



SACRED HEART PARISH

South Mount Druit

From Fr Florito's desk

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception within Advent Season

The date of the eighth of December was chosen for the feast of the Immaculate Conception not because it has something to do with Advent but because it is nine months before the feast of the Nativity of Mary on the eighth of September. It is legitimate to ask then: how does this feast fit within the Advent Season?

Since Advent is the time for waiting for the Lord and time of preparing the way for Him, we find in the Immaculate Conception the most perfect example of a human being ready to welcome the Lord. Mary was waiting for the Messiah and when the angel brought her the message, she was willing to submit and accept the challenge. She was prepared for his coming in a very unique way by being totally sinless.

The Immaculate Conception, being a special and unique grace given to Mary only, cannot be followed by us. but some other truth connected with it can be proposed for imitation. For instance:

1. Mary was pure because of her closeness to Christ, and her call to become the Mother of God. This shows that the closer one is to Christ, the more he/she will be freed from sin.
2. Mary was graced by God in a special and extraordinary way. Each one of us has his own grace-filled situation. The feast of the Immaculate Conception could be an occasion to discover the special graces given to us and to reflect how much or how little we cooperate with them.
3. The Immaculate Conception is the feast of the election of Mary and how God prepared her for her calling. In life of every believer there is such a wonderful plan of God and a special vocation. The eighth of December can become a day of deepening our call of God and to get more prepared to live it faithfully.
4. As Mary was well-prepared to welcome Christ at his first coming so must we get disposed to welcome Him in His second coming and in His coming in mystery (through sacraments, gathering and prayer).

God Bless. **Fr Florito**



This Christmas,
will you *help*
homeless women
and children?



Your kind donation today will help CatholicCare's Houses to Homes change the lives of homeless young women, who like Mary, seek a safe haven to raise their newborn child.



Sunday Masses	<u>Saturday</u>	6.00 pm Vigil	2nd Sunday of ADVENT
	<u>Sunday</u>	7.30 am & 9.00am	<u>5/12/2021:</u> Yr C
Weekday Masses	<u>Monday</u>	9.00 am	Saint Nicholas (optional)
	<u>Tuesday</u>	9.00 am	Saint Ambrose
	<u>Wednesday</u>	7.30 pm	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
	<u>Thursday</u>	9.00 am	Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
	<u>Friday</u>	9.00 am	Our Lady of Loreto (optional)
	<u>Saturday</u>	9.00 am	Saint Damasus I (optional)
Confessions	<u>Saturday:</u>	9.45- 10.15am/5.30pm-5.55 pm	
Administrator:	Mons. Ron McFarlane		
Pastoral Director:	Deacon Roderick Pirotta		
Assistant Priest:	Fr Florito Apalias		
Parish Chairperson:	Mark Buhagiar		
Church Office	22 Ropes Creek Rd, Old Mt. Druitt Ph: 9625-8847		
Email	mountdruittsouth@parracatholic.org		
Website	https://southmountdruitt.org.au		
Baptisms & Weddings	By arrangement.		



CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Friday Vigil Mass @ 8pm

Christmas Day Masses: 7.30am & 9.00am (no vigil Mass for Sunday)

Sunday Masses: 7.30am & 9.00am

Confessions for the week of Christmas: After Tuesday, Thursday and Friday morning Masses from 9.30-10.00am and Wednesday evening Mass from 8.00 – 8.30pm.

Readers	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am
December 11/12th 3rd Sunday of ADVENT	E. GEMZON L. VILLAPANA	E. MERJUDIO T. MERJUDIO	M. ZORE F. ANTOWN
December 18/19 th 4th Sunday of ADVENT	J.SALAZAR H. VILLIARICA	V. NAGARAJAN A. WIGGINS	J. BUGAYONG M. BUGAYONG

Entrance Antiphon:

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy
Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel Acclamation:

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Communion Antiphon:

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

The Neo-catechumens will be giving a series of talks on our Faith over coming weeks in the Hall next Thursday & Sunday nights starting at 7.30 pm Contact number: 0438049116

Living the gospel

Make way!

Today's gospel is a reminder to us that Advent is a season of preparation. In this case, the preparation is all about making way for the love of God in our lives. The love of God surrounds us all the time. It's like a rapidly flowing stream and sometimes we have placed boulders in the stream that send the water flowing around us. The call to make a way for the Lord is a call to clear the rocks out of the stream; to remove the obstacles that are directing the love of God around us and allow it instead to flow directly through us.



DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

No mother or child should be homeless and without support at Christmas. CatholicCare's Houses to Homes provides hope for vulnerable women and children facing abuse and hardship. Your kind donation today will help change the lives of homeless young women, who like Mary, seek a safe haven to raise their newborn child. Please give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal giving envelopes or online at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2022

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will begin early next year in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or anne.stanton@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

How to remain COVID-19 safe in the Church

- Do not come to Church if unwell/have flu symptoms.
- Use QR code or write on sheet when entering.
- Wearing of face masks is **mandatory**.
- Keep 1.5 metres distance when sitting on the pews (unless members of the same family).
- Sanitise your hands before entering and after leaving the Church.
- Choir can comprise of up to 10 vaccinated people. **No congregational singing**.
- Leave windows and doors open for ventilation.
- Wipe the pews with alcohol wipes after use.
- Avoid congestion outside church after Mass.

Parish Notices

- **Bishop's Christmas Appeal Reminder Weekend.** Donations last weekend: **\$530**. Shortfall of \$3,470. Thank you for those who donated. Please use envelopes provided or donate online if you wish to assist.
- Liturgy formation course 2022 for new ministers in the parish as readers, extraordinary ministers of Communion and Ministers of the Altar. Details in bulletin.
- Collectors, please put the 1st and 2nd Collections in the bags available and deposit them in the sacristy safe immediately after Mass.
- Reminder that QR codes and mask wearing are still mandatory in the Church. Heavy fines apply if we do not comply.

Weekly Arabic Mass available in the Diocese. There is an Arabic Mass open to everyone in the Diocese of Parramatta celebrated every Sunday at 7.15pm in St Michael's Church, Blacktown, celebrated by Fr Chadi Ibrahim SDB, Assistant Priest at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown.



For making the commission Mass with the Bishop last weekend so special.

'The Well' offering on-demand spiritual nourishment

Need some inspiration and spiritual encouragement? Why not check out The Well? The Diocese's 'on demand' streaming site has a tonne of video and prayer resources for you to explore and engage with. Our Pastoral Formation – Mission Enhancement Team have produced a series of workshops exploring synodality and what Pope Francis' Synod on Synodality means for the life of the Diocese. Visit www.thewell.org.au today.

Deceased: Dragan CUKAR, Gotfryd & Janina KELLER, Kasic & Casey KELLER, Edilberto & Epifania SALAZAR, Bernabe & Candida FUNELAS, Godfrey GUILLAUMIER, Jelka KOSTA, Vicenta & Luis PENALES, Frantisek & Apolena PAVLICEK, Ivan & Anastazie NOVAK, Karel RAJECKY, Marie SPACKOVA, Anna LACEK, Matej KOZUMPLIK, Aniceto ABAT, Henry KOSTRZEWA, Corinne PIETERSZ, Dawod & Jamil SHABO, Albert & Virgin ANTOWN, Francis & Philip D'ROZARIO, Elizabeth GOMES, Henry & Pierre FARES, Laura & Sue GENDY, Botrous SOLIMAN, Napoleon & Anita DELACRUZ, Erlinda & Irene VILLARICA, Neville MENEZES, Vincent MENDES, Nikola & Ivan MIKOSIC, Neda NENADIC, Marko & Roza SIMEON, John & Marjorie HOLMES, Thomas WIGGINS, Agatha & Mark LEE, Joseph WONG, John WOON, Moises & Estefania CHUA, Max & Naty Llave, Bogart, Rino, Eddie & John Llave; & Prima Llave

Recently deceased: Lila Rylewski; Marija Blazevic; Paul Wood

Lord Give Eternal Rest to the souls of the faithful departed.