



Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship.
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YR A 30 AUGUST 2020

LITURGY TIMES

Weekday Masses

St Michael's: 8am Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
Wednesday 7.30pm

St Patrick's: 9am Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs,
Sat and 7.30pm Friday only.

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)

Reconciliation:

St Michael's: Wednesday 6:30pm-7:25pm
St Patrick's: Friday 6:30pm-7:25pm &
Saturday 9:30am-10:25am

Holy Hour:

St Michael's: Wednesday 6:30pm—7:30pm
St Patrick's: Friday 6:30pm—7:30pm

**Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals by
appointment.**



The Path to True Life

Have we ever seriously thought of the *road of life* we are travelling? This reminds me of M. Scott Peck's bestseller's "The Road Less Travelled" exploring the meaning and purpose in life. Indeed, there's a roadmap we follow in search for what makes us happy and satisfied. Probably, for many, the easiest way is the most attractive one. But how many of us choose "the road less travelled?" How many of us take the courage to walk in a difficult path, what Jesus calls "the narrow road" that leads to the fullness of life?

I wonder how much we had been influenced by the thought that happiness means the absence of pain and suffering. Pain is repulsive to human nature. The prophet Jeremiah, (first reading- Jeremiah 20:7-9) complained that God had duped him, he was mocked by his enemies. He wanted to give up but he found himself caught up by the Word of God. "I say to myself, I will not mention him (God), I will speak in his name no more. But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones: I grow weary holding it in. I cannot endure it." Ultimately, he chose the most difficult path and took courage to continue his mission. He embraced dying to himself, but only to find life in his mission.

St. Paul (second reading- Romans 12:1-2) gives a timeless exhortation, "Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect." What he found in Rome during his time- sacrifice to idols, prostitution and promiscuity, lust and worship of bodies, wouldn't be far different from our time. That's why he says, "I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship." Finding life means conversion, and dying means transformation and renewal of minds, of our way of thinking. The logic is that, our thinking affects the way we behave. When the message of the Sacred Scriptures transform our minds, then our relationship with others and God would be motivated by true love, respect, and benevolence, not with selfishness and greed.

Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6). His is the different path, his is the "road less travelled". It's the opposite to what the world teaches us to think, to believe, to live. Peter, after having received the revelation that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, was rebuked by him (Matthew 16:21-27), because he got on the way of Jesus to fulfil his mission in Jerusalem that he would suffer, crucified and on the third day rose again. We can be like Peter, afraid to suffer. Jesus told him straight to his face, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Might be tough, but it's true. Jesus used this encounter with Peter to teach them the condition of discipleship- to deny one self, take up one's cross and follow him. His path to true life is this, "Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" Jesus' way is "the road less travelled," but this is the way to the fullness of life, to eternal life. This has been travelled, however, from one generation to the next, by those who loved and followed Jesus. They are the saints and martyrs!

To Reggie

DAILY READINGS



M 31 Aug: 1 Cor 2:1-5;
Lk 4:16-20

Tu 1 Sep: 1 Cor 2:10-16;
Lk 4:31-37

W 2 Sep: 1 Cor 3:1-9; Lk 4:38-44

Th 3 Sep: 1 Cor 3:18-23; Lk 5:1-11

F 4 Sep: 1 Cor 4:1-5; Lk 5:33-39

Sa 5 Sep: 1 Cor 4:6-15; Lk 6:1-5

Su 6 Sep: Ezek 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10;
Mt 18:15-20

OUR 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.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf. Ps 85:3,5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

FIRST READING: Jer 20:7-9

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 62:2-6.8-9.R.v.2

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

SECOND READING: ROM 12:1-2

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mt 16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?'

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Ps 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

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We are a welcoming parish... you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected by the Catholic Community of Mary, Queen of the Family. If you are not an active member of this Community, consider partaking in what we have to offer. We serve the Community through outreach, education, social activities, sacramental preparation, youth and comfort to the sick and mourning. In addition to our spiritual and outreach organisations, perchance you have an interest in joining one of our many liturgical ministries such as: Minister of Holy Communion, Reader/Commentator, Welcomer, Minister of DVP/Power Point, etc. Volunteers are formally registered by filling out a *Join a Ministry* form that is then entered into the parish data system (*information supplied remains confidential*). These forms are available from the parish office or in the church foyer.

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Our clergy and pastoral care ministers bring the sacraments of Eucharist, reconciliation, and anointing of the sick to members who are unable to participate because of illness or aging.



For more information and to arrange receiving of the sacraments, please contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

SICK

Jim & Mary Ryan, Marlene McCarthy, Selim Stamati, John & Norma McGettigan, Orfeo Marchetti, Edwin & Cely Aguilera, Jo Garcia



DEATH ANNIVERSARIES


Errol DeZilva

RECENTLY DECEASED

Kathlyanne Anne Senen, Rogelio Reas, Catherine Furey, Antonio Vas

Names submitted to Parish for the sick list will show for 4 weeks at a time.

Vinnies Pantry



If you would like to help with food donations to St Vincent de Paul you can drop off your food items at the Hub, 23 David Lane, Blacktown. Monday to Friday. Ph: 8861 9777.

They will also accept financial donations, a receipt will be issued to you and the donation will be forwarded to the Head Office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Frankly Speaking...

"None of us can think we are exempt from concerns for the poor and for Social Justice." ...Pope Francis



Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Sacraments of Eternal Life

1130 The Church celebrates the mystery of her Lord "until he comes," when God will be "everything to everyone."⁵³ Since the apostolic age the liturgy has been drawn toward its goal by the Spirit's groaning in the Church: Marana tha!⁵⁴ The liturgy thus shares in Jesus' desire: "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you . . . until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."⁵⁵ In the sacraments of Christ the Church already receives the guarantee of her inheritance and even now shares in everlasting life, while "awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Christ Jesus."⁵⁶ The "Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come . . . Come, Lord Jesus!'"⁵⁷

St. Thomas sums up the various aspects of sacramental signs: "Therefore a sacrament is a sign that commemorates what precedes it - Christ's Passion; demonstrates what is accomplished in us through Christ's Passion - grace; and prefigures what that Passion pledges to us - future glory."⁵⁸

PARISH GROUPS

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Contact: Richard Desa, richarddesa@bigpond.com

Meeting Time and Venue : Every Thursday, 7:30pm to 9:00 pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.



MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS

Contact: Max Rosario, 0490 137 533

Meeting Time and Venue : Monday 9:30am-10:30am at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church. All are welcome!



HOLY FAMILY FELLOWSHIP PRAYER GROUP

Contact: Charles Hyson, 0412 631 602, www.holyfamilyfellowship.com

Meeting Time and Venue : Every 2nd Saturday 6:30pm-9:30pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.



TRUE LIFE IN GOD PRAYER GROUP

Contact: Diane Zerafa, 0403 554 566

Meeting Time and Venue : 3:00pm every 2nd Saturday at St Michael's Church.



LEGION OF MARY ST MICHAEL'S

Contact: Max Rosario 0490 137 533 (for statue bookings)

Meeting Time and Venue : Every Friday, 5:30pm – 7:30pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.



LEGION OF MARY ST PATRICK'S

Contact: Maurice Bru 0419 626 583 (for statue bookings)

Meeting Time and Venue : Every Monday, 7:30pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church. Juniors meet every Friday at 4:30pm.



JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATION

Contact: Antoinette Mangion, 0414 735 943

Meeting Time and Venue : Every 3rd Monday of the month, 10:00 am at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church



TEHILLAH PRAYER GROUP

Contact: Ash & Rozario Fernando , 0416 861 976 or 0412 195 916

Meeting Time and Venue : Every 2nd & 4th Saturday (school term) between 2pm & 4pm at the MPA, St Patrick's Church.



MQOF SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

Contact : Kathie Collins, 0414 194 052

Meeting Time and Venue : Every 2nd Sunday, 12pm—2pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church



ROSARY GROUP

Contact: Diane Zerafa, 0403 554 566

Meeting Time and Venue : Every Tuesday after the 8am Mass, at St Michael's church.



INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP

Contact: Tony Fernando, 0434 828 297

Meeting Time and Venue : Mondays & Tuesdays, 7:00pm-8:00pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patricks Church



YOUTH GROUP

Contact: Franchesca Tenedora , ftenedora@gmail.com

Meeting Time and Venue : Every 2nd Sunday at 7:00 pm (after the 5:30pm Mass) at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church.





MQOF COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN KEY POINTS

as of August 2020

- Following the most recent NSW Health advice, the Diocese of Parramatta highly recommends all worshippers in the Diocese to wear a mask at Masses and other services. This would be as people arrive on parish grounds, during Mass or the service and afterwards as they leave. During Communion, the mask may be removed, but it should be in place at all other times.
- With the regulations in place, St Patrick's Church can only accommodate 100 people and 90 for St Michael's Church at each Mass and service. Therefore, we request that you make a booking via Online or by contacting the Parish Office during office hours. **BOOKING IS NECESSARY.**
- On arrival at the church, please sanitize your hands using the sanitizer supplied at the foyer.
- You are required to confirm your name on the registration sheet. If you haven't made a booking, you will be asked to provide your name and a contact number for contact tracing purposes as mandated by the NSW Government.
- Please sit on the designated chairs. However, if you are from the same family group, you are allowed to sit together.
-
- During Communion, please form one line and you are required to maintain physical distancing at all times.
- At the conclusion of Mass, please disinfect the chair you used before leaving with the disinfecting wipes provided at the church foyer.
- You are requested not to socialize inside or outside the church but leave as soon as possible after Mass.
- You are not allowed to enter the church if you are experiencing cold or flu-like symptoms, have a temperature, been in contact with anyone that is either a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 even if you have made a Mass booking.
- We understand the inconvenience the above may pose, but the health of our parishioners and the wider community is our highest concern.

We sincerely thank you for understanding, and for playing your part in keeping our community safe.

Proclaim the NSW Modern Slavery Act 2018

Friends, I encourage you to join me in signing an open petition to the NSW parliament calling on the state government to proclaim a model anti-trafficking law for our times, the Modern Slavery Act 2018.

The law calls on all entities with an annual turnover of over \$50 million to release Modern Slavery Statements, explaining what action they have taken to slavery proof their supply chains.

Despite this law having passed parliament over two years ago, it still hasn't been brought into law, thanks to stalling tactics which have failed some of our state's most vulnerable citizens. As Christians, we are obliged to speak out against this injustice. If 20,000 or more people sign the petition, a debate will be activated in the Legislative Assembly.

You'll find a link to the petition here: <https://bit.ly/31rqmSl>

Archbishop Anthony Fisher, Bishop of Sydney

Please **DONATE...**

consider Online giving!

Our main source of income is greatly depleted with the restrictions in attending Masses. Please consider how you can still support our Mary Queen of the Family Parish by signing up to contribute online.



Setting up a one-time or recurring donation/Planned Giving is quick and easy. Just go to: www.mqofblacktown.org.au/donations.

You can also send your offerings/donations thru bank transfer:

FIRST COLLECTION: For the Diocesan Clergy

Account Name: Diocesan Clergy

Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 0000 4265

Reference: Parish Name

SECOND COLLECTION: For the Parish

Account Name: Blacktown Catholic Church

Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 0000 0677

Reference: Donor's name

If you encounter any issues signing up, please email Sarah at accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au.

Audio and Visual Project Update-donation received as at 31st of July 2020, \$13,880.25. Thank you to all the donors. Donations are still welcome.

This is your church and your parish, we depend on your financial support to grow and nourish our parishioners.



TAP & GO MACHINE

The passing of collection plates by parishioners along the pews is now a thing of the past as most dioceses and churches have already decided to stop using it to help stop the spread of the virus.

The Tap & Go machines are now in the foyers of both our churches (St Michael's and St Patrick's) and is set to \$10.

If you wish to donate more than \$10 simply tap your credit card as many times as you like. It also accepts Apple Pay, Google Pay and Pay Wave. All contributions go to the maintenance and development of the Parish as does the second collection at weekend Masses. Thank you for your generosity.

Planned Giving (Direct Debit) is also an option if you wish to do cashless donation to the parish. Forms are available in the foyer and on our parish website. Collection buckets still also available in the church and foyer.

TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL

MENTAL HEALTH IN AUSTRALIA TODAY
SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2020-21

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 30 August. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today.

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support.

The Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. Download the Statement at http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020.

The Social Justice Office is also proud to present an online workshop dedicated to the Social Justice Statement 2020-21 on **Monday 31 August from 7pm to 8.30pm via Zoom**. Join with people from across the Diocese to break down the Social Justice Statement and hear from the experts on Mental Health and the everyday tools you can use in your life and ministry, what resources are available in the diocese and how we can work together. To RSVP, please contact myself - patrice.moriarty@parracatholic.org

Sacramental Process 2020

Enrolments are now closed. We are doing our best to offer the sacraments, whilst adhering to the current government restrictions. Thank you for your cooperation.



- For our newly Confirmed, that they will use the gifts of the Holy Spirit in their lives. May they grow deeper in their faith as disciples of Jesus and go into the world as His witnesses.
- The First Holy Eucharist process will be in mid-October to mid-November, and Reconciliation in mid-November to mid-December.
- Details for the Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist and First Reconciliation have been sent out to parents. To enable a safe and smooth flow especially during this time, please attend the sessions and masses that have been allocated to you according to your last name.
- Please note that for the 1st Rite of Reconciliation before the Sacrament of Eucharist only one parent is allowed to attend with the child.
- Please also note that on the day of the Sacrament of First Reconciliation only both parents are allowed to attend with the child.

We thank God that we can walk this faith journey 2020 with you!

The Sacramental Team.



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

ACU is opening a new campus at 22 Main St., Blacktown.

There will be Virtual Open Days on Saturday 29 August, 5th September and 12th September from 9am to 3pm see: openday.acu.edu.au

Or, discover more at acu.edu.au/blacktown

An hour with Jesus

Be still, and know that I am God—Psalm 46:10
Here at MQOF is an opportunity to be with Jesus and commit with regular meeting with Him. Are YOU available?

The opening hours are:
10am to 4pm Monday to Friday, and 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday.



**BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR RETIRED PREISTS
FATHER'S DAY APPEAL 2020**

Owing to COVID19 pandemic and its social and financial impact on families, communities and Churches, the Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese of Parramatta will not be holding its Annual Bishop's Collection for Retired Priests, i.e. the Father's Day appeal, this September. Like many other organisations, the CSF will use its own resources to support the retired priests in this financial year. Donations will always be accepted, however, via our BPOINT portal at www.parracatholic.org/csf or electronic funds transfer to BSB 067950 Account No 00001691 Account Name CSF No 1 with Reference your name. If you would like a tax deductible receipt for your donation, please send email to csf@parracatholic.org with your name and address details.

The CSF Committee thanks you for your support of the Clergy Support Foundation over the last 15 years. May God bless you at this difficult time in all our lives.

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