



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, 26 Aug 2018: Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

To stay with Jesus or to walk away from Jesus - What's your choice?

To stay with Jesus or to walk away? That's the confronting choice I'm faced with in today's Gospel. I'm astounded that some of Jesus' followers walked away because they found his teaching intolerable. Surely I would not walk away: But then I think of the core of Jesus' teaching, love God and love one another. My love of God is manifested, not in the hours I devote to prayer but in my love of the other, because in loving the other I am honouring Christ in the other. We are all made in the image of God that is a fundamental fact of our belief.

As I ponder my treatment of the others in my life I'm drawn to Pope Francis' letter on child abuse. The Pope paints an evocative image of Mary standing at the foot of her Son's cross. Pope Francis writes; *'Mary the first of the disciples, teaches all of us as disciples how we are to halt before the suffering of the innocent, without excuses or cowardice.'* I ponder Mary cradling the lifeless body of her Son. As I reflect on this scene; I asked myself: *Whose body is Mary holding a victim of sexual abuse or some helpless refuge?* After all they all carry the innocents of Christ.

Last week I watched an interview with the surgeon Munjed Al Muderis. Al Muderis fled Iraq after witnessing the execution of his boss for refusing to mutilate the ears of deserters from Saddam Hussein's army. Al Muderis escaped a similar fate by hiding in a storeroom for hours; however he was a wanted man. He escaped from Iraq reaching Christmas Island by boat where he was detained and sent to a detention centre. He spoke of the compassion of a custom's official who allowed him to call his mother in Iraq by satellite phone; he also spoke chillingly of having his number marked on his bare shoulder with permanent ink on his arrival at the detention centre. From that moment on he was a number not a person. As a result of Dr Al Muderis' work Australia now leads the world in prosthetic implants.

I reflect on the cost of "Keeping our borders safe" in both lost opportunity and human misery. Have I the courage to walk with Jesus and confront the abuse of the innocent "other" in our society or will I walk away? My choice.

Deacon George Bryan

CONTACT US

LITURGY TIMES

CONNECT

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Confeggi
Assistant Priest: Fr Luis Herrera
Deacon: George Bryan
Finance Officer: Jennifer Gillman
Pastoral Associate: Lisa Bright
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Antoinette Mangion
Family Life Coordinator: Erin Kennedy
Parish Assistant: Aaron Pinto
Parish Assistant: Christina Rodricks
Parish Assistant: Cate Gabriel
Parish Assistant: Kaitlyn Vergano

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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Follow the links
on our website.

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to my Parish**

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 8811 0300
Catholic Early Learning Centre 8814 8406
(St Michael's)

Institute for Mission 9296 6369
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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YEAR OF MARK - YEAR B
21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

FIRST READING: JOS 24:1-2. 15-18

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 33:2-3. 16-23.
R. V.9

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING: EPH 5:21-32

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Jn 6:60-69

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?

'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

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**PLEASE REMEMBER IN
YOUR PRAYERS**



Anniversaries: Lorette Fortuien, Rianna Aliberti

Recently Deceased: Janiena Szubert

Special Intentions: Rex Scott, William Peppin, Eric McDonald, Cynthia McDonald

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: Nancy Shami, Melanie Randa, Carlos Braithwaite, Lois Roy, Paul Clemson, Tony Clarke, Doreen Stanslaus, Dr Cherry Ann Wy, Michael Hiriwo, Charles Xuereb, Leo Iannuzzi

If you would like to include in the bulletin the name of a loved one who is ill or you are going into hospital and would like to be anointed, please contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125 or email admin@mqofblacktown.org.au. You may also write your mass intention on the envelopes provided, indicating the time and date that you would like your intention to be offered.

Frankly Speaking...

"The world is crisscrossed by roads that come closer together and move apart, but the important thing is that they lead towards the Good"
- Pope Francis



Baptism for Older Children

Do you have an older child (aged 5-12) who would like to be baptised? If you do, call Lisa at the parish office (9622 1125) to join other families at the upcoming workshop.



For more information visit the parish website www.mqofblacktown.org.au and click the Baptism tab under Sacraments.

- M 27 Aug:** 2 Thess 1:1-5, 11-12; Mt 23:13-22
- T 28 Aug:** 2 Thess 2:1-3, 14-17; Mt 23:23-26
- W 29 Aug:** (Jer 1:17-19); Mk 6:17-29
- Th 30 Aug:** 1 Cor 1:1-9; Mt 24:42-51
- F 31 Aug:** 1 Cor 1:17-25; Mt 25:1-13
- S 1 Sept:** 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 25:14-30
- S 2 Sept:** Deut 4:1-2, 6-8; James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Daily Readings



SAVE THE DATE

PARISH PILGRIMAGE
22 SEPT 2018

Reflect on the theme for the Year of Youth.
"Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy"





VINNIES DROUGHT APPEAL

Thank you so much for your generous support of the Vinnies Drought Appeal last weekend.

Your efforts raised **\$7055.25**. If you would like to donate further to the Vinnies Drought Appeal you can do so at www.vinnies.org.au
Your donation will rebuild lives.



By listening to Jesus, we too can have everlasting life. What are some things Jesus is telling us? Draw the missing pictures, then circle the correct answers.



Do anything you want

Help others

Love one another



Always be the winner



Pray to God

Be stronger than others



AN INVITATION

Walking with Refugees and People seeking Protection Mary, Queen of the Family Social Justice Group (partnered with Sydney Alliance)

Table Talk

Bishop Vincent Long has asked parishes to open a conversation about those who come to Australia fleeing persecution and in search of safety. To start this conversation our parish is running a Table Talk with guest speakers including a person seeking protection, as well as a professional who works with people seeking asylum and refugees. Listen to a real life experience of seeking safety, share your own story, ask your questions in a safe, respectful space and consider how we can act.

Date: Sunday 16th September 2018
Venue: MPA, St Patrick's Primary School, Allawah St, Blacktown.
Time: 1.30pm for 2pm start – 4pm
Light refreshments provided.
RSVP by Monday 10th September to Maureen Dolle, emeladee@yahoo.com.au 0407 783 143

Everyone is most welcome.



104TH WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

WELCOMING, PROTECTING, PROMOTING AND INTEGRATING MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Migrant & Refugee Week 20th - 26th August 2018



ONE MEAL IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

One Meal – It Makes a Difference is a not for profit, 100% volunteer community organisation that helps to feed, clothe and support the homeless and underprivileged. They need our help!

The One Meal mission is to provide healthy nutritious meals and a range of human services to the homeless, destitute, impoverished and underprivileged people in the community and to assist in advancing the well-being, outlook on life and prospects for future independence of their Patrons – and to do so with strong ethics and integrity.

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish is looking to join forces with One Meal – It Makes a Difference to support One Meal's Blacktown meal service, held on Saturday afternoons. We are seeking volunteers to join teams to take part in this program.

In short, volunteers will be required to prepare and serve food (once every 10-12 weeks). There are opportunities for those who would prefer to prepare food and not attend the services (and vice versa). Please contact Terri Sebastian via the parish office (9622 1125) or 0466 418 809 for more information about how to get involved.

Jean & Betty's Tours - Tuesday, 11 September
Monarchs in the Hunter and Marthaville Historic House - Cessnock (Maximum 50)

Leave Greystanes 7.30am

St Patrick's Church 8.00am

Incl. coach travel, morning tea, tour and lunch. One of the largest collections of Royal Memorabilia and lunch at Marthaville House.

Cost \$65 pp

Call Jean for more information on 99203401 or 0425251754.

THE FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus."

- St. John Vianney, the Curé of Ars



ENVELOPES AVAILABLE AT MASSES
1st/2nd SEPTEMBER



DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA



St Vincent de Paul Society PANTRY DONATIONS

Can you help by donating the following food items to the Vinnies Pantry this week?

Toilet Paper, Tea/Coffee, Sugar, Cereal, Tinned Fruit.
Your donations can be left in the baskets at the church doors.

When donating to Vinnies, please ensure that all food products are within the expiry date. Please remember that through this ministry we are helping people who are doing it tough and deserve good things.

Women's Reflection Day
 9TH SEPTEMBER 2018
 SUNDAY AFTERNOON 2PM-5PM
 LED BY SR PATTY ANDREW OSU

Connect faith with life
 RSVP: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au or 9622 1125

The Sacrament of Confirmation
 This weekend, 80 children have received the Sacrament of Confirmation. We pray these children and their families feel the strength of the Holy Spirit in their lives everyday.

IRELAND
WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES
 21-26 AUGUST 2018

The Gabriel Family (Conrad, Natalia, Chris and Cate) are representing the Parramatta Diocese at the World Meeting of Families. We pray that they grow together as a family, bring wisdom and knowledge back to the Diocese and share the joy of their experience with Mary, Queen of the Family.

*Julian of Norwich, a woman mystic of the 14th Century is noted for the unique insights she offers on the nature of God's Love. During our afternoon together on **Sunday 9th September** we will take the time to explore some of the key themes of Julian's writings. We will do this in such a way that connects with our life experiences today. This is aimed to help us make meaning as we continue to live faith-filled lives in the 21st century.*

The exploration of Julian's writings will be led by Sr. Patty Andrew. RSVP to the parish team on 9622 1125 or email admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

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MALTA TRAVEL: Tours for 2019

1. 16 Days Highlights of New Zealand: 6 - 21 March. All inclusive tour of both North and South Islands. This is the 18th time we are running this magnificent tour! Guaranteed the best price on the market. Book your spot early. Call Charlie Felice on 9631 2689 or 0412 523 893.

2. 15 Days Splendours of Europe River Cruise: 5 - 20 May. A fabulous River Cruise from Budapest to Amsterdam. It is a very relaxing experience for all to enjoy! After the cruise you can either fly to Malta or Rome and back to Sydney. Call Monica Ledger on 9896 0712 or 0414 859 386.

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