

# eeklu 98 ulletin

# 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.

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

17TH NOVEMBER 2024

### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

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

#### **LITURGY TIMES**

### **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 - Filo 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)

### 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.

### 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.

### **Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

"Learn a lesson from the fig tree. When its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves, you know that Summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, know that the Son of Man is near...Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." Mark 13: 24-3

For thousands of years, there have been people among us who, after reflecting on how those around them have lived out their life spans and died, have concluded that the earth on which those life spans have been lived out will also one day come to an end. In guessing at when that end might come and what it might look like, some have launched into committing to writing the results of their imagining. What they have written is categorised as apocalyptic literature. Over time, the word apocalyptic has come to refer to events that are dramatic, terrifying and spectacular. There is something about us that wants to know what the end times will look like in the expectation that knowing will allay our anxiety. Today's first reading from the Book of Daniel belongs to the category of apocalyptic literature and part of the gospel-reading from Mark is apocalyptic in style and content. In more recent times movie producers have ventured into offering graphically disturbing visual impressions of the end times with films like Apocalypse Now.

Over time, we have excessively dramatized the meaning of the word apocalypse and its relatives such as apocrypha and apocalyptic. A good dictionary of the origin of English words (Dictionary of Etymology) will tell us that apocalypse came into English from Greek via Latin and Anglo-French, and that its literal meaning is to lift the cover off. For that reason, the last book of the New Testament is labelled as the Apocalypse or the Book of Revelation.

Those of us in the second half of our lives have all had excursions into the apocalyptic world. At a time when Masses for the Dead were celebrated in Latin and then in English, we were invited, often without realising it, into a meditation on the last days of the world and the Final Judgement. The Sequence of that Mass (the *Dies Irae*), recited generally before the Gospel, began with the lines: "That day of wrath, that dreadful day when heaven and earth shall pass away, both David and the Sibyl say. What terror then shall us befall, when lo, the Judge's steps appal, about to sift the deeds of all." That is part of a much longer poem attributed to Thomas of Celano, a late 13th Century Franciscan Friar and first biographer of St Francis of Assisi. Other ventures into the apocalyptic world are to be found in Dante's Inferno, only a part of his Divine Comedy which is an allegory of a soul's journey through hell to God. Dante depicted himself being led through that terrifying journey by the Roman poet Virgil.

### **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. Wim Hoekstra.

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

Deacon: Rev. John Cinva.

Finance Officer: Sarah Canete-Damole Email: accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au Secretary: Gerald "Ged" Oblea (Mon & Tues )

Parish Assistant: Ann Hart (Wed-Fri) Email: admin@mqofblacktown.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, Sidney Lazum, Fr. Wim Hoekstra, Fr. Andrew Rooney, Fr. Ever Bernaldez, Rev. John Cinva.

Parish Schools:

St Michael's Primary:

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

St Patrick's Primary: P: 8869 6000

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

Nagle College:

P: 8887 4500 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):

https://www.celcblacktownsth.catholic.edu.au P: 8814 8406

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

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

It was written back in 14th Century Italy. Michelangelo's extraordinary depiction of the Last Judgement is an artistic expression of the apocalyptic and has been magnificently preserved on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican. It was commissioned by Pope Clement VII in the late 1530s and completed four years later under his successor Pope Pius III in 1541. The remarkable aspect of all these works is that they miss the point that the last days, when the world comes tumbling down, will witness God coming in love and hope, witnessing to the boundless affection God has for humanity.

To grasp the paradox beneath all this and, indeed, the message proclaimed by Jesus in today's gospel-reading, we may have to walk the narrow line between despair and hope. Hope is the virtue we seem to understand least and there is no sense in going in search of despair. Near-despair experiences come our way in the tragic events that touch all of us in the course of our lives. And it's only in retrospect that we can bring ourselves to reflect on them. Near-despair experiences thrust themselves upon us. Our current world is teeming with near-despair experiences visited on our sisters and brothers in the conflicts currently raging in places like the Middle East, the Ukraine and the Sudan. Empathy with our sisters and brothers in those places might give us passing experiences of near-despair and hopelessness. It might seem that these people are living on the edge of total annihilation, with no reason to hope. The Dominican priest Gustavo Gutierrez, a man recognised as the founder of liberation theology, spoke eloquently and often of the virtue of hope. In one of his interviews, he calls us to live with hope firmly rooted in our hearts and went on to say:

"Hope is not the same thing as optimism. Optimism merely reflects the desire that external circumstances may one day improve. There is nothing wrong with optimism, but we may not always have reasons for it. The theological virtue of hope is much more than optimism. Hope is based on the conviction that God is at work in our lives and in our world. Hope is ultimately a gift from God given to sustain us during difficult times. Charles Péguy described hope as the "little sister" that walks between the "taller sisters" of faith and charity; when the taller sisters grow tired, the little one instills new life and energy into the other two. Hope never allows our faith to grow weak or our love to falter."

People have long speculated about the end times and what they refer to as the last judgement. I suggest that Jesus launched into that topic to inspire them to hope in the boundless love of God that was evident in his way of living. Jesus was convinced that God was present in his life and in the world in which he lived and met with ceaseless opposition. His firm hope was that God could bring good out of any situation that confronted him. Jesus was brutally tortured and executed. Yet the message he proclaimed has spread to the ends of the world. And God vindicated him. In today's gospel-reading, Jesus refers to himself as the "Son of Man, coming on the clouds with great power and glory". In the Scriptures, "the Son of Man" is referred to as the epitome of love. Jesus informs his close followers that they, too, will meet with opposition and persecution, but that they, too, will recognise that God is present in them, in their lives and in their work. To hold that hope in God as firmly as he did is his invitation to them and to us in today's gospel-reading. And that is what we try to do. We do it imperfectly, but still with purpose and decency. And that is what is at the heart of discipleship, isn't it? Fear can imprison us like nothing else!

© Br. Julian McDonald cfc



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 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.



We encourage you to continue to support and donate non perishable items for Mary's Pantry. These are some suggestions: Cereal, Pasta, Instant Noodles, Rice, Biscuits, Milk, Tinned Soup, Tinned Fruit, Tinned, Fish,

Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned Meat, Tinned Chickpeas, Tinned Lentils, Pasta Sauce, Baked Beans. Your donations will go to help those who are doing it tough in our community and beyond. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you also for continuing to support the MQOF Social Justice Group 10 cents bottle collection.

Please come and join us for a cuppa and a chat at Mary's Café. We are open every Wednesday after the 9am Mass in the Cardinal Clancy Room.

All are welcome!!



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- 4. Enter your Name and your Email address to register a new account and press "Sign Up";
- 5. Download the FORMED app on your phone and "Sign In" using your email address in step 4;
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### THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Jeremiah 29:11,12,14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

FIRST READING: Daniel 12:1-3

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 15:5. 8 -11. R.V.1

**R** ~ Keep me safe, O God: you are my hope.

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14,18 GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Luke 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful, and pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before

the Son of Man.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** Mark 13:24-32

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these thing will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

#### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Psalm 72:28

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

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"Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in the clouds' with great power and glory."

### Sheepish Question:

How attached am I, really, to the things of the world?



### CHRISTMAS-GIVING TREE



This is the last week to help with Mary's Pantry CHRISTMAS GIVING TREES.

Please take a tag or two to help the needy in our community and beyond.

Our aim is to help create a brighter Christmas for those who are experiencing hardships in the community.

Thank you and God bless.

MARY'S PANTRY

### **November Masses**

November is traditionally the month in which we remember our deceased family members and friends. A book of remembrance has been placed in each Church, where we invite you to write the names of your deceased loved ones. If you would also like to have those who have gone before us remembered in all Masses during November, please write their names on the 'November Mass Offering' envelopes, located in the Church foyer. Place it on either collection plate, or hand it in to the Parish Office. All names will be typed up and placed near the altar for the duration of November.

Please remember our deceased loved ones.

May they Rest In Peace

During November only the names of recently deceased & Death Anniversaries will be published in the parish bulletin.

### **DEATH ANNIVERSARY**

Salvador Gopez Senior, Harry Bott.

### **SICK**

Jean Hart, Ingrid Piu, Fr. Noel Bianco, Alejandra Montero, Katrina Jukic, Angela Mikhaiel, Michael Flanjak.

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

### 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**

www.holyfamilyfellowship.com

Church.

Contact: Charles Hyson, 0412 631 602,

HOLY FAMILY FELLOWSHIP PRAYER GROUP

AYER GROUP

JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS

Contact: Antoinette Mangion, 0414 735 943 Meeting Time and Venue: Monday 18th November, 10:00 am at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church

Meeting Time and Venue: Saturday 14 December

6:30pm-9:30pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's

LEGION OF MARY ST MICHAEL'S

**Contact:** Max Rosario, 0490 137 533 (for statue bookings)

Meeting Time and Venue: Every Thursday, 1:00pm – 2:30pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.

LEGION OF MARY



**Contact:** Doris Zammit, 0419 274 002(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: Frank Mangion, 0410 830 877 Meeting Time and Venue: To be confirmed, 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



**Contact:** Sandra Baker admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

off

For More Information please contact our the parish office.

TEHILLAH COMMUNITY



Contact: Ash & Rozario Fernando , 0416 861 976 or 0412 195 916

Meeting Time and Venue: Saturday 23 November 2pm - 4pm at the Cardinal Clancy Room, St Patrick's Church.

TRUE LIFE IN GOD PRAYER GROUP



YOUTH MINISTRY



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

### SACRAMENT OF INITIATION



With joyful hearts, we welcome our newly Baptised to our parish community:

Eilidh Macaulay, Samantha Sarcia

Amelia Sierra & Eli Karaka

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 7th December 2024 - St. Patrick's Church.

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

### SACRAMENTAL PROCESS AT THE PARISH

Thank you to all the families who participated in our parish Sacramental process this year.

Follow the below link for more information about our sacramental process: <a href="https://mgofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/">https://mgofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/</a>

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

Gerald "Ged" Oblea (Sacramental Coordinator)

Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au

Ph: 02 9622 1125 – option 4 Mobile: 0422 724 008.



Join us every Wednesday from 10:00am until 12:00pm at Sid Moseley St. Michael's Church and every Friday from 10:00am till 12:00pm at Cardinal Clancy room at St. Patrick's Church, for 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 on 0475 798 770.

### From Our Piety Stores

Now available to purchase:

God's Word 2025 \$22.00

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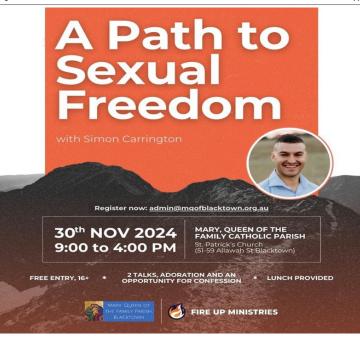


FEAST DAYS

Thursday 21 November The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin

Mary

Friday 22 November St Cecilia







# BISHOPS CHRISTMAS APPEAL 30TH NOVEMBER & 1ST DECEMBER

### Support mothers and children in crisis PLEASE HELP PROVIDE A SAFE HOME AND HOPE FOR A NEW BEGINNING



# PJE Table Talk "Disability – Unemployment – Seeking Asylum: Navigating Multiple Challenges in Australia": 28 November

Please join us for our final diocesan table talk to hear and discuss powerful stories from people affected by overlapping challenges. Participate in meaningful small group conversations and learn how you can play a part in creating positive change: 28 November 2024, 6:00pm – 8:30pm, Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. A light dinner will be served on arrival. Find our more and register at paracatholic.org/pjetabletalk

### CHURCH MAINTENANCE UPDATE

### St Patrick's Church - Roof Project Update

During the week we received notification from the Bishop's Office, that our application to spend \$600K and borrow \$500K needs to be considered by the Diocesan Property Council, the Diocesan Finance Committee and the College of Consultors. Owing to the Christmas holidays and the timing of their various meetings it may be early February before we receive approval for the Roof Project. I'm afraid we can't do anything until the approval is given.

All donations to the parish, using the various TAP'N'GO machines around the Churches will now go to meet the development and maintenance needs of the parish which will of course, include repayments to the Diocese for our loan.

Also, owing to the END of the 3G network to which our QUEST machines are linked, there are new machines with which you all be familiar as they have recently been used for the "Raise the Roof" Campaign.

To assist our parish needs, can you consider donating regularly online, either via EFT, credit/debit cards or even envelopes. This will help us plan for the future of Mary Queen of the Family Parish.

Thank you for your continued generosity

Fr Wim

The Parish Finance Committee is meeting on Tuesday 19 Nov at 7pm

### 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: <a href="https://www.mqofblacktown.org.au/donations">www.mqofblacktown.org.au/donations</a>.

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 to our parish. We are grateful!

### 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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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.

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For further information contact: Mark @ 0417 181 228.





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Please call the school office to organize your enrolment pack or download an enrolment form from our school website. https://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au/

Or During weekdays on 8869 6000 between 8:30am and 3:30pm



# St Michael's Primary School Blacktown South

155 Reservoir Road Blacktown South https://www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au/





# **Enrolling now for 2025**

Contact the school office on 8869 6200 or download an enrolment pack from our website.

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

Mk 13:24-32 My name is

# We are God's chosen ones

Jesus told his dsciples that when when the Son of Man returns he will be seen in the clouds, as he sends angels to gather his chosen ones. Draw Jesus in the clouds surrounded by angels.

