



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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR

30TH JANUARY 2022

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 1st 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.

Sunday Connection

In today's Gospel, we learn that the people of Nazareth are impressed by Jesus' words, and yet they seem surprised. They still think of Jesus as merely Joseph's son. They do not expect such words from someone they believe that they know.

This Gospel is about who Jesus is and who people believe him to be. The story of Jesus' preaching and rejection at Nazareth is found in each of the Synoptic Gospels. In Luke's Gospel, this incident is told in a way that foretells Jesus' passion and death and helps explain the inclusion of the Gentiles in the promise of salvation. In Luke's Gospel this incident appears at the beginning of Jesus' ministry; in Matthew and Mark, this event is placed considerably later, after Jesus has preached and taught elsewhere. Only Luke identifies the content of Jesus' teaching in any detail, telling us that Jesus read from the book of the prophet Isaiah in the synagogue. In Mark and Matthew's Gospels, Jesus teaches in the synagogue in Nazareth, and the townspeople take offense because Jesus is only the son of a carpenter. They reject his authority to teach them. In Matthew and Mark, it is only after Jesus is rejected that he observes times when Israel has rejected prophets.

In Luke's Gospel, the people are surprised but not immediately offended by Jesus' words in the synagogue. It is the words that follow his reading from the prophet Isaiah that seem to offend them. Jesus challenges and provokes the people of Nazareth by referring to examples in which Israel rejected the prophets. He also challenges them to respond to his message, the message of a prophet, in a way that is different from their ancestors. This call for a new response leads to his rejection.

It is helpful to consider the historical context of Luke's Gospel. Luke has witnessed the acceptance of the gospel message among many Gentiles. He endeavors to explain why the Good News of Jesus has not been as well-received by his Jewish contemporaries. Luke's report interprets the cause of Jesus' rejection at Nazareth in the context of this later Christian history. Just as the people at Nazareth did not welcome the Good News that Jesus announced, so too many among the people of Israel will not accept the preaching of the gospel.

After Jesus' words of challenge, Luke reports that there was a movement to kill Jesus by throwing him over a cliff. This differs from the reports found in Mark and Matthew's Gospels, where Jesus is said to be unable to perform miracles in Nazareth because of the people's lack of faith. Luke says that Jesus walks away from the crowd that intended to kill him; it is not yet his time. The animosity of the people of Nazareth prefigures and prepares the reader of Luke's Gospel for the cross. Luke wants all to understand that it is through his death on the cross that Jesus offers God's salvation to all..



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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. Chadi Ibrahim, SDB.

Deacon: John Cina

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

Secretaries: Ann Hart (Wed-Fri 9am to 2pm) & Gerald "Ged" Oblea

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:** Beato Pudadera; **Secretary:** Eva Cheetley
Members: Sidney Lazum, Jude Miranda, Ekhlis Ambili, Harlane Petersen, Fr. Regie Lavilla, Fr. Chadi Ibrahim, Deacon John Cina.

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.celcblacktownstn.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



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. ~ *The Parish Team*

IMPORTANT COVID~19 ALERTS

COVID-19 case alert

You may have been in contact with a person infectious with COVID-19 at Mary Queen of the Family Parish

Unless otherwise advised by NSW health, you must monitor for symptoms. If you are unwell, get a COVID-19 test.

To date we have received these alerts for: December, 22nd, 24th, 26th & 30th in 2021 and in 2022 for January 1st, 2nd, 7th 9th, 16th & 23rd.

The NSW Government is making changes to how it identifies positive COVID-19 cases. Most people who test positive on a rapid antigen test will not need to confirm their result with a PCR (nose and throat swab) test. Instead, people who test positive using a COVID-19 rapid antigen test must register with Service NSW as soon as possible. This will help you:

- quickly understand your relative level of risk
- access support from NSW Health.

On 23 December 2021 the NSW Government updated the previously announced changes to the reopening roadmap for the COVID-19 restrictions.

Most premises in NSW are now open to everyone, regardless of whether you are fully vaccinated or not. For our place of worship the following now apply:

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND - STAY HOME IF YOU ARE UNWELL OR HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH A COVID POSITIVE PERSON.

MASK: THE NSW GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT AS OF MIDNIGHT 23/12/2021, MASKS ARE REQUIRED TO BE WORN IN ALL INDOOR SETTINGS, INCLUDING PLACES OF WORSHIP.

COVID-19 Safe Check-in and Record Keeping: CHECK IN USING THE NSW QR CODE OR MANUALLY SIGNING IN AND RECORD KEEPING OF ALL ATTENDEES ARE STILL REQUIRED FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP. USE HAND SANITIZER.

DENSITY LIMITS: There will no longer be any square meter rules applicable for Parishes. This includes the Church and other buildings within the Parish. HOWEVER OUR SAFETY PLAN STILL RECOMMENDS SOCIAL DISTANCING WHERE POSSIBLE.

CHOIR & SINGING: Congregational singing is discouraged.

MEETINGS & SOCIAL EVENTS: Meetings OK with safety measures. Social events & mingling are discouraged.

PLEASE HELP WITH SANITISING THE SEATS AFTER MASS.

DISPENSATION FROM SUNDAY MASS IS NOW REVOKED Bishop Vincent has now (December 15th) revoked the dispensation he gave on the 20 March 2020. The Sunday Mass obligation once again is imposed since the public health orders no longer require limits in our church buildings.

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 LITURGY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

ENTERANCE ANTIPHON: Ps 105:47

Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

FIRST READING: JER 1:4-5. 17-19

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 70:1-6. 15. 17. R. V.15

(R.) I will sing of your salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 COR 12:31 – 13:13

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Lk 4:21-30

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips.

They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?' But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside." And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.

'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.'

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Cf. Ps 30:17-18

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

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DAILY READINGS

Monday, 31st Jan: 2 Sm 15:13-14. 30; 16:5-13a; Mk 5:1-20.
Tuesday, 1st Feb: 2 Sm 18:9-10. 14. 24-25. 30 – 19:3; Mk 5:21-43.
Wednesday, 2nd Feb: Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40.
Thursday, 3rd Feb: 1 Kgs 2:1-4. 10-12; Mk 6:7-13.
Friday, 4th Feb: Sir 47:2-11; Mk 6:14-29.
Saturday, 5th Feb: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34.
Sunday, 6th Feb: Is 6:1-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11

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"

Paragraph 2. ON THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD

The condition of Christ's risen humanity

645 By means of touch and the sharing of a meal, the risen Jesus establishes direct contact with his disciples. He invites them in this way to recognize that he is not a ghost and above all to verify that the risen body in which he appears to them is the same body that had been tortured and crucified, for it still bears the traces of his Passion.⁵⁰⁸ Yet at the same time this authentic, real body possesses the new properties of a glorious body: not limited by space and time but able to be present how and when he wills; for Christ's humanity can no longer be confined to earth, and belongs henceforth only to the Father's divine realm.⁵⁰⁹ For this reason too the risen Jesus enjoys the sovereign freedom of appearing as he wishes: in the guise of a gardener or in other forms familiar to his disciples, precisely to awaken their faith.⁵¹⁰

646 Christ's Resurrection was not a return to earthly life, as was the case with the raisings from the dead that he had performed before Easter: Jairus' daughter, the young man of Naim, Lazarus. These actions were miraculous events, but the persons miraculously raised returned by Jesus' power to ordinary earthly life. At some particular moment they would die again. Christ's Resurrection is essentially different. In his risen body he passes from the state of death to another life beyond time and space. At Jesus' Resurrection his body is filled with the power of the Holy Spirit: he shares the divine life in his glorious state, so that St. Paul can say that Christ is "the man of heaven".⁵¹¹

The Resurrection as transcendent event

647 O truly blessed Night, sings the Exsultet of the Easter Vigil, which alone deserved to know the time and the hour when Christ rose from the realm of the dead!⁵¹² But no one was an eyewitness to Christ's Resurrection and no evangelist describes it. No one can say how it came about physically. Still less was its innermost essence, his passing over to another life, perceptible to the senses. Although the Resurrection was an historical event that could be verified by the sign of the empty tomb and by the reality of the apostles' encounters with the risen Christ, still it remains at the very heart of the mystery of faith as something that transcends and surpasses history. This is why the risen Christ does not reveal himself to the world, but to his disciples, "to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people."⁵¹³

FEAST DAYS

Monday, 31st Jan: SAINT JOHN BOSCO, PRIEST.

Wednesday, 2nd Feb: THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD.

Thursday, 3rd Feb: SAINT BLAISE, BISHOP AND MARTYR & SAINT ANSGAR, BISHOP.

Saturday, 4th Feb: SAINT AGATHA, VIRGIN AND MARTYR.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED

Rosario Balani, Winston D'Souza, Lois Bull,

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Paul Borg, Louis Mary Goldwyn, Romanos Zouki, Betty Collins, Wency Coutinho

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Fina Pace

SICK

Joan Clout; Lourdes Domingo; Robert Vesey, Laurie Grima, D.J. Nelson, Angela Mikhael, Ike Lutaos, Shane Sandot.

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

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 2022



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 through the electronic format.

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 Mobile: 0422 724 008

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

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 or after office hours number 02 8705 0830.



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.

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 Besterwitch, 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.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS CORNER

MQOF YOUTH MINISTRY



YOUTH GROUPS



Children's Liturgy

Primary (Ages 5-11)
Sunday: 9:30am & 10am
Commencing **February**

MQOF Youth

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

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

Young Adults

Young Adults Group
COMING SOON
Watch this Space!



@mqofyouth



@mqof_youth



MQOF Youth

SAVE THE DATES



Youth Stations of the Cross
Friday 8th April 2022

The Way of the Cross
Friday 15th April 2022

Treetops Adventure (High Ropes)
Saturday 23rd April 2022

Pilgrimage to St. Mary MacKillop
Saturday 9th July 2022



@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.



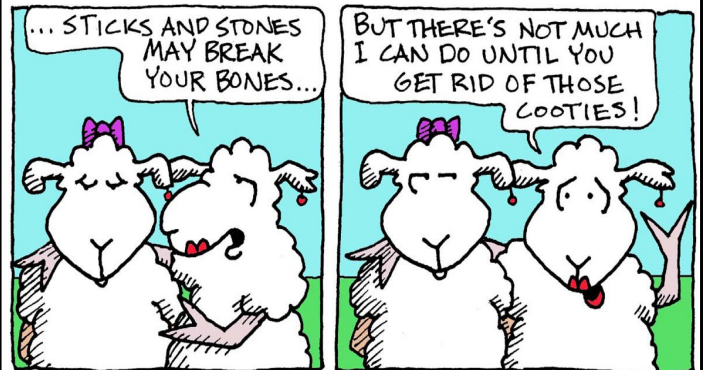
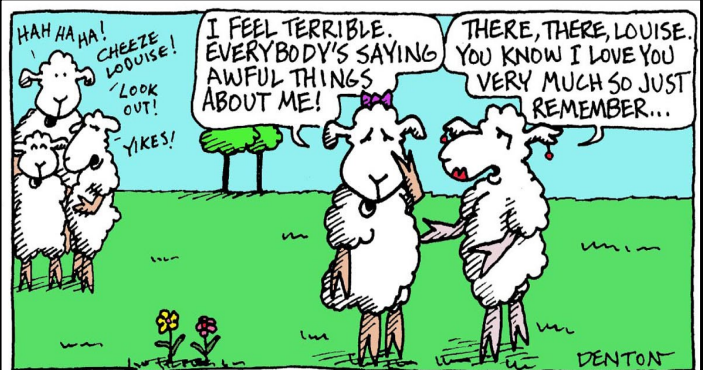
GIVE MINISTRY A GO

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 MQOFYOUTH@GMAIL.COM OR ON 9622 1125.

THE SUNDAY FLOCK



© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

“They will fight against you but not prevail... for I am with you to deliver you.”

Sheepish Question:

How can I be more courageous in defending what is loving and good?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

PARISH BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Our parish Bible study has resumed via ZOOM on Thursdays at 7.30pm.



Those who regularly attend these sessions may use the same log on details to participate. For those who wish to participate and are new to the group, to join we ask that you contact the parish office to obtain the log on details.

PARISH SEEKING A DONATION



The parish is seeking for a donation of a pool table for the parish garage. You may know someone who is giving one a way.

This pool table will be used for the men's groups, Youth & Young Adults and other events. We invite you to contact the parish office if you are available to assist. Thank you in advance!

YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP COURSE

A new pathway for leadership in youth ministry is here! Duc In Altum is an initiative of Catholic Youth Parramatta designed to provide practical youth ministry training, build community between youth leaders across the Diocese, and offer intentional time for prayer and reflection.

It is a year-long journey with the first Leaders' Summit to be held on Saturday, 29 January 2022 from 9:00am to 4:00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown.

For more information and details to sign up visit parracatholic.org/ducinaltum/ or email qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org

CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE



- Day to day living
- Clinical services
- Health and Wellness
- Connecting with others
- Residential Aged Care
- Respite care
- Downsizing or hoarding

Are you or a loved one in need of extra support?

Call now 1300 883 261 for a chat with our friendly team.

UPDATE FROM THE FLOWER MINISTRY

Due to the highly transmissible Omicron variant and the high number of active Covid cases in Sydney, the Flower Ministry has decided to suspend the purchase of fresh flowers from Flemington Markets to safeguard our buyers.

In the meantime, we endeavour to decorate the altars with decorative plants and fresh flowers from the gardens of the members of the ministry. If you would like to donate flowers or lend us potted decorative plants from your garden, please contact the Flower Ministry through the parish office on 9622 1125.

Please be assured that, as soon as the situation improves, we will resume sourcing (our fresh) flowers from Flemington Market and will thus be able to provide fresh flower arrangements for both our churches

Thank you for your continued support and kind understanding.
Flower Ministry.

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK



Dear friends. Please be aware that due to the coronavirus, the World Day of the Sick Mass that was scheduled for 11 February 2022 at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown has now been cancelled. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact comms@parracatholic.org or (02) 8838 3400.

PRAYER FOR TONGA AND THE PACIFIC

Prayer for Tonga and the Pacific

Loving God,
 We hold before you in our hearts
 The people of Tonga in this time of need.
 We know that the communities of the Pacific often
 experience fragility.
 Now, with a volcanic explosion leading to both a Tsunami
 And degradation of land and water through ash,
 We ask that your people find strength
 and feel closer to you than ever.
 They are communities of great faith.
 May they turn to you for peace and
 reassurance.
 May they turn to each other for comfort and community.
 And may they turn to us for support and solidarity.
 We all share this mysterious world
 Which you have entrusted to our care, as one family.
 May your Holy Spirit give us wisdom and courage
 And fill us with the gift of Hope.
 Amen.



PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

POSITIONS VACANT

- Project Officer – Parramatta Young Christian Workers
- Pastoral Formation Facilitator – Mission Enhancement Team, Diocese of Parramatta

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment



CELEBRATING HOLY WEEK FORMATION

The Office For Worship is conducting a seminar for Acolytes and Ministers at the Altar on Saturday 26 February from 9:30 am to 3pm at the Bede Heather Centre (formerly the IFM), Blacktown. The workshop will be an opportunity to refine one's skills in their ministry with a special focus on Holy Week celebrations. If you are interested or would like to RSVP, please contact the Office For Worship at anne.stanton@parracatholic.org or (02) 8838 3456.

SYNOD OF BISHOPS ~ HAVE YOU SAY!

What would you say to Pope Francis if you had 10 minutes?



Catholics across the world are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops before the closing date of 27 February 2022. Find out how to send your message at bit.ly/synod2023

LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES

Parramatta Diocese Office for Worship Liturgical Ministry Formation ~ February – May 2022

The Office for Worship is conducting Liturgical Formation Courses at no cost from February 2022. We encourage those wishing to join a Liturgical Ministry to complete these sets of courses. As well, this is a great refresher for experienced ministers. Physical forms can be located at the entrances of the churches.

- Introduction to Liturgical Ministry—Monday 14th February 2022 (Compulsory)
- Ministry of the Word - Monday 21st & 28th February 2022.
- Extraordinary Ministers of Communion - Monday 14th & 21st March 2022
- Communion to the Sick & Dying - Monday 28th March 2022.
- Ministers at the Altar—Monday 2nd & 9th May 2022.

**Please contact the Parish Office for further details.
Endorsement and Signature of Parish Priest required before submitting application form to the office for worship.**

ANNUAL LEGAL RED MASS

The Annual Red Mass, which gives thanks for the work of those who serve the law, will be held on Thursday 3 February at St Patrick's Cathedral at 7pm, followed by a light supper. It is also an opportunity to reaffirm a commitment to justice and faith. For catering purposes, please confirm your attendance by emailing mili@stpatscathedral.com.au or by phone to (02) 8839 8400.

MASS FOR NIGERIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

The Nigerian Catholic community come together to celebrate Mass every second and fourth Sundays of the month at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes. For more information, please contact community chaplain Fr Chinonye Akamadu on 0451 174 438 or chuk.akamadu@parracatholic.org or Stella Nwosu on 0405 478 472.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

Dates for the Diocesan Life, Marriage and Family Office's in-person marriage preparation weekend courses in 2022 are now available, with the SmartLoving Engaged Online course another option to prepare for your marriage. For more information, or to book your course, visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp or call (02) 8838 3460.

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:

FIRST COLLECTION: For the Diocesan Clergy

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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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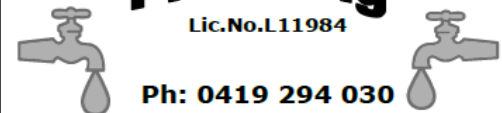
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