

Parish Notices.

1. Fr Flor's farewell tomorrow Sunday 11th December after 9am Mass. Please bring a plate. There will be a sausage sizzle. Monetary gifts can be given to Deacon Rod and presented to Fr Flor on the day. A big thank you card is also at the back of the Church to sign.
2. Youth Adult Formation on Sunday 11th December at the Hustle Minchinbury at 7-8.30pm. Fr Leo Choi SDB for a talk and discussion on the GOSPEL OF JOHN.
3. Redraw of the 1st prize of the fete (Samsung tablet) will be after the 9am Mass this weekend.
4. No news yet who is replacing Fr Florito. Mons Ron McFarlane will be celebrating the weekend Masses until the new priest is assigned to our Parish. Communion Services during the week while we wait for the next priest.
5. The images of Our Lady that were removed due to the installation of the TV monitors will be hung in the Hall or sacristy respecting the heritage of the parish.
6. The Summer edition of the Catholic Outlook is out. Pick one up from the back of the Church.



SATURDAY

CHRISTMAS EVE: 8PM MASS

(no usual 6pm Vigil Mass)

SUNDAY

CHRISTMAS DAY:

7.30am & 9.00 AM MASS

PRAYERS FOR THOSE in our COMMUNITY

SICK: Maria Belisario, Annette Buttigieg; Alice Cassar; Stella Edwards, Fe Llave, Boyet Llave; Ernie Merjudio, Marjorie Tonks; Fara Vargas;. Maria Llave.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Marlon Blando; Nancy Kwan; Raymond Sica; Pero Kotarac; Beverly Panlilio; Rocky Deomampo; Teresita Parducho Alignay; Nadia Gomez; Perla Mansibang; Odile Nicholas; Perla Mansibang; Jaime Bal; Judelyn Gatchalian-Garcia; Douglas Kerr; Anthony Leong; Paul (Saki) Faleono; Thomas Dubier; Roxanne Cavanagh.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Wilhemina & George Lavis. Jess Garcia jr; Epifania & Edilberto Salazar; Lorenza Umbao; John Marjorie William; Aurther and Edith Holmes; Peggy Wheatley; Thomas & Patricia Wiggins; Margaret Smith; Sr Mary Stephen, Marija Blazevic; Jack & Joseph Staszak; Vicenta & Domingo Perales; E. Perafiel; Irene Alfonso; Epifania Flojo; Luis Perales; Teodoria Alfonso; Narciso & Juana Reyes; Elisa & Manuel San Jose; Jesus, Teresa, Edgardo & Antonio Miguel; Pat Oliver Freemay; Linda Camba; Jerry Meyer.

Death anniversaries remain on the bulletin for max 4 weeks.



SACRED HEART PARISH

SOUTH MT DRUITT

9 Ropes Creek Road Mt Druitt NSW 2770 tel: 98323896

3rd Sunday of ADVENT (A)

11th December 2022



From Fr Florito's desk



"I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus" (1 Corinthians 1:4).

With eyes of faith recognising how God is gracious to us, I say, "Thank You." I thank God for the opportunity of doing priestly ministry in the Diocese of Parramatta and here in Sacred Heart Parish. I am grateful that I have been at 'home' here with the church and people's support. And I thank God for the inspiration from friends and parishioners who truly live their Christian faith.

I thank God for the challenges I have experienced and insights I gained. I am grateful too of some relevant observations on the life of the church and society. I am amazed to see believers in a highly secularised society. I believe it is necessary to have solid formation and pastoral program for Catholic believers especially that they are being confronted with general indifference towards religions and attacks from anti-believers.

It is a time for me to move on back to the Diocese of Baguio, Philippines where I belong. The time, place, and people I encountered here have now become part of the story of my ministry and life.

God bless you all and may we all be witnesses of the true spirit and reason for the Advent and Christmas celebrations.

Fr Florito Apalias

Sunday Masses	Saturday	6.00 pm	3rd Sunday of ADVENT (A)
	Sunday	7.30 am & 9.00am	
Week day Masses	Monday	9.10 am	Monday 3rd week of Advent. (<i>Com. Serv</i>)
	Tuesday	9.10 am	Saint Lucy
	<u>Wednesday</u>	7.00pm	Saint John of the Cross
	<u>Thursday</u>	9.10am	Thursday 3 rd week of Advent
	<u>Friday</u>	9.10am	Friday 3 rd week of Advent
	Saturday	9.10am	Saturday 3 rd week of Advent
Confessions	<u>Saturday:</u>	5.00pm - 5.30pm	

Pastoral Director: Deacon Roderick Pirotta
Resident Priest: Fr Florito Apalias
Parish Chairperson: Teresa Samuels
Church Office: 22 Ropes Creek Rd, Mt. Druitt Ph: 98323896
Email: mountdruittsouth@parracatholic.org
Website: <https://southmountdruitt.org.au>
Baptisms & Weddings: By arrangement only

Fr. Fabius of Fort Portal Uganda visited the parish about 4 years ago. He made an impression on everybody by his honest, emotive, and dedicated attitude to his people. Fr. Martin, friend of Fr. Fabius wrote two booklets called 'Cuppa books.' These booklets are 'gems'. These books sell for \$20 each. \$10 to pay the printer and \$10 goes to Fr. Fabius. Money will go towards buying maize flour for the children so they can have a cup of porridge at school. Sample copies available back of the church for browsing.

Parishioners can book ahead this weekend by putting their name on the list at the back of the Church. Marisa Pongan will be at 9am Mass 18th December to purchase

Readers	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am
10th/11th December 3rd Sunday Advent	Edna Gemzon Jeric Salazar	Nathan McKenzie Elija Merjudio	Florita Abat Herbie Cruz
17th/18th December 4th Sunday Advent	Herminia Villarica Gloria Cardoza	Thomas Merjudio Joaquim Mendes	Mary Zore Jerry Cardoza
24th/25th December Christmas Day	Montana Farquharson Edna Gemzon	Vinod Nagaraja Annette Wiggins	Sara Mendonca Fadi Antown

Entrance Antiphon:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, come and save us.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

John the Baptist

Jesus is not recorded as asking the messengers about John's wellbeing. He doesn't appear to express any concern about John's imprisonment. Yet Jesus must have felt this situation very deeply. John the Baptist and Jesus were related; they were cousins. The depth of his feeling is reflected when Jesus speaks so positively and powerfully about John. It reads almost as a eulogy that might be given at a funeral; praising the greatness of the deceased. Yet regardless of John's greatness, Jesus assures his audience that even the least in the kingdom is greater than John.

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2023

Getting married in 2023? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit www.parracatholic.org/pm to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via the website. For more information, email met@parracatholic.org or phone Karin on 0403 305 431 or Marisa on 0412 280 017

CHURCH CLEANING:
17th December: Nirmala

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2023

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence 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 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

2022 Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times from parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are available now on our Diocesan website (www.parracatholic.org), on Catholic Outlook (www.catholicoutlook.org) and on our Diocesan social media channels. Merry Christmas from the Diocese of Parramatta.

Patrician Brothers College Blacktown Enrolment Opportunities

Patrician Brothers College, Blacktown, has a small number of vacancies for Year 7 2023 and is accepting early applications for 2024. Contact the College Enrolment Department for more information on (02) 8811 0300, email patricianbros@parra.catholic.edu.au or <https://forms.gle/ANccWVNQBZjQ4pSD6>

Join the Catholic Bushwalking Club

The Sydney-based Catholic Bushwalking Club seeking new members to join their club. Membership offers a choice of graded walks for a variety of fitness levels on most weekends, and some on weekdays. To learn more about the Club and to become a member, visit <http://www.cbcnsw.org.au/> or call Adriana on 0478 919 427.