



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, 15 December: Third Sunday of Advent Year A

ACYF 2019

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2019 was an amazing and enlightening experience for me representing Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. I was given various opportunities to encounter Christ through the Youth/ Young Adults around me. This pilgrimage to Perth enabled me to listen to and discuss the challenges that are affecting youth especially in today's society. Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SBD opened the festival with these remarks: "As we gather in Perth for this ACYF, our Church, the Lord's Church seems to be in a bit of trouble." Rather than give into hopelessness and despair, we must speak boldly, and not be afraid to make noise and share what is in our hearts to the Church. Just as God called St. Francis of Assisi to "Go and Rebuild my Church", he urged us to do the same and rebuild God's Kingdom here on Earth.

I had various opportunities to attend Plenary Sessions, Workshops and talks on various topics. One of the most interesting for me was a Workshop hosted by the Bishop of Lismore, Bishop Greg Homeing OCD on making God a part of our everyday life. He said that "We are all made to be a dwelling place of God." and "If God is in my life, wherever I go, I bring Christ". As well, Fr Chris Ryan MGL spoke to us during one of the morning Plenary Sessions telling all of us that "God gives us signs about what we are called to do and what he wants to do with our lives." A real moving moment for me was when all the Group Leaders/ Teachers & Priests were asked to stand, raise their hands and pray over all the pilgrims present. The festival provided everyone countless opportunities to receive the sacraments. Reconciliation and Mass were offered everyday. I attended mass in the Syro-Malabar Rite which was a first for me. As well, being able to attend the special Mass, "Missa Terra Sancti Spiritu" or Mass of the Land of the Holy Spirit, with our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

Pope Francis reminds all youth in his Apostolic Exhortation "Christus Vivit": "Dear young people, my joyful hope is to see you keep running the race before you, outstripping all those who are slow or fearful. Keep running. The Church needs your momentum, your intuitions and your faith. And when you arrive where we have not reached, have the patience to wait for us."

Blake Bano

CONTACT US

PARISH TEAM

Moderator: Fr Regie Lavilla
Priest: Fr John Paul Escarlan
Priest: Fr Jack Green
Deacon: John Cina
Finance Officer: Sarah Damole
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Antoinette Mangion
Sacramental Coordinator: Christina Rodricks
Parish Assistants: Cate, Kaitlyn, Todd, Ann

The Parish Office is closed each day between
12.30pm-1pm

Parish Team Meetings each Wednesday
from 10.00 - 11.00am

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

LITURGY TIMES

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Michael's: 8am Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
Wednesday 8.30am & 7.30pm
St Patrick's: 9am Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat
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)
11.00am 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 Friday @ St Patrick's

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals

by appointment. Please contact office for details

CONNECT

PARISH SCHOOLS

St Michael's Primary 8869 6200
St Patrick's Primary 8869 6000
Nagle College 8887 4501
Patrician Brothers College 88110300
Catholic Early Learning Centre 8814 8406
(St Michael's)

Institute for Mission 9296 6369
Diocesan Ministry Centre 88383460
Catholic Care 8843 2530
Blacktown@ccss.org.au



www.mqofblacktown.org.au



www.facebook.com/blacktowncatholics

@mqofblacktown

bPoint payment system
Follow the links
on our website.

Make a Payment
to my Parish

YEAR OF MATTHEW - YEAR A
Third Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Phil. 4:4-5
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.

First Reading: Is 35:1-6, 10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 145:6-10.
R. SEE IS 35:4
Lord, come and save us.

SECOND READING: Jas 5:7-10

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mt 11:2-11

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are leashed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Cf. Is 35:4
Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Daily Readings

M 16 Dec: Num 24:2-7, 15-17; Mt 21:23-27
T 17 Dec: Gen 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17
W 18 Dec: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-24
Th 19 Dec: Jud 13:2-7, 24-25; Lk 1:5-25
F 20 Dec: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38
Sa 21 Dec: Song 2:8-14 or Zeph 3:14-18; Lk 1:39-45
Su 22 Dec: Is 7:10-14, Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24



© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Anniversaries: Emanuel Galea, Gonzalo .G. Sitjar, Louis Spiteri, Felicula Perez, Patricia Byrne

Special Intentions: Deceased members of Tanti Family, Juanito Aranda, Ivan Mykola Borysko

We remember and pray for those who are ill at home or in hospital at this time: Paul Meilak, Alejandro Bautista, Maureen O'Reilly, Julie & Paul Clemson, Claudia Taberas Estelle Magee, Lekisha Grace Panlilio, Amy Hliounakis, Candida Irugalbandara, Fr Peter Njau, C.S.Sp, Ardanette Seguban, Sandra Gaye Mee, Lucina Canete, Felipe Castillo, Beato Justiniano G. Toledo, Frank & Anjela Barglik, Joseph El Khoury, Maricel Sarmiento, Michelle Makin, Doreen Stanslaus

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.

Mass Offerings

Mass Intentions

To help our team ensure that Mass Intentions are offered at the correct Mass day and time and to include the offering correctly in the bulletin, please be sure to print the name/s of the person clearly with the church and Mass time that you would like the offering to be said. If there are no details of when the Mass is to be offered, it will be offered at the next available Mass. Thank you.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

MQOF Parish Office will be closed from Tuesday 24 December 2019 until Friday 3 January 2020. For emergencies please call our after hours number 9621 3146.

DAWN MASS

The Filipino Chaplaincy invites you to join in the 9 day Novena Mass commencing on Monday 16 December at 4:30am at St Michael's Church



The Flower Ministry would like to thank all who made the Cake Sale a success. The funds raised would go towards the cost of fresh flowers for the Church Altar. Special thanks also to Vicky Sammut for her generous donation to the Flower Ministry.

Frankly Speaking...

"Advent increases our hope, a hope that does not disappoint. The Lord never lets us down." — Pope Francis



MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY PARISH

Holy Land Pilgrimage 2020

WITH OPTIONAL 3 NIGHT PASSION PLAY EXTENSION

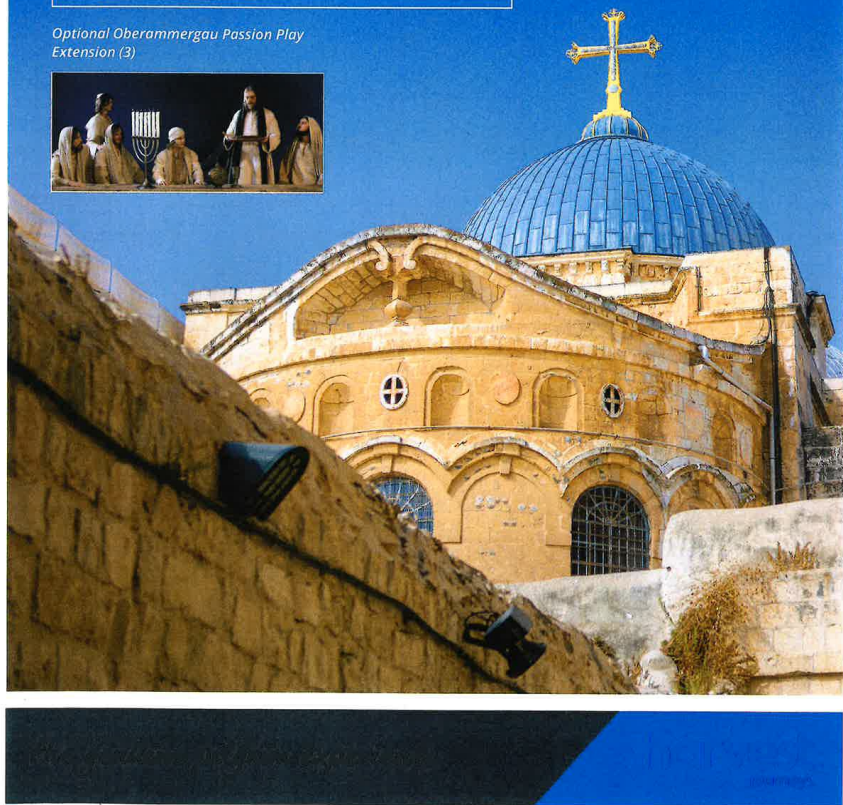
17 DAYS



Accompanied by Father Reginaldo Lavilla

14 Nights / 17 Days Thu 3 Sep – Sat 19 Sep 2020
Dead Sea (2 Nights) • Madaba • Petra (2) • Bethlehem (2) • Nazareth • Cana • Sea of Galilee (3) • Haifa • Jericho • Jerusalem (5) • Emmaus • Masada

Optional Oberammergau Passion Play Extension (3)



ST MICHAEL'S IS TURNING 40

AND YOU ARE INVITED ...



Parishioners, past and present, are invited to the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Dedication of St Michael's Church, 58 Orwell Street, Blacktown, at the 9.30am Mass on Sunday, 22 December 2019. This will be followed by morning tea. A special invitation is extended to all who were involved in the building of the church to come and celebrate this special occasion and share your memories. There is a journal at the back of the church in which you can write about your involvement with the fundraising, cleaning the bricks or any part of the building process – or just what St Michael's means to you. If you prefer, you can write something at home and it will be attached to the book.

If you have any photos of the church being built or of the Dedication Mass, please contact Ray Francica on 9622-7868.



Congratulations to Geronimo & Evelyn Zaragoza who are celebrating their 53rd Wedding Anniversary on 21 December 2019

MQOF CAFÉ will close for Christmas/New Year period and will reopen on Thursday 6 February 2020

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON FOR THE LONELY AND THOSE DOING IT TOUGH

The Social Justice Group (SJG) will provide a Christmas Luncheon for the lonely and those in need, on Saturday 21 December at the Girl Guides Hall, Gribble Place Blacktown.

Many thanks to all those who have contributed to container recycling, BBQ fundraising and donations towards the lunch. You have helped to finance the luncheon. Keep up the great work!

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION TIMES

Wednesdays 6:45pm-7:25pm (St Michael's Church)
Fridays 6:45pm-7:25pm (St Patrick's Church)
Saturdays 9:30am-10:25am (St Patrick's Church)

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve:
5:30pm-Children's Mass (St Patrick's Church)
6:00pm-Children's Mass (St Michaels Church)
8:30pm-Youth Mass (St Patrick's Church)

Christmas Day:
12:00am—Midnight Mass with Carols service at 11:30pm (St Patrick's Church)
7:00am (St Patrick's Church)
8:00am (St Michaels' Church)
9:30am (St Michaels' Church)
10:00am (St Patrick's Church)

THERE ARE NO EVENING MASSES ON CHRISTMAS DAY

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Thank you to all who helped with this years appeal. Hampers will be given out on 21/22 December.

If you can help with delivery of any hampers on Sunday 22nd December please be at St Michael's church at 9:00am.



RETIRING

With very mixed feelings I would like to say that I will be retiring from my position as Pastoral Care Coordinator at Mary Queen of the Family Parish at the end of this year. I feel it is time for me to move on and discern what God is asking of me at this stage of my life. I will still be doing some of my Ministries as a volunteer. I thank everyone especially the Parish team past and present for the opportunities I was given to grow in my faith and be able to share it with others, to create new relationships and form new friendships and to be the person I am now. I thank you all my Parish community for the support I have been given through the years, the experience you helped me achieve and for receiving love, encouragement and acceptance much more than I ever gave. I ask for your prayers on this path of my journey. May God bless you all.

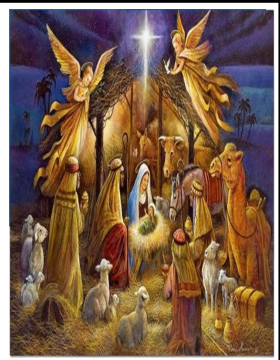
Antoinette



Tap and Go is now up and running in our parish

Have no cash? Don't despair just 'Tap and Go'. The easy way to support our parish with the second collection.

2020 Calendars: \$4.00 each
 God's Word (Readings for everyday of the year) \$16.00.
 We have many beautiful gifts available for purchase at MQOF Piety Store. Come in and have a look!



St Michael's Church
 Final practise is on Saturday, 21st December at 1pm in the Church. **Children's Christmas Mass** on the 24th December will be at 6pm and children need to be in the parish centre by 5: 40pm.

St Patrick's Church
Children's Christmas Mass on the 24th December will be at 5.30pm. Practise will be in the MPA after the 10am Mass, 22nd of Dec.

HARD PRESSED IRONING SERVICES

Tarah
 0450 490 591




Pick Up & Drop Off
 Blacktown and Surrounding Areas

LOURDES Medical Centre - BLACKTOWN

GP Required

- * Doctor owned well established practice.
- * AGPAL Accredited.
- * Nursing, Pathology and Allied health on site.

P: 0421 2180 72
E: therese@lourdesmc.com.au



Available Space



Five Star Shuttles
Transfers Made Easy

Tony Saba
 Director

Mobile: 0404 390 620
 Website: fivestارشuttles.com
 Email: fivestارشuttles@outlook.com

Airport & Cruise Transfers

www.guardianfunerals.com.au
 Australian owned | 24 hours
 All areas | Prearranged Funerals

BLACKTOWN 9622 1284
 Cnr Sunnholt Rd and First Ave



GUARDIAN FUNERALS

To embrace a lifetime, we give you time.
 Chapel, catering and DVD facilities at this location.



CURTAINS BY TANYA

Family business for the last 15 years
 Swags, Tails, Drapes, Pelmetts, Box Pleat Curtains, BedSpreads, Shutters, Holland Blinds, Roman Blinds, Timber Blinds, and All Kinds of **BLINDS**
 Made to Measure
 Call TANYA for a FREE MEASURE AND QUOTE
 0415 829 715

NEED A PLUMBER

E. MAGRI PLUMBING

SERVICES P/L LICENCE L11703
PROFESSIONAL PLUMBING FOR 30 YRS

- *LIC PLUMBER, DRAINER, GAS FITTER
- *ALL PLUMBING, DRAINS & GAS
- *ALL HOT WATER & RENEWALS
- *ALL GUTTERING & CLEANING
- *LEAKING TAPS & TOILETS
- *BATHROOM, KITCHEN, LAUNDRY RENOVATIONS

NO SERVICE CALL OUT FEE \$0
STEPHEN MAGRI 0412 926 185 9625 3353



Malta Travel - Tours 2020

1. **Tasmania** - Only 3 couples left! Be quick and call Monica - 9896 0712 or 0414 859386
2. **Gorgeous Hawaii: September 2020.** Join us on a hilarious escorted tour: Honolulu - Pearl Harbour Polynesian Culture - Maui - Hilo - Kona - Kauai. Call Paul Vassallo: 9666 6684, Mob: 0416 951 502.
3. **NEW TOUR: East Canada & USA: July 2020.** Boston—Montreal - Quebec - Ottawa - Kingston - Toronto - Niagara Falls - Washington - New York. Call Charlie - 9631 2689 or 0412 523 893.

You get the lot: flights, hotels, food, touring, transfers and insurance.



FIVE STAR BUILDERS

Grannyflat & Custom Home Builder

(02) 9639 3673

5STARBUILDERS.COM.AU
 admin@5starbuilders.com.au

W.WRIGHT & SONS TILING PTY LTD

12 Emlyn Place
 Beaumont Hills NSW
 Mobile: 0418 247 880
steppaul@bigpond.net.au
 Bathroom renovations
 Wall & floor tiles supplied & fixed or fixed only




Monaghan & Gleeson
Funeral Directors
 02 9896 3299

"Caring is our Duty"

Servicing the Parish of Blacktown

Glen Murray Plumbing

Lic.No.L11984

Ph: 0419 294 030




Domestic & Commercial Maintenance & Renewals
 Sewer Blockages & Gas Installations