



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

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THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Sunday, 25 October 2026

"Let Love Be Our Guiding Light."

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I would like to invite all parishioners who work in a trade or have practical skills, such as electricians, plumbers, carpenters, handymen, painters, gardeners, mechanics, or any other skilled professionals, to kindly let the parish know. I would like to put together a list of parishioners and their areas of expertise so that, whenever a need arises within our parish, we know whom we can contact for assistance. This may include maintenance, repairs, or other practical needs around our parish.

It is a wonderful opportunity for us to share our talents, support one another, and strengthen our parish community. Every skill is valuable, and even a small contribution can make a big difference. If you are willing to be included on this list, please provide your name, trade or area of expertise, and contact details to the parish office. Thank you for your generosity, willingness to help, and continued support of our parish community.

Reflection on the readings: Imagine if, at the end of our lives, God asked us just one question: "When you encountered someone who was lonely, struggling, rejected or forgotten, did you love that person as you would want to be loved?" This question captures the heart of this Sunday's Gospel. When asked which commandment is the greatest, Jesus answers: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." He immediately adds: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself" (Matthew 22:37-39). For Jesus, these two commandments are inseparable. Our love for God must become visible in the way we treat others.

The first reading reminds us that God hears the cry of the vulnerable and commands his people not to oppress the stranger, the widow or the orphan. This message speaks powerfully to our world today, where war, poverty, displacement, loneliness and division continue to wound humanity. We live in an age of extraordinary communication, yet many people still feel unseen and unheard. We can watch suffering on our screens and become so accustomed to it that we forget to respond with compassion.

A beautiful real-life example comes from Australia. A young Afghan refugee named Aref arrived in Adelaide after fleeing the violence of war. Struggling to adjust to a new country, he watched people playing tennis through the fence of a local club. When he finally approached the coach, Virgil Goncalves, he was welcomed, lent a racquet and offered free lessons. That simple act of kindness helped Aref find friendship and belonging. Together, they went on to establish a tennis program to support other young refugees. The coach did not solve every problem in the world. He simply opened a gate to someone who needed an opportunity. Yet that small gesture helped transform a life.

What a powerful reminder that we may not be able to change the whole world, but we can change someone's experience of the world through love. The second reading praises the Christians of Thessalonica because their faith became an example to others. Their lives demonstrated what they believed. The same challenge is given to us. Our Christianity must be seen not only in our prayers, Mass attendance and religious practices, but also in our patience, generosity, forgiveness and concern for those in need.

Perhaps the person God is asking us to love is a lonely neighbour, a struggling family, a newcomer at Mass, an elderly person living alone or someone we have found difficult to forgive. We do not need grand gestures to make a difference. A telephone call, a listening ear, a welcoming smile or a helping hand can become an expression of God's love.

As we receive the Eucharist this Sunday, let us ask ourselves: Does my worship make me more compassionate? Does my faith help others experience God's goodness? Am I willing to open a gate for someone who feels excluded? The greatness of our Christian life is not measured simply by how much we know about God, but by how faithfully we allow God's love to reach others through us. (Sources duly acknowledged)

God's blessings



Fr Vince

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 104: 3-4

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

First reading: Exodus 22:20-26

*If you are harsh with the widow and orphan,
my anger will flare against you.*

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this:

"You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 17(18):2-4, 47, 51

R: I love You, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise,
when I call I am saved from my foes. **R**

Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me,
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed. **R**

Second reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

*You broke with idolatry and became servants of God;
you are now waiting for his Son.*

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Gospel Acclamation: John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

Gospel: - Matthew 22:34-40

The commandments of love.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

Communion Antiphon: Eph 5: 2

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,
as a fragrant offering to God.

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:

You are also invited to write down the names of your loved ones in the Book of Life at the entrance of the church. Throughout the month of November, the masses will be offered for our loved ones who have gone before us. Mass intention envelopes are also available at the entrance of the church - you can complete & drop these into the box provided.

May our loved ones rest in peace. Amen.



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	Rosa Urqueza
George Asic	Michael Doherty	Maria-Trinidad Lim	Alexander Velasquez
Cristina Assuncao	Darryl Fernandes	Fr Michael Maroun	Alan Tracy Villarosa
Mario Borsellino	Patrice Gelle	Romenda McGregor	Pia Ylagan
Maree Buttenshaw	Daniel Hamilton	Joan Nayler	Gladys Harvey
Kath Clinton	David Hilvano	Nelune Rajapakse	Aidan Daniel A. Portas
Margaret Constable	Klara Jakober	Rosemary Romeo	Samantha
Patrick Coughlan	Janine	Ned Powlr	Florence
Den-Toll Family	Denise Kassiss	Kaz Seremet	Simon
Younis Family	Lorna Lagarto	Hayden Thomson	Arlette

Recently Deceased

Rita Mary Joyce

Anniversaries

Carmen Filamor
 Frank Moio
 Anne Nolan
 Blen Steele
 Tom Steele
 Ann Somers

PARISH ROSTERS

24/25 October 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	Ben Garcia	Sue & Len Farrugia	Cristian A. Clareese M.	Susa Boulous Kathy Saad	Evelyn Noviza Carleen Borres Danai Makoni	Susan Boulous & Family	Maria Greenfield Lily Hon Doreen Tencaramedon Chandeale Culas
Sun 8.00am	Glenys Oxlee	Angela & Will Finane	Jensen M. Judah M.	Eric & Lina Flores			
Sun 10.00am	Lynnette Rodrigues	Sam Markarian George Lattouf	Alessandro C. Isabella N. Tashnie W. Tashen W.	Evelyn Artiaga Sheila Tapiador			Lawn & Garden Romeo Urqueza

31 October/01 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>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Eric Flores	Anne-Marie Hewkins Leah Garcia	Harriet S. Zachary C.	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	David & Sue Boulous Tuti Sugita	Anton Massillamany Vartgues Markarian	Pam McKay Annabel Manlutac Maria Dowling Ross Morris
Sun 8.00am	Christopher Younis	Glenys Oxlee Michael Clark	Maya R. Tara C.	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong			Lawn & Garden Michael Clark
Sun 10.00am	Anne Fernando	Julia Tapiador Joseph Andrews	Sage G.	Lynnette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues			

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

IN MEMORIAM

Rita Mary Joyce, who passed away on 19 October 2026.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her children, grandchildren, and all her family.

May eternal rest be granted to her, O Lord!

Funeral service:

11 am, Wednesday, 28 October 2026

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish.

Burial: Rookwood Cemetery



PARISH PILGRIMAGE

Year of Saint Francis 2026

On Saturday, 17 October, we gathered at the Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents in Kellyville for our 2026 Parish Pilgrimage, and what a wonderful day it was. The sun shone on us all day long.

Our time together began with Benediction and the Rosary, followed by a beautiful Mass. The Shrine was filled with lovely music provided by Marifel Jacobs and the Mums Choir, together with Chris Tecala.



After Mass and a group photo, we gathered in the function room below the Shrine for an afternoon of good food and great company. Nearly 60 people joined us for this very special day, and we thank everyone who came and so generously brought delicious food to share

Heartfelt thanks go to Lynn Rodriguez, Nancy Grugan & Michelle Acharya, for their hard work in making the day such a success; Glenys Oxlee, our transport coordinator, and everyone who helped another person get to the venue; and all who helped setup, clear away and stack chairs after the event.

God bless you all and may the spirit and message of St Francis be with you always.

- Fr. Vincent



"The true Pilgrimage is not measured only by the road we walk, but by the road that God walks in us."
- José Cordero, Archbishop of Braga.

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!

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)

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