



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Archdiocese of Sydney Est. 1946

5th February, 2023 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 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 Gandy
Parish Office: 2 Weston Street
Fairfield NSW 2165
Presbytery: 18 Vine St. Fairfield 2165
Email: 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

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

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*

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 94:6-7

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading

Is 58:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
Your light will shine like the dawn.

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'

If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright

Second Reading

1 Cor 2:1-5

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

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 106:8-9

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

Patrician Brothers' Community Fairfield needs your Assistance

This year marks 70 years since the arrival of the Patrician Brothers' Community in Fairfield. Since their arrival they have been responsible for the care and maintenance of the monastery. Today however, things have changed considerably. Not only has the size of the community dwindled but the age range of the brothers has increased. It is against this background that I make this appeal.

The grounds around the Monastery are proving rather difficult for the community members to maintain and upkeep.

So, I am asking for volunteers:-

Former students who were educated by the Patrician Brothers and have retired with some spare times on their hands.

Families who reside in flats and who are looking for some space to continue with gardening exploits.

People who love propagating plants etc. as a hobby.

People who are just willing to assist the Brothers generally.

People who like breeding birds and are looking for an aviary space to do so are most welcome.

Parishioners who enjoy volunteering and have some spare time to give.

If you are interest in assisting us we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact Brother Thomas Rice on Mb. 0432 751 384, or call into the Monastery and have a talk with him.

Thanking You

Brother Thomas Rice, fsp. (Community Leader)

Dear Friends,

Matthew's Gospel has always been referred to as a **teaching Gospel**. In fact, his Gospel contains five sermons or discourses – The **Sermon on the Mount** [Chs 5-7]; the **sermon on Missionary activity** [Ch 10]; the **sermon on the Kingdom of heaven** [Ch 13]; the **sermon on the aspects of Community living, especially in the area of forgiveness** [Ch 18] and the **sermon on the Last Times** [Chs 24-25]. The Gospels for the Ordinary Sundays of this year will be taken primarily from these sections. We heard Jesus present the Beatitudes in last Sunday's Gospel [5:1-12]. The significance and importance of these virtues is elaborated over the next three chapters of Matthew's Gospel [Chapters 5-7]. It is well worth reading the sermon in its entirety in order to grasp the centrality of Jesus' teaching for us and for the Christian community. Over the next two Sundays we will be presented with some excerpts from the Sermon – **6th Sunday** [Matthew 5:17-37] dealing with taking life, adultery and oaths; **7th Sunday** [Matthew 5:38-48] dealing with love of enemy. These sections are perhaps some of the most challenging teachings of Jesus. They come at a very crucial time as we begin our Lenten journey after the 7th Sunday.

Today's Gospel [Matthew 5: 13-16] has Jesus' challenge for us to be the **light** of the world and **salt** of the earth. The image of light is one which is fairly well known in our world. Light allows us to see and distinguish things around us. It allows us to not stumble over objects and makes it easy for us to move around without hindrance. Jesus' use of this analogy would have been even more startling in his time when electricity and electric lighting was unheard of; when there were no streetlights. So one could imagine the way in which the darkness of the night would have been overwhelming and how the presence of a single candle would be enough to illuminate a whole room. The closest we could come to appreciate this concept would be our experience of a sudden blackout at night. At the level of morality and Christian ethics, then for us to be **'light to the world'** means firstly that we need **to live by the light of Christ and his teaching**. We need to think and act according to the mind of Christ and to allow our lives to expose the elements of sinfulness around us – pride, envy, meanness, injustice, indifference or anything that blinds us from the Gospel truth. In many ways our being the light of the world means that we put into practice the challenges we hear from **Isaiah [58:7-10]**. We need to share our resources with the needy; give shelter to the homeless; clothe those who are naked; and not turn from our own kin. In doing this, Isaiah states ***'our light will rise in the darkness.'***

Our being **salt of the earth** challenges us to realise that our efforts to live in Jesus' way **will have an impact on others**. Salt in the time of Jesus was used as a preservative for food. Without it most of the food would not last very long in Middle Eastern climate, in an age when refrigeration was unheard of. Therefore, the comparison of salt with the Christian life means that our lives help preserve the elements of our Christian vocation. Salt is also a seasoning that gives taste and flavour to food. Jesus uses this a means of allowing us to experience a **'taste'** for God, and that our lives would add **'flavour'** to the ordinary endeavours of life. It allows us to recognise that at times we may lose our **'taste'** for God, but unlike salt, when having lost its flavour is thrown on the ground to be used a means of traction, we are able to regain our vigour and energy to do what is right and just, through the grace of God and the Sacraments, especially Reconciliation.

Perhaps we can take some time to recognise and acknowledge how we allow the light of Christ to shine in our lives and how we renew our taste for God. It is important for us to continue to be light to the world and salt of the earth, for in maintaining this we continue the presence and mission of Jesus in our world.

Fr Robert Bossini,
Administrator

We ask Parishioners to please bring in last years' Palms for burning, so that they can be used for ashes on Ash Wednesday.



We Remember and Pray for

Recently Deceased: Maria Nguyen Thi Hien & Hedwig Hille.

Anniversary of Death: Frank Treccase, Marie Fiore-Maria V. Zaccardi, Wiktor Zezula, Maria Tam Hao, Maria Thi Nguyen, Ashley Aviet & Bonaria Borra.

In Loving Memory of: Richard Zamirowski, Fred Sulikowski, Paolina Climich, Antonio Kenk, Henry Rodrigues, Mateo Treccase, Caterina Bartone, Salvatore Bartone, Maria Morabito, Joseph Pham Kim Chuc, Domenico Marzano, Domenica & Maria Cagliostro, Karmenu & Vincenza Ciantai & Charlie Camilleri, Joseph & Carmen Camilleri, Albertin & Joseph Jabroo, Van Hao Tu & Ances-tors, Carmel Windred, Glenis Fleury, Leon & Irmgard Kacalak, Corry & Fiona Wilson.

Sick: 9 Year old Archer & Krystyna Zizius.



Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

Dates - Times - Location

A seven-week bible study from Adam to Jesus, starts on **Friday, February 17** until **Friday March 31**

Starts at **6:30pm** after the Stations of the Cross

Free to join!
Our Lady of the Rosary
18 Vine St, Fairfield

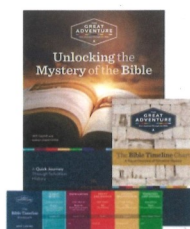


Presented by Charbel Raish

Many people want to read the Bible because they know it is God's Word, but they give up because it seems so complicated. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible helps you to get the "big picture" of the Bible by showing how fourteen narrative books of the Bible tell the complete story from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church.

"The effect on my parishioners has been wonderful: a deeper love for Christ, a deeper experience with the sacraments, and continued love for the Scriptures."

—Fr. Becker



www.parousiamedia.com

ASCENSION

Liturgy Corner

With Fr. Ben



Question: Is it ok to clap before, during, or after Mass?

Answer: In short, no.

Even at the end of Mass, when we want to somehow thank the musicians and singers for offering their gifts for worship.

While it is good to show gratitude to others for their service, clapping during Mass actually lacks reverence and awareness of the sacredness of a church. Clapping reduces worship into religious entertainment.

What clapping does is recognise human achievement – which has its time and place. But since Mass is worship of God, we are recognising what *God* has done. Applause is therefore not appropriate when we are engaged in worship. The temple of God is the temple of God; let us retain some sense of dignified reverence for the Lord's presence.

Catechist Sunday

Today is Catechist Sunday in the Archdiocese of Sydney, where half of the Catholic students attend public schools. At primary school level they can attend a special Religious Education Class once a week, which is staffed by trained volunteers from their local parish. If you would like to be part of this work there are training sessions available at Liverpool Parish on Monday 6th, 13th and 20th February from 9.45am to 2.15pm.

To enrol email: office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

YES, YOU CAN ... BE A CATECHIST OR CATECHIST HELPER

Delight in a spiritually fulfilling mission. Our Parish children are hungry to hear the story of Jesus and the hope and joy he brings.

- ☒ Effective Catechist training
- ☒ Easy step-by-step lessons
- ☒ Start as a helper
- ☒ Flexible and fun

To find out more contact your Parish Coordinator:

Heather Watt
Contact Parish Office
Ph: 9724 5997

or contact the CCD

☎ : 9307 8330

🌐 : ccd.sydneycatholic.org

✉ : office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

📘 Find us on facebook

CCD Sydney - Catholic Scripture in Public Schools

Let the children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.
— Jesus



Supporting
Parish Catechists



CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE
OF SYDNEY



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