



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Archdiocese of Sydney Est. 1946

25th February 2024 - Second Sunday of Lent - Year B

Celebrating 100th Year Anniversary of Church Foundation



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

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY MASS: 8.30am

in English (Vigil) 6.00pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7.15am - 8.15am

SUNDAY MASS

in Polish 7.30am

in English 9.00am, 10.30am & 6.00pm

in Vietnamese 4.30pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Friday: 9.30am

Monday & Tuesday: 7.00pm

First Friday Mass: 7.00pm (1st Friday of month)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8.15am - 9.15am

DEVOTIONS & COMMUNITIES

Mass & Novena: Our Lady of Perpetual Help - first Wednesday of the Month at 6.30pm

Novena Prayer: Our Lady of Perpetual Help - 2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 6.30pm

Holy Hour: Vietnamese Community 6pm on the last Friday of the Month

Catechist Coordinator:

Heather Watt

Catholic Women's League: Meeting 4th Thursday of month. Matilda Petersen Mb. 0426 847 213

St Vincent de Paul: Meeting 1st Thursday of month - Marcel D'Abrera Mb. 0418 231 368

Spanish Group: Meets on Saturdays in the Divine Mercy Room from 9.30am - 11.30am

Legion of Mary: Saturdays in Divine Mercy Room 2pm

Maltese Seniors Group: Last Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall from 10:30am. Marisa 0414 863 123

SACRAMENTS

Confession

Saturday 5.00pm - 5.30pm, Before/After Mass or by appointment.

Baptism

Contact the Parish Office to make an appointment. Parents & if possible godparents need to attend a Baptism preparation class on the 1st Tuesday of the month after the 7pm Mass (a month prior to Baptism being held). 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.

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@mmcwakeley.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 of Lent —Year B

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 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

Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test. ‘Abraham, Abraham,’ he called.’ Here I am’ he replied. ‘Take your son,’ God said ‘your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.’

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. ‘Abraham, Abraham’ he said. ‘I am here’ he replied. ‘Do not raise your hand against the boy’ the angel said. ‘Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.’ Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. ‘I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

Second reading

Romans 8:31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

God did not spare his own Son.

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God’s right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation

See Matthew 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

Mark 9:2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. ‘Rabbi,’ he said ‘it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.’ Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what ‘rising from the dead’ could mean.

Communion Antiphon

Matthew 17:5

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

Dear Friends,

How much faith and trust do I have in what God is doing - in what God often asks of me? **Faith** and **trust** in God’s ways are the predominant themes that come through our liturgy today. Take the first reading for example [**Genesis 22:1-2.9-13.15-18**]. This is the incredible story of God asking Abraham to do the impossible and unimaginable. Here God is asking Abraham to take his only child, his son Isaac, to go to Mount Moriah and to sacrifice him. This seems an extraordinary ask on the part of God. Not only does it seem unimaginable that God would require of Abraham a human sacrifice, but also for that sacrifice to be his son. Isaac was the long-awaited son of Abraham and Sarah, born to them in their advanced years. In Isaac, Abraham and Sarah saw the fulfilment of the promise made to them by God [**Genesis 18:14**]. In actual fact, what God was asking of Abraham in sacrificing his son, Isaac, was to forfeit the promise made to him by God. Incredibly, we find Abraham almost silent on the journey to Mount Moriah. This seems to be a different Abraham than the one we encounter in **Genesis 19** who bargains with God for the salvation of the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham does not

argue with or enter into dialogue with God – he quietly accepts what God is asking of him. In seeing Abraham’s faith, God intervenes to stop the sacrificial action and states: *‘because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you’* [Genesis 22:12]. All through Abraham’s actions showed his faith and trust in God’s ways. He echoes this when he says to his son, *‘My son, God himself will provide the lamb for sacrifice’* [Genesis 22:8].

In the Gospel reading [Mark 9:2-10] – Mark’s version of the **Transfiguration of Jesus** – we experience the lack of faith, or rather the limited faith that the disciples had in Jesus’ actions and words. Prior to this incident we hear Jesus telling his disciples the reason he was to go to Jerusalem. Jesus’ news initiated a negative response from Peter, leading to Jesus’ rebuke of Peter who was trying to stop Jesus [Mark 8:31-33]. He then goes on to tell them the conditions that any disciple of his needs to adhere to: denial of self and the taking up of one’s cross [Mark 8:34-38]. The disciples therefore enter into the Transfiguration experience unsure of and questioning Jesus’ intentions and mission. They fail to understand his destiny and find themselves lacking the faith necessary to trust in his words. Even though they hear the words coming from the cloud during Jesus’ transfiguration – *‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him’*, they fail to listen and believe. This lack of faith is further highlighted when they come down from the mountain and encounter the other disciples who had failed to cure the epileptic and possessed young boy. Jesus here exclaims that *‘everything is possible for the one who has faith’* [Mark 9:24].

We are challenged then through today’s liturgy to look at the level of our faith as a response to God’s sometimes inexplicable ways which touch our lives. In these cases when we find that God is asking something of us that seems impossible, it is not explanations that are required, but faith and trust. This can be a difficult thing to take on board. These last few months it has taken every ounce of faith to recognise God’s presence in the illness I have been experiencing. I found it difficult at times to accept what God was asking of me. Through the prayerful support of people and through maintaining a regular routine of daily prayer and Mass I was able to see that through this illness God was asking me to minister in a different way. It all comes down to being able to live with a strong well-founded faith in a God who is always present to us most especially in our darkest and most difficult moments. This is the type of trust and faith that Paul refers to in our second reading: *‘with God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give.’* [Romans 8:31]. This is the faith to which we are called to renew and deepen this Lent.

Fr Robert Bossini
Administrator

We Remember and Pray for

Anniversary of Death: Michael Pham Kimcu, Stanley & Norman Small, Raimundas Gailiunas & Fr. John Stanley.

In Loving Memory of: Andrea, Jose & Noel So, Jessie Wilson, Suzy Lilly Vann, Mariano Umberto Cappa, Gizzi, Omea Frano Colaps, Maria Nguyen Thi Hien, Michele & Rosina Inzitari, Domenico Marzano, Carmel Windred, Albertin & Joseph Jabroo, Karmenu & Vincenza Ciantar, Joseph & Carmen Camilleri, Giacomo & Raffaele Uglietta, Charlie Camilleri, Vincenza & Vincenzo Cagliostro, Joseph & Carmen Camilleri & Domenica Cagliostro.

Sick: Fr. Bob, Ted Malick, Norma Boutabia, Marian Kot, Dough Myers, Helen Konarski, Angela Giuliano & Sing Lie & Nie Lie.

Friday Devotions during Lent 2024

FRIDAYS OF LENT: 16TH & 23RD FEBRUARY

10AM	6PM	630PM - 7PM	7PM - 8PM
STATIONS OF THE CROSS	STATIONS OF THE CROSS	RECONCILIATION	EXPOSITION, LENTEN REFLECTION & BENEDICTION

FRIDAYS OF LENT: 1ST MARCH

10AM - 1015AM	1015AM	6PM	630PM - 7PM	7PM	730PM - 8PM
ADORATIONS AND BENEDICTIONS	STATIONS OF THE CROSS	STATIONS OF THE CROSS	ROSARY FOR FR BOB & RECONCILIATION	1ST FRIDAY MASS	EXPOSITION, LENTEN REFLECTION & BENEDICTION

FRIDAYS OF LENT: 8TH, 15TH, 22ND MARCH

10AM	6PM	630PM - 7PM	7PM - 8PM
STATIONS OF THE CROSS	STATIONS OF THE CROSS	RECONCILIATION	EXPOSITION, LENTEN REFLECTION & BENEDICTION



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH, FAIRFIELD

On behalf of the Parish Renewal Team,
The University of Notre Dame Australia presents

Didaskō

Adult Faith Formation

God the Beautiful:
An Introduction
to Theology

Chris Wolter

Mondays 4, 11 and 18 March 2024,
7:30pm – 8:45pm



Cost: \$35 per person,
\$100 for Parish Groups (+ BOOKING FEES)
Online via Zoom
Register at: gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events



Second Sunday of Lent

24 & 25 February

After the birth of her children, 22-year-old **Ronita** was at risk of having to leave school permanently. But, with the support of Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines, she resumed her studies and secured a job at a call centre to support her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

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.



Patrician Brothers' College
FAIRFIELD

OPEN DAY

Tuesday 12 March 2024

3.00pm–6.00pm



2024 HOLY WEEK AND EASTER TRIDUUM



PALM SUNDAY VIGIL & PALM SUNDAY 23/24 MARCH

6:00PM (SATURDAY VIGIL)	9 AM (ENG)	10:30AM (ENG)	4:15 PM (VIET)	6 PM (ENG)
----------------------------	---------------	------------------	-------------------	---------------



HOLY THURSDAY THE LORD'S SUPPER 28 MARCH

430PM (VIET) ADORATION	530PM (VIET) MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER	7:30PM (ENG) MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER & WASHING OF THE FEET	8:45PM - 9PM (ENG) PROCESSION TO THE ALTAR OF REPOSE
---------------------------	---	---	---



GOOD FRIDAY THE PASSION OF THE LORD 29 MARCH

10:00 AM (ENG) STATIONS OF THE CROSS OUTSIDE THE CHURCH	11AM (VIET) STATIONS OF THE CROSS INSIDE THE CHURCH	3 PM (ENG) THE LORD'S PASSION AND VENERATION OF THE CROSS	5:30PM (VIET) THE LORD'S PASSION
--	--	--	-------------------------------------



HOLY SATURDAY / EASTER VIGIL 30 MARCH

8:30AM ENG TENEBRAE	5:45PM ENG LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE	6 PM ENG PROCESSION INSIDE THE CHURCH	6:10PM ENG VIGIL MASS	8:30PM VIET EASTER VIGIL
------------------------	--	--	--------------------------	-----------------------------

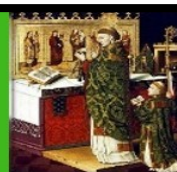


EASTER SUNDAY 31 MARCH "NO EVENING MASS"

7:30AM (IN POLISH)	9:00AM (IN ENGLISH)	10:30AM (IN ENGLISH)	4:30PM (IN VIETNAMESE)
-----------------------	------------------------	-------------------------	---------------------------

Liturgy Corner

With Fr. Ben



Question: There is a text that precedes the Sanctus at every Mass called the Preface. Why is it there, and what is it meant to do?

Answer: The Preface, as a general prayer, has its roots in the preparatory prayers at the Last Supper and in St. Paul. It is a text that precedes a greater act of worship and thanksgiving. Its main purpose is to "precede the principal sacrifice".

In the early church, the preface was probably improvised and much longer than our current texts. The primary theme was thanksgiving and foreshadowed the sacrifice about to occur as angels and saints were invoked, which suggest that the Mass being said there would also be partaking in the heavenly liturgy.

It was also in a dialogue form from very early in Christian Liturgical history, not only inviting the present congregation to lift up their hearts and join their sacrifices to the Mass, but also in union with the Communion of Saints.

The Preface would be one with the Eucharistic Prayer, until about the fifth century, implying that the Roman Canon or the Eucharistic prayer was a cohesive whole. It was only split in two because of the prayer of the angels it invoked (the 'Holy Holy'), so the Sanctus was inserted after this point.

In the East, the Preface does not change. In the West, we see a great variety of prefaces dependent on the season, the day, and so on.