



# 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*

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH ~ YEAR B

31ST 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 and 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** by appointment.

### *A Model of a Christian Family*

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph is a model of a Christian family. As we celebrate this Feast of the Holy Family, this Sunday's Mass is all about the family. Why? Because a child is a gift from God, and a family lives according to the will of God. So, the parents of Jesus, Mary and Joseph dedicated their family life to God. Today, the Scripture readings guide us through these stories of the family that highlight the faith, obedience, and blessings within the family.

In the Book of Genesis, we encounter the story of Abraham and Sarah. Despite their old age and human limitations, they trusted in God's promise of descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky. Their faith was steadfast, and God fulfilled His promise, granting them a child, Isaac, a testimony to the power of faith and God's faithfulness.

In Luke's Gospel, we hear the presentation of Jesus in the Temple. This is an event that makes the fulfillment of the Law. Mary and Joseph, in faith adhered to the Jewish customs, present Jesus to the Lord. Simeon and Anna, two devout individuals, recognise the child as the fulfillment of God's promises, a moment of affirmation for the Holy Family.

The parents of Jesus offered him all he needs as a man to grow properly with love and humility, care, and fidelity to God. Today, how many families are there imitating the Holy Family. Many children see hatred and disrespect in families, and God is not put at the centre of a family's life.

Through the readings of this Sunday, we are reminded that faith, obedience, and trust in God's plan are fundamental in the life of every family. The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph serves as a model for all families. The model of the Holy family is showing us the virtues of love, humility, obedience, and trust in God's providence.

In our families today, we are called to imitate in a special way the faithfulness of our grandparents in faith, Abraham, and Sarah. As the Psalm reminds us of God's creative power, we praise and thank Him for the wonders of His creation including the gift of family, the foundation of society where His blessings are manifested.

Let us take this Feast of the Holy Family as an opportunity to reflect on our own families. May we foster an environment of love, kindness, humility, understanding, and mutual support in each family. Let us hold strongly to faith as the foundation that strengthens our bonds in the family and leads us closer to God.

*Deacon John Cinya*

### 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](http://www.mqofblacktown.org.au) **Email:** [admin@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:admin@mqofblacktown.org.au)

#### Parish Team:

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Regie Lavilla, MSP.

**Assistant Priests:** Fr. Ever Bernaldez, MSP & Fr. Andrew Rooney

**Deacon:** Rev. John Cinya.

**Finance Officer:** Sarah Canete-Damole **Email:** [accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au)

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

**Email:** [admin@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:admin@mqofblacktown.org.au)

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

**Email:** [sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au)

**Catechist Coordinator:** Sandra Baker

**Parish Pastoral Council:** **Chair:** Cecil Fernandes; **Asst Chair:** Joshua Carr **Secretary:** Savita Surendra  
**Members:** Beato Pudadera, Ekhas 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:**  
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.ceclblacktownstn.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

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ YR B

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: LUKE 2:16

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

### FIRST READING: SIRACH 3:2-6, 12-14

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 104:1-6, 8-9. R. W.7.8

**The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.**

### SECOND READING: COLOSSIANS 3:12-21

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: COLOSSIANS 3:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!

### GOSPEL: LUKE 2:22-40

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.

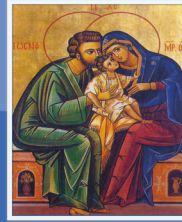
When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Baruch 3:38

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

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## OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



WELCOME  
TO  
MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY  
PARISH, BLACKTOWN

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 ~ Building our community.



## PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Noreen Julien, Giovanni Velcich, Barbara Flick

### DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Stephen Byrne,

### IN MEMORIUM

Paul, Philomina Chinnamma, Otto Zehentner

### SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Domenic Vitetta, Aitkins Family

### SICK

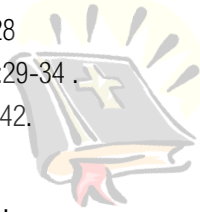
Peter Delange, Natalia De Jesus Dionisio, Manolito Aguilar;  
Christel Gonzalez, Faustina Sandot, Teresita Alston,  
Cristina King, Edna Canete, Jonathan Nucup, Barbara Greany,  
Meghan De Vos, Mila Alforque, Vinnie Zahra.

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



### DAILY READINGS

Monday 1st Jan: Num 6:22-27 ; Gal 4:4-7 ; Luke 2:16-21.  
 Tuesday 2nd Jan: 1 John 2:22-28; John 1:19-28  
 Wednesday 3rd Jan: 1 John 2:29 - 3:6; John 1:29-34  
 Thursday 4th Jan: 1 John 13:7-10 ; John 1:35-42.  
 Friday 5th Jan: 1 John 3:11-21 ; John 1:43-51.  
 Saturday 6th Jan: 1 John 5:5-13 ; Mark 1:6-11 .  
 Sunday 7th Jan: Is 30:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mat 2:1-12.



### FEAST DAYS

Monday 1st January - **Mary, the Holy Mother of God**



Tuesday 2nd January - **Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors**



### CHURCH MAINTENANCE UPDATE

#### St Patrick's Church – Raise the Roof Project



We have received the required quotes from roofers recommended by the Diocese, and is under review by the Property section of the Diocese to finalise the Scope of Work for the roof and ceiling refurbishment of our St Patrick's church. Our roof and ceiling repair funding, (inclusive of donations), and funds raised has gone up to \$198,585.00.

We are grateful to our donors and fundraiser volunteers 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>)

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kerwin.abinoja@gmail.com | 0468355399

<https://www.meetup.com/en-AU/filipino-professionals-in-sydney-and-canberra-australia/>

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