



MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY PARISH, BLACKTOWN

51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown 2148

Tel: 9622 1125

Fax: 9671 6425

Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

MINISTRY ROSTER: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Hi, I'm Lisa and I will be your go-to person for parish ministry. Thank you for the time you give to the service of the parish through your ministry. Following discussion at the Parish Pastoral Council and the expressed need for better coordination of ministry, we move towards one roster for two churches. Some commonly asked questions have been listed here for your information.

Why do we only need one roster?

Many people move across the two churches within our one parish of Mary, Queen of the Family. So it would follow to have one roster for one parish.

Why is the roster so big?

Our parish has approximately 2500 parishioners, 7 weekend Masses and over 300 people involved in liturgical ministry. So it makes sense that it is a big roster. For the next 6 months we are looking at different ways to best present the roster for ease of use. Your patience as we look at various ways is appreciated.

I am not on the roster as often as I would like?

We are blessed at Mary, Queen of the Family parish to have many wonderful people give of their time to ministry during the Mass. At times, we have too many people volunteering for the same Mass time and too few for others. Some ministries have many, many volunteers and there are some ministries we would welcome more people to share their time and gifts with the community.

The roster is prepared according to the availability of people with the aim to roster people at least once per month. If you are available more than once per month and are not rostered on, you may like to let the Adult Server know before Mass that you are available to serve/read should they need extra ministers.

There will also be times when people cannot fulfil their rostered time. We encourage ministers to talk with other ministers to fill in for them and just inform the parish office of the change via an email (sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au) or phone message (9622 1125).

How is the roster going to be available?

The most up-to-date roster is available from the parish website www.mqofblacktown.org.au. This will include all changes that are communicated to the parish office. This is a LIVE document which means as soon as changes are made at the office, they appear on the parish website roster immediately.

The roster is also available on the sacristy noticeboards.

Why are there extra Readers and Adult Servers rostered on at St Michael's Church?

In recent months, many parishioners have been formed in Ministers of the Word and Ministers of Holy Communion. These people have been rostered on to serve the parish in their new ministry, as well as to be with someone who has been in this ministry for a while to help them as they grow in their ministry. Liturgy is the "work of the people" so it is wonderful to have so many people involved in so many areas of liturgy.

There are differences in the way we serve and proclaim the Word in the two Churches. What will happen there?

Over the next few months, the liturgy team and parish team will be working together with ministers to further integrate consistent practices across the two churches. There may remain slight differences because of the liturgical space, but overall, there will be one common practice among the two churches for all ministries.

Are we going to have any formation/information gatherings to go through things?

Over the next few months there will be opportunities for the different ministry groups to come together. Keep an eye out in the parish bulletin or in your inbox for these dates, times and venues.

What do I do if I can't make my rostered Mass time?

We all know that things come up and sometimes we cannot attend the Mass we are rostered on for. Or you may be rostered on and you may know in advance that you cannot attend. In the first instance, please contact another minister to see if they fill in or swap with you and then please let the parish office know of this change. If this cannot happen, please contact Lisa at the parish office.

Are there other times where I can serve at Masses?

Slowly we have been organising acolytes and adult servers for baptisms, marriages and funerals. If you are available for these liturgies, especially funerals during the week please notify the parish office on 9622 1125 and leave your details and availabilities.

Will we have a list of phone numbers/contact details for other ministers?

As we bring together two rosters and two contact lists, all details are being updated. In coming months each minister will be contacted to confirm/update their contact details. At this point each minister will be asked if they wish to share their contact details with other people in their ministry. If this should happen, then a contact list will be distributed.

In the meantime, you may like to speak to a few other adult ministers and maybe share your contact details amongst yourselves in cases of emergency.

What if I am not able to commit to a roster anymore?

This is totally understandable. In this case, please call or email the parish office to have your name removed from the roster. We can help you to move into other ministries or we would like the opportunity to express our gratitude for the time you have given.

Who can I contact if I have any more questions?

If you have any questions about ministry, please contact Lisa at the parish office on 9622 1125 or email sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au. You can visit the parish office Monday-Friday between 9am - 3pm.

A word from Fr Peter ...

May I add a word of thanks to all ministers and especially to Lisa Bright who takes up the role of the coordinator of ministry for the parish.



In setting a 2016 goal of growing our ministries, a number of parishioners have followed courses at the Institute For Mission. Let us hold that question; ***who will be our ministers for 2020 & 2025?***

IFM courses are available in coming weeks. Please call the parish office asap to book in for these courses. Let us encourage others to join in ministry so that we might continue to grow in faith and share our faith.

Together, let us pray to the Lord that we will be good servers, and that through our ministry that all people of Mary Queen of the Family parish will come to a deeper love of God through Jesus.