



# Weekly Bulletin

**Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish**

**4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere**

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**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, YEAR A**

**Sunday, 29 March 2026**

## More Than a Parade

For many families, Palm Sunday is the day of "church crafts"—weaving palm fronds into crosses and joining a noisy procession around the block. But as we enter Holy Week 2026, the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem offers a powerful "values-check" for our high-pressure, digital-first world.

In a culture that often feels like a race for the fastest "stallion," Palm Sunday invites our families to choose the "way of the donkey."

Our children grow up in an age of "influencers," where success is measured by likes, followers, and being the best. Palm Sunday subverts this entirely. Jesus, the King of Kings, didn't choose a flashy warhorse or a golden chariot to make an entrance. He chose a borrowed donkey—the minivan of the ancient world. It is a moment for families to discuss how we use our "power" at school or work. Do we use our status to look down on others (the stallion), or do we use our hands to lift others up (the donkey)? Palm Sunday teaches our children that true greatness is not about who notices you, but who you serve.

The liturgy of Year A is unique because it moves rapidly from the joy of "Hosanna" to the sorrow of the Passion. It shows how quickly a crowd can turn. In today's world of "cancel culture" and volatile social media trends, this is a vital lesson in integrity. It mirrors the "highs and lows" of modern family life. Faith is not just for the "parades" and celebrations; it is the anchor that stays steady when the "crowd" turns or when life gets difficult. It teaches our children that being a person of faith means staying true to your values even when they are not popular.

The readings for this year (Isaiah 50:4) speak of having a "tongue to sustain the weary." Let's be honest: many modern families are weary. We are burnt out by hyper-scheduling, economic stress, and constant connectivity. Palm Sunday is a "semblance moment." By joining the procession, we step out of the frantic hustle and walk together as a community. It is a visible protest against a world of "might makes right," favouring instead a Kingdom of peace and simple hospitality.

When you bring your blessed palms home today, don't just tuck them behind a picture frame. Let them be a "white flag" of peace in your household. Let them remind you that in 2026, your family is not just another group in the rat race—you are part of a different procession, following a King who leads with a heart of "enough" rather than "more." (Source online)

**Let me request you to say the following prayer today as a family at your home:**

*Lord Jesus, we welcome You into our home just as the crowds welcomed You into Jerusalem. You did not come on a warhorse of pride or a chariot of gold. You chose a humble donkey to show us that true greatness is found in serving others. In a world that tells us to be "first" and "famous,". Help our family choose the way of the donkey—the way of kindness and quiet help. Teach us to serve as You served.*

*We pray for those who are weary today—For those stressed by work, school, or the noise of the world. May our home be a place of peace, a "Sabbath" for the tired, and may our words be like the "tongue of a teacher" to lift each other up. Keep us faithful when the "parade" ends, as we walk with You through this Holy Week. Amen.*

Let us make the Holy Week a time for deepening our faith and embracing something new for our lives!

**God's blessings**

**Fr. Vince**

# This Sunday's Readings



## Entrance Antiphon:

Hosanna to the Son of David;  
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,  
the King of Israel.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## First reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

*I did not cover my face against insult  
and I know I will not be ashamed.*

The Lord has given me  
a disciple's tongue.  
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied  
he provides me with speech.  
Each morning he wakes me to hear,  
to listen like a disciple.  
The Lord has opened my ear.  
For my part, I made no resistance,  
neither did I turn away.  
I offered my back to those who struck me,  
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;  
I did not cover my face  
against insult and spittle.  
The Lord comes to my help,  
so that I am untouched by the insults.  
So, too, I set my face like flint;  
I know I shall not be shamed.

## Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

**℟: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

All who see me deride me.  
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.  
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;  
let him release him if this is his friend.' **℟**  
Many dogs have surrounded me,  
a band of the wicked beset me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet  
I can count every one of my bones. **℟**  
They divide my clothing among them.  
They cast lots for my robe.  
O Lord, do not leave me alone,  
my strength, make haste to help me! **℟**  
I will tell of your name to my brethren  
and praise you where they are assembled.  
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;  
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.  
Revere him, Israel's sons. **℟**

## Second reading: Philippians 2:6-11

*He humbled himself to become like us and God raised  
him on high.*

His state was divine,  
yet Christ Jesus did not cling  
to his equality with God  
but emptied himself  
to assume the condition of a slave,  
and became as men are,  
and being as all men are,  
he was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death,  
death on a cross.  
But God raised him high  
and gave him the name  
which is above all other names  
so that all beings  
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,  
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus  
and that every tongue should acclaim  
Jesus Christ as Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

## Gospel Acclamation:

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

Christ became obedient for us even to death,  
dying on the cross.  
Therefore God raised him on high  
and gave him a name above all other names.

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

## Gospel - Passion Sunday, Year A: Matthew 27:11-54

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

## Communion Antiphon:

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it,  
your will be done.

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



HOLY NAME OF MARY  
RYDALMERE

HOLY WEEK PROGRAM 2026

THURSDAY		
02 APRIL 2026	HOLY THURSDAY	7:00 pm
FRIDAY		
03 APRIL 2026	GOOD FRIDAY	WAY OF THE CROSS 10:00am PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST 3:00pm
SATURDAY		
04 APRIL 2026	HOLY SATURDAY	<b>EASTER VIGIL 6:30 pm</b>
SUNDAY		
05 APRIL 2026	EASTER SUNDAY	8:00am & 10:00am

## Divine Mercy Sunday on 12th April 2026 at 1:45pm



*Everyone is welcome!*

*May we come together to celebrate this great feast  
as a community and be richly blessed by Jesus!  
Your presence is a precious gift to each other,  
Fr. Vince.*

**Divine Mercy Chaplet at 1:45pm**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
will be offered at the same time at **1:45pm**

**Eucharist Procession at 2:30pm**

**Divine Mercy Solemn Mass at 3pm**

**FOLLOWED BY FELLOWSHIP**

- Please bring a plate

**Volunteers Needed:** Altar servers, readers, canopy bearers,  
PowerPoint operator, people to assist in crowd control, children  
to hold the picture of our Blessed Virgin Mary during procession etc.

**To volunteer please provide your name and contact details  
on the list at the back of the Church.**

## Let us pray for the...

### Wellbeing & Health

George Asic  
Cristina Assuncao  
Mario Borsellino  
Maree Buttenshaw  
Kath Clinton  
Margaret Constable  
Patrick Coughlan  
Al Alam Family

Younis Family  
Charmaine Jakober  
Martin Jakober  
Lorna Lagarto  
Rey Legaspi  
Romenda McGregor  
Rosemary Romeo  
Kaz Seremet

Hayden Thomson  
Alexander Velasquez  
Alan Tracy Villarosa  
Pia Ylagan

### Recently Deceased

### Anniversaries

Rukman Joseph De Sayrah  
Delfin Rafael Gonzalez  
Cathy Kozm  
Stjepan Pustaj  
Reynaldo Real  
Rodolfo Urqueza

## PARISH ROSTERS

### 4/5 Apr 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>
<b>Sat Vigil 5.30pm</b>	Lynette Rodrigues	Nada Coorey Michael Clark Barbara Rosario George Lattouf	Cristian A Jacob K	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	Kathleen Burrows	Sue Galletto	Pam McKay Annabel Manlutac Gail Dick Maria Dowling Rozz Morris
<b>Sun 8.00am</b>	Anthony Wong	Anton Fernando Barbara Rosario	Bridget R Tara C	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Reza Ferdinando Audrey Ferdinando		
<b>Sun 10.00am</b>	Glenys Oxlee	Nada Coorey Lorna Argal	Avril L Savannah S-F Amelia I	Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues	<b>Lawn and Garden</b>	Romeo Urqueza	

### 11/12 Apr 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>
<b>Sat Vigil 5.30pm</b>	Ben Garcia	Anne-Marie Hewkins Leah Garcia	Cristian A Clareese M	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Kathleen Burrows	Monica Jung	Lily Hon O. Ham Maria Greenfield
<b>Sun 8.00am</b>	Christopher Younis	Helen Wong Jodie MacGregor	Jensen M Judah M	Eric Flores Lina Flores	Barbara Rosario Geoff Rosario		
<b>Sun 10.00am</b>	Anne Fernando	Edlyne Salvador Marco Tapiador	Alessandro C Isabella N Tashnie W Tashen W	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade			

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**

**UNITE  
AGAINST  
POVERTY**  
this Lent

**PALM SUNDAY 28/29 MARCH 2026**

**\*PLEASE RETURN YOUR PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES BY HOLY THURSDAY: 2/4/2026\***

**DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.**

As Project Compassion 2026 comes to a close, we thank you for your generous support throughout Lent. This year, we shared the stories of four inspiring people whose lives are being uplifted through your compassion. Your support is helping them overcome challenges and build stronger futures. There is still time to donate! Together, we can continue nurturing hope and empowering communities facing poverty and injustice.

**You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes or envelopes available in the Parish.**

Or you can also make a donation online at: [projectcompassion.org.au](http://projectcompassion.org.au) or by calling: 1800 024 413

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



**Sacrament of Confirmation**  
- 15th May 2026

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
- 18th August 2026

**Sacrament of Holy Eucharist**  
- 20th September 2026

For more details, please contact our Parish Sacramental Coordinator Lynnette Rodrigues via email: [lynnr291955@gmail.com](mailto:lynnr291955@gmail.com)

## News from St Mary's Primary School

St Mary's Primary School is currently accepting Enrolment Applications

for children to commence Kindergarten in 2027 or 2028 and places are filling fast. We are also accepting applications for some other grades to commence immediately.

For more information please phone 8844 5700 as soon as possible.

**Please call (02) 8844 - 5700 for more information. Enrolment forms are available online via the school's website**

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

## The Office of Tenebrae

As mentioned in the Ways to Participate Information Sheet (bulletin insert 3 weeks ago), this reflective Holy Week liturgy of Scripture, psalm chanting, and sacred music will be held on

**Monday, 30 March 2026**

**at St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Place Parramatta, from 7:30pm - 8:30pm.**

**It will also be livestreamed via St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta's YouTube channel.**



Tenebrae is a solemn service where 15 candles (representing the twelve Apostles, Mary, the Mother of Jesus, Mary Magdalene, and one for Christ) are gradually extinguished. The final Christ candle is hidden to signify His burial, followed by the strepitus (a sudden loud noise), which is then made to evoke the earthquake and confusion that followed the Crucifixion. The candle is returned at the end, pointing toward the hope of the Resurrection.

*While this service is not a pilgrimage organised by our parish, it is offered as a meaningful Lenten pilgrimage opportunity.*

## MY WEEKLY COMMITMENT

Holy Name of Mary Rydalmere



Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dear Parishioners,

**Join Us for Our Monthly Parish Lunch!**

**When: Sunday 3 May - 11:30am**

**Sunday 7 June - 11:30am**

**Sunday 5 July - 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.

Each one pays for their own meal and drinks.

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

**Looking forward to seeing everyone there!**

## 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  
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:** Luke Homann

## 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