***Parish Notices***

* **Ash Wednesday 2nd March. Masses at 9.10am and 7.00pm**
* Lenten program 2022 weekly sessions on THURSDAYS at 7.00pm for 1 hour - hymns, proclaiming the Word, breaking open the Word, reflections and sharing. Theme: REMEMBER (Diocese of Wollongong).
* Friday Masses during Lent is at 7.00pm followed by the ***Via Crucis***.
* Registration forms for the Sacrament of CONFIRMATION 2022 are at the back of the Church. Children in Year 7 and upwards are eligible to receive this Sacrament. **Closing date Sunday 27th February 2022**.
* We are calling for new Catechists for the schools to spread the Good News to our students who may never hear the Word of God. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.
* The Minister of the Word who proclaims the 1st reading will also read the ‘prayers of the faithful’ from next Sunday onwards.

Bring last year’s

p palms and olive

branches to the

Ch Church or Office by

this Monday 28th Feb.

W We will burn them

af after the 9.10am Tues

Mass. If you are

participating in the

T Tuesday Mass you

ca can bring the branches

with you.

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**PREPARATION SESSIONS**

**SAVE THE DATES**

**4 Saturdays @ 4.30pm:**

**26th March**

**9th April**

**30th April**

**7th May**

**13th May CONFIRMATION DAY.**

PRAYERS FOR THOSE in our COMMUNITY

**SICK:** Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fe Llave, Boyet Llave, Stella Edwards, &

Fara Vargas, Marjorie Tonks; Alice Cassar.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**  Gina Tomicic; Clifford Blas Ulep, Ester Obra Blando; **Dalisay Tabien**

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:** Alfred Schembri; Florence Andrews; Henry Fares; Neville Menezes; Gladys Herft; David Foley, Patricia Wiggins; Lena Ferreira; Illuninada Ronguillo; Moises Chua; Pastora & Amor Bala; Vic Guinto; Lolo & Lola Relevo; Don Eduardo Aboitiz; James Brett; Mr Torralba.Sean Vaz, Stefan Staszak, Josip Kosta; Rudy Fernandes; Ezzat Deak; Nilo Mercado; Turi TeWhata; Joseph Xuereb

***Names submitted to Parish for prayers will show for 4 weeks at a time*.**

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9 Ropes Creek Road Mt Druitt NSW 2770 <tel:98323896>

**8th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (C) 27th February 2022**



**From Fr Florito’s desk.**

**Encountering our Lord Jesus Christ in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist**

The joy of celebrating the Holy Eucharist is not only because we are able to fulfill our Sunday obligation and able to commemorate God’s love in the ultimate sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ but also in the sacramental encounter with the Lord.

When we celebrate the Holy Eucharist, we mysteriously enter a sacred time and space where and when we recognise the presence of Jesus in different forms.

First, we recognise and encounter our Lord in the Priest-presider as he celebrates Mass in the person of Christ (in persona Christi). The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) clearly states that “it is the same priest, Christ Jesus, whose sacred person his minister truly represents. Now the minister, by reason of the sacerdotal consecration which he has received, is truly made like to the high priest and possesses the authority to act in the power and place of the person of Christ Himself (virtute ac persona ipsius Christi)’ (CCC#1548). This understanding of the role of the priest-presider gives us insight that when we come for Mass we patronise Jesus the High priest who is the one celebrating the Mass. On the part of the priest-presider, it is a privilege and responsibility, but also humbling and challenging to appropriately represent Jesus (not oneself) in the celebration of the eucharist.

Second, we encounter Jesus in our consciousness of his presence in the assembly as He told us- ‘where two or three are gathered in my name there I am in their midst’ (Mt 18,20). With same purpose of coming to church and awareness that as baptised we are all temples of the Holy Spirit we see then the presence of Christ in each as well as in an assembled community. The act of standing together, standing and welcoming the ministers in procession and singing as community, indicates this reality of Jesus’ presence in our midst.

Third, we encounter our Lord in the proclamation of the word. The declaration at the end of the Scriptural readings, “The word of the Lord” and people respond with “Thanks be to God” is our way of acknowledging that it is indeed the Lord is speaking to us through the word proclaimed. The gesture of standing and acclamation before the Gospel Reading is expression of welcoming and respect as Jesus Himself speaks to us in the gospel.

Fourth we encounter our Lord as we receive him in the Holy Communion. He himself is the bread we eat and wine we drink (cf. John 6). As we take in the body of Christ, we pray that we become what we eat, that is, to truly be Christ-like.

Fifth, we encounter Jesus in our renewed mission in the dismissal and sending at the end of the Mass. The old Latin dismissal “Ite missa est” - missa {Mass}is from root word missio) which indicates to us that what we have celebrated is the whole mission of Christ and so as baptised we also share in that mission. The Mass continues on as we fulfill that mission in our daily life and in our daily activities.



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| **Sunday Masses** **Saturday 6.00 pm Vigil.** 8th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (C)  **Sunday 7.30 am & 9.00am**:  **Weekday Masses & Communion Service**s  Monday 9.10 am 8th week in Ordinary Time Communion service  Tuesday 9.10 am 8th week in Ordinary Time  Wednesday 9.10am & 7.00 pm **ASH WEDNESDAY**  Thursday 9.10 am Thurs after Ash Wednesday  Friday **7.00pm** Fri after Ash Wednesday  Saturday 9.10 am Sat after Ash Wed *Communion service*  **Confessions** Saturday: 5.30pm Fr. Florito Apalias  **Pastoral Director: Deacon Roderick Pirotta**  **Resident Priest: Fr Florito Apalias**  **Parish Chairperson: Mark Buhagiar**  **Church Office:** 22 Ropes Creek Rd, Mt. Druitt Ph: 98323896  **Email:** [**mountdruittsouth@parracatholic.org**](mailto:mountdruittsouth@parracatholic.org)  **Website:** [**https://southmountdruitt.org.au**](https://southmountdruitt.org.au)  **Baptisms & Weddings:** By arrangement | | | |
| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Readers** | **6.00pm** | **7.30am** | **9.00am** | | **26/27th February**  8th Sunday Ordinary time | E. Gemzon  J. Salazar | T. Merjudio  J. Mendes | M. Bugayong  H. Cruz | | **5th/6th March**  1st Sunday of LENT | L. Villapana  H. Villarica | V. Nagaraja  A. Wiggins | A.Wong  M. Wong | | 12th/13th March  2nd Sunday of LENT | S. Fernandez  M. Farquharson | J. D’rosario  N. McKenzie | M. Zore  F. Antown |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Readers** | **6.00pm** | **7.30am** | **9.00am** | | **5/6th February**  5th Sunday Ordinary time | J. Salazar  L Villapana | J. Mendes  V. Nagaraja | H. Cruz  M. Zore | | **12/13th February**  6**t**h Sunday Ordinary time | H. Villarica  S. Fernandez | A. Wiggins  J. D’Rosario | F. Antown  J. Bugayong | | **19/20th February**  7th Sunday Ordinary time |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | | | | |
|  | **6.00pm** | **7.30am** | **9.00am** |
| **Friday Christmas VIGIL/**  **CHRISTMAS DAY** | **8.00PM**. M.FARQUHARSON  W. FARQUHARSON | E. MERJUDIO  T. MERJUDIO | H. CRUZ  A WONG |
| **Sunday 26th December** | No Vigil Mass | V.NAGARAJA  A. WIGGINS | M BUHAGIAR  B. BUHAGIAR |
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**During LENT we will have the Lenten program on Thursdays and WAY OF THE CROSS on Fridays at 7.30pm after Mass**

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**Entrance Antiphon**: The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

**Responsorial Psalm**: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

**Gospel Acclamation**: Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life

**Communion Antiphon**: I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me,

sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

**Pastoral Formation offering leadership and formation courses in 2022**

Diocese of Parramatta has two programs FOR YOU – all offered in a COVID-safe manner.

1) Ministry Leadership Program: Perfect for current and aspiring ministry leaders. 10 or 20 sessions ($10/session).

2) Themes of Faith Program: Ideal for people interested in asking life & faith questions in discussion groups. 10 sessions ($5/session).

See our website [pfparra.org.au](file:///C:\Users\DeaconRoderickPirott\Documents\Bulletins\Pastoral%20Formation%20offering%20leadership%20and%20formation%20courses%20in%202022) or email <mailto:met@parracatholic.org> for more details

**Caritas Project Compassion 2022**

Caritas Australia’s Lenten Project Compassion campaign will start on Project Compassion Sunday (27 February) and lead us all the way towards Easter. This year’s theme For All Future Generations comes from the biblical story of the great flood (Genesis 9:12-15). It reminds us that the good we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Find out more at [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](mailto:Mt%20Schoenstatt%2024%20Hours%20for%20the%20Lord:%2025%20–%2026%20March) or contact our Diocesan Director of Caritas on Sebastian.Salaske-Lentern@parracatholic.org or 0409 399 505.

Palms Australia International Mission Information Session: 17 March

**Palms Australia** has 60 years of experience preparing and assisting Australians to learn and pass on their skills in another culture. Is one of their assignments your opportunity to Reach Beyond? Join their online forum on Thursday 17 March at 5.30pm via Zoom and hear and engage with a panel of their most experienced program participants. To find out more and to register for the forum, visit [palms.org.au/](mailto:Palms%20Australia%20International%20Mission%20Information%20Session:%2017%20March) or phone 0422 742 567.

**Mt Schoenstatt 24 Hours for the Lord: 25 -26 March**

Come and spend time in 24 hours of Adoration before Our Lord and His Mother at the Mt Schoenstatt Shrine and Retreat Centre, Mulgoa. It begins Friday 25 March at 6pm with Holy Mass and a BBQ meal, concluding Saturday 26 March at 5pm with Mass. Reconciliation will be available on Friday from 7.15pm to 10pm and Saturday 4pm to 4.45pm. For more information, contact (02) 4773 8338 or visit the Mt Schoenstatt Shrine & Retreat Centre, Mulgoa Facebook page.

**The Gift of Joy. A retreat in the Spirit of Taizé: 11 – 13 March**

The Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, is hosting a Taizé retreat from Friday 11 March at 6pm to Sunday 13 March at 12.30pm. Rest, pray and reflect in community with the songs and prayers from Taizé in the season of Lent. Workshops, group sharing and personal reflection time will be a part of this retreat. All are welcome, with a special invitation to those aged 18-35. Register and pay at <www.mtcarmel.com.au>

**Diocese of Parramatta Notices**

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During Lent all FRIDAY morning MASSES will be transferred to an evening MASS at 7.00pm, followed by the **Way of the Cross** organised by different ministries of the parish.

**CHANGES TO COVID-19 Rules in places of worship.**

**From Friday 18 February 2022:**

1. QR Code and record keeping for attendees is no longer required.

2. Both the choir and congregation are able to sing.

**From Friday 25 February 2022:**

3. Masks will no longer be mandatory for places of worship. However, masks are still strongly encouraged where you cannot maintain a safe distance from others.

4. No capacity limits in the church but try to keep 1.5 metres from anyone that is not your family.