



# 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, 10 Dec 2017: Second Sunday of Advent- Year B**

## POPE FRANCIS' WORDS FOR ADVENT

Pope Francis began the Advent season by saying it was a time to let go of the worldly distractions that take us away from God, and focus on growing closer to him through prayer and concern for others.

Referring to the readings for the first day of Advent, which stress the importance of being vigilant, the Pope said "the watchful person is one who, in the noise of the world, does not let themselves be overwhelmed by distraction or superficiality, but lives in a full and conscious way, with a concern above all for others."

With this attitude, we quickly become aware "of the tears and necessity of our neighbour and we can also welcome the human and spiritual qualities and capacities," he said, adding that an attentive person, "also turns to the world, trying to counteract indifference and the cruelty of it, rejoicing in the treasures of beauty that also exist and must be preserved."

He focused his address on the day's Gospel reading from Mark, in which Jesus tells his disciples to "Be watchful! be alert!," because "you do not know when the time will come."

Advent, he said, is a time given to us "to welcome the Lord who comes to meet us, to verify our desire for God, to look ahead and prepare ourselves for the return of Christ."

Christ will return again at Christmas, when we remember how he came to us "in the humility of the human condition." However, Christ also comes to each of us "every time we are disposed to receive him," Francis said, and "he will come again at the end of time to judge the living and the dead."

"Because of this, we must always be watchful and attentive to the Lord with the hope of meeting him."

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 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

Tel: 9622 1125

A/H: 9621 3146

Fax: 9671 6425

Email: [admin@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:admin@mqofblacktown.org.au)

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## 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)

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

## 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](mailto:paul.roberts@ifm.org.au)

Diocesan Ministry Centre 8838 3460

Catholic Care 8822 2222

[Blacktown@ccss.org.au](mailto:Blacktown@ccss.org.au)



[www.mqofblacktown.org.au](http://www.mqofblacktown.org.au)



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# YEAR OF MARK - YEAR B

## Second Sunday of Advent

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard  
in the joy of your heart.

### FIRST READING: IS 40:1-5. 9-11

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 84:9-14. R. V.8

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your  
salvation.

### SECOND READING: 2 PT 3:8-14

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make  
straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of  
God. Alleluia!

### GOSPEL: Mt 25:1-13

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the  
Son of God. It is written in the book of the  
prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;  
he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the  
wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths  
straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in  
the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for  
the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people  
of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were  
baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their  
sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on  
locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he  
said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more  
powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and  
undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with  
water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,  
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

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### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Special Intentions:** Rex Scott, William Peppin, Sophie Nastaly,  
David Uncillo, Grace Spiteri, M. Margaretha Soatini, Irene Cherry

**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:**  
Yufang Dong, Paul Clemson, Fr George O'Mara, Doreen Stanslaus, Vic  
Farrugia, Cristina King, Sofia Rodriguez, Charity Thompson, Charlie Taouk,  
Alain Asmar, Antonio Lareza, Lourdes Lareza, Ossie Zaia, Pat Byrne, Mary  
Mendes, Michael Glezos

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](mailto:admin@mqofblacktown.org.au)

**M 11 Dec:** Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26  
**T 12 Dec:** Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14  
**W 13 Dec:** Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30  
**Th 14 Dec:** Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15  
**F 15 Dec:** Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19  
**S 16 Dec:** Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:10-13



## Frankly Speaking...

*"Advent has a special charm, it makes us  
experience deeply the meaning of history."*  
Pope Francis



## COME AND PREPARE YOUR HEARTS FOR JESUS' COMING THIS CHRISTMAS

### 2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

7:30 PM TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER  
ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

### 1ST RITE OF RECONCILIATION

6:30PM - 7:15PM WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER  
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

9:30AM - 10:00AM SATURDAY 23RD DECEMBER  
ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

St Michael's Church: 58 Orwell St Blacktown South  
St Patrick's Church: 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown

## COME AND CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH YOUR PARISH FAMILY

### CHRISTMAS EVE

SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER 2017

#### MASS TIMES

5:30PM CHILDREN'S MASS  
ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

6:00PM CHILDREN'S MASS  
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

8:30PM YOUTH MASS  
ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

### CHRISTMAS DAY

MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER 2017

#### MASS TIMES

12:00 AM MIDNIGHT MASS  
ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

7:00AM MORNING MASS  
ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

8:00AM MORNING MASS  
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

9:30AM MORNING MASS  
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

10:00AM YOUTH MASS  
ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

No evening masses on Christmas Day

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



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



### CHRISTMAS MASSES

With Christmas Day falling on a Monday both Churches will be busy from Saturday evening until midday Monday. Masses over that weekend are as follows

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:30pm Saturday 23rd  
7:00am Sunday 24th  
8:00am Sunday 24th  
9:30am Sunday 24th  
10:00am Sunday 24th

#### Christmas

5:30pm Sunday 24th  
6:00pm Sunday 24th  
8:30pm Sunday 24th  
12:00am Monday 25th  
7:00am Monday 25th  
8:00am Monday 25th  
9:30am Monday 25th  
10:00am Monday 25th

With the experience of smaller numbers at Midnight Mass last year, it was suggested by a number of parishioners that there be only one Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. In consultation with the PPC and Liturgy Team, we have decided to go ahead with the move to one mass this year, which will be at St Patrick's Church.

*Fr Peter*

### MIDNIGHT MASS COMBINED CHOIR

If you would like to join the choir for Midnight Mass, please call Marianne on 0411 540 917.

**THIS CHRISTMAS,**

**YOUR DONATION CAN**

**MAKE WISHES COME TRUE.**

**CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

**Thank you for your donation**



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MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY PARISH, BLACKTOWN

**FAITH'N'FAMILY**



## HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE

23rd, 24th, 25th JANUARY 2018 : 9am - 3pm

For children aged 5-12 years old : St Patrick's Church

### What is a Faith'n'Family Holiday Experience?

Who said our Faith can't be fun? The Faith'n'Family holiday experience is a 3 day program, from 9am - 3pm on the 23rd, 24th, 25th January 2018. Over these 3 days we will meet new people, have some fun and grow deeper in our friendship with Jesus. Please note that the 3 days is one complete program.

### Who can attend?

The holiday experience is for children aged 5-12 years old.

### How can I register?

The cost for the 3 day experience is \$30. Morning tea and lunch are included each day. You will need to register for the program. You can do so by completing the Expression of Interest Form below and sending it to [sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au) or dropping it into the parish office. (Please note the office is closed from the 23rd—8th January)

### I am interested in volunteering.

If you would like to volunteer for the holiday experience, you will need to have a Working With Children Check. Call Lisa at the office if you are interested in helping out in any of the following areas - hospitality team, welcome team or program team.

### What if I have more questions?

Please send your questions to [sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au) or call the parish office on 9622 1125.



**I would like to register my child for the Faith'n'Family Holiday Experience.**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to [sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au) or at the parish office.

## Children's Christmas Masses

Each year the children of Mary Queen of the Family retell the story of the first Christmas. Your children are invited to take part in these Children's Masses.

**St Michael's Church:** Practices are Saturday, 9th, 16th & 23rd December at 3pm at St Michael's Church. Meet with Silvana.

Each practise will run for approximately one hour. We will be looking for a Joseph; wise men (or women); Narrator; Herod; Drummer Boy; some soldiers; shepherds and angels. Costumes are provided for each child. All children are welcome.

If you cannot come to one of the practises that is fine just let us know. Children's Christmas Mass on the 24th December will be at 6pm at St Michael's Church and children need to be in the Sid Mosley Room by 5:40pm.

**St Patrick's Church:** Practices are Sunday 3rd & 17th December at 11am (straight after Mass) at St Patrick's Church. Meet with the Children's Liturgy Leaders. We will be looking for Mary, Joseph, wise men (or women), shepherds and angels. Children's Christmas Mass on the 24th December will be at 5.30pm at St Patrick's Church and children need to be in the Cardinal Clancy Room by 5:00pm.

Any questions, please call the office on 9622 1125.



### CLEAN TEAMS - HELP WANTED

Three volunteers are needed to fill vacancies in one of the Clean Teams which cleans St Michael's Church on Friday. You will be rostered on every six weeks 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 9621-6135/0425235050 or leave your details in the Sacristy or at the Parish Office.



**Tony Saba**  
Director

Mobile: 0404 390 620  
Website: [fivestarshuttles.com](http://fivestarshuttles.com)  
Email: [fivestarshuttles@outlook.com](mailto:fivestarshuttles@outlook.com)

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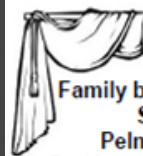
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