



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, 4 Feb 2018: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

THAT MOTHER-IN-LAW!

Some twenty five years ago I was sitting on the veranda of my aunt's country home at Tenterfield. Meg was a hard working woman of the land. She was a member of the Country Women's Association, National Party voter and generally conservative in her views of life. She was also a devout Catholic but suddenly Tenterfield had no priest. Meg had come to know the woman who was the Uniting Church pastor and she liked her but to worship with the Uniting Church was a bridge too far. And so she made the weekly trip to Glenn Innes. As we sat talking, looking across the granite hills of Tenterfield, she took me completely by surprise in pronouncing, *I can't see why we can't have women priests!*

The news that Fr Denes has been asked by his bishop to return to Hungary has been followed by a number of expressions of sadness. Denes has been much loved and respected in the time he has spent in the Parish. Inevitably the question has been asked, *who is taking his place?* Well, there are no plans and it is most likely there will be no other priest available. We are now experiencing what many rural Australian Catholics have been facing for some decades.

In the Gospel this weekend it comes as a surprise to many Catholics to find that St Peter had a mother-in-law. So the first Pope was married!! In fact, compulsory celibacy for clergy was not to be part of the life of the Church for many centuries. In recent decades we have seen the restoration of the permanent diaconate, embodied in our deacon George and his wife Kaye. In recent months Deacon Tony Hoban has been appointed leader of the new parish of Marsden Park. Tony and his wife Annette will model a different type of leadership. As to the question of married priests, it is not a question of whether we can have them but can we have some more. We already have a number of priests who have come across from the Anglican Church and brought their wives with them!

Clearly, the future is not more of the past and the age of all things being priest-dependant is past. The challenge of our time is to reimagine our Church and its leadership through a diversity of ministries, always with the celebration of Eucharist at the centre of our life. In truth this is an exciting time to be an Australian Catholic.

Fr. Peter

CONTACT US

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 1.00pm - 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

Tel: 9622 1125

A/H: 9621 3146

Fax: 9671 6425

Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

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Follow the links
on our website.

Make a Payment
to my Parish

LITURGY TIMES

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)
3.30pm - 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 6.45pm - 7.15pm (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

CONNECT

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

www.mqofblacktown.org.au



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blacktowncatholics](https://www.facebook.com/blacktowncatholics)



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YEAR OF MARK - YEAR B

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us for he is the Lord our God.

FIRST READING: JB 7:1-4. 6-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 146:1-6. R. V.3

Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

SECOND READING: 1 COR 9:16-19. 22-23

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mk 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was. In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

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Weekly Readings

M 5 Feb: 1 Kg 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56

T 6 Feb: 1 Kg 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13

W 7 Feb: 1 Kg 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23

Th 8 Feb: 1 Kg 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30

F 9 Feb: 1 Kg 11:29-32, 12:19; Mk 7:31-37

S 10 Feb: 1 Kg 12:26-32, 13:33-34; Mk 8:1-10

S: 11 Feb: Lev 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10:31 - 11:1; Mk 1:40-45



If you would like to invest in your parish, please consider making an online donation. Visit www.mqofblacktown.org.au and click on "Donate Now" to make a secure payment to the parish via BPoint.

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

Anniversaries: George Lobo, Len Lovejoy, Natasha Isabel Lyneham, Freda Lovejoy, Rita & Evelyn Rajayah, Lewis Russell

Intentions: Rex Scott, Magdalena Ranoa, Amelia Brillantes, Arturo C. Cabia

Recently Deceased: Victoria Formosa, Yvonne Fernandes

We pray for those who are ill at this time: Paul Clemson

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.

Frankly Speaking...

"We must always walk in the presence of the Lord, in the light of the Lord."
Pope Francis



Pastoral Council Meeting

The next Pastoral Council meeting is to be held on Thursday 15th February 2018 at 7PM. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to speak to any member of the PPC.

Franchesca Tenedora
PPC Chairperson
ftenedora@gmail.com

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



LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES 2018

Would you like to serve our community as a Reader, Minister of Holy Communion, taking Communion to the Sick and Dying or as a Senior Server and/or Acolyte? Now is the time! Formation Courses begin in February at the Institute for Mission. There is no cost for these formation courses. If you would like to take part in this short course please contact Lisa at the parish office for an application form. Email sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au



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

ASH WEDNESDAY

14TH FEBRUARY 2018

MASS TIMES

8.30AM ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

9AM ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

12PM ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

7.30PM ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH



Take a selfie with your Ash Wednesday cross and tag yourself #ashtag

St Michael's Church: 58 Orwell St Blacktown South

St Patrick's Church: 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown



MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY
PARISH, BLACKTOWN

There will not be Adoration on Ash Wednesday at St Michael's

BIBLE STUDY

Do you wish to deepen a personal relationship with God by reflection and discussion of the Scriptures?

Bible Study resumes on Thursday 1st February in the Fr Sid Mosley Meeting Room at St Michael's at 7.30pm. Call the Parish Office for more information. All Welcome!



Have you ever wondered where the ashes for Ash Wednesday come from?

Traditionally it is prescribed that the ashes used on Ash Wednesday are the burned up palm

leaves from Palm Sunday the previous year. So if you have last years Palm Crosses at home, we invite you to bring them to the church before the 12th February so they can be burnt for Ash Wednesday. Thank you!

WEDNESDAY NAGLE MASS

Beginning Wednesday 7th February there will be an 8.30am Mass at St Michael's for students and Staff. Parishioners are of course welcome. Nagle staff will take responsibility for preparation, ministries etc. In the case where Nagle are unable to attend the Mass due to other school engagements or school holidays, the Mass will still take place at 8.30am.

With Fr Denes leaving shortly our planning for the year ahead has its uncertainties. As previously stated, I will see that we give a priority to be with young people in scheduling Masses.

Fr Peter

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.

Could the parishioner who owns Planned Giving Envelope #277 please contact Jacqueline at the Parish Office on 9622 1125. Thanks!

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

NOW HIRING!

FAMILY LIFE COORDINATOR

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish Blacktown is seeking applications for the position of Family Life Coordinator. The Family Life Coordinator will work closely with the Parish Pastoral Team in supporting the many ministries in the parish, with a particular focus on the integration of families into the life of the parish.

The position is a casual position and entails 15 hours per week and involves evening and weekend work. A job description can be obtained by emailing admin@mqofblacktown.org.au. All applications are to include a cover letter and resume with two references, one of which is to be a parish priest. These can be sent to Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown 2148 or email admin@mqofblacktown.org.au. For further information please contact the parish office on 9622 1125. Applications close 5pm, Sunday 18th February.

PROJECT COMPASSION

FOR A JUST FUTURE

Take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lent.

You will be empowering young people to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities.

A Just Future starts with your support!

You can also donate by phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion.

JOIN THE MQOF SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP TO WELCOME, GROW AND ACT.

Make a Difference in your community.

The Social Justice Group meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month (Feb—Dec) at 11.30am in the Parish Office. CONTACT KATHIE ON 0414 194 052 or the PARISH OFFICE 9622 1125.

MQOF CAFE



Join us for a cuppa...Stay for a chat

*Every Thursday, 9.30am in the
Cardinal Clancy Room at St Patrick's Church*



MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY
PARISH, BLACKTOWN



menALIVE is a Catholic Men's Ministry bringing Christ to the heart of all men. The purpose of menALIVE is to bring men together, to renew their faith in God and to encourage them become an active force of renewal in the Church.

Over a drink and a bite, our monthly gatherings are geared to bring men together to unite men in faith, to create an environment where faith is central and social. Meet Christ somewhere, "Between the Pub and Pew"

*Join us on **Friday 16th February 2018** at the Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church
Paul Scott 0416 250 591 or
Justin Bear 0488 033 066*



BAPTISMS

The Baptism of a child is such a wonderful sacrament! To help in your planning should you wish to have a child baptised this year, please be aware that there will be no baptisms during Lent. We will continue to offer Baptism after Easter with the first available date being the 1st April. For general enquires and frequently asked questions please visit our website at www.mqofblacktown.org.au and click on the tab Sacraments/Baptism.

BAPTISMS - FEBRUARY 2017

We welcome these young people into our parish family as they are baptised this month at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish.

*Ellie Jane McNulty
Hayley Marie Horne
Matthew Jayden Garcia
Aaliyan El-Ayoubi*

*May God Bless you and keep you always.
May you always know the love of God in your lives as
you grow in faith and love.*

FROM BISHOP VINCENT...

On the 14th January, Bishop Vincent surprised us all and celebrated Mass at 8am at St Michael's Church. This is his homily from the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Dear friends,

One of the traits we admire in people is the ability to embrace fresh opportunities and make the most out of life especially when they face challenging circumstances. This was what Doreetha Daniels, an African American, demonstrated. At 99 years old, Mrs Daniels had lived through a number of watershed moments in American history, including the Great Depression, World War II, the civil rights movement, the Moon landing and the rise of the Digital Age. All of these events paled in comparison to what happened when she graduated a couple of years ago. She might have been the oldest graduate in the world, having earned a university degree at that age. She proved to us that age is no barrier to learning and human achievement.

Scriptures this 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time also challenge us to live life to the full by a discipleship marked with courage, passion and purpose. Like a fishing boat, we must not prefer the secure shallow harbour to the deeper waters. Christian discipleship is not about protecting one's status quo, interests and security at all costs. Rather, it is more about our generous and faithful response to the call to follow Christ and make a positive difference to others.

The story of Samuel in the first reading shows how the prophet discerns God's call and follows it through. The young man was with his mentor Eli when he heard his name called out in the middle of the night. Assuming that it



was his master's voice, Samuel ran to him ready to carry out his orders, but only to be told that he had not been summoned. This pattern was repeated three times until Eli realised with great humility that God wanted to speak directly to the

boy and not through him. He came up with a gem of an advice. "Speak Lord, your servant is listening." It was with these words that Samuel responded to God calling him the fourth time. As the story unfolds, this call would entail a topsy-turvy and precarious existence. Samuel would speak God's word of truth to power; he would lead his people during that painful transition from judges to kings in such a way that his own life was at risk.

The Gospel story is also about responding to the call of a more complete and abundant life, even if it entails a

certain risk. Like Eli, John the Baptist shows admirable humility when he points out the Messiah to his own disciples. "Behold, there is the Lamb of God" he says recognising Jesus as the one who by his self-sacrifice would conquer the power of darkness. In another place, John would recognise the superiority of Jesus saying that "he must increase and I must decrease". With this recognition, two of his disciples leave him for Jesus. In what follows, however, Jesus shows that true discipleship is not about the cult of personality. It involves a costly journey towards the fullness of life and love. It involves seeing where he truly lives, which in the rich symbolism of John's Gospel, is not a physical building but the bosom of the Father, the abiding love of God and he who is the fullness of grace and truth. "Come and see" means to experience the power of transformation that Jesus can give.

Dear friends,

The Word of God today invites us to greater, deeper, more faithful, generous and courageous discipleship. It has little to do with doing the minimum and fulfilling the letter of the law. Instead, it has everything to do with taking risks and living with enthusiasm and commitment. We should not be content with status quo, especially when that status quo is less than what God wants for us as individuals and as a community. The call of the Gospel is the call to greater justice, love and equality. We cannot be authentic disciples without acting with greater justice, love and equality in a society that treats some of its members as if they were not full members or outsiders. The teaching and example of Jesus inspire us to take a stand for the weak, vulnerable and marginalised.

We cannot be the disciple of Jesus and stay put in our security. Discipleship is a journey that demands courage because it forces us to abandon security in favour of vulnerable trust, self-interest in favour of passion for justice and preferential option for God's poor. We may not be able to obtain a university degree late in life like Mrs Daniels. Nevertheless, we must be on the lookout for opportunities to witness to God's inclusive love and to live our Christian life to the full.

Like the first disciples of Jesus, we have also recognised Him who satisfies our deepest yearning. Let us pray that we have the courage to live our discipleship without counting the costs. May the teaching and example of Jesus guide us as we endeavour to build relationships and communities that mirror the Reign of God. May our response to His daily invitation and the prompting of His Spirit be marked with generosity, trust and passion.

Bishop Vincent



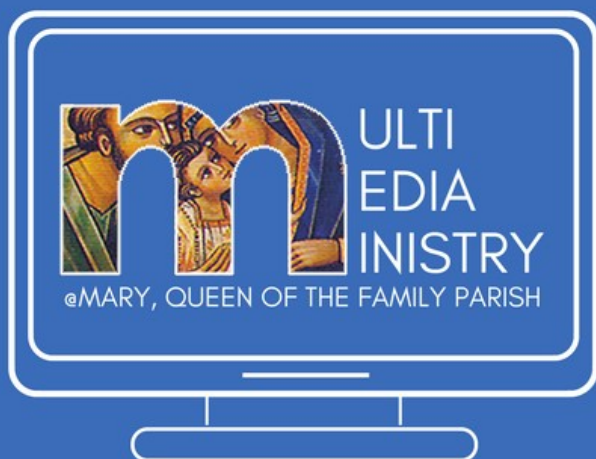
LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER

Date and Sunday of the Month	Mass Times	Music Ministry	Commentator	1st Reader	2nd Reader	Acolyte/Adult Servers		
11th February 2nd Sunday of the Month Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Vigil 5.30PM	Lord's Choir	Vanessa Lozada	Peter Curmi	Joyce Aitkins	Paul Garland		
	7.00AM	DVP: Christine	Patricia Regan	Rita McCormick	Pauline Chappius	Anne Wait	Bill Callaghan	Gerry Meura
	8.00 AM	DVP: Michael	Terri Sebastian	Diane Zerafa	Kathryn Wright	Max Rosario	Ricardo Fortaleza	
	9.30 AM	Murphy Choir	Therese Bear	Pam Faulkner	Kristy Scott	Ian Faulkner	Natalia Gabriel	
	10.00AM	St Cecilia's Choir	Perla Billedo	Judy Bartley	Stella Nwosu	Maurice Bru	Francine Bru	Peter Baker
	5.30PM	Youth Band	William Ong	Francesca Tenedora	Crystal Degollacion	Frank Mangion	Steve Degollacion	
	6.00 PM	C 4 Christ	Violetta Bada	Nelda Gopez	Ruth Marie Lee	Eddie Peters	Zaldy Pamintuan	
18th February 3rd Sunday of the Month 1st Sunday of Lent	Vigil 5.30PM	Shepherd's Choir	Josephine Miruzzi	Ray Holmes	Cita Correa	Paul Garland		
	7.00AM	DVP: Christine	John Tanti	Sr Maria Marin	Jane Abela	Bill Callaghan	Anne Wait	Karma Chabchoul
	8.00 AM	DVP: Elizabeth	Ian Ward	Ron Burgess	Colin Morris	Max Rosario	Ike Lutaos	
	9.30 AM	II Celebrate	Colista Mullholland-Youngman	Nel Nepomuceno	Silvana Murphy	Paul Scott		
	10.00AM	Divine Mercy	Ruth Miranda	Anna Dazon	Irene Vasey	Maurice Bru	Francine Bru	Jude Miranda
	5.30PM	Youth Band	Louisa Xavier	Emmy Milan	John Kurmann	Frank Mangion	John Solivet	
	6.00 PM	VACANT	Francesca Tenedora	Pam Faulkner		Ian Faulkner		
25th February 4th Sunday of the Month 2nd Sunday of Lent	Vigil 5.30PM	Divine Mercy	Paul Ryan	Joyce Aitkins	Peter Curmi	Paul Garland	Zaldy Pamintuan	
	7.00AM	DVP: Tony	Christine Nalzarro	Pauline Chappius	Rita McCormick	Bill Callaghan	Anne Wait	Gerry Meura
	8.00 AM	DVP: Blake	Therese Bear	Rhonda McKechnie	Michael Zerafa	Eddie Peters	Colin Morris	
	9.30 AM	Murphy	Ian Ward	Peter Mondeddu	Eva Cheetley	Annie Pinto		
	10.00AM	II Celebrate	Imelda Valve	Louisa Xavier	Rosal Andres	Maurice Bru	Francine Bru	John Cinya
	5.30PM	Youth Band	Crystal Degollacion	Linda Hogan	Maria Rafael	Frank Mangion	Steve Degollacion	
	6.00 PM	Christi Fideles Servant Community Choir	Ruth Marie Lee	Violetta Bada	Len Cruz	Beato Pudadera		
4th March 1st Sunday of the Month 3rd Sunday of Lent	Vigil 5.30PM	Shepherd's Choir	Ray Holmes	Giselle Saba	Cecille Ducut	Paul Garland		
	7.00AM	DVP: Tony	Kathie Collins	Sr Maria Marin	Josephine Miruzzi	Bill Callaghan	Anne Wait	Karma Chabchoul
	8.00 AM	DVP: Michael	Ron Burgess	Colin Maxwell	Susan Santos	Max Rosario		
	9.30 AM	II Celebrate	Kristy Scott	Susie Murphy	Judy Bartley	Paul Scott	Annie Pinto	
	10.00AM	Unceasing Praise	Mercy Aquino	Stella Nwosu	Deavelyn Besterwitch	Maurice Bru	Francine Bru	Jude Miranda
	5.30PM	Youth Band	Louisa Xavier	Emmy Milan	John Kurmann	John Solivet	Steve Degollacion	
	6.00 PM	VACANT	Pam Faulkner	Susan Santos	Evelyn Pelaez	Frank Mangion		

Please arrive at least 15 minutes before your rostered Mass. When you arrive, see the Acolyte/Adult Server to let them know you have arrived. If you have not "checked in", your ministry for that Mass will be filled by another person.

If you are unable to meet your commitment, please organise a replacement or contact the parish office on 9622 1125 or admin@mqofblacktown.org.au
Please visit the online roster at mqofblacktown.org.au for the most up-to-date roster.

JOIN OUR MULTI-MEDIA MINISTRY



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



Continuing the conversation about review and supervision of our ministries, we will be hosting reflection sessions 3 times in the new year:

Our first will be on the
21st February 10:00am or 23rd February 7:30pm
You are invited to attend one session in the
Parish Meeting Room at St Patrick's Church.

These sessions will be an opportunity for you to share your experiences of ministry, be motivated and learn from others. Send your RSVP to the Parish Office by phone on 9622 1125 or via email at admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Let's become better together!

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER

Date and Sunday of the Month	Mass Times		Ministers of Communion										Altar Servers (Senior & Junior)			
11th February 2nd Sunday of the Month Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Vigil 5.30PM	Theresa Azzopardi	Vicky Sultana	Rose Spiteri	Peter Munro	Michael Hall	Dorothy Angyalfi	Cecilia Ducut	Liam Cruz	Ashleigh Tabusares	Matthew Saba	Adam Cruz				
	7.00AM	Angela John	Andree Fraser	Pacita Villaver												
	8.00 AM	Phyllis Portelli	Vicky Sammut	Carmen Borg					Alexis Rossi	Jav Calingao	Jenille Calingao					
	9.30 AM	Marie Verrier	Mary Moneddu	Nancy Shami					Natasha Luiz	Joshua Pinto						
	10.00AM	Allei Canonizado	Maria Jiminez	Rosal Andres	Lynn Domingo	Guy Vella	Michael Hiriwo	Patrick Dako	Louise Sergio	Josep Sergio	Viviana Abusalah	Norbert Drichti				
	5.30PM	Gemma Borg	Louisa Xavier	Crystal Degollacion	Veronica Xavier				Cryste Degollacion	Oscar Degollacion						
	6.00 PM	Nichole Gopez	Ruth Marie Lee	Harlane Peterson					Ronash Alves	Adam D'Sa						
18th February 3rd Sunday of the Month 1st Sunday of Lent	Vigil 5.30PM	Theresa Azzopardi	Dorothy Angyalfi	Vicky Sultana	Michael Hall	Rose Spiteri	Peter Munro	Giselle Saba	Ashleigh Tabusares	Matthew Saba	Thomas Perry	Lucy Perry				
	7.00AM	Angela John	Andree Fraser	Pacita Villaver	Dorothy Angyalfi											
	8.00 AM	Aureen Mutto	Colin Maxwell	Phyllis Portelli					Alexis Rossi	Jav Calingao	Jenille Calingao					
	9.30 AM	Peter Mondeddu	Mary Moneddu	Nancy Shami					Mitchell Eckersley	Joshua Pinto	Natasha Luiz					
	10.00AM	Allei Canonizado	Maria Jiminez	Tony Cuciaridi	Lynn Domingo	Guy Vella	Michael Hiriwo	Patrick Dako	Jude Miranda	Gabriella Miranda	Joanna Fernando	Joseph Sergio				
	5.30PM	Gemma Borg	Louisa Xavier	Crystal Degollacion	Veronica Xavier	Pauline Borg			James Solivet	CJ Singen	Patrick Supan					
	6.00 PM	Harlane Peterson	Nelda Gopez						Princess Torralba	Adam Torralba						
25th February 4th Sunday of the Month 2nd Sunday of Lent	Vigil 5.30PM	Theresa Azzopardi	Dorothy Angyalfi	Vicky Sultana	Michael Hall	Rose Spiteri	Peter Munro	Angelita Berlanga	Liam Cruz	Ashleigh Tabusares	Matthew Saba	Adam Cruz				
	7.00AM	Angela John	Andree Fraser	Pacita Villaver	Dorothy Angyalfi											
	8.00 AM	Diane Zerafa	Phyllis Portelli	Vicky Sammut					Alexis Rossi	Jav Calingao	Jenille Calingao					
	9.30 AM	Peter Mondeddu	Mary Moneddu	Nancy Shami					Samantha Cheeley	Natasha Luiz	Geoffrey Francisco					
	10.00AM	Mercy Aquino	Lynn Domingo	Guy Vella	Michael Hiriwo	Patrick Dako	Allei Canonizado	Ashthra Aloysius	Stephanie Nvosu	Emmanuel Nvosu	Ramye Abu Ganaba	Ramye Abu Ganaba				
	5.30PM	Gemma Borg	Louisa Xavier	Crystal Degollacion	Veronica Xavier				Cryste Degollacion	Oscar Degollacion	Thomas Hogan	Maxwell Hogan				
	6.00 PM	Harlane Peterson	Ruth Maree Lee	Nichole Gopez					Ronash Alves	Adam D'Sa	Angelize Estil					
4th March 1st Sunday of the Month 3rd Sunday of Lent	Vigil 5.30PM	Theresa Azzopardi	Dorothy Angyalfi	Vicky Sultana	Michael Hall	Rose Spiteri	Peter Munro	Paul Ryan	Liam Cruz	Ashleigh Tabusares	Matthew Saba	Adam Cruz				
	7.00AM	Angela John	Andree Fraser	Pacita Villaver	Dorothy Angyalfi											
	8.00 AM	Colin Maxwell	Carmen Borg	Aureen Mutto					Alexis Rossi	Jav Calingao	Jenille Calingao					
	9.30 AM	Geny Cleary	Silvana Murphy	Mary Moneddu					Natasha Luiz	Joshua Pinto						
	10.00AM	Marie Verrier	Patrick Dako	Ruth Miranda	Maria Jimenez	Rosal Andres	Tony Cuciaridi	Lynn Domingo	Louise Sergio	Josep Sergio	Viviana Abusalah	Norbert Drichti				
	5.30PM	Gemma Borg	Louisa Xavier	Crystal Degollacion	Veronica Xavier				Cryste Degollacion	Oscar Degollacion						
	6.00 PM	Harlane Peterson	Ruth Maree Lee	Violetta Bada					Ronash Alves	Adam D'Sa						

Please arrive at least 15 minutes before your rostered Mass. When you arrive, see the Acolyte/Adult Server to let them know you have arrived. If you have not “checked in”, your ministry for that Mass will be filled by another person.

If you are unable to meet your commitment, please organise a replacement or contact the parish office on 9622 1125 or admin@mqofblacktown.org.au Please visit the online roster at mqofblacktown.org.au for the most up-to-date roster.

WHY STAY A PRACTISING CATHOLIC?

Following the report of the Royal Commission, and the reports of cover-ups and secrecy, a friend recently posed this question on Facebook?

"To all my still practicing Catholic friends - how do you continue to be active members of a community who's leadership is questionable at best & disgustingly criminal at worst?"

I see and hear this question a lot, especially from parents in the sacramental process. And as soon as my friends hear that I work for the Catholic Church, this topic inevitably comes up. It's a very fair and real question but this particular day, it challenged me as I asked myself the same question.

I recently attended a listening forum in my own parish where child sexual abuse was revealed about 25 years ago. The listening forum allowed the opportunity for anyone from the parish to come and share their feelings to how that time in our parish history had affected us then and continues to affect us now - personally and as a community.

I hadn't really considered my response until that moment. I was angry. I was angry at the priests who had committed those acts. I was angry that the church hierarchy had not done more to address things like power struggles in the church, increased pastoral and life-skill training for clergy, implemented proper procedures of supervision and accountability for priests. It still angers me now that some of these things still haven't been adequately addressed.

I felt sad. I felt sad for the many, many families who were and are still affected by this. I knew of families in my parish who had left the church and some whose children had taken their own life because of the abuse. It's devastating.

I also felt sad because as I grew and continue to grow in my faith, there were so many people who weren't able to know the very real love of God through their own spiritual growth and within a parish community. I say this because I have experienced the love and strength of a parish community in my own times of struggle and as I raise my children in a parish community. The parish community for me is my extended family. In our world where community is often preceded by the word "online", I feel so strongly about ensuring that my children know the love and strength of a real live, human community. The relationships formed in a parish community have the power to be extraordinary.

So back to the original question, *"To all my still practicing Catholic friends - how do you continue to be active members of a community who's leadership is questionable at best & disgustingly criminal at worst?"*

I continue to be an active member of the Catholic community not because of its human leadership but because of the other people, the parishioners - the families who actually make up the community - the Body of Christ. The passion I see in so many ministers, families and children who attend parish events is inspiring and life-giving.

I believe in the actual leader of the Catholic community - God, who came to earth through Jesus. My faith isn't in the human leaders - my faith is in the message that Jesus shared. In saying that though, I have seen and experienced some wonderful leadership in the church through our priests. I have been working in Catholic organisations for 25 years and I have been guided and mentored by some wonderful religious men and women who have truly and honestly been the face of Christ in my life. For this I will always be truly grateful.

And I live and work in the Catholic Community because it's a message I believe in deeply. The message is life-changing.

I also strongly believe that if you want to see any change in any institution you have to be part of that change. By sitting back and removing myself from the church, I cannot contribute to those areas where I believe change is needed and can happen. Like any institution, it is made up of humans. Humans are flawed and every institution, even the church, has to admit its failings, deal with those people who do wrong, and reflect and grow from what hasn't worked before. I want to be part of that because the message that Jesus offers is more important to me than not being part of the Church at all.

It's a message that I want to share. It's a message that can change the institution if we are true to the core message. It's a message that is bigger than human leadership and all its failings. It's a message that has the power to heal. It's a message that can be life-giving. I want to share that message. My prayer is that others will also want to share and hear that message so that we can affect change in all areas of our world.

*Lisa Bright
January 2018*

Altar Society

Help care for the sacred vessels and linen for the Mass by being part of the Altar Society.

The main objectives of the Altar Society are to look after the altar and sanctuary, and items in the sacristy. The Society serves to benefit the work of the church by ensuring that the liturgical vessels and cloths are kept clean and well prepared for use at the Mass and, in doing so, members of the Altar Society play a most important role in enabling our liturgies to be conducted with dignity and care. If you would like to be part of this vital behind-the-scenes team, contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125.

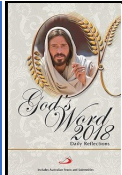
HELP WANTED - CLEAN TEAMS

Two volunteers are needed to fill vacancies in one of the Clean Teams which cleans St Michael's Church on a Saturday morning. You will be rostered on every six weeks (commencing on 17 March) and will be required 8 or 9 times in the year. So, if you can spare 1 to 1½ hours every six weeks to help in this important and rewarding ministry, please call Vicky Sammut on 96216135/0425235050 or leave your details in the Sacristy or at the Parish Office.





LENTEEN PATHWAYS
Contact the Parish office to express
your interest 9622 1125
admin@mqofblacktown.org.au
A donation of \$5 towards the Lenten Resource Books
would be greatly appreciated.



Limited Copies available of **God's Word 2018**
... a beautiful resource reflecting on the daily
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MQOF EVENINGS

a larger group with
weekly speakers and
small group discussion.

Tuesday nights 7pm
Cardinal Clancy Room,
St Patrick's Church
beginning 13th February

ALL AGE GROUPS ARE
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families and grandparents,
and everyone in between!

MQOF MORNINGS

small group meeting.
Tuesdays, 9.30am
Cardinal Clancy Room
beginning 13th February

MQOF HOMES

a small group meeting
in YOUR home ANYTIME!
Wherever it suits you.



St Bakhita

Feast day highlights realities of modern slavery

The Church will recommit to fighting slavery
and human trafficking in the coming days as it
celebrates the feast of St Josephine Bakhita.
Pope Francis, who has continued the papal
tradition of clear denunciation of human
trafficking and slavery, has designated
February 8 as a day of prayer, reflection and action to end the
injustice of human trafficking.

Bishop Greg O'Kelly SJ, chairman of the Bishops Commission for
Justice, Ecology and Development, said support for the
commemoration of the feast day continues the Australian
Church's focus on this important issue.

ACRATH president Sr Noelene Simmons SM said: "In this age of
unprecedented mass migration brought on by conflict and
natural disaster, women and children are particularly
vulnerable to being trafficked and exploited. Through our
prayer and our actions, let us be advocates for their freedom
and dignity."

Full article <http://mediablog.catholic.org.au>

REPORT ON THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - 18th JANUARY 2018

Our first meeting of the year was overflowing with participants! Eighteen members of the Parish Team, Finance Committee and Parish Council crowded into the team meeting room with a number of important items on the agenda.

FORMULATION OF A VISION STATEMENT: We have a Mission Statement - turn to the front page of this bulletin to refresh. We do not have a Vision Statement. What is the difference? Our Mission Statement tells us our present state. The Vision Statement (which we came together to discuss and develop at this meeting) will describe our future state. We need to catch people with our enthusiasm and be able to tell people where we, as a Parish, are going and why we do things. Several statements were drafted and through group discussion these statements have been narrowed. The final draft should be settled at the next meeting.

ALPHA: Kristy Scott elaborated on the Alpha programme which our Parish is conducting this year. Annie Pinto said that ALPHA has changed her life. The Alpha course made her stop, think, question and have a discussion, without being judged or judging others. It reminded her of certain basic truths. As part of the programme she engaged in conversation, shared a meal and talked with others about faith. If anyone is interested please contact the office or a PPC member.

THE FORMATION OF A YOUTH MINISTRY: Franchesca Tenedora provided an up date on this important ministry. Target age group : 12 – 17 years, which would encourage them to continue with their sacramental process and perhaps join the Youth Band and Youth Mass as well as come together in social activities. The Parish will provide parents with a brief presentation of the plan ahead in a meeting on the evening of 06 February 2018. All parents please support this initiative for your children!

Michael Zerafa took the opportunity to give an update from the Finance Committee. There is a growing need for parishioners to take up planned giving envelopes as this allows the Finance Committee to make future decisions based on some certainty.

Fr Peter looked forward to planning for the future and further ahead to Parish involvement in the 2020 Australian Church Synod. Father pointed to the changing face of Blacktown and urged all to work together for a parish vision over the next 20 years.

NEXT MEETING: 15TH February 2018 at 7.00pm
Peter Baker, Secretary



MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY PARISH, BLACKTOWN

Sacramental Process 2018

Reconciliation : First Eucharist : Confirmation

The Sacramental Team look forward to journeying with you in this time of preparation with your family as they come to know God deeper through the Sacraments.



Enrolling for the First Time

If you are enrolling for the first time in the Sacramental Process at Mary Queen of the Family parish, please complete the Enrollment form available on the parish website and return to the Sacramental Team.



Continuing on the Journey

If you are continuing the Sacramental Process from previous years at Mary Queen of the Family parish, please complete the re-enrollment form available on the parish website and return to the Sacramental Team.



Groups & Dates

All information for each Sacrament can be found via our parish website www.mqofblacktown.org.au and then by clicking on the Sacraments tab or at the parish office at St Patrick's Church.

Each sacrament has groups divided alphabetically, according to the surname of the child receiving the Sacrament. Please scroll down each document until you see your group with the relevant information.

Do you or your child wish to become Catholic? Please contact us.

We welcome you to the Sacrament of Baptism and into the Catholic Church.

Contact Us



www.facebook.com/blacktowncatholics



www.mqofblacktown.org.au



9622 1125



sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au



MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY
PARISH, BLACKTOWN

Are you new to our parish? WELCOME!

We would love to get to know you!

Help us extend a personal welcome to you ...

- ➔ Drop into the parish office and meet our Parish Team
- ➔ Fill out the welcome form and place it in the letterbox
- ➔ Send us an email to admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

*It's great to have you here as part of our Parish Community.
We'll see you soon!!*



MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY
PARISH, BLACKTOWN

Welcome Information Form

complete this form and place it in the parish letterbox

NAME

ADDRESS.....

EMAIL.....

PHONE #

THANK YOU!

Someone from the Parish team will be in touch soon.

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



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2 Corinthians 9:7

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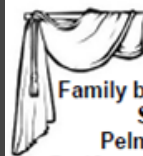
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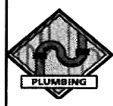
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