



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Archdiocese of Sydney Est. 1946

26th March, 2023 - Fifth 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.

Fifth Sunday in Lent - Year A

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 42:1-2

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading

Ez 37:12-14

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 129. R. v.7

(R) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading

Rom 8:8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation

See Jn 11:25. 26

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Jn 11:1-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I am the resurrection and the life.

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. – It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, ‘Lord, the man you love is ill.’ On receiving the message, Jesus said, ‘This sickness will end not in death but in God’s glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.’

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, ‘Let us go to Judaea.’ The disciples said, ‘Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?’ Jesus replied

‘Are there not twelve hours in the day?’

A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling because he has the light of this world to see by; but if he walks at night he stumbles, because there is no light to guide him.’

He said that and then added, ‘Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.’ The disciples said to him, ‘Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.’ The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by ‘rest’ he meant ‘sleep’, so Jesus put it plainly, ‘Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.’ Then Thomas – known as the Twin – said to the other disciples, ‘Let us go too, and die with him.’

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, ‘If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.’ ‘Your brother’ said Jesus to her ‘will rise again.’ Martha said, ‘I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said:

‘I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live,

and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?’

‘Yes, Lord,’ she said ‘I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.’

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, ‘The Master is here and wants to see you.’ Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, ‘Where have you put him?’ They said, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus wept; and the Jews said, ‘See how much he loved him!’ But there were some who remarked, ‘He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man’s death?’ Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, ‘Take the stone away.’ Martha said to him, ‘Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.’ Jesus replied, ‘Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?’ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

‘Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak

for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.’

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, here! Come out!’ The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, let him go free.’

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Jn 11:26

Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

Dear Friends,

With this, the Fifth Sunday of Lent, we are challenged to consider perhaps the most daunting element of our human existence ~ that of death, resurrection and eternal life. The afterlife, our existence beyond the moment of death, what happens to us when we die have been issues that have fascinated the minds of people for centuries. Much has been written and presented in the media concerning the after-life with various forms of stories about people 'living' beyond death. We hear of various television programs that touch on these questions: *Glitch*, *The Returned*, *Resurrection* and the like. As fascinating as these stories are, they remain at the level of fiction and fantasy. Today's Gospel [John 11:1-45], however presents us with the Christian understanding of life after death, resurrection and Jesus Christ as the source of Eternal Life and Resurrection. It prefigures his own death and his destruction of the power of death through his Resurrection on that first Easter morning.

In today's Gospel we hear of Jesus challenging Martha and Mary, the sisters of Lazarus regarding their faith in the Resurrection and in Jesus as the source of eternal life: *'I am the resurrection and the life, if anyone believes in me, even though they die, they will live...do you believe this?'* [John 11:25-26]. This challenge becomes more essential as Lazarus' sisters seem a little upset at the fact that Jesus took four days to answer their request to come and see their brother, who at time was still alive, although sick. All of us have experienced death, and in those moments when death takes one who is close and intimate in our lives. We too can challenge Jesus as Martha does in today's Gospel: *'Lord, if you had been here my brother would not have died...'* [John 11:22]. The experience of the death of a loved may leave us also experiencing the absence of God. It is then that our faith in Jesus as the Resurrection and the Life is deepened and we too, if we place our faith in him, can also exclaim with Martha: *'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God.'* [John 11:27]. From this Gospel we can come to a realisation that Jesus challenges us to see hope and peace in our pain. He does not take away that pain and suffering, but rather places Himself in our midst to support, comfort and strengthen us as he does with Mary and Martha, and as he did with the man born blind after he had been expelled from the Synagogue for his stance against the Pharisees in his acceptance of Jesus [John 9:25-37].

Emeritus Pope Benedict again captures the importance of this Sunday's liturgy. He states that *"when the resurrection of Lazarus is proclaimed, we are faced with the ultimate mystery of our existence: 'I am the resurrection and the life... Do you believe this?'"* (Jn 11: 25-26). *For the Christian community, it is the moment to place with sincerity – together with Martha – all of our hopes in Jesus of Nazareth: "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world"*

(Jn 11: 27). Communion with Christ in this life prepares us to overcome the barrier of death, so that we may live eternally with him. Faith in the resurrection of the dead and hope in eternal life opens our eyes to the ultimate meaning of our existence: God created men and women for resurrection and life, and this truth gives an authentic and definitive meaning to human history, to the personal and social lives of men and women, to culture, politics and the economy. Without the light of faith, the entire universe finishes shut within a tomb devoid of any future, any hope."

May our faith in Jesus as the Resurrection and the Life continue to be strengthened as we journey through Lent to Easter.

Fr Robert Bossini
Administrator

We Remember and Pray for

Recently Deceased: Aloma Pospischil, Marcy Knight, Faridi El-Kazzi, Maria Nguyen Thi Hien & Oscar Da Silva.

Anniversary of Death: Marcia Stevenson, Maria Tran Thi Le Son & James Coulson.

In Loving Memory of: Carmel Windred, Albertin & Joseph Jabroo, Deceased Aviet family, Domenico Marzano, Charlie Camilleri, Joseph & Carmen Camilleri, Karmenu & Vincenza Ciantai, Joseph Binh Chanh Lam, Joseph Pham Kim Chuc, Vincenzo & Vincenza Cagliostro.

Sick: 9 Year old Archer, Stella Cachia & Ly Pham.

Birthday thanksgiving: John Nguyen

Just a reminder that daylight savings ends at 3am on Sunday 2nd April. Don't forget to wind the clocks back!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE
PALM CROSSES FOR PALM SUNDAY

WHERE:

Our Lady of the Rosary, Parish Hall

- 27th, 28th and 29th of March, Mon Tues Wed, **10am - 12pm**
- 30th of March, Thurs **2:30pm-4:30pm**



**MORNING TEA
AND SNACKS
PROVIDED!**

Please contact **Kathryn** if
you're interested

E: events@olrfairfield.org.au
P: 0491 602 332



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

ASCENSION

Parousia Media

www.parousiamedia.com

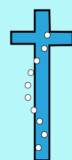
Lenten Timetable

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



Our Lady of the Rosary
invites you to celebrate
Easter with us!

9th April, SUNDAY
10am-12:30pm



EASTER MORNING TEA

ALL ARE WELCOME



WHERE: HARRINGTON HALL. PARISH HALL
(20 VINE STREET)

EASTER EGG HUNT AND PRIZES FOR THE KIDS AND YOUTH

SIGNUP REQUIRED:

RSVP by the 1st of April
by email or Register at the
Parish Office.

TO REGISTER, CONTACT KATHRYN:
EVENTS@OLRFAIRFIELD.ORG.AU
0491 602 332



Fifth Sunday of Lent 25 & 26 March



Project Compassion brings together Australian schools, parishes and supporters to raise funds for people in vulnerable communities across the world. This year, we introduced you to the story of four inspiring people whose lives have been transformed with your generous support: Laxmi, Teresa, Priscilla and Thu.

Today, they are creating a better world for their families, their communities and for all future generations.

Project Compassion is a demonstration of the faith, empathy and generosity of our supporters. It is the lifeblood of Caritas Australia – without it, we could not do the vital work we do. Thank you for helping transform lives today and for all future generations.



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



Jesus
I trust
in you



FIRST RECONCILIATION

Please pray for the children in the Sacramental program who will make their First Reconciliation next week.