

eekly Bulletim

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ YEAR B

3RD DECEMBER 2023

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)

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

Welcome the Season of Advent

Are you busy again preparing for Christmas celebrations? Let us take care that we don't lose sight of the true spirit of Christmas. The flip side when spiritual preparation for Christmas is replaced by material things, by consumerism and materialism, we forget or take for granted the ultimate reason behind our celebrations. We fail to see the true meaning of Christmas.

The season of Advent helps us to be in touch with our interiority as we celebrate the coming of God in the flesh (incarnation) and wait for the second coming of Christ. The central theme for this season is watching and staying awake. This is an interior disposition, a disposition of the heart always seeking and longing for God, for his coming, especially when we are living in darkness and sin. Our first reading today (Isaiah 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7) expresses this realisation of having wandered far away from God and a longing to return to Him, "You, Lord, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage." There is a thirsting for God in humble acceptance of sins, but full of trust in the faithfulness of God, remembering the good things he has done to them.

In our Gospel (Mark 13:33-37), Jesus exhorts us to be watchful. He likens this interior disposition to the servants who keep their eyes on the watch for the coming of the master, fulfilling their responsibilities and doing what they are told to do even if there's no one observing them, for they do not know the time. This attitude is in contrast to those who are not taking responsibilities of their actions, carefree, and unprepared when the Lord comes. Our encounter with God may come as a surprise, in a least expected way. So let us always be ready.

To welcome the Advent season is to stay spiritually awake. We need to identify what puts us to a deep sleep, to a slumber, missing out the advent of God in our lives or straying our spirits not to watch the coming of the Lord. There's a lot of factors that bring us to this state, but sin can numb our sensitivity to the presence of God. It is important then at this time that we renew our longing to be reconciled with God, to give us the grace of conversion and transformation. Coming to the sacrament with humble and contrite heart is a way to enter the spirit of Advent. Let us pray that our preparations for Christmas may be enhanced by our willingness to receive Christ in our lives.

Fr. Regie Lavilla MSF

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.

Parish Priest: Fr. Regle Lavinia, MSP.
Assistant Priests: Fr. Ever Bernaldez, MSP & Fr. Andrew Rooney
Deacon: Rev. John Cinya.
Finance Officer: Sarah Canete-Damole Email: accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au
Secretaries: Ann Hart (Wed-Fri) & Gerald "Ged" Oblea (Mon & Tues)

Email: admin@mgofblacktown.org.au Sacramental Coordinator: Gerald "Ged" Oblea. Mobile: 0422 724 008

Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au Catechist Coordinator: Sandra Baker

Parish Pastoral Council: Chair: Cecil Fernandes; Asst Chair: Joshua Carr Secretary: Savita Surendra Members: Beato Pudadera, Ekhlas Ambili, Erica Luiz, Harlane Petersen, Helena Vea, Tony Fernando, Sidney Lazum, Fr. Regie Lavilla, Fr. Andrew Rooney, Fr. Ever Bernaldez, Rev. John Cinya.

Parish Schools: St Michael's Primary:

8869 6200 https://www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au

St Patrick's Primary: 8869 6000

https://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au

Nagle College:

https://www.nagleblacktown.catholic.edu.au

P: 8887 4507

Patrician Brothers College:

D: 8811 0300 https://www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au

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

Nursing Homes:

Opal Nursing Home (37 Kildare Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P : 9852 9600 Mulluana Retirement Village (61 Bungarribee Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P : 8822 2100 Catholic Healthcare St Hedwig Village Blacktown (140 Reservoir Rd, Blacktown 2148) P: 8822 9920

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



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, or for further information call the Parish Office on 9622 1125. ~ *The Parish Team*

Mary Queen of the Family ~ Parish Mission...

- * Grow as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ.
- * Deepen our understanding of the Sacred Tradition & Scriptures of the Catholic Church.
- * Strive to live as a faithful & committed Catholic community.
- * Evangelise and respond to the needs of the family in the Blacktown community and beyond.

Objectives To Meet Our Mission at Mary Queen Of The Family Parish...

WORSHIP ~ Practice the right forms of Worship.

WORD ~ Increase the Biblical literacy in the Parish.

WALL ${\scriptstyle \sim}$ Building our community.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Sunday 24th December - Christmas Eve.

5.30pm – St. Patrick's Church – Children's Mass

6.00pm – St. Michael's Church – Children's Mass

8.30pm – St. Patrick's – Youth and Young Adults Mass

11.30pm – St. Patrick's - Christmas Carols singing followed by

Christmas Midnight Mass.

Monday 25th December – Christmas Day.

12.00am – Midnight Mass

7.00am – St. Patrick's Church

8.00am - St. Michael's Church

9.30am - St. Michael's Church

10.00am - St. Patrick's Church

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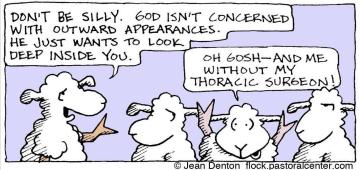
Follow the steps below to get access



- 1. Scan the QR code to go to the FORMED website;
- In the Parish search field type "2148" to find our Parish name:
- 3. Select "Mary Queen of the Family" and press "Next";
- Enter your Name and your Email address to register a new account and press "Sign Up";
- Download the FORMED app on your phone and "Sign In" using your email address in step 4;
- 6. Browse, Watch, Listen, Read, and Study to form your catholic conscience.

SUNDAY FLOCK





"Would that you might meet us doing right."

Sheepish Question:

How will I present myself when Jesus comes to me this Advent?

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ YR B

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: PSALM 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. V.4

Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: PSALM 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us vour salvation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: MARK 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Psalm 84:13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

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DAILY READINGS

Monday 4th Dec: Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11.

Tuesday 5th Dec: Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24.

Wednesday 6th Dec: Isaiah 25:6-10; Matthew 15:29-37.

Thursday 7th Dec: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21. 24-27.

Friday 8th Dec: Genesis 3:9-15. 20; Luke 1:26-38.

Saturday 9th Dec: Isaiah 30:19-21. 23-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1. 6-8. **Sunday 10th Dec:** Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8.

FEAST DAYS

Thursday 7th December - St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor

Friday 8th December - The Immaculate Conception of the **Blessed Virgin Mary**

ELEMENTS OF THE CATHOLIC MASS

Episode 13: Music and Musicam Sacram

The 1967 Instruction, Musicam Sacram, is the most definitive statement on music in the Mass since the Second Vatican Council. This Instruction both clarifies and articulates the Church's understanding of sacred music.

Music Sacram describes three degrees or categories of texts of the Mass to be sung.

The *first category*— and the most important— includes the parts of the Mass that are dialogues. Since the Trinity is a "dialogue of love", how appropriate that we imitate God's own example!

The **second category** includes the "Ordinary of the Mass". Texts such as the Kyrie, Gloria, Creed, and the Lamb of God are found in this group. According to Musicam Sacram, they should only be sung if the first category is sung.

The third category is comprised of the "Proper of the Mass". It is characterized by things that change from Mass to Mass, such as the Entrance Song, the Offertory Song and the Communion Song.

Musicam Sacram

For the choice of parts to be sung, those should be first that of their nature are more important and particularly those sung by the priest or other ministers and answered by the congregation or sung by the priest and congregation together. (n°. 7)

The real solemnity of a liturgical service, it should be kept in mind, depends not on a more ornate musical style or more ceremonial splendor but on a worthy and reverent celebration. (n°. 11)

IN THE TRADITION

"Be The word of God draws each of us into a conversation with the Lord: the God who speaks teaches us how to speak to him.... In this way our word to God becomes God's word, thus confirming the dialogical nature of all Christian revelation, and our whole existence becomes a dialogue with the God who speaks and listens, who calls us and gives direction to our lives. Here the word of God reveals that our entire life is under the divine call" Pope Benedict XVI Verbum Domini, n°. 24

THE TEACHING OF THE CHURCH

"TSong and music fulfill their function as signs in a manner all the more significant when they are more closely connected... with the liturgical action, according to three principal criteria: beauty expressive of prayer, the unanimous participation of the assembly at the designated moments, and the solem character of the celebration "Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), n°.

Elements of the Catholic Mass Study Guide. © 2015 Douglas Martis https://watch.formed.org/the-elements-of-the-catholic-mass - FREE Subscription to formed see pg 2.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Vincenza Feri.

IN MEMORIUM

Andrew James Sitaramayya, Otto Zehentner, Mary Mifsud.

Peter Delange, Natalia De Jesus Dionisio, Manolito Aguilar; Christel Gonzalez Faustina Sandot, Teresita Alston, Michael Flanjak, Angela Mikhaiel, Cristina King, Edna Canete, Jonathan Nucup, Barbara Greany, Meghan De Vos.

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

Mass intentions can be requested online by following the link below: https://www.mgofblacktown.org/mass-intention-or-offering-request

THE SACRAMENTS & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

SACRAMENT OF INITIATION



Parents wishing to have their children baptised are to contact the parish office prior to attending a Baptism workshop. The next workshop will on Saturday 20th January 2024 - St. Patrick's Church.

For more information please logon to our website: https://mgofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/#baptism

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS AT THE PARISH

Follow the below link for more information about our sacramental process: https://mqofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/

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

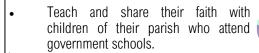
CATECHISTS WANTED



 Pope Francis, International Day for Catechists, Sept. 29, 2013

SO WHAT IS A CATECHIST AN SRE VOLUNTEER! WHO? ME? YES... WHY NOT YOU? IF NOT YOU...THEN WHO?

What is an SRE? SREs are parish volunteers who:





- Have a passion for sharing the gift of faith with young people.
- Have an hour per week to prepare and share their time and talents with young people.
- Are people who respond to the central mission of the Church to make Jesus known and loved.

In this parish Special Religious Educators, SREs, (also known as Catechists) go into five state primary schools. New volunteer SREs will be given support, training, teaching materials and will start as a classroom helper. To register your interest or make further enquiries visit or call the Parish Office on 96221125 and ask for Sandra.

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

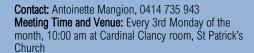


Contact: Richard Desa, richarddesa@bigpond.com **Meeting Time and Venue:** Every Thursday, 7:30pm at Sid Mosley Centre St. Michael's Church.

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.

JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS



LEGION OF MARY ST MICHAEL'S



Contact: Noemi Romero, 0475 798 770 (for statue bookings)

Meeting Time and Venue: Every Thursday, 1:00pm – 2:30pm 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, 6:30pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick'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!

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

CATECHIST MINISTRY church.

Contact: Sandra Baker
admin@mgofblacktown.org.au

For More Information please contact our the parish office.

TEHILLAH COMMUNITY



0412 195 916

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

Contact: Ash & Rozario Fernando, 0416 861 976 or

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 Sid Mosley Centre St Michael's Church

YOUTH MINISTRY



Contact: Parish Office admin@mqofblacktown.org.au For More Information please contact our Youth Minister through the parish office.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

MORNING TEA AFTER SUNDAY MASS



Morning tea is served at our churches after Sunday Masses by various ministries. St Michael's Church every Sunday after the 9.30



St Patrick's Church most Sundays after the 10.00am Mass.

All are welcome to stay for refreshments and a chat.



Mary's Cafe

Please join us for morning tea every Wednesday after the 9am Mass in the Cardinal Clancy Room.

All are welcome!! We thank you all for your support and generosity.

ARTS & CRAFT MOVEMENT

Join us every Friday of the week from 10:00am till 12:00pm at Cardinal Clancy room at St. Patrick's Church. Our Arts and Crafts activities will include: Embroidery and Embellishment, Crocheting, Knitting, Arts



and Crafts (Painting) & Sewing. Please, note all sessions are free. Materials for the lessons is provided or bring your own materials. Refreshments are provided.

> For any inquiries please contact: Noemi Romero Mobile: 0475 798 770.

PARISH CHRISTMAS GALA



BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL - THANK YOU













Thank You!

Your gift helps Catholic Care chaplains bring comfort, faith, and hope to people who are sick, suffering, and alone.





PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

ST VINCENT de PAUL - GIVING TREE

Christmas Giving Tree

St Vincent de Paul Society invites parishioners to take a tag from the Christmas Tree in the church to meet the needs of the disadvantaged in our local community, with gifts and non-perishable food.

It would be appreciated if all gifts could be returned by Sunday 10th December.

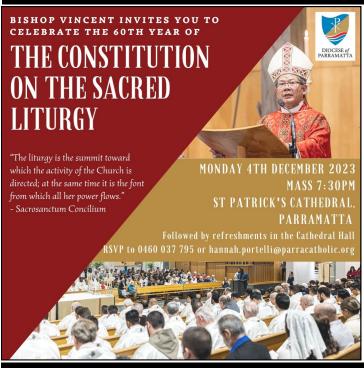
If you are donating a present, please do not wrap it, instead leave it in a bag with the gift tag from the tree.

Please note the annual St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal will take place on Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th December 2023

God bless, and thank you for your help.

SVDP Blacktown Conference

MASS FOR THE SACRED LITURGY



CHURCH MAINTENANCE UPDATE

St Patrick's Church - Raise the Roof Project

We have received a couple of quotes and waiting for 2 more quotes from roofers recommended by the Diocese, and then we will



meet with the Head of the Property section of the Diocese to finalise the roof and ceiling refurbishment of our St Patrick's church. We have also received the cash settlement from Catholic Church Insurance, which amount augment our roof and ceiling repair funding, (inclusive of donation), to \$193,789.15.

We are thankful to CCI, our donors and to those who are still considering... only your continued support can make the roof of the House of God refurbished!

St Michael's Church - Maintenance Projects

We are waiting from a volunteer architect the design and costing of our Sanctuary lightings. Once available we will post it here — if you are in the position to help financially, please talk to one of our priests or call the office on 02 9622 1125. All donations are welcome!

HOW TO DONATE: Scan the QR code to donate or logon to the following link (https://www.mqofblacktown.org/make-a-donation-or-payment)
Please type in the description field what you are making the donation towards. E.g. Roof

If you wish to make a donation through another method of giving please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125.



2024 ENROLMENTS ~ ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY

St Patrick's Primary School



Blacktown

4 Enrolments Now Open!
Don't Miss Out!





Call to book a tour of our beautiful school PH: 8869 6000

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

You can also support the parish by using our **Tap & Go Machine**. 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 or Credit Card) 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 or contact the parish office on

9622 1125.

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: 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 our parish. We are grateful!

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

DIOCESAN ADVENT REFLECTION NIGHT



PARISH BULLETIN - SUBSCRIBE NOW!

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https://www.mgofblacktown.org/subscribenow



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A Ministry of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth







Holy Family Services provide care, education and retirement living choice to many families.

Our Residential Aged Care facility, Early Learning Centre and Retirement Village provide care with hospitality, love and acceptance, supporting and enriching the lives of those who use our services.

If you want a supportive close-knit community for your family contact us.

holyfamilyservices.com.au • Call us: 9678 8200

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The first ever non-profit Filipino professionals community in Australia, founded on 1 June 2019.

Enquiry: Kerwin Abinoja (Director & Founder)

kerwin.abinoja@gmail.com | 0468355399

https://www.meetup.com/en-AU/filipinoprofessionals-in-sydney-and-canberra-australia/



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