

Parish Notices.

1. Finance meeting on Monday 20th February in the parish hall at 7.30pm.
2. There will be 9.10am Mass and 7pm on Ash Wednesday 22nd February.
3. Lenten program this Thursday 23rd February at 7pm: Sunday Gospel reflections, questions, and prayers.
4. This Friday Mass is at 7pm followed by “The Way of the Cross” at 7.30pm by different ministries in the parish. There will be no morning Mass on Fridays during LENT.
5. Registration for the Sacrament of Confirmation is open. Please ring the office on 98323896 or take a registration form from the back of the church and email it to the parish office.



CONFIRMATION 2023 Sacred Heart Mount Druitt South SUNDAY 21ST MAY 2023 AT 11 AM MASS

Formation sessions: Saturdays between 4.00 – 5.15pm

Session 1: 29th April 2023 (all parents **MUST** attend).

Session 2: 6th May 2023

Session 3: 13th May 2023

Session 4: 20th May 2023

Parents are encouraged to attend all sessions.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE in our COMMUNITY

SICK: Maria Belisario, Annette Buttigieg; Stella Edwards, Fe Llave, Boyet Llave; Ernie Merjudio, Fara Vargas; Maria Llave; Rudi Zele; Virgilio Manalac.

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; Primitivo Capistrano Obra; Marjorie Tonks; Eduardo Diocera.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: James Brett; Jose Canlas; Moises Chua; Ezzat Deak; Henry Fares; David Foley; Lena Ferreira; Rudy Fernandez; Gladys Herft; Vic Guinto; Allen Mcleod; Norna Meuo; Nilo Mercado; Neives Marchino; Neville Menezes; Arnella Plan; Lolo & Lola Relevo; Alfred Schembri; Stefan Staszak; Turi TeWhata; Mr Torralba; Sean Vaz; Patricia Wiggins; Joseph Xuereb.

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](tel:98323896)

7th Week Ordinary Time (A)

19th February 2023



From Deacon's Rod desk

Gospel Reflection. Matthew 5:38-48

1. Why would Jesus tell you to “Love your enemies?” Who can do that? Did Jesus tell us about a new revolutionary kind of acting when he showed us how to love our enemies? How far was he willing to go for them with his radical self-emptying? How far was the Father willing to go for his children?

2. Pope Francis speaks about the “extremism of charity.” Why does he say it is the heart of the Gospel?

... Having been touched by love, we are called to love without waiting for others to love first. ... Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. This is the Christian innovation. It is the Christian difference. Pray and love: this is what we must do; and not only with regard to those who love us, not only with regard to our friends or our own people. The love of Jesus knows no boundaries or barriers. The Lord demands of us the courage to have a love that does not count the cost. ... Yet his commandment of love is not simply a challenge; it is the very heart of the Gospel. Where the command of universal love is concerned, let us not accept excuses or preach prudent caution. The Lord was not cautious; he did not yield to compromises. He asks of us the extremism of charity. This is the only legitimate kind of Christian extremism: the extremism of love.

BABYSITTER NEEDED:

One of our parishioners is looking for a babysitter on Wednesdays and Saturdays between 8-10 pm in Mt Druitt. Contact Martha on 0450215922

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

MET FaithLIFE Scripture Course: Starting 23 February

Want to learn more about the Bible? Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3-night short course on Scripture with Dr Michele Connolly rsj, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three

Thursdays: 23 February, 2 March and 9 March. Downstairs at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. RSVP via <https://pfparra.org.au/faitlife/>

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, 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 0419 242 435 or Marisa on 0412 280

CHURCH CLEANING
24th Feb: Legion of Mary

MET – Worship Celebrating Holy Week Seminar: 4 March

The MET - Worship team is organising a seminar for acolytes and ministers at the altar (senior servers) in preparation for the celebration of Holy Week. Presented by liturgist Chris Ohlsen, the session will be held on Saturday 4 March from 9.30am to 3pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion St Blacktown. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. To RSVP by 28 February, please contact mary.gale@parracatholic.org or phone (02) 8838 3456.

Glenbrook Parish Shroud of Turin Presentation and Talk: 21 February

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a presentation by local parishioner and former journalist William West on the Shroud of Turin on Tuesday 21 February at 7.30pm. William will discuss the history of the Shroud, which he explores in his book *Riddles of the Shroud – Questions Science Can't Answer*. Entry is via gold coin donation. To RSVP, please contact secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Historical CONTEXT

Walk two miles

Roman soldiers were allowed by their own military laws to require any person to carry the soldier's pack along the road from one milestone marker to another. That is, they could order a man to walk one mile with their pack. If they made someone carry their pack for more than one mile, the soldier himself was subject to discipline and punishment. Jesus says, 'If anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him.' Like turning the other cheek, it is turning the tables on the one who would oppress you and bringing shame upon them.