

# Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Archdiocese of Sydney Est. 1946

07th April 2024—Second Sunday of Easter- Year B

Celebrating 100<sup>th</sup> 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 Tibebelessie 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

*Please contact the emergency number only if a priest is required for absolution & anointing in situations of imminent death.*

**Parish Office Hours:**

Mondays - Fridays 9am - 12pm & 1pm - 5pm

**Parish Website:** [www.olrfairfield.org.au](http://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)

## 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..

### Home Communion

Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements for parishioners that are homebound to receive Communion.

## 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 Janine Kenney

[info@mmcwakeley.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@mmcwakeley.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.



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for latest updates



This Parish pays respect to the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation, the traditional custodians of this land.

## Second Sunday of Easter— Year B

### Entrance Antiphon

Peter 2:2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

### First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*The whole group was united, heart and soul.*

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

### Responsorial

Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
his love is everlasting.

### Second Reading

1 John 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

*Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.*

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us;

this is what loving God is –  
keeping his commandments;  
and his commandments are not difficult,  
because anyone who has been begotten by God  
has already overcome the world;  
this is the victory over the world –  
our faith.

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God;

Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,  
not with water only,  
but with water and blood;  
with the Spirit as another witness –  
since the Spirit is the truth.

### Gospel Acclamation

John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;

happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

### Gospel

John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.*

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.  
For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven;  
for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

### Communion Antiphon

Cf John 20:27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,  
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Dear Friends,

We have just concluded the **Octave of Easter**, a time when we have reflected on the **Resurrection of Jesus** as told by the four Evangelists. We have heard of the **fear, anxiety, agitation** and **uncertainty** that greeted those first disciples when they encountered the empty tomb. At first they believed that robbers had come during the night and taken his body – a last and ignominious

element added to an already frightful and horrific death. **Gradually the Risen Jesus comes into their lives, challenging them to rise above their fears and move into the world as his witnesses.** This asked of them to be imbued with the Spirit of the Risen Christ, and we hear of the exploits of the disciples in the **Acts of Apostles**, which forms the basis of the **First Reading from Easter Sunday till Pentecost.**

In these **six Sundays of Easter**, I would like to take as the basis of my weekly reflections the material presented to us in the **Second Reading**. These readings are from the **First Letter of St John**. They form the **basis** of not only Christian living but also of what it means to continue to live in the light of the Risen Lord. They speak of our being **children of God**; of the **depth of love that God** has for us in sending us his Son Jesus; of our **response in faith and love** towards others; of our **realisation** of the **great love** that God has always for us, and that **faith** becomes the basis of this fundamental ‘love response’ of the Christian.

This First Letter of John does not comprise of the normal format of the New Testament letters, especially those written by Paul and his disciples. There is **no formal introduction** and **no regular signing off** by the author. To appreciate this letter we need to know something of the **world in which it was written**. This Letter was believed to have been written in **Ephesus** around **100 AD**. The Christian community was composed at that time of **second and third generation** Christians, who had become very **staid** and **formal** in their religious practices. Christianity and the living out of its obligations had become a **matter of habit** to this community. The various standards set by Christianity were becoming a **burden** to these people, and as a community they were becoming tired of making the effort to keep living out the demands of the Gospel. It was a community that was **not experiencing persecution** from **outside** its ‘borders’, but rather one that was **open to seduction** from within. These were a group of people who wished to **improve the Christian faith** – who wanted to **make Christianity intellectually respectable**. Christianity, according to these people had to come to terms with, and adapt to, the current secular philosophy and contemporary thought. In many ways, the description of this Christian community **echoes much of today’s Christian thought**. It sounds something like the danger of **‘relativism’** that the late Pope Benedict XVI warned against – Christianity that adapted to the latest trends, thoughts and philosophies.

In today’s **Second Reading [1 John 5:1-6]**, the author states that our **being from God** allows us to have **faith in Jesus Christ**. He states that the basis of our lives needs to be **following what God has asked** of us: to be **faithful to God’s commandments**. Our obedience to God’s ways shows the depth of our love for God.

For the author it was important that the believer was not **‘of the world’**, that is that one’s life was **guided by God** and not by the Antichrist, elements that take us away from God. Our ability in overcoming the world is our **faith in Jesus as the Son of God**. In this passage, John sets the tone for the remaining Sundays of Easter, when he expands on the meaning of our being begotten by God: our being God’s children and the level of faith and love that this calls us to. In light of this I can ask: how strong is my faith in Jesus? How do I develop, strengthen and deepen my faith in Him? Am I swayed by the ever changing ways of the world or do I remain steadfast to the teaching of Jesus Christ?

**Fr Robert Bossini**  
**Parish Administrator**

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

**Anniversary of Death:** Fortunata R. Butacan, Domenico Marzano & Janice Sampson.

**In Loving Memory of:** Bedour & Jamil Sadiq, Harold, Christine, Ashley & Brendan Aviet, Maria Nguyen Thi Hien, Michele & Rosina Inzitari, Carmel Windred, Albertin & Joseph Jabroo, Karmenu & Vincenza Ciantar, Joseph & Carmen Camilleri, Vincenza & Vincenzo Cagliostro, Giacomo & Raffaele Uglietta, Charlie Camilleri, Robert & Beryl Smith, Maria Thuc Trinh Dang, Joseph Binh Chanh Lam, Dominic Tung Phuong Lam & Anton Sy Phuong Lam.

**Sick:** Fr. Bob, Helen Konarski & Peter Ku.

**Special Attention:** Thanksgiving for Improvement of health of Blake + Bindi Webber.

## **Liturgy Corner**

**With Fr. Ben**



*Question : A minister on the altar will be vested in a cincture around their waist. What is its meaning, and where did it come from?*

Answer: The cincture (or ‘girdle’ in some places) is some kind of presentable rope or cord that goes around the waist that fastens the alb to stop it flowing freely. On a practical level, its purpose is to free up any movements of the one in the alb. It may be tied to the left side, or in the centre, and the ends may have some kind of tassel. Bands and sashes have been used, and this is not ideal but also not prohibited.

Its history, however, goes back to the ninth century in some places. Since bishops and priests wore far more vestments in earlier practices, something was needed to fasten some of those vestments in place – like the stole, or in the case of a bishop his pontifical dalmatic. Today the cincture goes over the alb but then the stole is then held in place by it.

The theological understanding of the cincture goes back to spiritual vigilance surrounding continence and chastity, seeing as the cleric has taken on the promise (or vow for religious) of celibacy. In the case of clerics, it serves as a reminder of what has been given up for the sake of the Kingdom.



JOIN US FOR

# EASTER & DIVINE MERCY MORNING TEA

7TH APRIL AFTER 10:30AM MASS @ PARISH HALL

COFFEE CART WILL BE AVAILABLE





## FREE ADULT ENGLISH CLASSES

at the OLR Catholic Parish Hall

Starting in Term 2, Sydney Catholic Schools are conducting Free Adult English Classes on Thursdays between 9.45am—12.45pm commencing on the 2nd May, 2024.

If you are interested the registration forms are available from the Parish Office or you can pick up a form from the table in the church foyer .

### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS THIS SUNDAY

### SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR



Sunday masses resume as per usual schedule



*Our Lady of the Rosary*

*Behold, I make all things new.*  
(Rev. 21:5)

### A EUCHARISTIC RETREAT DAY

for those involved in Liturgical Ministries

**11 May 2024, 10AM - 4PM**  
St Martha's, Leichhardt




**LITURGY OFFICE**  
Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney



**DOMINICAN SISTERS OF Saint Cecilia.**  
Founded in 1860—Nashville

**Register using Trybooking.com**  
Questions: sydneyeop-tn.org


### Fr. Bob's Medical Progress


Dear Parishioners,

Please refer to the following SMS link if you would like an update on Fr. Bob's medical condition and progress.

[www.HospitalAssist.com.au/?p=aD0xMDgxJnA9MTQ2ODgwNg%3D%3D](http://www.HospitalAssist.com.au/?p=aD0xMDgxJnA9MTQ2ODgwNg%3D%3D)

A flower stall will be held from 9am – 7pm outside Our Lady of the Rosary Church on the following Sundays: 28.4.24, 5.5.24 & 12.5.24. All profits go to OLR Church.





OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH FAIRFIELD

## ACOLYTE TRAINING

6 sessions - From 23rd April to 28th May every Tuesday from 6pm

For more information and to Register follow the QR Code or link below



<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1191520?>