



Weekly Bulletin

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish

St. Michael's Church - 58 Orwell Street, South Blacktown. & St. Patrick's Church - 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown.

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

12TH DECEMBER 2021

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Mary Queen of the Family (MQOF) parish strives to live as a faithful and committed Catholic community, continuing to deepen in understanding the Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture of the Catholic Church and to grow as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ, evangelising and responding to the needs of the family in the Blacktown community and beyond.

LITURGY TIMES

Weekday Masses

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

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

Sunday Masses

5.30pm Sat Vigil (St Patrick's)
7.00am Sun (St Patrick's)
8.00am Sun (St Michael's)
9.30am Sun (St Michael's)
10.00am Sun (St Patrick's)
11.00am 4th Sun - Filipino Mass
(St Michael's)
2:00pm - Sudanese Mass (St Patrick's)
1.00pm - Syro-Malabar Mass (St Michael's)
5.30pm Sun (St Patrick's)
6.00pm Sun (St Michael's)
7.15pm Sun (St Michael's) - Arabic Mass

RECONCILIATION

St Michael's: Wed 6:30pm-7:20pm

St Patrick's: Fri 6:30pm-7:20pm &
Sat 9:30am-10:30am

HOLY HOUR

St Michael's: Wed 6:30pm-7:30pm

St Patrick's: Fri 6:30pm-7:30pm

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals & Anointing of the Sick
by appointment.

Gaudete Sunday

Dear Parishioners!

The 3rd Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete Sunday" because today's Mass begins with the opening antiphon: "Gaudete in Domino semper" --"Rejoice in the Lord always."

Today we light the rose candle, and the priest may wear rose vestments, to express our joy in the coming of Jesus, our Saviour.

Today's readings remind us that the coming of Jesus, past, present, and future, is the reason for our rejoicing.

In 1993 I was doing my novitiate in Rome; at that time, I had the opportunity to attend a talk by St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) at the epoch, at the Sapienza University of Rome.

As we know through her ministry in Jesus' name, Mother Teresa brought wonderful blessings and joy to the poor who lay unattended and forgotten on our streets. During her talk she said these exact words expressing the reason and the source of her joy, she said: "Joy is prayer / joy is strength / joy is love / joy is a net of love."

A joyful heart is the normal result of a heart burning with love loving as He loves, helping as He helps, giving as He gives, serving as He serves, rescuing as He rescues, being with Him twenty-four hours, touching Him in His distressing disguise."

With this beautiful example of a saint from our world from our same circumstances I wish that everyone be fill by the Joy of our Saviour and be able to love, to help, and to serve every person in need we meet through our life.

Have a Blessed Sunday.

Fr. Chadi Ibrahim.
Assistant Priest



Parish Directory

St. Michael's Church - 58 Orwell Street, South Blacktown &
St. Patrick's Church - 51-59 Allawah Street Blacktown.

Parish Office: At St. Patrick's Church. **Office Hours:** Mon-Fri: 9am-4pm
Telephone: 02 9622 1125 **A/H:** 02 8705 0830.
Website: www.mqofblacktown.org.au **Email:** admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Parish Team:

Parish Priest: Fr. Regie Lavilla, MSP.

Assistant Priests: Fr. John Paul Escarlan & Fr. Chadi Ibrahim, SDB.

Deacon: John Cinya

Finance Officer: Sarah Damole **Email:** accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au

Secretaries: Ann Hart (Wed-Fri) & Gerald "Ged" Oblea (Mon & Tues)

Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Gerald "Ged" Oblea. **Mobile:** 0422 724 008

Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au

Catechist Coordinator: Sandra Baker

Youth Minister & Liturgy Coordinator: Blake Bano

Parish Pastoral Council: **Chair:** Cecil Fernandes; **Asst Chair:** Ruth Miranda; **Secretary:** Eva Cheetley
Members: Nathan Fernandes, Sidney Lazum, Phi Nguyen, Jude Miranda, Joseph Azzi, Ashley Azzi, Harlane Petersen, Fr. Regie Lavilla, Fr John Paul Escarlan, Fr Chadi Ibrahim, Deacon John Cinya.

Parish Schools:

St Michael's Primary:
P : 8869 6200 <https://www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

St Patrick's Primary:
P : 8869 6000 <https://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

Nagle College:
P : 8887 4507 <https://www.nagleblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

Patrician Brothers College:
P : 8811 0300 <https://www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au>

Catholic Early Learning Centre (St Michael's) :
P : 8814 8406 <https://www.celcblacktownst.catholic.edu.au>

Nursing Homes:

Opal Nursing Home (37 Kildare Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P : 9852 9600

Mulluana Retirement Village (61 Bungaribee Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P : 8822 2100

Catholic Healthcare St Hedwig Village Blacktown (140 Reservoir Rd, Blacktown 2148) P : 8822 9920

THE LITURGY THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C YEAR B

ENTERANCE ANTIPHON: Phil 4:4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

FIRST READING: ZEP 3:14-18

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: IS 12:2-6 R. V.6

(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING: PHIL 4:4-7

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: Lk 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

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.

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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.

DAILY READINGS

Monday 13th December: Nm 24:2-7. 15-17 ; Mt 21:23-27.
 Tuesday 14th December: Zep 3:1-2. 9-13 ; Mt 21:28-32.
 Wednesday 15th December: Is 45:6-8. 18. 21-26 ; Lk 7:19-23
 Thursday 16th December: Is 54:1-10 ; Lk 7:24-30
 Friday 17th December: Gen 49:2. 8-10 ; Mt 1:1-17 .
 Saturday 18th December: Jer 23:5-8 ; Mt 1:18-24 .
 Sunday 19th December: Mi 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

FEAST DAYS



SAINT LUCY, VIRGIN AND MARTYR ~ 13th December



SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH ~ 14th December

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

PART ONE: THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

SECTION TWO I. THE CREEDS

CHAPTER TWO I BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST, THE ONLY SON OF GOD

Article 5 "HE DESCENDED INTO HELL. ON THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN"

635 Christ went down into the depths of death so that "the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live."⁴⁸⁴ Jesus, "the Author of life", by dying destroyed "him who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and [delivered] all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage."⁴⁸⁵ Henceforth the risen Christ holds "the keys of Death and Hades", so that "at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth."⁴⁸⁶

Today a great silence reigns on earth, a great silence and a great stillness. A great silence because the King is asleep. The earth trembled and is still because God has fallen asleep in the flesh and he has raised up all who have slept ever since the world began. . . He has gone to search for Adam, our first father, as for a lost sheep. Greatly desiring to visit those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death, he has gone to free from sorrow Adam in his bonds and Eve, captive with him - He who is both their God and the son of Eve. . . "I am your God, who for your sake have become your son. . . I order you, O sleeper, to awake. I did not create you to be a prisoner in hell. Rise from the dead, for I am the life of the dead."⁴⁸⁷

IN BRIEF

636 By the expression "He descended into hell", the Apostles' Creed confesses that Jesus did really die and through his death for us conquered death and the devil "who has the power of death" (Heb 2:14).

637 In his human soul united to his divine person, the dead Christ went down to the realm of the dead. He opened heaven's gates for the just who had gone before him.



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

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Madeline Ivy Maambong

SICK

Joel Uvero; Lourdes Domingo; Robert Vesey, Laurie Grima, D.J. Nelson, Angela Mikhael, Ike Lutaos.

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



Welcome to the Family...



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, Collectors, Minister of DVP/Power Point, Catechists 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.

PARISH GROUPS

BIBLE STUDY GROUP



Contact: Richard Desa, richarddesa@bigpond.com
Meeting Time and Venue: Every Thursday, 7:30pm to 9:00 pm on Zoom details on page 7 of bulletin.

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.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP



Contact: Tony Fernando, 0434 828 297
Meeting Time and Venue: Mondays & Tuesdays, 7:00pm-8:00pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church

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

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.

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!

MQOF SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP



Contact: Jude Besterwitsch, 0435 588 309
Meeting Time and Venue: 2nd Sunday of every month, 12pm—2pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church

ROSARY GROUP



Contact: Diane Zerafa, 0403 554 566
Meeting Time and Venue: Every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday after the 8am Mass, at St Michael's church.

TEHILLAH COMMUNITY



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.

TRUE LIFE IN GOD PRAYER GROUP



Contact: Diane Zerafa, 0403 554 566
Meeting Time and Venue: 3.00pm every second Saturday of the month at St Michael's Church

YOUTH MINISTRY



Contact: Blake Bano
Blake@mqofblacktown.org.au
Meeting Time and Venue: Every Sunday from 4pm & 6:30pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church.

IMPORTANT COVID~19 UPDATE



DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA

Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia
Diocese of Parramatta

Bethany Centre, 470 Church St, Parramatta NSW 2150, Australia

PO Box 3066, North Parramatta NSW 1750, Australia

T: 02 8838 3400 F: 02 9630 4813

E: peter.williams@parracatholic.org

W: parracatholic.org

8 December 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Re: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

The NSW Government has announced some changes to the reopening roadmap for the COVID-19 restrictions. Based on the announcement, the restrictions will ease further when NSW reaches 95% double vaccination or on 15 December 2021, whichever comes first. For places of worship the following will apply from when the state hits the milestone:

Density Limits

There will no longer be any square meter rules applicable for Parishes. This includes the Church and other buildings within the Parish.

Weddings and Funerals

Proof of vaccination will no longer be mandatory. All will be able to attend regardless of vaccination status.

Choir and Singing

Singing will be permitted for everyone in attendance.

Social Events

Parish social events can resume with no person limit.

Masks

Masks will no longer be mandatory at places of worship. However, this is still strongly encouraged in venues where social distancing is not possible.

COVID-19 Safe Check-in and Record Keeping

Check in using the NSW QR Code and record keeping of all attendees are still required for places of worship.

COVID-19 Safety Plans

COVID-19 Safety Plans will no longer be mandatory.

Yours in Christ,

Very Rev Peter G. Williams
Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia

PLEASE CHECK IN BEFORE ENTERING OUR PREMISES



We're helping keep our community COVID safe by recording contact details. It's easy to check in:

- 1 Scan QR Code with your smartphone camera or QR reader.
- 2 Follow the prompts on the Service NSW app or on the Service NSW webform.
- 3 Show a volunteer that you've signed in. We respect your privacy.

This QR Code is for Mary Queen of the Family Blacktown, located at 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown



THE SACRAMENTS & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Baptism

Parents wishing to have their children baptised are to contact the parish office prior to attending a Baptism workshop. The next workshop will be announced. For more information please logon to our website: <https://mqofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/#baptism>

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS 2021

For Confirmation & Reconciliation postponed until 2022.

On the advice from the Diocese of Parramatta, in conjunction with the NSW government our church will reopen for religious services again, once the 80% threshold of double dose vaccinations target is achieved in the state of NSW.

Unfortunately, we have been also advised that face to face meetings at the parish are not to take place until Stage 3 of the NSW Government's "Pathway out of the pandemic and lockdowns", which is due to take place from the 1st December 2021. Therefore, we are required to postpone the remaining sacramental programs until next year.

We anticipate that the new sacramental dates for 2022 will be available in early February where you will be invited to register your child into the program once again. Please note our registrations will be moving to an online platform, therefore you will need to resubmit your child's application .

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our sacramental coordinator on the details below:

Gerald "Ged" Oblea
Sacramental Coordinator –
Mary Queen of the Family Parish Blacktown.
Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au
Ph: 02 9622 1125 – option 4

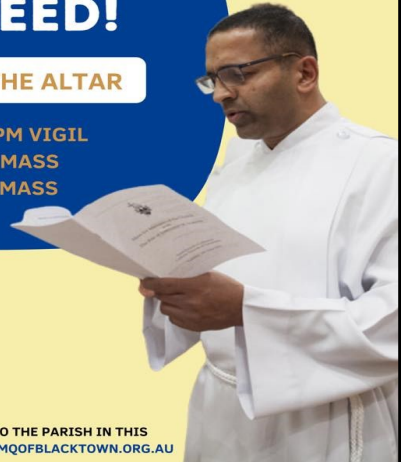


MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY
PARISH, BLACKTOWN

THE PARISH IS IN NEED!

MINISTERS AT THE ALTAR

SATURDAY 5:30PM VIGIL
SUNDAY 7AM MASS
SUNDAY 6PM MASS



IF YOU ARE ABLE TO OFFER YOUR SERVICE TO THE PARISH IN THIS MINISTRY PLEASE CONTACT BLAKE AT BLAKE@MQOFBLACKTOWN.ORG.AU

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

BE PART OF THE SACRAMENTAL TEAM



The Parish is looking for volunteers to be part of our sacramental team to assist in the planning and facilitating of our parish sacramental process.
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
Gerald "Ged" Oblea
(Parish Sacramental Coordinator)
0422 724 008 or ged@mqofblacktown.org.au



Sacramental Process for High School Students 2021

Due to the current public health orders we have decided to postpone the sacramental process for High School students until further notice.
We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

We are still taking expressions of interest for the sacramental process for high school students who wish to receive any of the following sacraments:
Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

For more information contact our sacramental coordinator: Gerald "Ged" Oblea - sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au or 0422 724 008

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

YOUTH CORNER

MQOF YOUTH MINISTRY



YOUTH GROUPS



Faith & Friendship

Primary (Ages 5-11)
3rd Friday of Month
5pm - 7pm

Teens: JR

High School (Ages 12-16)
Sunday : 4pm - 5:30pm

Teens: SR

High School (Ages 16-20)
Sunday: 6:30pm - 8pm

Young Adults

Young Adults
Thursday: 7pm - 8:30pm
Watch this Space!



@mqofyouth



@mqof_youth



MQOF Youth

GET INVOLVED WITH

MQOF YOUTH



BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER

All who have made their 1st Eucharist

Altar serving is a great way to put your faith into action during the Mass. Share your time and talents with the parish community and make some great friends! Training sessions run regularly throughout the year.



HELP OUT AT CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Word of God at your level

Breathe life into the weekly Gospel, through prayer, songs and other activities. Have fun and teach other young people about the Word of God with your family and friends.



JOIN THE YOUTH BAND

Musicians and Singers wanted

Your talent in music helps transform the Mass into a welcoming and inviting space. If you play an instrument or sing, come and join the Youth Band and use your talents to jam for Jesus.



VOLUNTEER AT A PARISH EVENT

All hands on deck

All year round the parish organises events not only to celebrate our faith but also to perform acts of service in our community. Generously offer your time and efforts towards one of these events and give our faith a face. All parish events are published in our weekly bulletin.



GIVE MINISTRY A GO

Offer your gifts and talents in service

Our parish ministries are always looking to grow. We can help to link you up with a ministry to use your gifts and talents. Together, we can live life to the full.

FOR MORE INFO ABOUT YOUTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES CONTACT THE YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM AT MQOFOYOUTH@GMAIL.COM OR ON 9622 1125.

PARISH SCHOOLS ENROLMENTS



NAGLE COLLEGE, BLACKTOWN

Enrolments for year 7 2022, are now available.
Please contact Nagle College on 8887 4501



PATRICIAN BROTHERS' COLLEGE, BLACKTOWN



ENROL NOW

YEAR 7 2022/2023

Enquiries on 8811 0300

100 FLUSHCOMBE ROAD, BLACKTOWN

Fine young men striving for personal excellence centred in faith



St Patrick's Primary School

Are you looking for a primary school to enrol your child?

We are now taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2022. We would love to meet you and take you for a virtual tour of our beautiful school.



Don't Miss Out!

Enrolling Now for Kindergarten 2022

Download an enrolment application form from our school website
<https://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au/Enrol-Now/How-to-enrol>

Follow us on
<https://www.facebook.com/stpatsprimaryblacktown>



St Patrick's Primary school
51-59 Allawah Street
Phone: 02 8869 6000
Email: stpatsblacktown@parra.catholic.edu.au



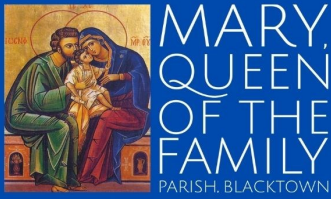
ENROLMENTS ARE BEING TAKEN FOR KINDERGARTEN 2022 AT ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ring 8869 6200 for information.

Download an enrolment package from our webpage
www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



Friday - 24 December

VIGIL OF THE SOLEMNITY OF THE
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST

5:30pm (Children's Mass) at St. Patrick's Church

6:00pm (Children's Mass) at St. Michael's Church

8:30pm (Youth Mass) at St. Patrick's Church

Saturday - 25 December

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR
LORD, JESUS CHRIST

12:00am at St. Patrick's Church

7:00am at St. Patrick's Church

8:00am at St. Michael's Church

9:30am at St. Michael's Church

10:00am at St. Patrick's Church

5:30pm at St. Patrick's Church

Sunday - 26 December

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

5:30pm at St. Patrick's Church

7:00am at St. Patrick's Church

8:00am at St. Michael's Church

9:30am at St. Michael's Church

10:00am at St. Patrick's Church

5:30pm at St. Patrick's Church

6:00pm at St. Michael's Church

7:15pm (Arabic Mass) at St. Michael's Church

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ~ CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Christmas Giving Tree

Thank you to all the parishioners who have generously donated to the Christmas Giving Tree. Christmas is not far away and a gentle reminder that all gifts should be **returned by this Sunday 12th December**. If you are donating a present, it will help us if you can label it with the gift tag from the tree.

Please note the annual St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal will take place this Sunday 12th December 2021 after all Masses as a bucket collection.

God bless, and thank you for your help.
SVDP Blacktown Conference

FAREWELL MORNING TEA FOR FR. JOHN PAUL

We invite parishioners to join us for a farewell morning tea for Fr. John Paul Escarlan after the 10.00am Mass at St. Patrick's next Sunday 19th December 2021. This will give an opportunity for parishioners to thank Fr. JP for his awesome contribution to our parish community during his time here. We kindly ask if you could bring a plate of food to share.

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR CLOSURE

The parish office will be closed for its Christmas and New Year break from 12.00pm the 24th December 2021 until 9th January 2022. During this time if parishioners require to contact the parish office in case of an emergency, we invite you contact our after hours number: 02 8705 0830.

DAWN MASSES ~ IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS

On behalf of the Filipino Chaplaincy of the Diocese of Parramatta we invite parishioners to participate in Novena Masses in the preparation for Christmas. The "Misa De Gallo" will take place each morning at 4.30am from 16th December to 24th December at St. Patrick's Church. These nine-day novena Masses will be in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mother in preparation for Christmas. There will be fellowship after each Mass.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION

Parishioners please note the times for Confession/Reconciliation during Advent will be the same as usual.

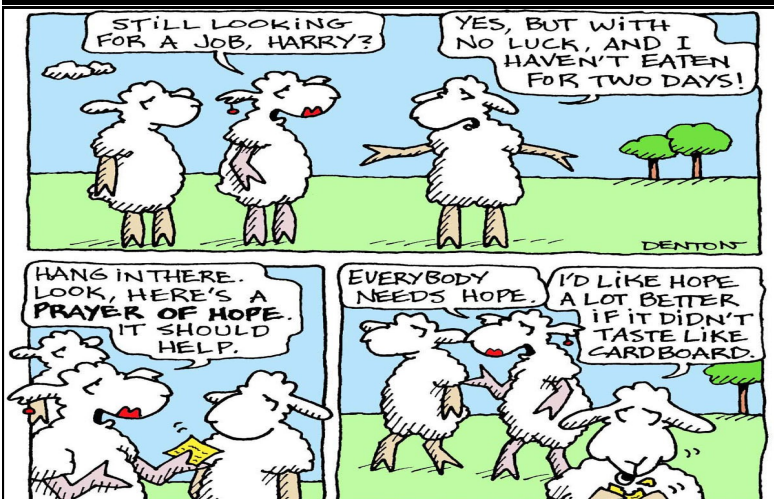
St Michael's Wednesday 6:30pm-7:20pm

St Patrick's Friday 6:30pm-7:20pm

Saturday 9:30am-10:30am

There will be no Second Rite of Reconciliation

THE SUNDAY FLOCK



© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

"Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing."

Sheepish Question:

How can I bring real hope to someone suffering in a difficult time?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

THANK YOU ~ BISHOPS APPEAL

Thank You for Supporting CatholicCare's Houses to Homes. Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation and CatholicCare thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support over the last few weeks. Our Bishop's Christmas Appeal will help CatholicCare's Houses to Homes to provide a loving sanctuary for young mothers in crisis. Thank you for your compassion and generosity. For anyone who hasn't had a chance to donate, please visit yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal We ask you to continue to pray for the Diocesan ministries supported by the Parramatta Catholic Foundation, including CatholicCare's Houses to Homes and the young women and children who find a safe haven in which to build better lives.

FLOWER MINISTRY



TO THE MQOF PARISH COMMUNITY
The Flower Ministry wishes to extend heartfelt thanks for your support and generosity in our recent fund-raising activity. We were able to raise an amazing amount of **\$4,929.15**. Congratulations to the winners of the raffle prizes – St Michael's – Lourdes
St Patrick's – Jeralin.

Thank you again and God bless everyone who contributed to this event.
Your MQOF Flower Ministry.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Bible study group has finished for the year and will recommence next year on Thursday 27th January 2022. On behalf of Fr. Regie and the parish team, we thank Richard and Marina Desa for their ongoing support and facilitation of the group.

WEEKLY ARABIC MASS

There is an Arabic Mass open to everyone in the parish to attend, celebrated every Sunday at 7.15pm in St Michael's Church for more information please do not hesitate to contact Fr Chadi at the parish office during our office hours.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

FOR REGULAR DONORS

We thank you for your financial support to our Parish, your regular and frequent contributions support us in our mission and nourish the parishioners.

New Set of Planned Giving Envelopes are now available for collection in the foyers of both churches. If your envelopes are not in the box please let us know by placing your name, address and envelope number on the registration form provided and we will get them to you as soon as possible.

Receipts for the PLANNED GIVING ONLY – if you need receipts. please write your name down on the clipboards which are in the foyers of our Churches. Receipts will be available on the second weekend of July. It will be kept in the foyers up until the first weekend in August. Please note that Planned Giving IS **NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE**.

Caritas and Catholic Foundation - receipts will automatically be issued to you (if you have indicated to do so). Otherwise, please register your name on the form provided at the foyer if you need one.

FOR NEW DONORS

If you would like to participate in the Regular Planned Giving Program, please complete your details on the form supplied at the back of the church and return it to the Parish Office or put in the collection bucket or email the completed form to accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au.

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

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:

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Account Name: Diocesan Clergy
Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 0000 4265
Reference: 6004 - Donor's Name

SECOND COLLECTION: For the Parish

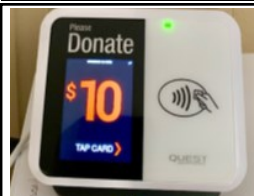
Account Name: Blacktown Catholic Church
Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 0000 0677
Reference: 6004 ~ Donor's name

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

Thank you so much for your continued support of our parish.
We are grateful!



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 machine is set at \$10, 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.

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 are still also available in the church and foyer.

Please support the advertisers that support us. Thank you.

If you wish to advertise your business, call the Parish Office on 02 9622 1125. Please understand that Mary Queen of the Family Parish cannot take responsibility if the service provided by an advertiser does not meet expectations.

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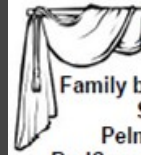
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