



Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH 27 DECEMBER 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)
1:00pm - Syro Malabar Mass (St Michael's)
5.30pm Sunday (St Patrick's)
6.00pm Sunday (St Michael's)

Reconciliation:

St Michael's: Wednesday 6:45pm-7:25pm
St Patrick's: Friday 6:45pm-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 Holy Family

For some reason, some people think that the Holy Family is not a helpful, 'practical', or 'real' model for our families to emulate. They are too perfect, some say, or too far removed from our reality. But through all the things we have experienced this year, this surely seems false. All the unexpected trials, being locked out of our churches, uprooted through loss of jobs, seemingly besieged by a force bigger than us – all this is surely very similar to the same trials the Holy Family faced. They too had surprise after unpleasant surprise sprung on them; they were locked out of the inn, as we were locked out of our churches; they too would have had to deal with economic insecurity moving from Galilee to Bethlehem to Egypt and back again; they too were at the mercy of forces beyond them – the might of an empire and a powerful king. This year has surely made the Holy Family more 'real' to us than ever before.

That's why we should be unashamed at finding in the Holy Family not only a help in time of trial but a good example for us in our own situation. Surely we ourselves desire the calmness and courage of St. Joseph to lead our own families through such difficulties and uncertainties. Surely we desire the firmness of faith and hope that Our Lady displayed in responding to the promises made her by God. Surely we desire to grow through adversity in wisdom and in stature as Christ himself grew in wisdom and in stature. Each member of the Holy Family is not some far removed 'ideal', beyond our reach and therefore unhelpful. No! Each member of the Holy Family manifests to us all some virtue that we all can grow in, and all desire to grow in.

On this feast of the Holy Family, therefore, let us not misunderstand the Holy Family; for we risk losing a big help if we do. Let us instead meditate on their life and example, calling upon their intercession to help us and our families grow each day a little more like them, to make our families holy like theirs.

Fr Jack

DAILY READINGS



M 28 Dec: 1 Jn 1:5, 2:2;
Mt 2:13-18
Tu 29 Dec: 1 Jn 2:3-11;
Lk 2:22-35
W 30 Dec: 1 Jn 2:12-17;
Lk 2:36-40
Th 31 Dec: 1 Jn 2:18-21;
Jn 1:1-18
F 1 Jan: Num 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7
Lk 2:16-21
Sa 2 Jan: 1 Jn 2:22-28;
Jn 1:19-28
Su 3 Jan: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3,5-6
Mt 2:1-12

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.

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH -
YEAR B**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Lk 2:16

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

FIRST READING: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 104:1-6.8-9 R.vv.7.8

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

SECOND READING: Col 3:12-21

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Col 3:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live withing you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Lk 2:22-40

The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom. When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel’s comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

‘Now, Master,
you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.’

As the child’s father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, ‘You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.’

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God’s favour was with him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Bar 3:38

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

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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

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Anthony Countinho,
The Charalambous Family



SICK

Pat Burns, Eric Fortaleza, Roger Fortaleza,
Maryanne Vaz, Melissa Sahin, Tyler Kennedy,
Pat Regan, Jim & Mary Ryan, Marlene McCarthy,
Selim Stamati, John & Norma McGettigan

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

Frankly Speaking...

“The *family* is the fundamental locus of the *covenant* between the Church and God’s creation.” ...Pope Francis



Catechism of the Catholic Church

FAMILY- The Domestic Church

1655 Christ chose to be born and grow up in the bosom of the holy family of Joseph and Mary. the Church is nothing other than "the family of God." From the beginning, the core of the Church was often constituted by those who had become believers "together with all [their] household. When they were converted, they desired that "their whole household" should also be saved. These families who became believers were islands of Christian life in an unbelieving world.

1656 In our own time, in a world often alien and even hostile to faith, believing families are of primary importance as centres of living, radiant faith. For this reason the Second Vatican Council, using an ancient expression, calls the family the *Ecclesia domestica*. It is in the bosom of the family that parents are "by word and example . . . the first heralds of the faith with regard to their children. They should encourage them in the vocation which is proper to each child, fostering with special care any religious vocation."

1657 It is here that the father of the family, the mother, children, and all members of the family exercise the priesthood of the baptized in a privileged way "by the reception of the sacraments, prayer and thanksgiving, the witness of a holy life, and self-denial and active charity." Thus the home is the first school of Christian life and "a school for human enrichment." Here one learns endurance and the joy of work, fraternal love, generous - even repeated - forgiveness, and above all divine worship in prayer and the offering of one's life.

1658 We must also remember the great number of single persons who, because of the particular circumstances in which they have to live - often not of their choosing - are especially close to Jesus' heart and therefore deserve the special affection and active solicitude of the Church, especially of pastors. Many remain without a human family often due to conditions of poverty. Some live their situation in the spirit of the Beatitudes, serving God and neighbour in exemplary fashion. the doors of homes, the "domestic churches," and of the great family which is the Church must be open to all of them. "No one is without a family in this world: the Church is a home and family for everyone, especially those who 'labour and are heavy laden.'"

PARISH GROUPS

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Contact: Richard Desa, richarddesa@bigpond.com

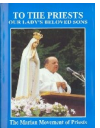
Meeting Time and Venue : Every Thursday, 7:30pm to 9:00 pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.



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

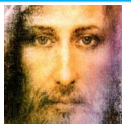
Meeting Time and Venue : Every 2nd Saturday 6:30pm-9:30pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.



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 COMPANIONS

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

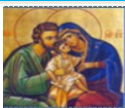
Meeting Time and Venue : Every 2nd & 4th Saturday (school term) between 2pm & 4pm at the MPA, St Patrick's Church.



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.



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.

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www.mqofblacktown.org.au
Click on Adoration Chapel tab, or by calling the Parish Office on 9622 1125.



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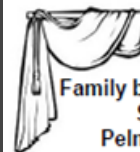
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