



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

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THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Sunday, 28 June 2026

**“The greatest blessing in life is not what God gives us,
but that God Himself is with us.”**

In today's Gospel (Matthew 10:37-42), Jesus makes a startling statement: “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me.” At first glance, these words may seem harsh. Yet Jesus is not asking us to love our families less; He is inviting us to love God first, because when God is first, every other relationship finds its proper place. Our relationship with God is the most important relationship we can have in our lives. God offers Himself to us and we respond. If we don't respond, we're telling God that His offer has no value for us and that His offer doesn't mean anything to us. Whether or not our immortal souls live in eternal life in heaven depends on our relationship with God here on earth.

A young medical student once received an opportunity to study overseas. It was his dream, but the program required him to compromise some deeply held Christian values. After much prayer, he declined the offer. Friends thought he was foolish. Years later, another opportunity opened that allowed him to pursue his profession without sacrificing his faith. Looking back, he said, “When I put God first, He never took anything away; He gave me something better.”

The readings state emphatically that as we place God above success, wealth, popularity, or even personal ambitions, we discover a deeper peace that the world cannot give. The readings underline another dimension of respecting and supporting His messengers as they bring the God's Word and lead us closer to Him.

The First Reading (2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16) tells of the Shunammite woman who welcomed the prophet Elisha into her home. She recognised that he was a holy man of God and cared for him generously. Her kindness became a channel of God's blessing. Throughout history, countless people have experienced the same truth.

In a remote village, an elderly priest faithfully served for decades. He celebrated Mass, visited the sick, taught children, and comforted grieving families. The parish was poor, yet the people always ensured he had food and a place to stay. When the priest died, many gathered for his funeral. One man stood up and said, “Father baptised me, prepared me for First Communion, blessed my marriage, and buried my parents. We thought we were helping him, but he was God's gift to us.” The villagers discovered that by supporting God's messenger, they had welcomed Christ Himself. We honour God's messengers not because they are perfect, but because they carry God's message. Yet even the best messenger remains second place. The first place belongs to God alone.

Jesus reminds us: “Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides” (Matthew 6:33). St. Augustine beautifully expressed the same truth: “You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You.”

When God is first in our lives, everything else falls into its proper place. Families become stronger, relationships become deeper, and our purpose becomes clearer. May we never be so busy with the gifts of life that we forget the Giver. (Sources duly acknowledged)

Prayer

Lord, help us to love You above all things. Give us grateful hearts to welcome and support those who bring us Your Word. May our homes, our parish, and our lives always make room for You, the source of every blessing. Amen.

God's blessings

Fr. Vince

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

All peoples, clap your hands.
Cry to God with shouts of joy!

First reading: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16

That is the Holy man of God, let him remain there.

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. He said to his servant Gehazi, 'What can be done for her then?' he asked. Gehazi answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. This time next year,' he said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

Responsorial Psalm: 88:2-3, 16-19

R: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.

Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R**

Happy the people who acclaim such a king,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who find their joy every day in your name,
who make your justice the source of their bliss. **R**

For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength;
by your favour it is that our might is exalted;
for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord;
our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. **R**

Second reading: Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

*Having been buried with him through baptism,
we shall walk in a new life.*

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy people.

Praise God who called you out of darkness
and into his marvellous light

Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 10:37-42

Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

Communion Antiphon:

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Peter's Pence Collection for the Holy Father this weekend 27/28 June 2026

Collection 2026



**PETER'S
PENCE**



"May the Lord make you increase and
abound in love for one another and for all"

1 Thess. 3:12

Offerings are designated for the Pope's apostolic and charitable ministry

MAKE YOUR DONATION TO THE HOLY FATHER

The collection, usually held around the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, supports the Pope's mission; which extends throughout the entire world from the proclamation of the Gospel to the promotion of integral human development, education, peace and brotherhood among peoples.

Every offering – large or small – will support the Holy Father in his ministry and in his charitable activities in response to emergencies and needs around the world. Please donate generously.



ATTENTION: VOLUNTEERS FROM ALL PARISH MINISTRIES

All clergy, employees and volunteers in parish ministry are required by the NSW Children's Guardian Act 2019 to complete mandatory Safeguarding Training and have current up to date certifications.

The below Safeguarding Online Training Modules can be accessed and completed via <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/courses>

IF YOU ARE NEW TO MINISTRY:

Complete Safeguarding Training Introductory Modules 1-3 (Cycle 1).

IF YOU COMPLETED CYCLE 1 MODULES TWO YEARS AGO:

Complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2).

IF YOU RENEWED YOUR CYCLE 2 MODULES 4 & 5 TWO YEARS AGO:

Complete Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3).

Alternatively, several face-to-face mandatory Safeguarding Training sessions are available.

Please register directly for your preferred session by clicking on the relevant training event at:

<https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>.

For more information, please contact: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Please email a copy of your certificates ASAP to the Parish office via email: admin@holymary.org.au

THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO MAKE THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA A SAFE CHURCH FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULTS AT RISK.

Let us pray for the...

Wellbeing & Health

George Asic
Cristina Assuncao
Mario Borsellino
Maree Buttenshaw
Kath Clinton
Margaret Constable
Patrick Coughlan
Teresa Den-Toll
Al Alam Family
Younis Family

Patrice Gelle
Patrick Gelle
Daniel Hamilton
David Hilvano
Klara Jakober
Denise Kassis
Lorna Lagarto
Rey Legaspi
Maria-Trinidad Lim
Romenda McGregor

Nelune Rajapakse
Rosemary Romeo
Ned Powlr
Kaz Seremet
Hayden Thomson
Alexander Velasquez
Alan Tracy Villarosa
Pia Ylagan

Recently Deceased

Anniversaries

Florentina Atienza
Angelito Banaag
Nazih Ghalloub
Malcolm Smith
Eileen Velasco

PARISH ROSTERS

27/28 June 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>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	George Davidson	Yolanda Urqueza Romeo Urqueza	Cristian A Jacob K	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	Evelyn Noviza Carleen Borres	Anton Massillamany Vartgues Markarian	Pam McKay Annabel Manlutac Maria Dowling Ross Morris
Sun 8.00am	Naom Younis	Anton Fernando Barbara Rosario	Bridget R Tara C	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Tyrone Wiratunga Frank Camilleri		
Sun 10.00am	Vartgues Markarian	Cynthia Oscar Sam Markarian	Avril L Savannah S-F Amelia	Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues			Lawn & Garden Romeo Urqueza

4/5 July 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>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Tracy Samuel	Lynette Rodrigues Eli Ogrizek	Cristian A Clareese M	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Evelyn Noviza Carleen Borres	Pierre Salomon	Lily Hon O. Ham Maria Greenfield
Sun 8.00am	Michael Majoor	Chris Twomey Maree Twomey	Jensen M Judah M Alessandro C	Eric Flores Lina Flores	Bill O'Shea Danai Makoni		
Sun 10.00am	Eddie Appleby	Tinaye Makoni Lorna Argal	Isabella N Tashnie W Tashen W	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade			

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Blessing of the New Building Sunday, 5th July

Please join us as we celebrate this important milestone
in the life of our community.

Bishop Vincent Long will officiate the Blessing of the New Building
on Sunday, 5 July 2026 after the 10:00am Mass.

All are welcome!

We look forward to sharing this joyful event with you.

Please bring a plate to share.

For information, please contact:

Nancy Grugan 0434 541 287 or Barbara Rosario 0417 084 659



We are very excited to announce that we are now expanding our age bracket
to include young people from 12 to 35 years old (or young)!

With this change, we have very exciting initiatives
for our young community to be a part of.

As Pope Francis said,
"the Church and the world need you,
the young, as much as the earth needs rain".
Let's all do our part to bring Christ's kingdom to earth!

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

Thank you!

Vinnie's
Winter Appeal 2026



Many thanks to the generous parishioners
who supported the Vinnies Winter Appeal,
which over the last two weekends raised a total of \$6,018
to assist people who are at risk of, or struggling with, homelessness.

In light of the current cost of living crisis encountered by most, the amount
of money raised in this appeal reflects the true spirit of Christian charity,
whereby personal sacrifices are made by many so that our less fortunate
brothers and sisters are assisted in their time of need.

A very warm and sincere thank you for your generous support.

God bless you.

Ron Della Vedova

(President of the Rydalmere Conference of SVDP)

"It is a blessing to live simply so others may simply live."

(Source unknown)

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 12 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.

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
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:	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
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