



# Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Archdiocese of Sydney Est. 1946

27th March 2022 - 4th Sunday of Lent - Year C



## MISSION STATEMENT

We are a believing community in the Catholic Tradition, whose heart is Jesus Christ, celebrated in the Eucharist. Our catholicity is lived through the diverse nature of our community which is open and welcoming to all. Daily we are open to the Holy Spirit who speaks to us through the Gospel, enabling us to experience personal and social transformation.

## PARISH INFORMATION

**Parish Administrator:** Rev Fr Bob Bossini

**Assistant Priest:** Rev Fr Andrew Fu

**Assistant Priest:** Rev Fr Tibebelessie Abza

**Deacon:** Rev Mr. Benjamin Saliba

**Parish Office:** 2 Weston Street  
Fairfield NSW 2165

**Presbytery:** 18 Vine St. Fairfield 2165

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

**Phone:** (02) 9724 5997

**Emergency Phone:** 0488 693 482

### Office Hours:

Monday: 1pm - 4pm

Tuesday to Friday: 10am - 12pm, 1 - 4pm

Parish Website: [www.olrfairfield.org.au](http://www.olrfairfield.org.au)

**SATURDAY:** 8:30am

### SUNDAY MASS

in English (Vigil): 6:00pm (Sat)

in Polish: 7:30am

in English: 9:00am, 10:30am & 6pm

in Vietnamese: 4:30pm

### WEEKDAY MASS

**Monday - Friday:** 9:30am

**Monday & Tuesday:** 7pm

**Friday Mass:** 7.00pm First Friday of the month

**Novena Mass:** 1st Wednesday of the Month 6:30pm

**Novena Prayer:** Wednesday 6:30pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help

**Holy Hour:** Vietnamese Community 6pm on 4th Friday of the Month – exception 25.3.22 at 4.30pm.

### Catechist Coordinator

Heather Watt: Contact Parish Office

**Catholic Women's League:** Sandra Skarsky  
9724 356 - 0425 285206 or Matilda Petersen on 0426 847213 - Meeting 4th Thursday of month.

**St Vincent de Paul**—Meeting 1st Thursday of month: Marcel D'Abrera 0418 231 368



Like our Parish Facebook page *Our Lady of the Rosary Fairfield Parish*

## SACRAMENTS

### Confession

Saturday 5:00pm-5:30pm, Before/After Mass or by appointment.

### Baptism

Contact the Parish Office to make an appointment. A Baptism preparation class is required prior to Baptism. Baptism Enrolment form need to be submitted to the Parish Office.

### Marriage

By appointment – six months notice required and undergo Marriage Preparation Course. Check with Parish Secretary for more information.

### Anointing of the Sick

Please check the Parish Bulletin for future dates for the administration of this Sacrament during Mass. Outside Mass times, requests to be anointed can take place after any Mass or by appointment.

*For all church or room bookings, please contact Priscilla!*

*Email:- [priscilla@olrfairfield.org.au](mailto:priscilla@olrfairfield.org.au)*

## SCHOOLS

### OLR Primary School

20 Vine Street, Fairfield Tel: (02) 9727 9064

Principal: Jackie Vella

[info@olrfairfield.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@olrfairfield.catholic.edu.au)

### Patrician Brothers' College

Boys Year 7–12 Tel: (02) 9728 4488

Principal: Mr. Peter Wade [info@pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au)

Monastery: (02) 97241247

### Mary Mackillop Catholic College

Girls Year 7–12 Tel: (02) 9725 4322 Principal: Ms. Gilda Pussich

[info@mmcwakeley.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@mmcwakeley.catholic.edu.au)

### SCECS Outside School Hours Care

Ph: (02) 9568 8218 Website: [www.scecs.nsw.edu.au](http://www.scecs.nsw.edu.au)

## A Message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org)

You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

**This Parish pays respect to the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation, the traditional custodians of this land.**

## Fourth Sunday of Lent —Year C

### Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 66:10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.  
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;  
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Jos 5:9-12

A reading from the book of Joshua

*The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.*

The Lord said to Joshua, ‘Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.’

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-7. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

### Second Reading

2 Cor 5:17-21

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*God reconciled us to himself through Christ.*

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God’s work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men’s faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ’s name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

### Gospel Acclamation

Lk 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:  
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.  
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

### Gospel

Lk 15:1-3. 11-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Your brother here was dead and has come to life.*

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. ‘This man’ they said ‘welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ So he spoke this parable to them:

‘A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, “Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.” So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

‘When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, “How many of my father’s paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.” So he left the place and went back to his father.

‘While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.” But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.” And they began to celebrate.

‘Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. “Your brother has come” replied the servant “and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.” He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, “Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening.”

‘The father said, “My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.”’

### Gospel Antiphon

Lk 15: 32

You must rejoice, my son,  
for your brother was dead and has come to life;  
he was lost and is found.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, FAIRFIELD

## Stations of the Cross Devotions during Lent

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH:  
4TH OF MARCH & 1ST OF APRIL

6:15PM - 7PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS	7PM MASS	7:30PM - 8:30PM EXPOSITION, LENTEN REFLECTION & BENEDICTION
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FRIDAYS OF LENT:  
11TH, 18TH, 25TH MARCH & 8TH OF APRIL

6:15PM - 7PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS	7:00PM - 8:00PM EXPOSITION, LENTEN REFLECTION & BENEDICTION
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Dear Friends,

With today's Gospel we encounter perhaps the best known and most challenging of Luke's parables: the Prodigal Son [Luke 15: 11-13]. The parable is told in answer to the criticism of the scribes and Pharisees that Jesus spends his time with tax collectors and sinners. It is a parable that presents to us the immeasurable and deep compassion and mercy that God has for us and the two responses that we can have to that boundless mercy. It is also good to keep in mind that in its original presentation at the time of Jesus, this parable was meant to shock the audience. In our contemporary world it may have lost some of its punch. A quick examination of the three main characters in the story can allow this to happen.

Firstly we have the **younger son**. Without any reason he asks his father for his share of the inheritance. In doing so he is publicly claiming his father to be dead to him, after all inheritance is only granted on the death of the owner. In reaching rock bottom after squandering his entire inheritance and abasing himself by virtually living with pigs (an abhorrent image to any Jew) he decides to return to his father. Note that he is ready to present himself not as a repentant son, but as a hired servant. He has truly come to his senses and reached a level of repentance and contrition, as he mentally composes his 'act of contrition' to his father [Luke 15:17-19].

Secondly, note the **father's response** to his son's return. We have the impression from v. 20b that he goes to the entrance of his estate everyday expecting his son to return. As he sees him in the distance he acts in an unexpected manner. He runs to embrace his son. He does not let his son finish his sentence of remorse, but welcomes him wholeheartedly and unconditionally. Not only that but he reinstates him, not as a hired hand, as Jesus' audience would expect, but as son and orders a festival to celebrate the occasion of his son's return.

Thirdly we have the **elder son**. He is the one who carries out his duties faithfully every day; asks for nothing but steadily does what is required of him. In fact when we encounter him in the parable he is 'in the fields' attending to his duties [v. 25]. But we see a deeper and more intense, and perhaps sinister side of this loyal son when he discovers the reason for the festivity. He cannot bring himself to rejoice in his brother's return. He cannot be the bearer of the mercy that the father has shown the younger son. In fact he even refrains from referring to him as his own brother. He calls him '**your son**' [v. 30], thus severing all sibling connections with the younger son. We assume that he stands his ground even as his father implores him to rejoice in the brother's return – he will not join in the celebration, because of his lack of forgiveness and mercy. He stands in grim opposition to the unconditional love, mercy and pardon given by the father.

This parable teaches us that **God's mercy and forgiveness** (as seen through **the father**) is always available to us, and more so when we reach rock bottom and **truly repent of our sinfulness (younger son)**. We can also **fail to**

**rejoice in God's mercy and forgiveness** both for ourselves and for others and remain in our self-centred and closed mindset (**older brother**). We began this Lenten season with a call to repentance and a turning towards the Gospel. May we truly examine our lives and rejoice in the mercy of our God by experiencing that mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent** is universally celebrated as '**Rejoicing**' Sunday – a time for us to give thanks and rejoice in God's mercy and forgiveness of our sinful ways. Last Sunday we heard of the urgency of repenting of our sinful ways, but also of the great mercy and compassion that God offers us, as we heard the parable of the fig tree [Luke 13:1-9]. God awaits our return to Him. This journey begins by recognising our sinfulness and our need for God's mercy.

**Fr Robert Bossini,**  
**Administrator**

### **We Remember and Pray for:**

**Recently Deceased:** Teresa Spurtacz, Isidoro & Maria Azadved.

**Anniversary of Death:** Jadwiga Zamirowska, Francis D'Cruz & Santus D'Souza, Maria & Lazarus D'souza, Dominica Cagliostro, Vincenzo Cagliostro, .

**In Loving Memory of:** Alfonsa Savickis, Antanas Kramilius, Veronika Rusa, Longinas Pukys, Kalim Saliba, Albertin & Joseph Jabroo, All Souls, Joseph & Carmen Camilleri, Karmenua & Vincenza Ciantai, Domenico Marzano, Charlie Camilleri, Shane Keith Warne, Carmel Windred, Giacomo & Raffaele Uglietta, Maria Tram Thi Le Son, Ashley Aviet, Bedour & Jamil Sadiq, Le Gio, Giuseppe D'Amico, Graziella & Nina D'Amico, Sr Concezione D'Amico, Concetto & Annuciata D'Amico, Giuseppe Gagliano, Salvator D'Amico, Vincenza Cagliostro, Aida & Ronald Allan Tiu, Joao Da-Costa Oliveira, Matilda Rosewarne, John Pham & Anna Bui.

**Sick:** 1 year old Grace & 9 Year old Archer.

**Thanksgiving:** Milan Zivkirovic's mum.

Just a reminder that next Sunday 3.4.2022 daylight saving ends. Don't forget to set your clocks back 1 hour.



**Thank You**

A big shout out of thanks to all, for using the Parish carpark well and parking in the bays provided.



## Fourth Sunday of Lent 26 & 27 March



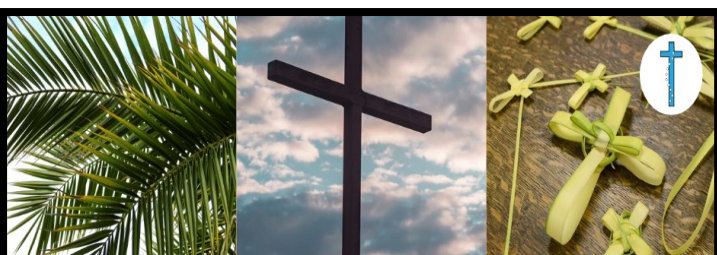
**Rosalie 44**, is an ex-combatant who lives with her husband and seven children in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Forced to join the army when she was just 15-years-old, Rosalie experienced significant trauma and hardship during her years in the military. After she was demobilised from the army, Rosalie, like other ex-combatants, was left to fend for herself in the community.

With your generous support and through our local partners, Rosalie was able to connect with other members of her community and participate in business skills training to help her to reintegrate into society.



**Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help women like Rosalie to succeed in the future, providing hope *For All Future Generations*.**

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow ***For All Future Generations***. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au) or by calling 1800 024 413.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

HELP NEEDED TO MAKE PALM  
CROSSES FOR PALM SUNDAY

WHERE: Fr Terry Room

- 29th, March Tuesday  
9am-12pm
- 31st, March Thursday  
10am-12pm

Please contact **Kathryn** if  
you're interested

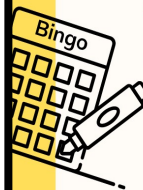
E: [events@olrfairfield.org.au](mailto:events@olrfairfield.org.au)  
P: 0491 602 332



**MORNING TEA  
AND SNACKS  
PROVIDED!**



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY, FAIRFIELD



## MORNING TEA SENIORS FESTIVAL

*Spare Your Time for Fun*

**FREE EVENT  
FOR  
SENIORS  
ONLY**

Wednesday, 30th of March  
10am-11:30am  
at the Parish Hall



**Day will include  
CASUAL GAME OF BINGO  
MORNING TEA  
AND PRIZES**

Registration is required. RSVP to: [events@olrfairfield.org.au](mailto:events@olrfairfield.org.au)  
OR contact the parish office (02) 9724 5997

**RSVP BY 21st of March**



ALL HIGH SCHOOL (YR 7-12) ARE INVITED TO

## INDOOR ROCK CLIMBING

AT

SYDNEY INDOOR CLIMBING GYM,  
VILLAWOOD

WHEN **MON, 18TH APRIL 2022**

TIME **10:30AM-2PM**

**\$10 ENTRY FEE** MONEY FOR FOOD  
DOES NOT APPLY

**MUST RSVP TO KATELYN BY MON 11TH APRIL**  
[youth@olrfairfield.org.au](mailto:youth@olrfairfield.org.au) OR 0477 767 472