

Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish
4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere
Office: 2 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere 2116
Email: admin@holymary.org.au Phone: **(02) 9684 1541**
Website: www.holymary.org.au

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A **Sunday, 08 November 2026**

KEEP THE FLAME ALIVE: Faithful Today, Ready for Tomorrow

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I am delighted to welcome Fr John Hogan, who has moved into our retired priests' unit. We are grateful for his presence in our parish community and for his generous willingness to assist with the celebration of Masses during my three-week absence. Please make Fr John feel at home and extend to him our usual warmth, friendship and prayerful support. During my absence, Fr John will be celebrating the scheduled Masses. Should you have any pastoral needs or require assistance, please kindly contact or approach the Parish Office, where arrangements will be made to assist you. Thank you for your understanding, cooperation and continued support. Please keep Fr John and me in your prayers.

As we approach the end of the Liturgical Year, the readings invite us to reflect on the bigger questions of life: Where are we heading, what really matters, and are we ready to meet the Lord whenever He calls us? In a world filled with uncertainty, conflict, distractions and competing demands, it is easy to lose sight of what is truly important. Jesus reminds us that we cannot afford to be casual or unprepared in our faith.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the ten bridesmaids waiting for the bridegroom. Since nobody knew exactly when he would arrive, all ten needed to be prepared. While the five wise bridesmaids brought extra oil for their lamps, the five foolish ones failed to do so. At first, this may seem like a small mistake. But Jesus is teaching us something deeper: the difference between those who take their faith seriously and those who simply go through the motions.

The oil represents our personal relationship with God, nourished through prayer, the Eucharist, the Word of God, love and service to others. Faith cannot simply be borrowed from someone else or acquired at the last minute. Each of us must take responsibility for keeping the flame of faith alive. We can attend Mass regularly and listen to God's Word, but the real question is whether we put that Word into practice through forgiveness, kindness, generosity and compassion.

A beautiful story is told of an old and holy monk who was sweeping fallen leaves in the monastery grounds. A visitor asked him, "Brother, what would you do if you knew that you were going to die in ten minutes?" The monk calmly replied, "I would carry on sweeping." His answer reveals a profound truth. He was not frightened by the thought of death because he was already living faithfully in the presence of God. He did not need to make a dramatic last-minute preparation. His ordinary daily work was itself an expression of his faithfulness.

Perhaps this is the message we need to hear today. Being ready to meet the Lord does not mean living in fear or constantly worrying about death. It means living each day meaningfully, loving sincerely, forgiving generously, serving willingly and making room for God in our lives. We should not wait for a crisis, a serious illness, old age or some uncertain tomorrow before we begin to put our faith into practice.

The closed door in the parable is a serious reminder that opportunities to respond to God's invitation should never be taken for granted. God's invitation is always an invitation to a loving relationship, but our response requires commitment and a willingness to live according to His Word.

As we approach the conclusion of another Liturgical Year, let us ask ourselves: Is the oil of faith, hope and love burning brightly in our lives? Are we merely hearing God's Word, or are we putting it into practice? Are we making a difference in the lives of those around us? May we never become complacent in our faith. May our prayer be sincere, our love genuine and our service generous. Above all, may we be found ready, not because we know the day or the hour, but because we have chosen to walk with Jesus every day of our lives. (Sources duly acknowledged)

"Therefore, stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour." (Matthew 25:13)

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

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 87: 3
Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

First reading: Wisdom 6:12-16
Wisdom is found by those who look for her.

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.
By those who love her she is readily seen,
and found by those who look for her.
Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them.
Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;
you will find her sitting at your gates.
Even to think about her is understanding fully grown;
be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.
She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her
and graciously shows herself to them as they go,
in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 62(63):2-8
℟: ***My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.***

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. ℟

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. ℟

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. ℟

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. ℟

Second reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Do not grieve about those who have died in Jesus.

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 24: 42,44
Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

Gospel: - Matthew 25:1-13
The wise and foolish virgins.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 22: 1-2
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose,
near restful waters he leads me.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



Book of Life & Mass Intention Envelopes:

You are also invited to write down the names of ypur lved 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 beofre 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.



Vinnie's Christmas Appeal

The Saint Vincent de Paul Rydalmere Conference will hold the Annual Christmas Appeal on Saturday, 14th & Sunday, 15th November 2026. Please be generous so we can assist our less fortunate brothers & sisters.
Have blessed Christmas!
Thank you in anticipation.
Ron Della Vedova
(President of the Rydalmere Conference of SVDP)



Let us pray for the...

Wellbeing & Health

Benny Adile
George Asic
Cristina Assuncao
Mario Borsellino
Maree Buttenshaw
Kath Clinton
Margaret Constable
Patrick Coughlan
Den-Toll Family
Younis 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
Gladys Harvey
Aidan Daniel A. Portas
Samantha, Florence, Simon & Arlette
Natalie Coghlan

Recently Deceased

Kevin Hall
Anthony Thangarat

Anniversaries

Felice Fegatilli
Joseph Orsini Jr
Frank Talia
Feliks Wiatrowski

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!

PARISH ROSTERS

7/8 November 2026

	Computer Operators	Lectors	Altar Servers	EMHC	Counters	Cleaning Ministry	Altar Society
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	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
Sun 8.00am	Anne Fernando	Jodie MacGregor Rozz Morris	Maya R.	Eric & Lina Flores			
Sun 10.00am	Eddie Appleby	Lynnette Rodrigues Edlynne Salvador	Ava E. Isabella N. Tashnie W. Tashen W.	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade			

14/15 November 2026

	Computer Operators	Lectors	Altar Servers	EMHC	Counters	Cleaning Ministry	Altar Society
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Thomas Russo	Sue & Len Farrugia	Cristian A. Jacob K.	Susan Boulous Kathy Saad	Kathleen Burrows Reza Ferdinanto Audrey Ferdinanto	Thomas & Sophie Russo	Therese Ball Lesley Long
Sun 8.00am	Naom Younis	Angela & Will finnane	Bridget R. Tara C.	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong			**Lawn & Garden** Michael Clark
Sun 10.00am	Delilah Rodrigues	Astrid Kossim Lorna Argal	Avril L. Amelia I.	Sheila Tapiador Helen Gade			

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Keep your lamp burning every day through prayer, kindness and love.

There was once an elderly man who lived in a small village. Every evening, he lit a lamp outside his house. One day, a young man asked him, "Why do you light this lamp every night? There are street lights everywhere. Nobody needs your little lamp. The elderly man smiled and replied: "Many years ago, a traveller came through this village on a dark and stormy night. He could not find his way. My little lamp helped him reach safety. I never know who might need its light tonight." The young man thought about this for a moment. The elderly man continued: "I do not light this lamp because I know someone will come. I light it because someone might come."

This is the attitude of the five wise virgins. They were prepared even though they did not know when the bridegroom would arrive. In our Christian life, we must not wait until a crisis comes before we pray. We must not wait until someone is sick before we show love. We must not wait until death approaches before we reconcile with others.

The wise man and three questions

A young man once asked an elderly Christian: "How can I know whether I am ready to meet God?" The elderly man replied: "Every evening, before you go to sleep, ask yourself three questions." The young man asked, "What are those questions?" The old man answered: First: Did I spend time with God today? Did I pray? Did I thank Him? Did I listen to His Word? Second: Did I bring light into somebody's life today? Did I encourage someone? Did I help someone? Did I show kindness? Third: If God called me tonight, would my heart be at peace? Have I forgiven others? Have I made peace? Have I lived with honesty and love?

The young man thought deeply and asked: "Father, does this mean that I must be perfect every day?"

The old man replied: "No, my son. God does not expect you to be perfect. He expects you to keep returning to Him with a sincere heart. A wise Christian is not someone who never falls, but someone who never stops seeking God's grace."

Being ready does not mean living in fear of death. It means living each day in friendship with God. The first reading from Wisdom 6:12–16 reminds us that wisdom is found by those who earnestly seek her. We must seek God's wisdom in our decisions, relationships and daily choices.

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