

## Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Archdiocese of Sydney Est. 1946

27th November 2022 - First Sunday of Advent - Year A



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 Tibebeselassie Abza

**Assistant Priest:** Rev Fr Ben Gandv Parish Office: 2 Weston Street

Fairfield NSW 2165

**Presbytery:** 18 Vine St. Fairfield 2165 Email: admin@olrfairfield.org.au

(02) 9724 5997 Phone: **Emergency Ph:** 0488 693 482

Parish Office Hours:

Mondays - Fridays 9am - 12pm & 1pm - 5pm Parish Website: www.olrfairfield.org.au

## **MASS TIMES**

SATURDAY MASS: 8.30am

SUNDAY MASS

in English (Vigil) 6.00pm (Sat) in Polish 7.30am

9.00am, 10.30am & 6pm in English

in Vietnamese 4.30pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Friday: 9.30am Monday & Tuesday: 7pm

Friday Mass: 7.00pm First Friday of the month

Business Manager: Florbela Caxala Mb: 0472 862 509

**Events & Marketing Co-ordinator:** Kathryn Gerardino Mb. 0491 602 332

Sacramental Co-ord: Simone Smith 0432 437 552

Liturgical Music Co-ordinator: Fr. Ben Gandy Parish Safeguarding Support Officers: (PSSO's)

Florbela Caxala & Simone Smith safeguarding@olrfairfield.org.au

Novena Prayer: Our Lady of Perpetual Help - 6.30pm

on Wednesdays.

**Novena Mass:** 1st Wednesday of the Month 6.30pm.

Holy Hour: Vietnamese Community 6pm on the last

Friday of the Month.

**Catechist Coordinator:** 

Heather Watt: Contact Parish Office

Catholic Women's League: Matilda Petersen on Mb. 0426 847 213 - Meeting 4th Thursday of month.

St Vincent de Paul - Meeting 1st Thursday of month: Marcel D'Abrera Mb. 0418 231 368

#### **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 needs 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 Florbela! Email: manager@olrfairfield.org.au

#### **SCHOOLS**

## **OLR Primary School**

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

Principal: Ms. Jackie Vella 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 Monastery: (02) 9724 1247

#### Mary Mackillop Catholic College

Girls Year 7–12 Tel: (02) 9725 4322 Principal: Ms. Gilda Pussich info@mmcwakele.catholic.edu.au

#### **SCECS Outside School Hours Care**

Ph: (02) 9568 8218 Website: www.scecs.nsw.edu.au Mary Mackillop Hall 20 Vine Street, Fairfield NSW 2165

## 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

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.



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

## First Sunday of Advent Year A

## **Entrance Antiphon**

Cf. Ps 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.

## 1st Reading

Is 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

#### **Responsorial Psalm Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R. see v.1.**

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

#### **Second Reading**

Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Ps 84:8

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

## Gospel

Mt 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

## **Communion Antiphon**

Ps 84:13

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



## Rescued Kitties in need of a home!



The one you are looking for is the one who is looking.

If you would like to own a rescued cat please contact Lisa on Mb. 0400 305 106.

A Mass for deceased Volunteers will be held on Tuesday the 29th November at 7pm.

If you know of any deceased volunteers, please pass their names to the Parish office as soon as possible, so that that their name/s can be included in the Mass.

Dear Friends,

We begin today a new season of the Church's liturgical year. Advent is a time of preparation for the birth of the Prince of Peace at Christmas. Unfortunately, we celebrate this season during a fairly busy period of the year, and if we are not careful, Advent can come and go with much attention from us. We can find ourselves planning for all types of events, from holidays, through to the Christmas lunch menu and the plethora of gifts that have to be bought for an ever increasing list of people. This year we have four full weeks of Advent, which presents us with a challenge to make time for preparing for the Lord's coming at Christmas.

In this first Sunday of Advent we are presented with certain announcements in the form of visions. The first reading from Isaiah [2:1-5] includes a vision of a mountain that becomes a refuge for all nations. This refuge will include an amount of formation in the ways of the Lord: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the lord...that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' The ways and paths of the Lord lead to an establishment of a peace-filled society, as we hear Isaiah announcing not only the end of war and conflict but also the need and training for war: 'these will hammer their swords into ploughshares and their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, there will be no more training for war.' This occurs simply because people now 'walk in the light of the Lord.'

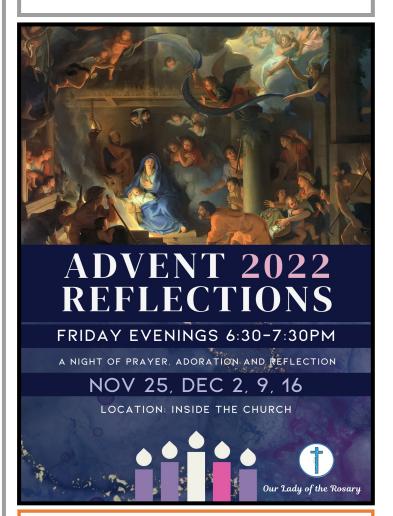
For us to achieve this task requires of us to take seriously Paul's announcement in our second reading [Romans 13:11-1]. Here Paul invites us to a level of awareness that our salvation is near at hand. He emphasises this by placing before us the opposites of light and darkness. He tells us that the darkness is receding and that the light has begun to sine in our lives. Therefore, taking up the theme of Isaiah, Paul invites us to act as if we were living in light and not darkness – to walk in the light of the Lord.

Our Gospel today is surprisingly from the end of Matthew's work rather than from his Infancy narratives [25:37-44]. This passage is one that we are more likely to hear at the end of the liturgical year rather than at the beginning, for it entails the elements of staying awake and alert to the signs of the times, unlike the people at the time of Noah, who failed to heed the message of conversion and repentance. It speaks more of the end times – 'stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect'- rather than of the birth of Jesus.

Our readings on this first Sunday of Advent challenge us to make some room for meditation and reflection on the meaning of Jesus' birth for us. They invite us to see if we are prepared to take up the invitation to *go the mountain of the Lord* and to share in his dream of establishing a peace-filled world, beginning with ourselves. They challenge us to see that the darkness of sin and evil is not present in our lives and that we continue to walk in the light of the ways of the Lord, eradicating everything that allows the darkness to creep back into our lives. They invite us to be attentive and aware of the signs of the times and to live good and

irreproachable lives. And so, dear friends one way of allowing this to eventuate is for us to move towards a dedicated commitment to make some formative and reflective time with and for the Lord in preparation for His birth at Christmas. These four weeks can certainly become inspirational and spiritual moments for us as we await the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

## Fr Robert Bossini Administrator



## **Graduation Masses for OLR Primary**

On Tuesday 6th December the 7pm Mass will be held for one of the year 6 Graduation Masses.

Parishioners are welcome to attend, but to be mindful that the Mass will be a long one and that the students and their families will be sitting in the front pews.

The Parish Male & Female toilets are under renovations; in the interim we ask Parishioners to utilise the Port-a-loos provided.











# RCIA: A journey in faith

We are seeking interested volunteers to be sponsors who journey with those interested in becoming Catholic

through the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation) process. To be a sponsor you simply need to be ready to accompany, listen to, and support those undergoing the formation process in our parish.

If interested please contact our Sacramental Coordinator: Simone Smith on 0432 437 552 or sacramental@olrfairfield.org.au