

# Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Archdiocese of Sydney Est. 1946

28th April 2024 — Fifth 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 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

*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.



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

**Fifth Sunday of Easter— Year B**

**Entrance Antiphon**

**Cf Psalm 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 of the Apostles 9:26-31**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.*

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial**

**Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26**

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

**Second Reading**

**1 John 3:18-24**

A reading from the first letter of St John

*His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.*

My children,  
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,  
but something real and active;  
only by this can we be certain  
that we are the children of the truth  
and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence,  
whatever accusations it may raise against us,  
because God is greater than our conscience and he  
knows everything.  
My dear people,  
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,  
we need not be afraid in God's presence,  
and whatever we ask him,  
we shall receive,  
because we keep his commandments  
and live the kind of life that he wants.  
His commandments are these:  
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ

and that we love one another  
as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments  
lives in God and God lives in him.  
We know that he lives in us  
by the Spirit that he has given us.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**John 15:4-5**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;  
my branches bear much fruit.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel**

**John 15:1-8**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.*  
Jesus said to his disciples:

‘I am the true vine,  
and my Father is the vinedresser.  
Every branch in me that bears no fruit  
he cuts away,  
and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes  
to make it bear even more.  
You are pruned already,  
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.  
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.  
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,  
but must remain part of the vine,  
neither can you unless you remain in me.  
I am the vine,  
you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,  
bears fruit in plenty;  
for cut off from me you can do nothing.  
Anyone who does not remain in me  
is like a branch that has been thrown away  
– he withers;  
these branches are collected and thrown on the fire,  
and they are burnt.  
If you remain in me  
and my words remain in you,  
you may ask what you will  
and you shall get it.  
It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear  
much fruit,  
and then you will be my disciples.

**Communion Antiphon**

**Cf John 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.

Dear Friends,

Last week's liturgy called to mind the basic need we all have in wanting to belong – to be identified with various groups and organisations that give us security and identity. We recognised how we need to be aware of the extravagant love that God has given to each one of

us by allowing us to be God's children. The liturgy challenged us to recognise the identity we have in following Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

This week we are challenged to consider the need in our life for love: to love and be loved. The first reading [Acts 9:26-31] describes that very uneasy time in the life of the early Church when Saul came to Jerusalem. Here the community found themselves coming face to face with one of the greatest persecutors of the nascent Church. Perhaps a few of them knew of family or friends who had suffered persecution, imprisonment or even death at the hands of Saul. No wonder Luke tells us that the disciples were *'all afraid of him: they could not believe that he was really a disciple'*. What happens here? Barnabas, who was to become Paul's missionary companion, *'took charge of him (Saul), introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul'*. In other words, Barnabas went beyond judging Saul and loved him in a truly practical manner. This is love in action. Barnabas decided to go beyond all expectations and take care of Saul and slowly allow the disciples to accept him and his conversion. Saul had become so accepted by the disciples that when he was in danger of being killed by the Hellenists because of his preaching they took him safely to Tarsus.

This is the type of love that John speaks about in the second reading [1 John 3:18-254], when he states that our love for each other has to be deeper than mere words and sentiments but be seen and recognised in our actions. John goes on to say that this is the type of life that God wishes us to live: a life that is steeped in his commandments. John recalls that God's commandments can be brought down to two: our belief in the name of Jesus, God's Son and that we love one another. He is adamant in saying that whoever keeps these commandments lives in God and God lives in them.

The Gospel [John 15:1-8] gives us an idea of how we can be strengthened to live out this life of faith and love. By using the image of the vine and branches, John has Jesus state that those branches that are attached to him will bear much fruit: *'whoever remains in me with me in him bears fruit in plenty'*. This *'fruit'* is seen in our life of faith and love for one another. One of the ways in which we remain in Jesus, and he remains in us, is that we love in our deeds, and not merely talk about loving. **St Francis de Sales (1567-1622)** can offer us some advice on how we can do this each day. He encourages us to begin our day by being conscious of God's presence and love. Francis' prayer would be: *'My God, I know that you are here with me. You are loving me today. Help me to be conscious you are with me in everything I do and and say today.'* As we then begin each new activity during the course of the day, Francis would encourage us to be conscious again of God's presence and to ask for the help of

of God's grace so that we may undertake that activity in a way pleasing to God. Many of us may have grown up with this notion as we prayed the morning offering at the beginning of each day. In order for us to love as Jesus has loved, then we need to be focused on his person in our lives. In this way we can remember the fact that we are the branches of Jesus, the Vine, as we go about our daily tasks and living.

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

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

**Recently Deceased:** Stephen Hoffman.

**Anniversary of Death:** Josef Munchen, Giuse Tran Dinh Cam, Maria Tran Thi Phuong & Cleontina-Nicola Liberatore, Gabriel & Robert Raicevich, Anna Russo, Neil Land & Di Domenica.

**In Loving Memory of:** Maria Nguyen Thi Hien, Michele & Rosina Inzitari, Carmel Windred, Harry & Eileen Small, Albertin & Joseph Jabroo, Karmenu & Vincenza Ciantar, Domenico Marzano, Joseph & Carmen Camilleri, Vincenza & Vincenzo Cagliostro, Giacomo & Raffaele Uglietta, Charlie Camilleri, Domenica & Maria Cagliostro, The Kenk Family, Climich Family, Agresta Family, Ross Family, Raffaella Ivacic & Gruber Family.

**Sick:** Fr. Bob, Marian Kot, Doug Myers, Peter Ku & Helen Konarski.

### **Organ Replacement**

Dear Parishioners,

Please be informed that works will be happening next week to replace the organ in the Church.

### **Fairfield Maltese Seniors**

Next Meeting: **Tue 30 April @ 10:30am** in Parish Hall

**Guest Speaker:** *Aged Care Specialist - from Centrelink.*

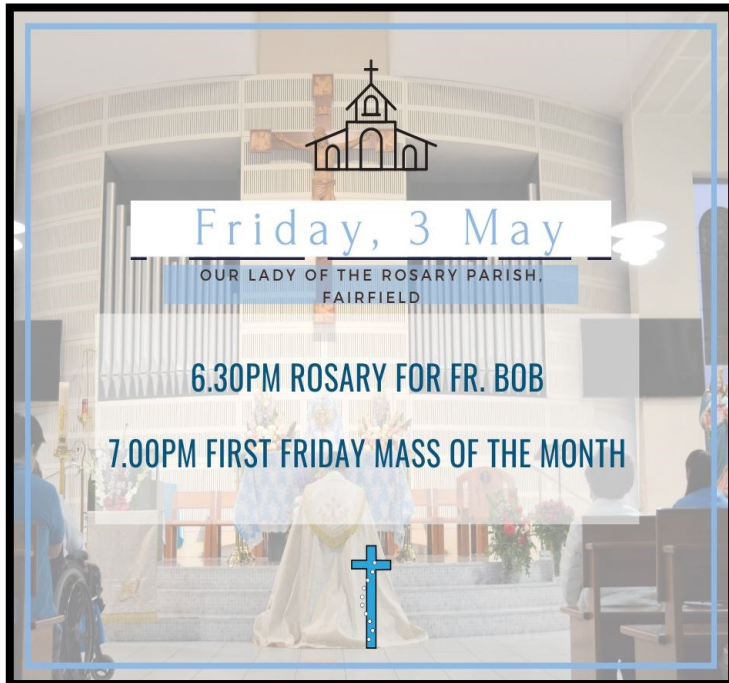
Members & Parishioners most welcome.


### **Expressions of Interest**

The Steadfast choir that sings at the Sunday 6pm Mass, is looking for volunteers to join the choir.

If you are interested please contact the Parish Office.






  
**Friday, 3 May**  
 OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH,  
 FAIRFIELD  
**6.30PM ROSARY FOR FR. BOB**  
**7.00PM FIRST FRIDAY MASS OF THE MONTH**



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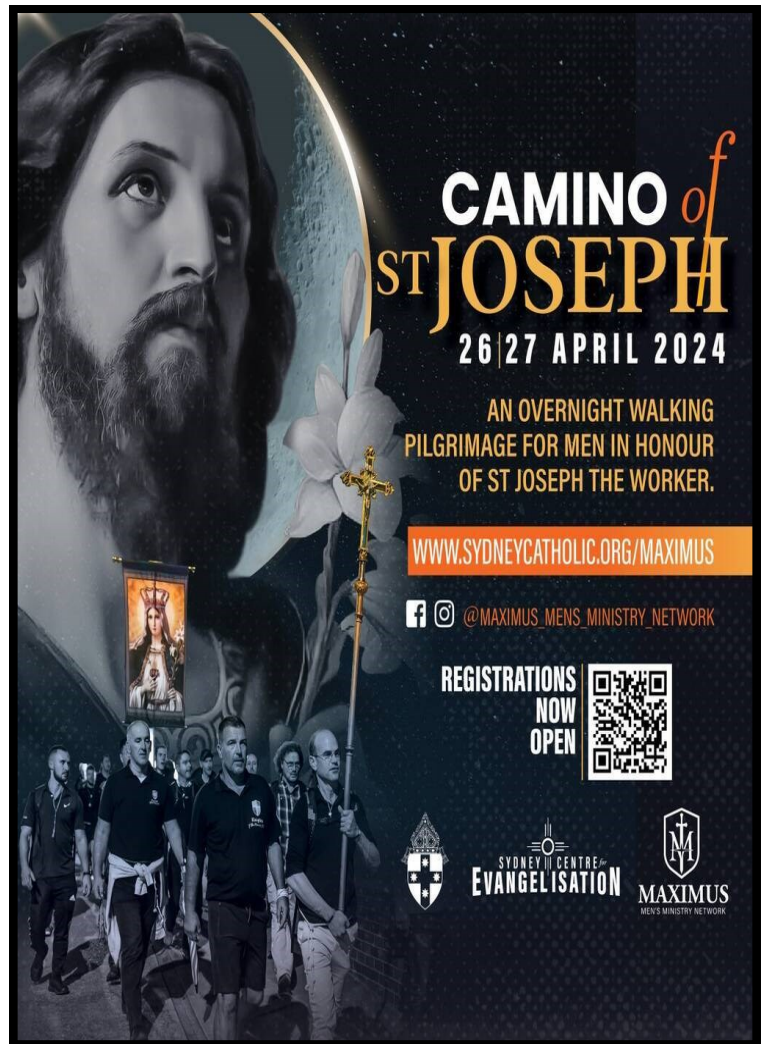
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## Mother's Day Stall


The Catholic Women's League will be holding a Mother's Day Stall outside Our Lady of the Rosary Church on:



- Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May – Vigil Mass (5-6pm) &
- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May – 9am – 11:30am

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 26|27 APRIL 2024  
 AN OVERNIGHT WALKING PILGRIMAGE FOR MEN IN HONOUR OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER.


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## Liturgy Corner

With Fr. Ben



*Question: We have two distinct parts of the Mass; the Liturgy of the Word, and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Why do they fall in this order?*

**Answer:** Anything liturgical must reflect the action of Christ, the Priest. We model what he has set out for us, and what he appoints his Apostles to do. Tradition and custom play a somewhat larger role, but

In many places in Scripture, Christ teaches (by word and by example), and then will eat. The most notable examples of this are the Last Supper, or the Road to Emmaus. A doctrine is imparted by word and example, there is an explanation, followed by a meal of some kind.

Mass, of course, is a sacred banquet; Christ's sacrifice of Calvary re-presented in an unbloodied fashion and not just a meal. But in Christ's example we see how there is a distinct ordering of how to worship. On another level, it is there not only for worship but for catechising: we need to have things explained before we go and do them.

From this, the early Apostolic tradition as we see in Acts and in Paul's letter to the Corinthians that this pattern of Word-Sacrament is continued in the early Christian communities, and then passed on to the spreading of the Faith. St. Justin Martyr, writing in 150 AD records how this is the basic structure of Christian worship, along with St. Hippolytus and other patristics authors.