



# Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Archdiocese of Sydney Est. 1946

25th December 2022 - The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Day



## 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 Gandy  
**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 Ph:** 0488 693 482

**Parish Office Hours:**  
Mondays - Fridays 9am - 12pm & 1pm - 5pm  
**Parish Website:** [www.olrfairfield.org.au](http://www.olrfairfield.org.au)

## MASS TIMES

**SATURDAY MASS:** 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 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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) 9724 1247

### Mary Mackillop Catholic College

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

### SCECS Outside School Hours Care

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



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

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

## The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Day

### Entrance Antiphon

**Cf. Is 9:5**

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us;  
his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder,  
and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

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

**Is 52:7-10**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.*

How beautiful on the mountains,  
are the feet of one who brings good news,  
who heralds peace, brings happiness,  
proclaims salvation,  
and tells Zion,  
‘Your God is king!’  
Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices,  
they shout for joy together,  
for they see the Lord face to face,  
as he returns to Zion.  
Break into shouts of joy together,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord is consoling his people,  
redeeming Jerusalem.  
The Lord bares his holy arm  
in the sight of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 97:1-6. R. v.3**

(R.) All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God .

### Second Reading

**Heb 1:1-6**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.*

At various times in the past and in various different ways,  
God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in  
our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through  
his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything  
and through whom he made everything there is. He is the  
radiant light of God’s glory and the perfect copy of his nature,  
sustaining the universe by his powerful command;  
and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has  
gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine  
Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title  
which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I  
have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and  
he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into  
the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

A holy day has dawned upon us.

Come you nations and adore the Lord.

Today a great light has come upon the earth.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

**Jn 1:1-18**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory.*

In the beginning was the Word:  
the Word was with God  
and the Word was God.  
He was with God in the beginning.  
Through him all things came to be,  
not one thing had its being but through him.  
All that came to be had life in him  
and that life was the light of men,  
a light that shines in the dark,  
a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God.  
His name was John.  
He came as a witness,  
as a witness to speak for the light,  
so that everyone might believe through him.  
He was not the light,  
only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light  
that enlightens all men;  
and he was coming into the world.  
He was in the world  
that had its being through him,  
and the world did not know him.  
He came to his own domain  
and his own people did not accept him.  
But to all who did accept him  
he gave power to become children of God,  
to all who believe in the name of him  
who was born not out of human stock  
or urge of the flesh  
or will of man  
but of God himself.  
The Word was made flesh,  
he lived among us,  
and we saw his glory,  
the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,  
full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness, He proclaims:  
‘This is the one of whom I said:  
He who comes after me  
ranks before me  
because he existed before me.’

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received –  
yes, grace in return for grace,  
since, though the Law was given through Moses,  
grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.  
No one has ever seen God;  
it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father’s heart,  
who has made him known.

### Communion Antiphon

**Cf. Ps 97:3**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Dear Friends,

I would like to present to you two extracts which can allow us to focus on the centrality of Christ this Christmas. The first is from **St Bonaventure's** (d.1274) *Life of St Francis of Assisi*. It is a well-known fact that Francis was the one who initiated this great symbol of the Christmas season. An extract from Bonaventure's book can give us an insight into Francis' thinking in creating the Christmas crib:

*"It happened in the third year before his death, that in order to excite the inhabitants of Greccio to commemorate the nativity of the Infant Jesus with great devotion, [St. Francis] determined to keep it with all possible solemnity; and lest he should be accused of lightness or novelty, he asked and obtained the permission of the sovereign Pontiff. Then he prepared a manger, and brought hay, and an ox and an ass to the place appointed. The brethren were summoned, the people ran together, the forest resounded with their voices, and that venerable night was made glorious by many and brilliant lights and sonorous psalms of praise. The man of God [St. Francis] stood before the manger, full of devotion and piety, bathed in tears and radiant with joy; the Holy Gospel was chanted by Francis, the Levite of Christ. Then he preached to the people around the nativity of the poor King; and being unable to utter His Name for the tenderness of His love, He called Him the Babe of Bethlehem. A certain valiant and veracious soldier, Master John of Greccio, who, for the love of Christ, had left the warfare of this world, and become a dear friend of this holy man, affirmed that he beheld an Infant marvellously beautiful, sleeping in the manger, Whom the blessed Father Francis embraced with both his arms, as if he would awake Him from sleep. This vision of the devout soldier is credible, not only by reason of the sanctity of him that saw it, but by reason of the miracles which afterwards confirmed its truth. For the example of Francis, if it be considered by the world, is doubtless sufficient to excite all hearts which are negligent in the faith of Christ; and the hay of that manger, being preserved by the people, miraculously cured all diseases of cattle, and many other pestilences; God thus in all things glorifying his servant and witnessing to the great efficacy of his holy prayers by manifest prodigies and miracles."*



The second extract is from **Archbishop Fulton Sheen (1895-1974)**. This reflection written in the early 1960's still speaks to us at this time of the year:

*How to find Christmas peace in a world of unrest? You cannot find peace on the outside, but you can find peace on the inside, by letting God do to your soul what Mary let Him do to her body, namely, let Christ be formed in you.*

*As she cooked meals in her Nazarene home, as she nursed her aged cousin, as she drew water at the well, as she prepared the meals of the village carpenter, as she knitted the seamless garment, as she kneaded the dough and swept the floor, she was conscious that Christ was in her; that she was a living Ciborium, a monstrance of the Divine Eucharist, a Gate of Heaven through which a Creator would peer upon creation, a Tower of Ivory up whose chaste body He was to climb "to kiss upon her lips a mystical rose." As He was physically formed in her, so He wills to be spiritually formed in you. If you knew He was seeing through your eyes, you would see in every fellowman a child of God. If you knew that He worked through your hands, they would bless all day through. If you knew He spoke through your lips, then your speech, like Peter's, would betray that you had been with the Galilean. If you knew that He wants to use your mind, your will, your fingers, and your heart, how different you would be. If half the world did this there would be no war!*

I recommend to you also Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter, *'On the Meaning and Importance of The Nativity Scene'* [Dec 2019]. It is a prayerful and challenging reflection on the beauty and power of this great Christmas symbol. May the Christ Child bless you and your family at Christmas and always.

**Fr Robert Bossini**  
Administrator

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

#### **Recently Deceased:**

**Anniversary of Death:** Frank Treccase, Mateo Treccase, Caterina Bartone, Salvatore Bartone, Maria Morabito, Fred Sulikowski, Krystyna Uszien & Lorraine Thomson.

**In Loving Memory of:** Vincenza & Vincenzo Cagliostro, Graziella & Nina D'Amico, Harry & Eileen Small, Albertin & Joseph Jabroo, Bedour & Jamil Sadiq, Carmel Windred, Littorio Kenk, Silvana Gruber, Anna Hien Dang, Joseph Kien Dang, Maria Rosa & Giuseppe Marzano, Gwen Small, Joseph & Carmen Camilleri, Karmenu & Vincenza Ciantai, Charlie Camilleri, Giuseppe & Vincenza Cagliano, Christine, Ashley & Brendan Aviet, Domenica Cagliostro & Rebecca Banasik.

**Sick:** 9 Year old Archer

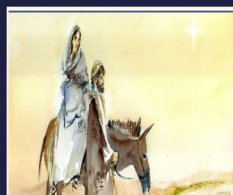
The Parish Office will be closed over the Christmas and New Year's period; closing on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December and reopening 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2023. For urgent matters please ring the emergency Mobile No. 0488 693 482.

As of the 26th December the 7.00pm Monday & Tuesday evening Masses will be on hold, resuming on Monday 16th January 2023.





# 2022 Christmas Timetable



## SATURDAY: CHRISTMAS EVE 24 DECEMBER

6:00PM	8:00PM	11:30PM	12AM
SATURDAY CHILDREN'S MASS	(VIETNAMESE)	CHRISTMAS REFLECTION BY FR BEN GANDY	MIDNIGHT MASS



## SUNDAY: CHRISTMAS DAY 25 DECEMBER

7:30AM	9:00AM	10:30AM	4:30PM
MASS (POLISH)	(ENGLISH)	(ENGLISH)	(VIETNAMESE)

**\*NO 6PM EVENING MASS ON SUNDAY 25TH DEC\***



## MONDAY: FEAST OF ST STEPHEN 26 DECEMBER

7:30AM	9:30AM	
MASS (POLISH)	(ENGLISH)	(NO EVENING MASS TODAY)



## WEEKDAY MASS 27TH DEC 2022 - 16TH OF JAN 2023

8:15AM - 9:15AM	9:30AM	
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT	(ENGLISH)	**MONDAY AND TUESDAY EVENING MASS WILL RESUME ON THE 16TH JANUARY**



## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

## REGISTRATIONS DUE BY 25TH JANUARY

TO ENROL your child into the SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM for FIRST RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION 2023, please fill out the application form (available in Church foyer & Parish Office) & return to the Parish Office or via email: [sacramental@olrfairfield.org.au](mailto:sacramental@olrfairfield.org.au)

NB: Parish Office closed from Dec 21st until Jan 16th, 2023. Forms can be placed in the back lock box outside Parish Office during this time.

For more details, please contact: Simone Smith  
0432 437 552 (Sacramental Co-ordinator)



## 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](mailto:sacramental@olrfairfield.org.au)



# 2023 DR AUS

Divine Renovation Australasia Conference  
10-12 FEBRUARY 2023 • SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Register today at

[divinerenovation.org/draus2023](http://divinerenovation.org/draus2023)



Divine Renovation is hosting their 2023 Divine Renovation Australasia Conference in Sydney. We encourage our parishioners to come to this unique & inspiring experience to help lead our parish from maintenance to mission.

The conference will feature talks and workshops on the topics of evangelisation and creating an invitational and missionary church. Connect with parishioners & clergy & hear inspiring stories of parishes that have seen transformation by prioritising mission.