



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

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THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Sunday, 01 November 2026

"To be saints is not a privilege of a few, but a vocation for everyone." — Pope Francis

Each one of us is influential or inspirational to others. Like it or not, we make a profound impact on those around us by our words, our actions, our inactions, or even our mere silence. This social and spiritual footprint is something we can never avoid. As people of faith, we naturally look to the prominent, well-known figures who have shaped the Catholic faith tradition—giants of grace like St. Mary MacKillop, St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. Carlo Acutis and Pope St. John Paul II and so on.

Yet, this beautiful Solemnity of All Saints is also an intimate invitation to look closer to home and celebrate the saints among us. We rejoice in the ordinary and extraordinary living saints who touch our daily lives through their courage, resilience, and enduring hope. Today, we celebrate our connections to this grand family of great men and women—both past and present—and in doing so, we form a true communion with them. This feast is ultimately about the whole point of human life: trying to reminisce upon their virtues and imbuing their great traits into our day-to-day choices.

A young girl was walking through a great cathedral with her grandfather. As they stood in the nave, the afternoon sun pierced through the massive stained-glass windows, casting brilliant beams of red, blue, and gold across the stone floor. Inside the glass were vibrant figures of the apostles and martyrs. The little girl looked up in awe and asked, "Grandpa, who are those people up in the windows?" Her grandfather smiled and replied, "Those are the saints, my dear." The young girl thought about this for a moment, watching how beautifully the dark, leaded glass transformed the harsh outside sun into soft, welcoming warmth for the people inside. She looked back at her grandfather and said, "Ah, I see! Saints are people who let the light shine through."

In a world where we can easily become self-absorbed or distracted by fleeting things, we often fall off the track of what God wants us to do. Jesus explicitly calls us to this luminous life: "Be holy, as your Heavenly Father is holy." Like the stained glass, we do not need to be flawless canvas; we simply need to face the Light of Christ so that His grace shines through our unique lives.

Today's Liturgy of the Word gives us the perfect spiritual power source, reminding us that we do not walk alone this path of letting the Light of Christ shine through us. In the First Reading, St. John witnesses "a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue" standing before the throne of God (Revelation 7:9). This immense family is our community; their collective prayers and enduring hope are the very fuel that sustains us. When our personal energy flags, we are plugged into this vast communion of saints, whose lives prove that plugging into God's grace makes the impossible entirely achievable.

This divine connection changes our entire identity. As St. John beautifully reminds us in the Second Reading, "See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are" (1 John 3:1). Knowing our true identity as God's beloved children allows us to look at Jesus' blueprint for holiness—the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1–12a)—not as an exhausting checklist, but as a joyful way of living. When we recharge our batteries daily through deep prayer, we receive the supernatural strength needed to be the poor in spirit, the peacemakers, and the merciful in our modern world. It is through this daily prayerful connection that we find the grace to do ordinary things with extraordinary love.

Happy Feast to every one of our parish!

God's blessings



Fr Vince

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

Let us all rejoice in the Lord,
as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints,
at whose festival the Angels rejoice
and praise the Son of God.

First reading: Apocalypse 7:2-4,9-14

I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23 (24): 1-6

℟: Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **℟**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **℟**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **℟**

Second reading: 1 John 3:1-3

We shall be like God because we shall see him as he really is.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been
revealed;

all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him

because we shall see him as he really is.

Surely everyone who entertains this hope
must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

Gospel Acclamation: Mt 11:28

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened,
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 5:1-12a

How happy are the poor in spirit.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

Communion Antiphon:

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of
righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



ALL SOULS DAY

Monday, 02 November 2026

Mass Times: 9:15am & 7:00pm

"It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." - 2 Maccabees 12:46

Photographs:

We invite you to bring a framed photo of your dearly departed (no larger than 15cm x 21cm) to be included in the Altar's remembrance display. Your photo is welcome to remain at church throughout November as part of our Remembrance Display. All framed photos are to be brought to the Church Meeting Room no later than **5:30pm on Friday, 30 October 2026.**

Candle Ceremony:

There will be a special candle ceremony at the start of each of the masses, where you will be invited to light **ONE candle per family. Please make sure you are present at the beginning of the mass to take part in the Candle Ceremony.**

Book of Life & Mass Intention Envelopes:

During the month of November, as we lovingly remember our departed loved ones and commend them to God's tender mercy, individual names of the deceased will not be published in the parish bulletin. Instead, all Masses will be offered for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed whose names are inscribed in the **Book of Life.**

May our prayers bring comfort to all who mourn, strengthen our hope in the Resurrection, and remind us that, in Christ, death is not the end, but the promise of eternal life. May our departed loved ones rest in God's everlasting peace.



Holy Name of Mary Parish

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY

Expression of Interest

We invite children from Kindergarten to Year 7 to take part in our Christmas Eve Role Play Nativity.

CHRISTMAS EVE
 More details to come!

MULTIPLE ROLES TO FILL
 Acting and reading roles available.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?
 We welcome all children from Kindergarten to Year 7 to get involved.

INTERESTED?
 Please fill in the Google Form to express your interest. Tamara Markarian and Ela Torres will contact you shortly.

Let's celebrate the true meaning of Christmas together as a parish community.

Let us pray for the...

Wellbeing & Health

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

Rosa Urqueza
Alexander Velasquez
Alan Tracy Villarosa
Pia Ylagan
Gladys Harvey
Aidan Daniel A. Portas
Samantha, Florence,
Simon & Arlette
Natalie Coghlan

Let us pray that the souls of our dearly beloved rest in peace and may their entire family take courage and hope from the Risen Christ!

Anniversaries

Robert Bobadilla
Felice Fegatilli
Grace Kelly

PARISH ROSTERS

31 October /1 November 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>	Eric Flores	Anne-Marie Hewkins Leah Garcia	Harriet S. Zachary C.	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	David & Sue Boulous Tuti Sugita	Anton Massillamany	Pam McKay Annabel Manlutac Maria Dowling Ross Morris
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Christopher Younis	Glenys Oxlee Michael Clark	Maya R. Tara C.	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong		Vartguess Markarian	<u>Lawn & Garden</u> Michael Clark
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Anne Fernando	Julia Tapiador Joseph Andrews	Sage G.	Lynnette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues			

7/8 November 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>	Jenny Hendry	Michelle & Celene Acharya	Ruby P.	Diane O' Shea Michelle Acharya	David & Sue Boulous Lawrence Tsang Sheila Delos Reyes	Pierre Salomon	Lily Hon O. Ham Maria Greenfield
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Anne Fernando	Jodie MacGregor Rozz Morris	Maya R.	Eric & Lina Flores			
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Eddie Appleby	Lynnette Rodrigues Edlynnne Salvador	Ava E. Isabella N. Tashnie W. Tashen W.	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade	<u>Children's Liturgy</u> Di O'Shea Sue Farrar		

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



REFLECTING ON ALL SOULS' DAY

All Souls' Day reminds us that love does not end when a heartbeat stops; it simply changes form. Biblically, this day rests on the profound promise of the Resurrection and the enduring bond of the mystical body of Christ—the belief that those who have gone before us are not truly lost but transformed (1 Corinthians 15:51-52). It calls us to look at the passages of Scripture not as distant history, but as a living tapestry where our prayers for the departed bridge the gap between heaven and earth. We are reminded of Christ's tears at the tomb of Lazarus, validating our human grief, while simultaneously offering the radical hope that life is changed, not ended.

In our daily lives, this day acts as a gentle but piercing mirror. It forces us to pause amid the noise of modern life and ask ourselves what kind of legacy we are actively weaving. Every memory we hold of a departed loved one—their laughter, their struggles, and even their imperfections—is a lesson in what truly endures: love, kindness, and faith. Remembering the dead ultimately teaches us how to live; it strips away our trivial anxieties and invites us to reconcile with the living, cherish the present moment, and walk our own earthly path with a deeper sense of eternal purpose.

Daily prayer for Our Departed Loved Ones and Their Bereaved Families

Merciful and loving Father, we entrust our departed loved ones to Your infinite mercy and love. Welcome them into Your heavenly kingdom, forgive their sins, and grant them eternal rest in the light of Your presence.

We also pray for their families and all who mourn their passing. Comfort them in their sorrow, strengthen them in moments of weakness, and fill their hearts with peace and hope. May the cherished memories of their loved ones bring them comfort and may their faith in the resurrection remind them that death is not the end, but the beginning of eternal life with You. May we one day be reunited with our loved ones in the joy of Your heavenly kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Gentle Reminder: New Carpet



Hot drinks



Water



Baby bottles

To protect our new carpet, we kindly ask that **NO** hot drinks (eg. coffee or tea) be brought into the church. Water and baby bottles are welcome.

Thank you for your understanding and care for our church!

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 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.



A THANK-YOU GET-TOGETHER FOR OUR PARISH VOLUNTEERS

With grateful hearts, I warmly invite all our parish volunteers to a Thank You Dinner in appreciation of your generous service, dedication and commitment to our parish community.

Day/Date: Thursday, 5 November 2026

Time: 6:00 pm

Venue: School Hall

Your time, talents and willingness to serve in the various ministries of our parish are a true blessing to our community. This gathering is an opportunity to express our sincere gratitude and to celebrate the spirit of service that brings our parish together.

Kindly note: This invitation is extended **exclusively** to those who actively serve in the various ministries and areas of service within our parish. We look forward to sharing a wonderful evening of fellowship, good food and gratitude with you. Please inform the coordinators of your respective ministries of your participation. **RSVP by 30 October 2026.**

With sincere thanks and appreciation,

- Fr Vince -

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:	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