



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, 11 Mar 2018: Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year B

GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

When Lisa Bight, our Pastoral Associate returned home one day, her six year old son Joshua was eager to ask a question: “*Mummy, what is really strong?*” Now every parent returning from work knows that their attention and energy levels are not at their highest at this time. Lisa proposed the obvious like iron, steel or wood. Joshua shook his head with a firm, “*No.*” “So what is it that is really strong?” Lisa asked. Joshua, who I have never seen as a particularly pious young boy, replied: “*God’s love is really strong.*”

The famous twentieth century English journalist and atheist, Malcolm Muggeridge, made a journey to India to interview Mother Teresa of Calcutta. His encounter transformed his life and he eventually embraced Catholicism. In the later years he said if he were on a desert island and could have only one passage of scripture, it would be **GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD** from this weekend’s gospel.

This scripture passage also takes us to the heart of how our Catholic tradition views the world. While some Christians view *the world* as a battle ground for people of faith, our Catholic tradition has a far more positive view of the world. In recent decades we have heard a good deal about the demon of secularisation. This simple truth is that Jesus seemed to be far more at home in the secular settings, sharing a meal than he was in the temple or synagogue.

If there has been one recurring question that I have heard in forty years of priestly ministry it has been, “Why aren’t my children coming to Mass?” My response over many years has been, “But are they building the kingdom?” The Church exists for the Kingdom, to point to the love of God which permeates the world because **GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD ... and as Joshua would say, that love is really strong!**

Fr Peter

CONTACT US

LITURGY TIMES

CONNECT

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Confeggi
Assistant Priest: Fr Dénes Ledeczi
Assistant Priest: Fr Luis Herrera
Deacon: George Bryan
Business Manager: Jacqueline Castillo- Anchique
Pastoral Associate: Lisa Bright
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Antoinette Mangion
Parish Assistant: Aaron Pinto
Parish Assistant: Franchesca Tenedora
Parish Assistant: Georgia Scott

Parish Team Meetings each Monday from 1.00 - 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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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)
11.30 am 4th Sunday - Filipino Mass (St Michael’s)
2:00pm - Sudanese Mass (St Patrick’s)
3.30pm - Syro Malabar Mass (St Michael’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

www.mqofblacktown.org.au



www.facebook.com/blacktowncatholics



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YEAR OF MARK - YEAR B

Fourth Sunday of Lent

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

FIRST READING: 2 CHR 36:14-16. 19-23

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9

Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

SECOND READING: EPH 2:4-10

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: Jn 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus:
‘The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.’

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed,
I saw and I believed in God.

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SACRAMENTAL PROCESS 2018

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:

Reconciliation : First Eucharist : Confirmation

Information about each Sacrament can be found via our parish website www.mqofblacktown.org.au and then by clicking on the Sacraments tab, or contact Parish Office on 9622 1125, sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au

M 12 Feb: Dan 9:4-10; Lk 6:36-38
T 13 Feb: Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12
W 14 Feb: Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28
Th 15 Mar: Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31
F 16 Mar: Gen 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
S 17 Mar: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
S 18 Mar: Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

Daily Readings



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



We remember and pray for those whose death anniversaries occur at this time.

Special Intentions: Kevin Quinn, Rex Scott, William Peppin, deceased members of Tanti Family
Recently Deceased: Isabella Miruzzi, Fr Peter McGrath
We pray for those who are ill or in hospital at this time: Lois Roy, Paul Clemson, Tony Clarke, Doreen Stanslaus, Dr Cherry Ann Wy, Michael Hiriwo

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.



JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES

The Josephite Associates will gather for a meeting on 12th March. Meet at 10:0am at the Cardinal Clancy Room, St Patrick’s Church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please join us every Friday night during Lent at **St Patrick’s Church:**

6:30pm-7:00pm

Adoration & Reconciliation

7:00pm-7:25pm

Stations of the Cross

7:30pm Mass



Caritas AUSTRALIA

PROJECT COMPASSION 2018

Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help deaf youth in Cambodia to build a just future, and live in communities that uphold everyone’s dignity.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

VINNIES PANTRY



Can you help by donating the following food items to the Vinnies Pantry:

Two-minute noodles, Pasta Sauce, Sugar, Tinned fish (tuna or salmon), Soap, Toilet paper.

Your donations can be left in the baskets at the church doors. **Thank you for your generosity.**

CATECHIST NEWS

As the Catechist year has begun, I welcome back our SREs and thank them for their dedication and commitment. Sadly we say goodbye and thanks to Lorna Magee, Phyllis Portelli, Marina De Sa and Melinda Hawkins who collectively provided over 93 years of teaching service to our State Schools!! Many thanks ladies.

We also welcome Jayne, Jasmine and Peter and hope they too will find the Ministry to be an enriching and faith filled experience. May God bless us all as we share the Good News with the State School children.

- Sandra Baker, SRE Co-ordinator





Lenten Pathways

Don't forget about our Pathways small groups, which are held every Tuesday morning (9.30am) and evening (7pm) in the Cardinal Clancy Room during Lent.

You can also buy a copy of the Lenten program 'Surrender' for your own personal use as they reflect on the daily readings during Lent. They are available from the Piety Stall or Parish Office for \$5 while stocks last.

In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop 2018 National Pilgrimage



Sisters of Saint Joseph
of the Sacred Heart

The Sisters of St Joseph invite you to join the National Pilgrimage, giving you the opportunity to journey to significant places in Australia made holy by St Mary MacKillop.

Commence in Melbourne 23 October, travel through Victoria & South Australia, conclude in Sydney 3 November 2018.

COST EX SYDNEY: \$3,230.00 (all inclusive: airfares, accommodation, coach travel, admission fees and meals).

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$700.00

For further information, please contact Sr Therese Leydon 0417 683123 or Sr Annie Bond 02 89124818, or email national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au.



Secure your spot at the next Studio Audience. Registrations for the event dates can be made via: www.tinyurl.com/studioaudience

Day Trip: 13th March 2018

Day Trip venue has been changed to Mt Annan Botanical Gardens — with a visit to Lolliland. Will be a great day out!

Departs Greystanes 8 am; St Patrick's Church at 8:30am. \$65 per person (all inclusive).

Morning Tea @ Mt Annan & Lunch at Campbelltown RSL.

Monthly Trip: 9th - 13th April 2018

5 Day Trip to Yass Valley on Monday 9th to 13th April.

Departs Greystanes at 8am, St Patrick's Church at 8:30am. \$700 per person (all inclusive).



For further information contact Jean: 99203401 or 0425251754

Maltese Mission - You are warmly invited to attend the Maltese Mission which is being held on **Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th March 2018, at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes.** The Mission will begin with a Mass at 10:30 am followed by a guest presenter and conclude by 12:00 pm. For further information please contact Fr Noel Bianco (02) 9622 5850.

Frankly Speaking...

"To stay close to God, we need to know how to set out; we must not be afraid to set out." - Pope Francis



COME AND SEE

Mary, Queen of the Family will be hosting Alpha in the Catholic Context this May.

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that **freely explore life and the basics of the Christian faith.** Whether you're just checking it out, new to faith, or coming back to church, **you are invited.** Alpha is for anyone who's curious.

It is for those of any faith – or none!

Come and see what Alpha is about. Join us on 8th April 2018 from 11AM at St Pat's MPA.

MUSIC MINISTRY FORMATION

All involved in Music Ministry are invited to attend a Formation Session on the **Friday 20th April at St Patrick's Church at 7pm.** Please ensure that at least one member of your choir/group attends. RSVP to Parish Office on 9622 1125 or via email admin@mqofblacktown.org.au.

COME AND RENEW YOUR HEARTS.

2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

7:30PM MONDAY 26TH MARCH
ST PATRICK'S CHURCH
51-59 ALLAWAH ST BLACKTOWN

7.30PM TUESDAY 27TH MARCH
OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE CHURCH
198 OLD PROSPECT RD GREYSTANES

1ST RITE OF RECONCILIATION

6:30PM - 7:15PM WEDNESDAY 7, 14 & 21 MARCH
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

9:30AM - 10:00AM SATURDAY 3, 10, 17 & 24 MARCH
ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

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



THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION
DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA

Envelopes for the Catholic Foundation Appeal can be found near the church doors.

The Catholic Foundation sustains the works of the Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains - including the formation of our seminarians, providing Christian education in public schools, the empowering of our disabled with job training, supporting our deaf, and housing single mothers facing homelessness.

Please give generously.

Celebrating Holy Week and Easter

WEDNESDAY of HOLY WEEK : 28th March

8.30am Mass (St Michael's Church)
 9.00am Liturgy of the Word
 (St Patrick's Church)
No Evening Mass (St Michael's Church)
 7.30pm Diocesan Chrism Mass
 (Parramatta Cathedral)

HOLY THURSDAY: 29th March

No morning Mass
 9.00am Morning Prayer (St Patrick's Church)
 7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
 (St Patrick's Church)
 Followed by Adoration of
 the Blessed Sacrament
 9.45pm Night Prayer



GOOD FRIDAY: 30th March

No Morning Mass
 10.00am Stations of the Cross
 (St Patrick's School Grounds)
 3.00pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
 (St Michael's Church)
 3.00pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
 (St Patrick's Church)



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday 26th March, 7.30pm
 (St Patrick's Church)

HOLY SATURDAY: Saturday 31st March



No Morning Mass
 9.00am Morning Prayer
 (St Patrick's Church)
 8.00pm Easter Vigil
 (St Patrick's Church)

EASTER SUNDAY: 1st April

7.00am (St Patrick's Church)
 8.00am (St Michael's Church)
 9.30am (St Michael's Church)
 10.00am (St Patrick's Church)
 5.30pm (St Patrick's Church)
 6.00pm (St Michael's Church)



PALM SUNDAY PREPARATIONS

Come and join the fun of making crosses from Palms for Palm Sunday on **Wednesday 21 March, Parish Office Meeting Room at 9.30am** and **23 March, Cardinal Clancy Room at 8pm (after Mass)**.

If you have palms you can donate for cross making and to decorate the church buildings, please bring them to the Parish Office on **Sunday 18th March** or **Monday 19th March**. If the office is unattended you can leave them against the wall. Thank you!



#BETHE7

MQOF Youth Ministry is looking for volunteers, aged 12 years and over to be involved in our Good Friday team. We will need readers, artists, musicians, and actors for the Youth Stations of the Cross and CYP's Good Friday Night Walk.

Rehearsals every Tuesday night at St Patrick's Church, starting at 7pm. RSVP at the Parish Office on 9622 1125 for Franchesca, Aaron or Chris or email us at admin@mqofblacktown.org.au.



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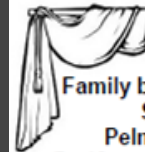
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