Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish
4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere
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"From Comparison to Gratitude: Learning God's Way of Fairness."

Religions present God through various imageries. We have inherited those images of God from our ancestors and parents and significant others down the years. And yet, our images of God are not total and complete. Sometimes those images of God are slightly out of focus. In the first reading today the prophet reminds us of three important truths about God. First, God is not in a distant heaven but right here in our hearts. Second, God is generous and forgiving and whoever turns to Him for mercy will surely receive it. Third, God is not limited by our thoughts or images. God's ways are as high above ours as the heavens are above the earth.

In the second reading, St Paul writing from his prison cell is faced with a choice. Should he look forward to being a martyr so that he can go home to Christ soon? Or should he be glad to stay on and serve others who need him? Whether he lives or dies, Paul says that life means Christ. He wants the greatness of Christ to shine out in his person.

Our ideas of justice are sometimes selfish and petty when we compare them to God's justice. That is why some people are surprised that Jesus would tell a story in which five groups of workers who began at different times should all be paid the same at the sunset. The workers who laboured all day complained because those who worked only one hour received the same wage. Human fairness says, "I deserve more because I worked more." But Jesus reminds us that God's generosity is not measured by our calculations. God does not give according to what we think others deserve. He gives according to His goodness and love. The real danger is not receiving less but being unable to rejoice when someone else receives more.

A mother once had two children. One had always stayed close to her; the other had made many mistakes and returned home after years away. When the mother welcomed the second child with tears of joy, the first complained, "Mum, I was always here. Why are you so happy about him?" She replied, "Because you never left my heart—but your brother was lost, and now he is home." That is God's heart. Fairness with God is not about comparing what we receive; it is about trusting His goodness.

God's fairness is different from human fairness. We often compare: "Why did he receive more? Why did she get another chance? I have worked harder—why not me?"Jesus reminds us that God does not measure us by comparison. He looks at each person with love and gives according to His goodness.

In our parish community, we are called to do the same: not to compete, compare, or judge, but to rejoice in another person's blessing. There is room for everyone in God's Kingdom.

Corrie ten Boom survived a Nazi concentration camp during World War II. After the war, she met one of the former guards who had been involved in the suffering she and others endured. The man had become a Christian and asked Corrie for forgiveness. Corrie later admitted that she did not want to forgive him. She thought, "How can this be fair after everything he did?" But she chose to forgive—not because the man deserved it, but because she herself had received God's forgiveness.

Sometimes we think fairness means "Give people what they deserve." But God's fairness is deeper. God gives us mercy when we deserve judgment, forgiveness when we have failed, and another chance when we have fallen.God's fairness is not about giving everyone the same thing—it is about giving everyone the love and grace they need. Let us trust His goodness and learn to be generous with one another. *(Sources duly acknowledged)*

God's blessings ***Fr Vince***

This Sunday's Readings

Entrance Antiphon:
I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

First reading: Isaiah 55:6-9
My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 144(145):2-3,8-9,17-18

℟: ***The Lord is near to all who call him.***

I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. ℟

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. ℟

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. ℟

Second reading: Philippians 1:20-24,27

Life to me is Christ; but death would bring me more.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose.
I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.
Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation: cf Acts 16:14
Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel: - Matthew 20:1-16

Why be envious because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

Communion Antiphon: Jn 10: 14
I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

2026 Sacramental Program

First Holy Communion Masses @ 12 Noon on:
- 20th September 2026
- 27th September 2026

For more details, please contact: Lynnette Rodrigues, Parish Sacramental Coordinator
Email: lynnr291955@gmail.com

Save the Date

- **Saturday, 17 October 2026 -** Parish Pilgrimage ***(Please refer to the insert.)***
- **Thursday, 05 November 2026 -** Volunteers' Thanksgiving Dinner
- **Friday, 04 December 2026 -** Healing Mass for Parish Retirees

ST CARLO ACUTIS — Major Pilgrim Relic Visit of St Carlo Acutis

28–30 September | St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta
Come and pray with the relic of St Carlo Acutis and discover his inspiring devotion to the Eucharist. The three-day visit beginning at 4pm on Monday 28 September includes Holy Mass, relic veneration, blessings, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession and an exhibition on Eucharistic Miracles.
🕐 Please see the flyer for the full program, times and activities.

All are welcome - bring your family and friends!

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 20 Sept.- 11:30am
Sunday 18 Oct. - 11:30am
Sunday 29 Nov. - 11:30am
Sunday 13 Dec. - 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.

ATTENTION: VOLUNTEERS FROM ALL PARISH MINISTRIES

The Parramatta Way of Safeguarding
Our Commitment to Safeguarding is guided by the words of Micah 6:8: 'This is what the Lord asks of you: only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God.' For more information, please visit the Diocese of Parramatta Safeguarding website: https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/
For any queries, please contact the parish office on (02) 96841541 or alternatively, email at *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.

We are desperately short of both Readers & Computer Operators for the Vigil Mass.
The next Readers' roster will be compiled to cover November 2026 to the end February 2027, and the Computer Operators' roster will run from December 2026 to the end May 2027.
Training will be given for both roles. Volunteers for the Sunday Masses are always welcome.
Please prayerfully consider volunteering to join one or both of these rosters.
For reading by Sunday 11th October & for the computer roster by Sunday 15th November, please contact: Glenys Oxlee at glmaox@gmail.com or 0488 228 633

Let us pray for the...

Wellbeing & Health

Benny Adile
George Asic
Cristina Assuncao
Mario Borsellino
Maree Buttenshaw
Michael Clarke
Kath Clinton
Margaret Constable
Patrick Coughlan
Den-Toll Family
Al Alam Family
Michael Doherty
Darryl Fernandes
Patrice Gelle
Daniel Hamilton
David Hilvano
Klara Jakober
Janine
Denise Kassis
Lorna Lagarto
Rey Legaspi
Maria-Trinidad Lim
Fr Michael Maroun
Romenda McGregor
Joan Nayler
Nelune Rajapakse
Rosemary Romeo
Ned Powlr
Kaz Seremet
Hayden Thomson
Rosa Urqueza
Alexander Velasquez
Alan Tracy Villarosa
Pia Ylagan
Younis Family

Recently Deceased

Brian McGregor

Anniversaries

Charles Borg
Annie Coughlan
Joseph Frome
Jack Kennedy
Fr Tom McDonald

PARISH ROSTERS

19/20 September 2026

	Computer Operators	Lectors	Altar Servers	EMHC	Counters	Cleaning Ministry	Altar Society
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Jenny Hendry	Len & Sue Farrugia	Cristian A. Jacob K.	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	Kathleen Burrows Riza Ferdinanto Audrey Ferdinanto	Thess Davidson & Family	Pam McKay Annabelle Manlutac Maria Dowling Ross Morris
Sun 8.00am	Glenys Oxlee	Ron Della Vedova Anton Fernando	Bridget R. Tara C.	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong		**Children's Liturgy** Di O'Shea Nic Padden	**Lawn & Garden** Romeo Urqueza
Sun 10.00am	Anne Fernando	Astrid Kossim Jessica Tapiador	Avril L. Savannah S-F. Amelia I.	Lynette Rodrigues Dom Rodrigues			

26/27 September 2026

	Computer Operators	Lectors	Altar Servers	EMHC	Counters	Cleaning Ministry	Altar Society
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Thomas Russo	Leah Garcia Anne-Marie Hewkins	Cristian A. Clareese M.	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Kathleen Burrows Barbara Rosario Geoff Rosario	Anton & Anne Fernando	Lily Hon O. Ham Maria Greenfield
Sun 8.00am	Christopher Younis	Glenys Oxlee Barbara Rosario	Jensen M. Judah M.	Eric Flores Lina Flores			**Lawn & Garden** Romeo Urqueza
Sun 10.00am	Eddie Appleby	Cynthia Oscar Sam Markarian	Alessandro C. Isabella N. Tashnie W. Tashen W.	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade			

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

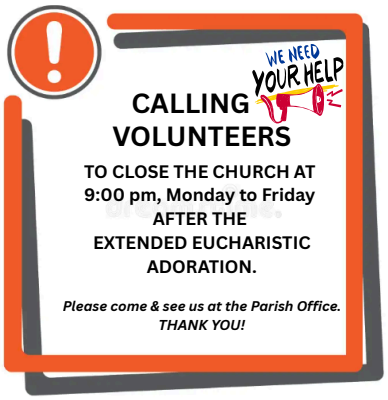
EXTENDED ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST

May I kindly ask everyone who wishes to participate in the extended adoration of the Eucharist to **register their details and preferred time of attendance.** This will help us organise the Adoration smoothly, ensure adequate coverage throughout the hours, and assist us in maintaining a **safe and prayerful environment** for everyone.

Your registration will ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is never left unattended.

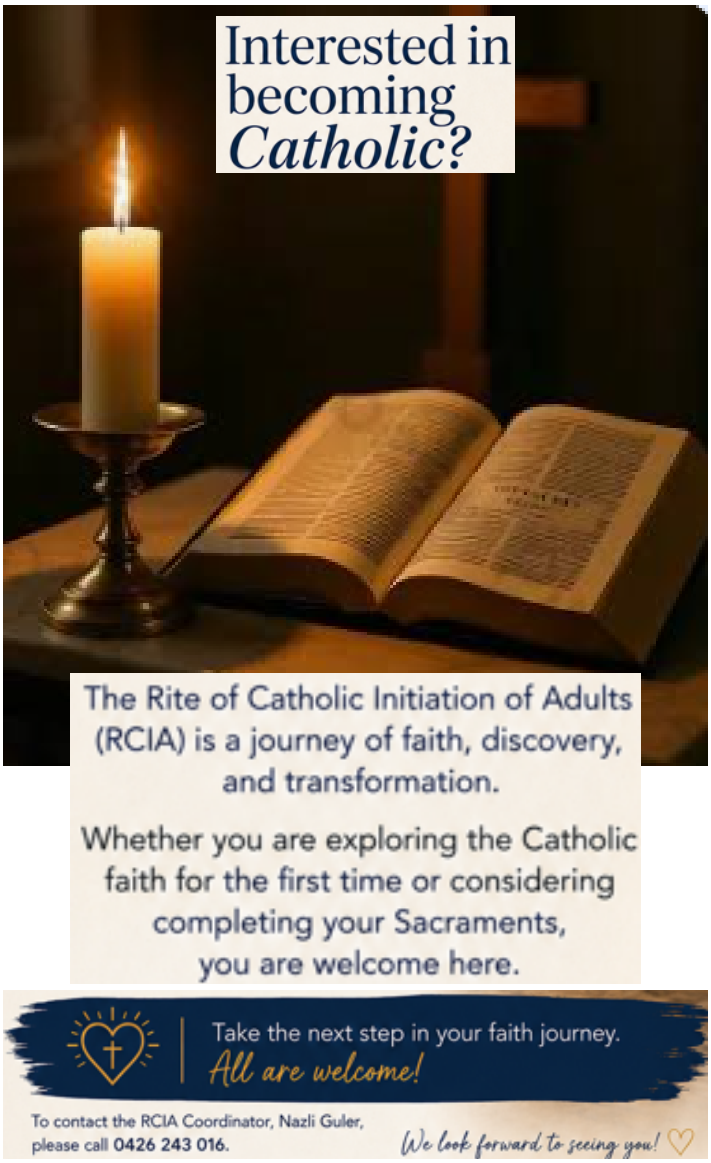
Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us make this a beautiful and meaningful time of prayer before the Lord.

Fr Vince



PLANNED GIVING TAX RECEIPTS

If you require a tax receipt for the 2025–2026 financial year, **please email your request to Deacon Leon at:** ***accounts@holymary.org.au*** **Thank you.**



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)

Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 9:00 pm

Saturday 8:30 am

BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month 11:30 am

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Vincent Savarimuthu
Parish Priest

Cecilia
Parish Secretary
Tue/Wed/Thur/Fri
9am to 4pm

Deacon Leon
Finance Secretary
Thur
10am to 2pm

Sacramental Coordinator:	**Lynnette 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