



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Archdiocese of Sydney Est. 1946

5th March, 2023 - Second Sunday Lent - 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 Officer: (PSSO)
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.

Second Sunday in Lent - Year A

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 26:8-9

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

First Reading

Gen 12:1-4

A reading from the book of Genesis

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.
All the tribes of the earth
shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.

Second Reading

2 Tm 1:8-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Mt 17:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared

to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

Communion Antiphon

Mt 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

St Pauls Publications

St Pauls Book Shop in Strathfield are looking for someone to work in their warehouse part-time from 8am—2pm Mondays to Fridays.

If you are interested please call Fr. Thomas on Ph. 93943400.

Fairfield Council DA 97.2/2018

If you wish to make an objection to the above application because of concerns about the safety of parishioners and our children due to Weston Street becoming overdeveloped, forms are available in the Church Foyer and the Parish Office.

You only need to fill in your name, the date, sign the document, and return the completed form to the Parish Office.

We Remember and Pray for

Recently Deceased: Maria Nguyen Thi Hien

Anniversary of Death:

In Loving Memory of: Albertin & Joseph Jabroo, Charlie Camilleri, Joseph & Carmen Camilleri, Kar-menu & Vincenza Ciantai, Carmel Windred, Joseph Pham Kim Chuc, Mary Borg, Christine, Ashley & Brendan Aviet, Vincenzo & Vincenza Cagliostro, Domenico Marzano.

Sick: 9 Year old Archer & Aloma Pospischil.

Birthday Thanksgiving: Rosemary Van Reyk

Dear Friends,

As we hear in today's Gospel of the Transfiguration of the Lord [Matthew 17:1-9], I am reminded of the words of a Slim Dusty song: **'Looking Forward, Looking Back'**:

*Looking forward, looking back,
I've come a long way down the track
Got a long way left to go...
...making sense of what I've seen...
...There are strange days
Full of change on the way
But we'll be fine, unlike some
I'll be leaning forward, to see what's coming.
Looking forward, looking back
I've come a long way down the track
Got a long way left to go.*

The Transfiguration is an opportunity for us, within the context of today's liturgy to be 'looking forward, looking back'. The Transfiguration points forward to our ultimate salvation in Christ's death and resurrection. It also challenges us to look back at the origins of that salvation, especially in the three figures mentioned in today's readings: Abram, Moses and Elijah.

The story of Abram and his descendants in **Genesis [Chs 12-50]** form a new beginning after the story, also in Genesis of the emergence of sin within the human condition [Chs 3-11], beginning with the act of disobedience of Adam and Eve, the murder of Abel by his brother Cain and the mounting acts of immorality that leads to the story of Noah and the Flood. This section concludes with the dispersion and confusion brought onto humanity through the Tower of Babel. With the call of Abram which makes up our first reading [Genesis 12:1-4] we see the beginnings of our salvation as Abram is asked to leave his home land and move into unknown territory. With the call of Abram, we see a new beginning in our relationship with God, a beginning which has trust and faith in the ways of the Lord as its foundation. In fact, the author concludes this section by simply and openly telling us that **'Abram went as the Lord told him'** [v. 4]

As the three apostles experience the Transfiguration we notice that they also experience the presence of Moses and Elijah. Their presence here is also another opportunity for us to 'look back' on the story of our salvation. Through Moses, God gives us His Law in the Ten Commandments as the people trek through the wilderness towards the Promised Land. Elijah stands as the figure representing the ministry of the Prophets of God. Elijah was a strong figure who confronted both the enemies of Israel and the leaders, who had become perverse and negligent of their pastoral responsibilities towards the people of God.

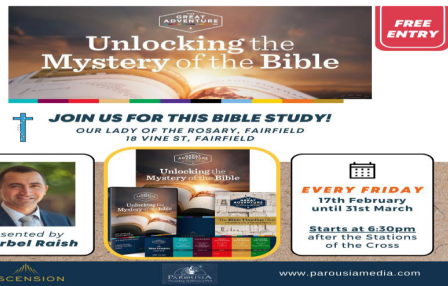
Amid the disciples' jubilation during the Transfiguration we hear of a cloud covering them with a shadow, a voice coming from the cloud and leaving the three disciples shrouded in **fear**. In their fear, confusion and doubt we see that **Jesus approaches them**, touches them and says: **'stand up, do not be afraid.'** And they see no-one else but Jesus. In those moments of doubt and fear, then we need to place our **trust** and **faith** in the person of Jesus. Paul reminds us in his **second letter to Timothy**: **'bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy...by his own grace.'** Holiness is an attribute of God. The level of our holiness is dependent on the depth of our relationship with God. Relying on **God's grace**, then ensures that our faith and trust in the ways of God grows deeper, through our holiness. May our prayer this week be taken from our responsorial psalm: **'May your love (mercy) be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you'** [Psalm 32].

Fr Bob Bossini
Administrator

Spanish Group

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





Lenten Timetable

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| Friday 17 th February, 2023 | | 6.30pm 'Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible' Session 1 |
| Friday 24 th February, 2023 | Confessions available 6.00pm – 6.30pm | 6.00pm Stations of the Cross followed by 'Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible' Session 2 |
| Friday 3 rd March, 2023 | Confessions available 6.00pm – 6.30pm | 6.00pm Stations of the Cross followed by 'Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible' Session 3 |
| Friday 10 th March, 2023 | Confessions available 6.00pm – 6.30pm | 6.00pm Stations of the Cross followed by 'Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible' Session 4 |
| Friday 17 th March, 2023 | Confessions available 6.00pm – 6.30pm | 6.00pm Stations of the Cross followed by 'Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible' Session 5 |
| Friday 24 th March, 2023 | Confessions available 6.00pm – 6.30pm | 6.00pm Stations of the Cross followed by 'Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible' Session 6 |
| Friday 31 st March, 2023 | Confessions available 6.00pm – 6.30pm | 6.00pm Stations of the Cross followed by 'Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible' Session 7 |

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



A good marriage is the heart of the family

Liturgy Corner

With Fr. Ben



Question: During the 'Our Father', I have seen people holding out their hands like the priest does. Is this allowed?

Answer: Actually, despite its popularity, it isn't allowed. This position of hands is called the 'orans' or 'praying' position and is the posture that only the priest uses.

This is because it was the ancient posture for prayer reserved for the priest ('*presbyter*') who was praying on behalf of someone or a group. It was only the priest (or bishop) who offered the Eucharistic sacrifice as intercessor for his people. Thus, this orans posture became tied to his function as one who is offering the sacrifice of the Mass.

We all can pray on behalf of someone else. But the orans posture is limited to the priest because of the Office he holds.



Second Sunday of Lent 4 & 5 March



Tereesa is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. At just 16 years old, she had to leave school after falling pregnant with her first child. A single mother struggling with homelessness, Tereesa's only concern was finding stability for her children.

Seeking a better future for her family, Tereesa joined Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation's Young Mums and Bubs Group, supported by Caritas Australia. Baabayn helped Tereesa access housing and psychological support. Today, Tereesa is studying a certificate in Community Services so that she can strengthen her skills and give back to her community.

Tereesa now works at Baabayn, providing support to young mothers and mentoring the next generation of young people. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.**



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/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.