



# Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Archdiocese of Sydney Est. 1946

07th May, 2023 - Fifth Sunday of Easter - 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](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 Mb. 0432 437 552  
**Liturgical Music Co-ordinator:** Fr. Ben Gandy  
**Parish Safeguarding Support Officer: (PSSO)**  
Florbela Caxala  
[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

### 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](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.**

## Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year A

### Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders;  
in the sight of the nations  
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

### First Reading

Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.*

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22

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

### Second Reading

1 Pt 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.*

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

### Gospel Acclamation

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father, except through me.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

Jn 14:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*I am the way, the truth, and the life.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

*I am the way, the truth, and the life.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Trust in God still, and trust in me.  
There are many rooms in my Father's house;  
if there were not, I should have told you.  
I am now going to prepare a place for you,  
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,  
I shall return to take you with me;  
so that where I am  
you may be too.  
You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me.  
If you know me, you know my Father too.  
From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,  
so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?  
Do you not believe  
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?  
The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:  
it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.  
You must believe me when I say  
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;  
believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other  
reason.

'I tell you most solemnly,  
whoever believes in me  
will perform the same works as I do myself,  
he will perform even greater works,  
because I am going to the Father.'

### Communion Antiphon

Cf. Jn 15:1,5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.  
Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty,  
alleluia.

### Parishioners Please Note

**There will be NO 10.30am Mass** on Sunday 11th June, instead there will be a 11.00am First Holy Communion Mass. All parishioners are welcome. Please note there will be extra people due to the family and friends of the first Communicants.

Almighty God, we give you thanks for Charles your servant and our King, for his devotion to his family, nation and Commonwealth and to the Earth, our fragile home. We thank you for his faith in you and his love for all peoples and for his call to be our sovereign in such a time as this.



The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) May Appeal is happening this weekend and we need your help. Our six ministries are all working hard at ensuring the most vulnerable in our communities receive the support they need. Special envelopes are available at the parish. You can also learn more and donate securely at [www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf](http://www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf). Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



Dear Friends,

The famous Scottish theologian and Biblical scholar, **William Barclay (1907-1978)**, in his commentary on John's Gospel speaks about the impending gloom of the disciples as they are gathered in the upper room listening to Jesus' farewell discourse (**John 13:1-17:26**): *'in a short time life for the disciples was going to fall in. Their world was going to collapse in chaos around them. At such a time, there is only one thing to do – stubbornly to hold on-to trust in God...there comes a time when we have to believe where we cannot prove and to accept where we cannot understand. If in the darkest hour, we believe that somehow there is a purpose in life and that that purpose is love, even the unbearable becomes bearable and even in the darkness there is a glimmer of light.'* [Barclay, *The Gospel of John: The Daily Study Bible, Volume 2, pp 152-153*].

Today's Gospel passage from John [14:1-12] finds Jesus recognising and making public the agitated feelings of the disciples as he says plainly and openly: *'Do not let your hearts be troubled, trust in God still and trust in me'* [14:1]. The world of the disciples was about to change drastically and dramatically. One of them would betray him to the religious leaders, some of them would accompany him to the Garden of Gethsemane and witness his anguish and arrest, one of them would deny him, the others would desert him, John alone would venture with Mary and the other women to Calvary. After the horrific death of Jesus, they would be gathered in the Upper Room behind locked doors for fear of the Jews. Certainly, their world would be collapsing *'in chaos around them'*. To prepare them for this Jesus tells them to simply trust in him and in God. You could imagine the disciples recollecting Jesus' words as they huddled in the Upper Room. His words asking them to trust in God and in himself – to receive a peace that the world could not give – would have been assuring, comforting and strengthening them in their time of desolation, fear and discord.

We too may find throughout life that there are many things that can trouble our own hearts. Internationally, there is the ever-present threat of terrorism and violence, of wars that seem to never end, of people being displaced from their homeland, of the threat of nuclear war. There is the presence of economic instability and natural disasters that seem to be occurring ever more frequently, causing greater damage. On the local front, there is the threat of a mentality that challenges and seems to want to destroy the very principles of our society: the family and the value and sacredness of life. On a personal level there always seems to be one or two areas of life that can always cause us consternation and anxiety.

In all this we too can find ourselves a little like the disciples: perplexed, confused, fearful. In the face of all these things that capture our hearts and throw us into disarray, Jesus simply asks us to have faith in him and in God. There

comes a time in our lives when we realise that we have done all that we can about our problems and issues in life, often finding ourselves not having a clue on how to progress in certain troubling situations. Placing our trust in Jesus and in God better allows us to trust in ourselves and in others in dealing with the troubles and challenges in life. As Barclay points out that in *'our darkest hour we need to believe that somehow there is a purpose in life and that that purpose is love'*.

We are familiar with the popular GPS that can guide and direct us in unfamiliar and unexplored places. Today, Jesus presents himself as our life's spiritual GPS system as he states that he is the **'the Way, the Truth and the Life'** [John 14:6]. This **Way** is found in the **Truth of his word** and his **example**. His Way leads to eternal Life. In placing our faith in Him, we then are offered **Life** in its fullness [see John 10:10]. Faith in Jesus as the Way, the Truth and the Life does not guarantee that we will know how the mysteries and troubles of life will unfurl. It does however give us an assurance that we do not travel that difficult road alone. It allows us to believe that life's purpose stems from God's love and that that love adds light to our world, even in those dark moments. The challenge for us is to not allow our hearts to be troubled, but simply and honestly to place our trust in God and in Jesus, the Way, Truth and Life. Last Sunday we were challenged to hear the voice of the **Good Shepherd** [John 10:1-10] in our lives, among the many other voices that ask for our attention. Having been able to recognise his voice, we are challenged this week to have the faith and trust to follow Him, the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

**Fr Bob Bossini**  
**Administrator**

### **Dempsey Medal**

On behalf of the Parish Community, we would like to congratulate Mr. Lich Thanh Phan for being awarded 'The Dempsey Medal' in recognition for the work he does for OLR parish and the Vietnamese Community. The Medal will be presented to him by the Archbishop at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 21st May, 2023 at the 10.30am Mass. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

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

**Recently Deceased:** Oscar Da Silva.

**Anniversary of Death:** Concetta Filippini, Giuse Tran, Dinh Cam, Maria Tran & Thi Phu-ong.

**In Loving Memory of:** Teresa Rocha, Harry & Eileen Small, Stefano & Domenica Cagliostro, Vincenza & Giuseppe Gagliano, Christine, Ashely & Brendan Aviet, Albertin & Joseph, Giacomo & Raffaele Uglietta, Kar-menu & Vincenza Ciantar, Charlie Camilleri, Joseph & Carmen Camilleri & Carmel Windred.



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY FAIRFIELD

# MOTHER'S DAY

TICKET  
\$25

THIS INCLUDES:

- Flowers to take home
- New skills in flower arranging
- Refreshments

YOU'RE INVITED TO

## FLOWER ARRANGEMENT WORKSHOP

A WONDERFUL GIFT FOR MUM!



SCAN QR CODE



14th  
MAY  
SUNDAY

10:15 AM

Where:

Harrington Hall  
(Parish Hall)

2 WESTON ST FAIRFIELD

**MUST REGISTER ONLINE**

Limited spots are available.

Contact Kathryn at  
events@olrfairfield.org.au  
OR 0491 602 332

**MUST RSVP BY 7TH OF MAY**



## Unleashing the POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT in your Parish

Register at [divinerenovation.org/events](http://divinerenovation.org/events)



Fr. Simon Eccleston  
Cathedral Administrator,  
Catholic Cathedral Parish (Christchurch)



Debbie Riddell  
DR Leadership Coach



Hannah Vaughan-Spruce  
Divine Renovation UK

## Divine Renovation

Open to ALL Parishioners!

### 'Unleashing the Power of the Holy Spirit'

Date: Tuesday 16th May, 2023

Time: 6:00pm via Zoom

Venue: Harrington Hall (Parish Hall)

2 Weston St. Fairfield NSW



Fr Chris Alar, MIC

## UNDERSTANDING DIVINE MERCY

Australia  
Tour  
2023

MAY 27TH  
JUNE 4TH

\*Free to register at [parousiamedia.com](http://parousiamedia.com)



Author of  
Understanding  
Divine Mercy



with Special Guest  
Anna Nuzzo, Catholic Singer Songwriter



### 'Understanding Divine Mercy'

Date: Sunday 28th May, 2023

Time: 3:00pm

Venue: Patrician Brother's College Hall (268 The Horsley Dr, Fairfield NSW)

Free event but **MUST REGISTER** at

[www.parousiamedia.com](http://www.parousiamedia.com)

## CELEBRATING THE 1ST APPARITION

### OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

SATURDAY 13th May 2023



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

18 Vine Street Fairfield

**8.00am Rosary**

**ACT OF CONSECRATION OF THE FAMILY TO  
THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**

**8.30M HOLY MASS**



## Liturgy Corner

With Fr. Ben



*Question: In the Easter Octave we had the Easter Sequence. What is a sequence, and what role does it have in the Liturgy?*

Answer: A Sequence is a particular kind of liturgical hymn. While a hymn typically will have a regular metre (consistent pattern of syllables) and finishes with a doxology (some kind of acknowledgment of the Trinity), a Sequence differs in this regard. A sequence, too, may be sung antiphonally (sides of the church alternating on different verses).

Both forms of hymnody, however, are poems set to music and sung during a liturgical celebration – either Mass, or the Divine Office. Like any poetry, it is meant to help us be immersed in the mystery on a deeper level. The posture is to sit through a Sequence as the Alleluia is sung afterwards.

There are four (or five!) sequences currently in use in the Roman Rite: the *Victimae Paschali Laudes* in the Easter Octave, the *Veni, Sancte Spiritus* at Pentecost, the *Stabat Mater* on September 15 (Our Lady of Sorrows), the *Lauda Sion* on Corpus Christi, and the *Dies Irae* in certain places.