



MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY PARISH, BLACKTOWN

Our Parish Mission Statement

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish is a welcoming, diverse, multicultural, Catholic community. We seek: to live, teach and share the joy of the Gospel; to grow as disciples of Jesus through prayer, witness and action and to respond to the needs of the family in the Blacktown community and beyond.

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship.

Sunday, 21 Jan 2018: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

FR PAUL MARSHALL OF GREYSTANES REFLECTS ON CHANGE

From last weekend's OLQP Greystanes bulletin

I have had an extra cavalcade of parties this December celebrating my 60th birthday. It's been a great time and also time to look back over a 'road less travelled.' At 30, I was ordained a Deacon; at 40 I was in my first parish as a Parish Priest (Luddenham-Warragamba); at 50 I was PP at Toongabbie; and now 60 at Greystanes.

We, at OLQP, have been blessed to have three priests over the past 18 months. But that was the exception, not the norm. In my first parish at Luddenham-Warragamba, I had a 300sq. km area (part of which is soon to become Badgery's Creek airport) and four churches to look after. For seven years I was the only priest there. When I was appointed to Toongabbie in 2007, it went from two priests to one. My first decision was to cut the number of Masses. Some people left the parish because of that decision. To carry a parish as a PP is a magnificent service to God and the faith community. The reality is also that you need to be Manager, Liturgical Leader, Pastoral Carer, Human Resources Co-ordinator, Pastoral Planner, Financially responsible; the Work, Health and Safety Officer, Maintainer of Professional Standards; visit the elderly and the sick and care for the youth group, Sacramental presence, school chaplain, and know the codes for alarms and where you turn the water gas and electricity off if you need to. And then there is the unexpected hospital call-out or death.

We need to work together in mutuality - clergy and people. (As clergy we need to be more accountable to the parish faith community). As parents, many of you are realising that faith cannot be simply "caught" or "handed on" in families. The Catholic culture of families and parish no longer is the sole way of handing on faith. We are witnessing the changing face of families; the changing face of the priesthood; and the changing face of the Church.

Parishes like Greystanes and Blacktown are mega-parishes. We need a core of 2 or 3 ordained ministers to sustain the present sacramental and preaching ministry of a parish like Greystanes.

Fr. Paul

As I read Paul's reflection, it all seemed just too familiar as we head into a year of change. His thoughts are printed with his permission. Thanks Paul!

Fr. Peter

CONTACT US

LITURGY TIMES

CONNECT

PARISH TEAM

Fr Peter Confeggi

Fr Dénes Ledeczi

Fr Luis Herrera

Deacon George Bryan

Lisa Bright

Antoinette Mangion

Jacqueline Castillo-Anchique

Georgia Scott

Aaron Pinto

**Parish Team Meetings each Monday
from 12.30pm - 2.00pm**

St Michael's Church

58 Orwell St

Blacktown

Office Hours:

Sunday 8.30am - 11.30am

St Patrick's Church

51-59 Allawah St,

Blacktown

Office Hours:

Mon - Fri: 9am - 4pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Michael's

Mass 8:00am Mon, & Fri & 7.30pm Wed

Communion Service 8.00am Tues & Thurs

St Patrick's

Mass 9.00am Tues & Thurs & Sat

Communion Service 9.00am Mon, Wed, Fri

First Friday 7.30pm St Patrick's

SUNDAY MASSES

5.30pm Saturday Vigil (St Patrick's)

7.00am Sunday (St Patrick's)

8.00am Sunday (St Michael's)

9.30am Sunday (St Michael's)

10.00am Sunday (St Patrick's)

12.00pm 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sunday - Syro Malabar Mass

(St Michael's)

11.30 am 4th Sunday - Filipino Mass (St Michael's)

2:00pm Sunday - Sudanese Mass (St Patrick's)

5.30pm Sunday (St Patrick's)

6.00pm Sunday (St Michael's)

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Wednesday 7.00pm—7.25pm (St Michael's)

Saturday 9.30am - 10.25am (St Patrick's)

Anointing of the Sick

First Saturday during 9.00am Mass (St Patrick's)

or by appointment contact Parish Office

HOLY HOUR:

6.30pm - 7.30pm Wednesday @ St Michael's

6.30pm - 7.30pm First Friday @ St Patrick's

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals

by appointment. Please contact office for details

PARISH SCHOOLS

St Michael's Primary 9622 9910

St Patrick's Primary 9621 4122

Nagle College 8887 4501

Patrician Brothers College 9671 3000

Catholic Early Learning Centre 8814 8406

(St Michael's)

Institute for Mission 9831 4911

Fr Paul Roberts (Director)

paul.roberts@ifm.org.au

Diocesan Ministry Centre 8838 3460

Catholic Care 8822 2222

Blacktown@ccss.org.au

Tel: 9622 1125

A/H: 9621 3146

Fax: 9671 6425

Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

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YEAR OF MARK - YEAR B

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

FIRST READING: JON 3:1-5. 10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 24:4-9. R. V.4
Teach me your ways, O Lord.

SECOND READING: 1 COR 7:29-31

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is near:
believe the Good News! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mk 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.

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PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

We remember and pray for those who are ill at home or in hospital at this time, may they know the healing presence of Christ



If you would like to include, in the bulletin, the name of a loved one who is ill, please contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125 or email admin@mqofblacktown.org.au.

Names will appear in the bulletin from February.

M 22 Jan: 2 Sam 5:1-7, 10; Mk 3:22-30
T 23 Jan: 2 Sam 6:12-15, 17-19; Mk 3:31-35
W 24 Jan: 2 Sam 7:4-17; Mk 4:1-20
Th 25 Jan: Acts 22:3-16; Mk 16:15-18
F 26 Jan: Is 32:15-18; 1 Cor 12:4-11
S 27 Jan: 2 Sam 12:1-7, 10-17; Mk 4:35-41



Frankly Speaking...

"We cannot keep ourselves shut up in parishes when so many people are waiting for the Gospel."
Pope Francis



FAREWELL

It is with sadness that I announce that Fr Denes will be leaving the parish at the end of February.

Denes and I have shared life and ministry for some six and a half years and his contribution to the parish – working in his fourth language, English – has been a blessing for us.

There will be a opportunity to farewell Denes at the 5.30pm Mass on Saturday 24th February at St Patricks.

Fr Peter

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

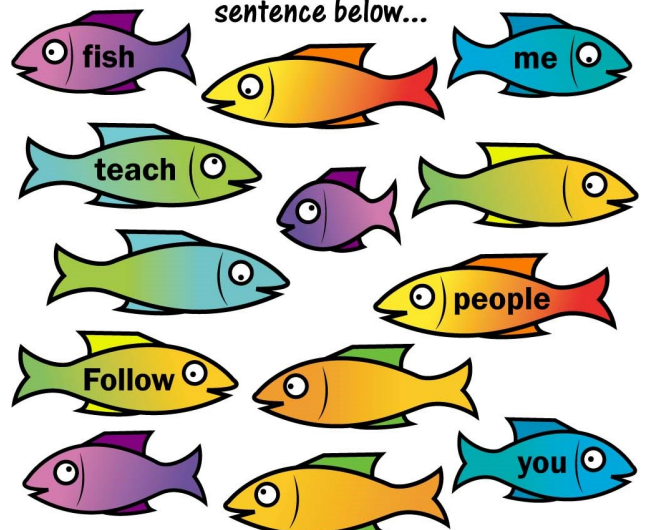
For the month of January the parish office opening hours will be from 9am - 12pm. From Monday 29th January, opening hours will be from 9am - 4pm.

The office at St Michael's Church will be closed from Christmas Day and will re-open on Sundays 8.30am - 11.30am on Sunday 4th February 2018. St Michael's office will be closed on Sunday 11th February due to the office being painted.

HEALING MASS

You all are invited to the healing mass on 29th January 2018 at 7pm at St Michael's Church, Orwell St Blacktown. It will be celebrated by Fr Joseph Edattu VC from the Divine Retreat Centre, UK.

Use the words in the fish to complete the sentence below...



_____ and I will _____
_____ to _____ for _____.



At Mary, Queen of the Family Parish we WELCOME, GROW and ACT



Become a Catechist, a Special Religious Education teacher!

What is an SRE or Catechist?
Special Religious Educators (SRE's) also known as Catechists are parish volunteers who:

- ◇ Teach and share the Catholic faith with children of their parish who attend government schools.
- ◇ Have a passion for sharing the gift of faith with young people.
- ◇ Have an hour per week to prepare and share their time and talents with young people.
- ◇ Are people who respond to the central mission of the Church to make Jesus known and loved.

In this parish Special Religious Educators, SRE's, (previously known as Catechists) go into 5 state primary schools and 2 High Schools in school hours. New volunteer SRE's will be given support, training, authorised teaching materials and will start as a classroom helper.

To register your interest or make further enquiries visit or contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125 or admin@mqofblacktown.org.au to be put in contact with Sandra Baker who is the SRE Coordinator for Mary, Queen of the Family Parish.

Australia Day Masses

On Friday, January 26th, Australia Day there will be:

St Michael's Church - 8am Mass
St Patrick's Church - 9am Mass

On this day we give thanks for the many gifts that we have been blessed with by living in this country. We remember those who have gone before us and the communities who have suffered. We also pray for the future and all who lead our country.

Community of Schools

As we begin the new school year, there will be a Mass for all teachers and staff of our Catholic primary and High Schools at St Patrick's Church on Monday 29th January at 2pm. All Welcome.



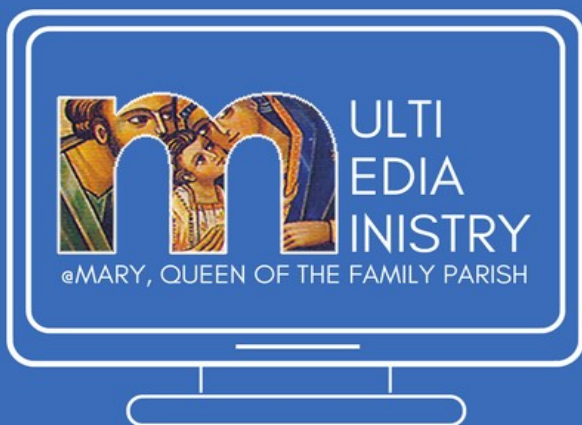
FAMILY MINISTRY
@MQOF



We love to see families join us at Mass. We know sometimes children can become distracted for all sorts of reasons. You will notice a new bookshelf - one at St Michael's near the glass prayer space and one at St Patrick's in the back section of the Church. These bookshelves have children's books based on bible stories or stories of God that children may like to borrow and read during Mass. There are many ways that children can hear the Word of God during Mass and we hope this is a small way in which they are able to do so.

If you have any children's books that are based on bible stories or religious based and would like to donate them to the parish, please drop them off the parish office so that we can label them and place them on the shelves.

JOIN OUR MULTI-MEDIA MINISTRY



Contact the Parish Office if you would like to be part of growing our use of technology at MQOF.

Monthly Trip : Tuesday 13th February

Small cruise departing Woy Woy to Davistown.
Lunch at own expense at Davistown RSL. Then to Terrigal.

Departs 8am St Patrick's Church

Cost \$50 per person, includes morning tea

For further information contact Jean: 99203401 or 0425251754



FAMILY GROUPS

An extended family experience within the community open to everyone with a focus on people caring for, loving and accepting each other.

Call Ivan on 0414 208449 or email admin@mqofblacktown.org.au to be connected.



MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY PARISH, BLACKTOWN





MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY
PARISH, BLACKTOWN

JOURNEY OF FAITH TO ITALY & MALTA

27th August – 18th September 2018

With Fr Luis Herrera
and Lisa Bright

Our Christian Faith is so rich in spirituality and in history. We invite you to journey with us through Rome, Assisi and Malta to experience these places that have contributed to the history of the Church and witness to our expression of faith. See these amazing places, with their stories of saints and people gone before us and the expression of devotion through magnificent art and architecture. The group will be spending the majority of the pilgrimage in Malta – a place of rich Catholic tradition and for many people, a place of strong family history and heritage. This journey will be a wonderful opportunity to be witness to that heritage in the light of faith - to grow your faith and share your faith - learning from the past to continue to bring Christ's message into the future.

Join this amazing 20 days of pilgrimage experience through Italy and Malta.

Lisa Bright lbright@mqofblacktown.org.au or

Olive Tree Travel / Katrina Maggs

T: +61 3 8488 9696 or 1300 55 08 30

katrina@olivetree-travel.com.au

www.olivetree-travel.com.au

Thinking about doing something
adventurous in 2018?

Join this awesome pilgrimage to
Italy and Malta with
Fr Luis Herrera.

It's time to book now!

Contact Lisa at the parish office
for a booking form and for the
full itinerary.

Youth Ministry @ MQOF

Friends, families, parents - lend us your ears. MQOF is launching a new-look youth ministry in 2018 for youth aged 12-17, and we want you to be a part of it! First of all, we'd like to invite all parents of youth in this age bracket to come along to an information night about what youth ministry will look like in 2018 and beyond.

When: Tuesday 6th February, 7:30pm

Where: Institute for Mission, 1-5 Marion St Blacktown

Please direct enquiries and RSVPs to the parish office at admin@mqofblacktown.org.au.

We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Thanks - 2018 Youth Ministry Team



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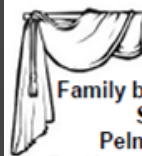
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Charlie on 9631 2689.



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