



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

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THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

Sunday, 25 January 2026

"I take as my guide the hope of a saint: in crucial things unity; in important things diversity; in all things, generosity"

- George Bush

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I wish the students and the staff of St Mary's a wonderful and fruitful year (2026) of excellence in all they do. Let me extend the invitation again for the families and the staff to integrate more into the parish community by actively participating and involving in all the celebrations. We would like to see our children become built up in spiritual, moral and societal values. Let us set ourselves as the role models for the budding generation. This way, we become the 'fishers of men'.

I will be taking a couple of weeks off to visit my family in India. You can approach the parish office for any need during my absence.

Happy Australia Day! Despite all the unprecedented and unhappy events, Australia is still a beautiful nation adorned with spiritual heritage, beautiful landscape, multiculturalism and so on. One cannot but appreciate the unity and concern reflected by Aussies during natural and man-made calamities in and out of the borders. Australia day is to foster such a spirit of unity empowering everyone to celebrate the gift of life which comes with pleasant surprises. Let us do what we can to ensure the safety and security of every person in Australia. The differences among us (cultural, social and religious diversities) should serve as the building blocks of a unified community.

This Sunday's readings are inviting us to follow Jesus in ordinary ways that would eventually turn out to be the extraordinary moments of grace. We are called upon not to do extraordinary things in the super man style but to do ordinary things extraordinarily well. In the second reading, St Paul implores the people of the community of Corinth to foster unity and concern for each other: "that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose". Instantly, we decipher that the Christian communities right after the resurrection of Jesus were not different from ours today. The Corinthian community was divided, "it was bickering and fragmenting, ambition and misunderstanding was brewing, the people were taking sides along the lines of various personalities in the community" St. Paul calls for the attention of the people to be united in the Gospel of Jesus and to have the same attitude of Jesus. According to St. Paul the only ambition should be to support each other with all our hearts, the one competition should be trying to outdo each other in kindness and compassion and working together. It requires humility, sacrifice and real dedication.

The events of the past few weeks on our shore (Bondi Beach Terror Attack, a series of alarming shark attacks, and the bush fires in a couple of states) have underscored that Sydney's strength lies in its "social fabric"—a resilience that is tested but proven by its ability to come together under strain. These events highlight the resilience of the community in the face of such disasters. Whether facing the threat of terrorism or the shock of environmental tragedy, the community is encouraged to turn "sorrow into resolve and resolve into unity".

The word of God also challenges us to give up the secret pleasure we get by comparing ourselves with others and thinking that other people are inferior. No part of the human body is inferior. In the same way, no member of the church community should be regarded as inferior. Every one of us is a special and unique gift of God. Even those who appear to be useless are important after all.

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This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

First reading: Isaiah 8:23-9:3

*In the Galilean country, the people have seen
a great light.*

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun
and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will
confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of
Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.
You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase;
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor –
these you break as on the day of Midian.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 26:1, 4, 13-14

R: 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? **R**

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple. **R**

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! **R**

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

*I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up
the differences between you.*

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord
Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between
you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to
be united again in your belief and practice.

From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ.' Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

*He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah
be fulfilled.*

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went
back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and
settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders
of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of
Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,
Galilee of the nations!
The people that lived in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death
a light has dawned.'

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with
the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is
close at hand.'

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

...Cont. from Page 1

God has given each one of us different gifts, different opportunities, and different job descriptions in life. Our concern should be to try to be faithful to the grace that God gives us day by day. Hence, let us embrace one another with all the differences and distinctiveness and become 'one body and one spirit in Jesus'. Let us always strive to be united in one purpose and one heart. The greatest gift of life is to feel...Let us feel for one another in the spirit of love and unity!

At the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, high jumpers Gianmarco Tamberi of Italy and Mutaz Barshim of Qatar, after both clearing 2.37 meters but failing at 2.39, were offered a jump-off. Barshim asked if they could share the gold medal, which was agreed upon. This act of sportsmanship and unity between competitors from different nations highlighted that humanity could choose togetherness over rivalry. True strength is found in supporting one another, not just defeating others.

An old man with quarrelling sons demonstrated the power of unity using a bundle of sticks. He had his sons try to break the tied bundle, but they could not. After untying the bundle and giving each son a single stick, they easily broke them. The father explained that just as the bundled sticks were strong, they would be strong if they helped each other, but weak if divided, like single sticks.

In Christ, we are all one and that is the source of strength!

God's blessing

Fr. Vince

Let us pray for the...

Wellbeing & Health

George Asic Patrick Coughlan
Cristina Assuncao Al Alam Family
Mario Borsellino Younis Family
Maree Buttenshaw Lorna Lagarto
Kath Clinton Rey Legaspi
Margaret Constable Romenda McGregor

Recently Deceased

Rosemary Romeo Edmund Pomperada
Kaz Seremet Lourdes Sedel
Hayden Thomson Alexander Velasquez
Alan Tracy Villarosa
Pia Ylagan

Anniversaries

Allan Parazo
Patrick west

PARISH ROSTERS

31/1 Feb 2026

	<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	Len Farrugia Sue Farrugia	Ruby P	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	David Boulous Sue Boulous	Sue Galletto	Barbara Rosario Lynette Rodrigues
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Christopher Younis	Rozz Morris Barbara Rosario	Maya R	Lina Flores Eric Flores	Lawrence Tsang		
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Lynnette Rodrigues	Julia Tapiador Joseph Andrews	Ava E Isabella N Tashnie W Tashen W	Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues			

7/8 Feb 2026

	<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>	Lynnette Rodrigues	Michelle Acharya Sr Maureen	Cristian A Jacob K	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Kathleen Burrows	Monica Jung	Linda Tsang Grace Coco Sheila Tapiador
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Anne Fernando	Chris Twomey Maree Twomey	Bridget R Tara C	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Frank Camilleri		
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Glenys Oxlee	Khush Jullia George Lattouf	Avril L Ava M Savannah S-F Amelia I	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade	<u>Lawn and Garden</u>	Romeo Urqueza	

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

PARISH MINISTRY SIGN-UP



**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**

Ministries needing volunteers

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

Readers

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING TO SERVE OUR PARISH!

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

ADORATION (EXPOSITION)

Saturday 8:30 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8:30 am - 9:00 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**
Rydalmere Coordinator: **Mark Bannister**
Social Celebrations Coordinator: **Nancy Grugan**
Parish Pastoral Council Chair: **Luke Homann**

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Mary's Primary School
1 Myrtle Street, Rydalmer 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