



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Archdiocese of Sydney Est. 1946

19th February, 2023 - Seventh 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 Tibebeleslassie 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
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

Fairfield Montessori Academy Childcare Centre

20 Vine Street, Fairfield Tel: (02) 1300 000 162

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.

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 12:6

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

First Reading

Lv 19:1-2. 17-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

You must love your neighbour, as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading

1 Cor 3:16-2

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

All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Gospel Acclamation

1 Jn 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!
Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 5:38-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to

you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

Communion Antiphon

Ps 9:2-3

I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

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



Ash Wednesday Mass Times

22.02.23



7.00am	9.30am	12.00pm
5.00pm -Vietnamese Mass		7.00pm

We Remember and Pray for

Recently Deceased: Judy Singh, Abdul Amir Daher & Maria Nguyen Thi Hien.

Anniversary of Death: Ken Howard, Benito Cansino Jr, Marino & John Almeida.

In Loving Memory of: Bedour & Jamil Sadiq, Albertin & Joseph Jabroo, Charlie Camilleri, Carmel Windred, Joseph & Carmen Camilleri, Karmenu & Vincenza Ciantai, Stefano Cagliostro &, Vincenzo Cagliostro.

Sick: 9 Year old Archer.

Thanksgiving: Irene & Robert Taylor celebrating 50th Wedding Anniversary on 24th February.

Dear Friends,

In today's Gospel [Matthew 5:38-48] we see Jesus continuing his sermon on the mount. Following on from last week's Gospel [Matthew 5:17-37] Jesus expands on the demands set down in the Beatitudes [Matthew 5:1-12], in this case, as it was with last week's teaching, he expands on the last four statements: *Blessed are the merciful, for they shall be shown mercy; blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God; blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be sons and daughters of God; blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of righteousness, for yours is the kingdom of heaven [vv. 7-10].* The words we hear today are perhaps the most difficult for us to put into practice, for they seem to go against all human instinct, but they form the backbone of what Jesus' teaching is all about – for us to be as perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect [Matthew 5:48]. He places before us words that echo the Levitical Law that we hear in our first reading [Leviticus 19:1-2.17-18]. These words form the basis of Jesus' new teaching regarding our relationship with our neighbour. The words from Leviticus are based on our willingness to be an image of the holiness that comes from God: *'you must be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy'*. It goes on to place before us a way of living that can be quite difficult to put into practice: they urge us to not hate our neighbour; to not seek vengeance for wrong done to us; to not bear a grudge against another; and finally to love others as we love ourselves. All this can be quite difficult to practice.

The Roman Law allowed for an individual to exact the **proper amount** of justice for an injustice done to them. Hence the mentality that states an *'eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth'*. If your neighbour stole an ox from your property you were entitled to go and take an ox of similar value from them as restitution. If your neighbour did you a physical harm, then you were allowed to deliver the same physical injury to them. The problem with this type of mentality, although it seemed just, is that it allowed punishment and revenge to escalate to an extent that there was no end to the sense of retaliation.

The words that Jesus gives us to replace this 'eye for an eye mentality' seem at first glance to penalise the person being badly treated— people can do whatever they want to the person without having them react or retaliate in any way. But when we consider the implication of Jesus' teaching and words we see that the responsibility is on the person doing the harm. For example, turning the other cheek does not mean that we allow the other to continually slap us. According to the Roman custom a person could only slap another with the back of the right hand, therefore slapping them on the right cheek. If the person being slapped turned the other cheek it meant that the assailant had to slap them with the open

hand on the left cheek, an action which was not permitted for fear of the assailant being brought to punishment. Turning the other cheek then instead of being a passive action, became an opportunity to stop the violence continuing. Again if a person asks for our tunic, Jesus states that we must give them our cloak as well. In doing this, the person taking the cloak would render the other naked and vulnerable—a position that could allow the other to break the Law [Exodus 22: 26-27]

What Jesus is asking of us is that in our relationships with others the justice that we seek should not be one that gives us gratification or allows the other to seek further revenge. Our disputes must be settled in such a way that reprisals and revenge do not come into the equation. Our troubles and issues with others need to be resolved with mercy and justice, after the perfection of God. This can only come about if we begin to treat others as we would like to be treated ourselves [see Matthew 7:12]. As St Teresa of Calcutta mentions, the eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth mentality, only achieves a toothless and blind society. The impact of Jesus' teaching today is the challenge to put a stop to the escalation of violence. This is indeed a difficult teaching, but nonetheless, it is a fundamental teaching to anyone who wishes to be a follower of Jesus.

Fr Robert Bossini,
Administrator

We are looking to compile a Roster of Volunteers to lead the Stations of the Cross after the 9.30am Mass & 6pm on Fridays during Lent. If you are interested please advise the Parish Office.



Stepping On



Friday 17 February 2023, 10am-12pm
at Fairfield Youth and Community Centre
55 Vine St, Fairfield

Stepping On is a 7-week falls prevention program for older adults who have had a fall or are fearful of falling.

- For people aged 65+ or Aboriginal people aged 45+
- Gentle group exercise
- Talks from experts on falls prevention

**Bookings
are
essential!**

To register, contact us on:

8738 5911 or
SWSLHD-SteppingOn@health.nsw.gov.au

South Western Sydney
Local Health District





**FREE
ENTRY**

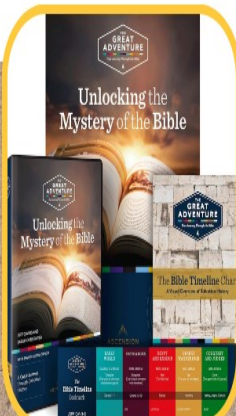


JOIN US FOR THIS BIBLE STUDY!

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY, FAIRFIELD
18 VINE ST, FAIRFIELD



Presented by
Charbel Raish



EVERY FRIDAY

17th February
until 31st March

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



www.parousiamedia.com

Liturgy Corner

With Fr. Ben



Question: How do we best prepare for Mass?

Answer: Silence. While prayers said out loud certainly have a place in the devotional lives of the Faithful, it is encouraged to have a period of recollection prior to Mass, and a certain time of silent thanksgiving after Mass.

Not all prayers need to be said out loud. Having a profound silence before Mass makes us ready to receive Jesus in word and sacrament. It predisposes us towards the great mystery before us and focusses our minds and hearts to what He is offering us in that moment.

It would be rude to have a conversation with one person while another is trying to communicate with us, especially if it is important. Therefore, silence is listening, an attentive listening to God.

Marriage Enrichment Session

*Marriage in the Catholic Church is
a union between man and woman
It is the beginning of a life-long commitment
that mirrors the covenant
between God and His Church*



We welcome all couples to a fun afternoon.

Those married for 1 year to 50 years

Even those thinking of getting married

Date: Sunday, 12 March 2023

After 10.30 am mass

Time: 12.00 to 2.00 pm

This event is FREE

Coffee/Tea/Refreshments will be provided

Venue: Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Parish,
Harrington Hall, 18 Vine Street, Fairfield, NSW

Title: THE VOW

Presenters: Anne & Eddie Ferry

Please RSVP by Sunday, 5 March 2023

Contact: events@olrfairfield.org.au

Mobile: 0491 602 332



Spanish Group

Just a reminder that the Spanish Group meets every Saturday in the Divine Mercy Room from 12.00pm -2.00pm.



**Our Lady of the
Rosary Parish**

★★★★★
ALL ARE WELCOME!

MOVIE NIGHT

When :
SATURDAY, 25th February
7:30PM (AFTER THE 6PM MASS)

Where:
**'Divine Mercy
Room'**
**2 Weston St.
Fairfield**

**FOOD AND DRINKS
WILL BE PROVIDED**



Must RSVP at
events@olrfairfield.org.au
OR 0491 602 332

