reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17

*Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a
very dear brother.*

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is
more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am
appealing to you for a child of mine, whose
father I became while wearing these chains: I
mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you,
and with him – I could say – a part of my own
self.

I should have liked to keep him with me; he
could have been a substitute for you, to help
me while I am in the chains that the Good News
has brought me. However, I did not want to do
anything without your consent; it would have
been forcing your act of kindness, which should
be spontaneous. I know you have been
deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only
so that you could have him back for ever, not as
a slave any more, but something much better
than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to
me, but how much more to you, as a blood-
brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all
that we have in common means anything to
you, welcome him as you would me.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

*All who do not renounce their possessions cannot
be my disciples.*

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and
he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to
me without hating his father, mother, wife,
children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too,
he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not
carry his cross and come after me cannot be my
disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build
a tower, would not first sit down and work out the
cost to see if he had enough to complete it?
Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then
found himself unable to finish the work, the
onlookers would all start making fun of him and
saying, "Here is a man who started to build and
was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching
to war against another king would not first sit
down and consider whether with ten thousand
men he could stand up to the other who advanced
against him with twenty thousand? If not, then
while the other king was still a long way off, he
would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the
same way, none of you can be my disciple unless
he gives up all his possessions.'

Communion Antiphon:

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

PRAYER FOR FATHER'S DAY



Heavenly Father,
We thank you for the gift of our fathers and for their love, guidance, and strength. Bless all fathers today and always, and grant them wisdom, patience, and joy as they lead their families in your light.

May they always feel your presence and grace, and may their example inspire us to grow closer to you. May the example and prayer of St. Joseph inspire them to live their vocation with courage. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

"God chooses ordinary men for fatherhood to accomplish his extraordinary plan."

Wishing all our Father's a happy and blessed Father's Day.



Congratulations

Levi

who receives the Sacrament of Baptism
this Sunday 7/9/2025

We welcome him to our Parish.

FEAST DAY CELEBRATION NEXT SUNDAY!

*Holy Name of Mary Parish and School Feast
&*

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

14th | Sept | 2025



Celebration of the Holy Mass at 10am.

Followed by fellowship in the hall.

Please bring a plate.

SACRAMENT

OF

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

DATES:

SATURDAY 20 SEPT – 5:30PM

SUNDAY 21 SEPT – 12PM

40 CHILDREN WILL BE MAKING THEIR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, THEIR NAMES ARE ON THE CHAPEL WALL, PLEASE PRAY FOR THEM.



Wellbeing & Health

George Asic
Cristina Assuncao
Maree Buttenshaw
Kath Clinton
Al Alam Family
Younis Family
Lorna Lagarto
Romy Pena

Margaret
Bruce Moore
Romenda McGregor
Kaz Seremet
Sheila Tapiador
Alexander Velasquez
Alan Tracy Villarosa
Pia Ylagan

Let us pray for the...

Recently Deceased

Rosario Garcia
Trevor Grugan

Anniversaries

Charles Camilleri
Annie Coughlan
Joseph Orsini
Anthony Vella

PARISH ROSTERS

13/14 Sept 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	Romeo Urqueza Yolanda Urqueza	Oscar G	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Tuti Sugita	Anton Fernando Anne Fernando	Lily Hon O. Ham Maria Greenfield
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Lindsay Keur	Jodie MacGregor Glenys Oxlee	Maya R Cristian A	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Bill O'Shea		
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Anne Fernando	Khush Jilla Julia Tapiador	Ava E Isabella C Tashnie W Tashen W	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade	<u>Lawn and Garden</u>	Richard Corney	

20/21 Sept 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	Leah Garcia Lynette Rodrigues	Harriet S	Susan Boulos Kathy Saad	Tyrone Wiratunga	Marthe Nalletamby	Therese Ball Lesley Long
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Christopher Younis	Angela Finnane Will Finnane	Tara C	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Evelyn Noviza	Jing Tapiador	
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Glenys Oxlee	George Lattouf Joseph Andrews	Avril L	Sheila Tapiador Elaine Gade	<u>Children's Liturgy</u>	Sunday 21/09/2025 at 10am	

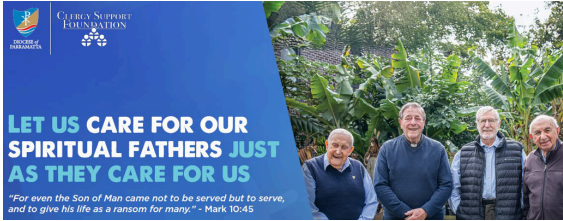
PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

THIS WEEKEND

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.



Your thoughtful gift and prayerful support are gestures of love for our priests – our spiritual fathers who faithfully serve our Western Sydney and Blue Mountains community. Thank you so much for your generous support of our Clergy Support Foundation's Bishop's Father's Day Appeal. Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. Your generous gift provides personalised and compassionate care when our priests need it most. Thank you.



NEXT SVPD CONFERENCE MEETING

on Tuesday 9th September
at 7pm
in the Parish Meeting Room
New members are welcome.

"RYDALMEN"

*Building up fellowship
among men
of different age brackets*

Meets on The Third
Thursday of every Month
Where: Parish Meeting Room
Time: 7:15pm for
7:30pm to 9:00pm
What to Bring: Small plate
of nibbles (Optional)
Next Meeting: 18 Sep. 2025

FREE introduction SEATED MOVEMENT FITNESS CLASS



Join our fitness group
next Saturday 13/09/2025
7:45am to 8:15am
in the Parish Meeting Room
Contact Allison 0411 013 032



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 held on:
Friday 26 September 2025 at 7pm in the Parish Meeting Room**

For more details please contact:

Nazli Guler on 0426 243 016

or **Jessica Tapiador on 0403 201 252**

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 21 September - 11:30am
Saturday 18 October - 6:30pm
Sunday 30 November - 11:30am
Sunday 21 December - 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.

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
10am to 5pm

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