



# Our Lady of the Rosary

Catholic Church

26 Swanston Street, St Marys, NSW 2760

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Parish Email: secretaryolrchurch@iinet.net.au

Parish Website: www.olrchurchstmarys.org.au



## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A -

14 December 2025

### Entrance Antiphon:

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

### First Reading:

Is 35:1-6, 10

*God himself will come and save us.*

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy. The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God. Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy, for those the Lord has ransomed shall return. They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.

### The Word of the Lord



### Responsorial Psalm:

**(R.) Lord, come and save us.**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**



### Responsorial Psalm:

**(R.) Lord, come and save us.**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. **(R.)**

3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

### Second Reading:

Jas 5:7-10

*You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.*

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

### The Word of the Lord

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

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

### GOSPEL:

Mt 11:2-11

*Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?*

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.' As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

### The Gospel of the Lord

### Communion Antiphon:

Say to the faint of heart:  
Be strong and do not fear.  
Behold, our Saviour will come,  
you need no longer fear.

# IN OUR PARISH

## PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr. Brendan Murphy SDB  
 Assistant Priest: Fr Joseph Huong Vu SDB  
 Parish Secretary: Fleur Mathias  
 Parish Telephone: 9623 1962  
 Parish Email: [secretaryolrchurch@inet.net.au](mailto:secretaryolrchurch@inet.net.au)  
 Parish Website: [www.olrchurchstmarys.org.au](http://www.olrchurchstmarys.org.au)

**Enquiries:** Please phone the Parish Office between  
 9:30am - 12:00pm & 1:00pm - 3:30pm, Monday to Friday.

**Salesian Community:** Phone: 9623 1220

Rector: Fr Brendan Murphy SDB

**Don Bosco Youth Centre:** Phone: 9623 0450

Director: Fr Jeff Miller SDB

## Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School

Principal: Mr Michael Siciliano  
 Phone: 8856 8301  
 Email: [olorstmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:olorstmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
 Web: [www.olorstmarys.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olorstmarys.catholic.edu.au)

## Emmaus Catholic College

Principal: Mrs Gabriela Osterlund  
 Phone: 9670 4588  
 Email: [emmaus@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:emmaus@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
 Web: [www.emmauskempscreek.catholic.edu.au](http://www.emmauskempscreek.catholic.edu.au)

## RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Wednesday: 11:15am - 11:45am. Mass at 12 noon

Saturdays: 9:00am - 10:00am, 5:00pm - 5:30pm



## PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

24 hours, 7 days a week in the Adoration Chapel.  
 (All are welcome)

## MASSES THIS WEEK

### Sat 13 Dec ST LUCY

6:00pm Amy and Robert Franco

### Sun 14 Dec THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30am Lourdes Kibanoff  
 9:00am Lucy, Brian and Family  
 10:30am Bobby Jose  
 5:30pm Angela Barca

### Mon 15 Dec

6:30am Edison Saynes  
 9:00am Kevin Dwyer

### Tues 16 Dec

6:30am Holy Souls in Purgatory  
 9:00am Natalie Kay Correy

### Wed 17 Dec ST JOSEPH MANYANET

6:30am Estrellita Cui  
 12noon Geraldo Gaudios

### Thu 18 Dec

6:30am Ercegs Femili  
 9:00am Gloria & Armando Avila

### Fri 19 Dec

6:30am Holy Souls in Purgatory  
 9:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Sat 20 Dec ST PETER CANISIUS

8:00am Grguric Family

Misa De Galo Mass at 5:00am, 16 - 24 December

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

### Jesus the Healer, we commend to your gentle hands

Michelle Edwards, Mick Boyle, Susana Quinonez, Argarita, Cesar, Rosario Valverde, Marylin Villamor, Margaret Gallagher, Rose Cauci, Emmanuel & Josephine Vella, Maya Glinski, Ruth Magnaye, Jorge Oliveras, Josephine Evans, Tenesha Faulkner, Linda Weightman, Rudy Rupac, Elinda Lopez, Norma Sulvita, Michael McDermot, Julieta Miguel, Reynaldo Handog, Wayne Reynolds, Maryanne Santos, Denise Blanche, Patrick Levelle, Tomas Ilagan, Fr Bob Bossini, Bertha Wetton, Cocksedge Family, Dexter Assey, Peyton Daley, Mario Cauchi, Robert Engelebrecht, Reynaldo Bendayral, David Freeman, Vanessa Trujillo, Renee Azzopardi, Sarafino Enadid, Juliet Lee, Margaret Lawrence, Ashton D'Costa, Rolando Aguda, Hugo Labra, Shiv Naiker, Andre Rodriguez, Ginnah Alia, David Freeman, Susie Lipstack, Charlise McMillan, Crystal Darcy, Zdravko & Marija Palovic, Evotia Letele, Karen Barret, Josephine Mitchell, Emelita Howlett, Richard Dauglash, Emma Tucker, Jackie Cullen, Vicky Xerri, Esperanza Mirafeuntes, Abraham Thomas, Reetahmma Abraham, Sophia Furey, Alicia Bulatao, Mhom Samson, David Villamor, Adam Burton.

## PRAYERS FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED

### Please remember in your prayers our deceased parishioners, family and friends especially

Zenobius Choi, Violat Fernando, Ernesto Cunanan, Colin Kelson, Maria Spiteri, Wieslawa Snopkowski, Judy Winterton, Bishop Peter Ingham, Adrian O'Brien, Tony Pearsall, Danica Cirjak, Betty Smith, Peter Borg, Patricia McGee, Marie Thompson, Gloria Rivas, Valerie Hennessy, Lucy Levelle, Lolita Allarey, Bishop Kevin Manning, Maria Anh Nguyen, Elvis Vaz, Roland Peters, Roberto Rayco, Sr Mary Griffiths, Sr Therese-Anne Curmi FMA, Sr Kathleen Hanna FMA., Cynthia Sulvita, Evelyn McVey, Patrick Nathaniel, Sybil Williams, Karl Kiseli, Kevin Piesley, Foad Sakkour, Antonio Oliverio, Peter Dorakay, Janice McKelvie, Marc Norric, Cecilia Milo, Richard Scibberas, Edna Coles, John Joe Noonan, Ben Santiago, Rolando Aguda, Maria Crastic, David Reddin, Noelene Trower, Evelyn Bates, Peter Nicholson, Remon Goldstone, Maria Pace, Dominica Rositano, Vijaya N Perera, Pauline Harris, Pauline Carr, Phyllis Cross, Ellen Buss, Joseph Khanh Le, Bill Burke, Rainer Cruz, Henryk Kowalczyk, John Ross Birch, John Rodriguez, Argyna Santiago, Pope Francis, Nozha Mey, Denis McGee, Rodney Blundell, Jamie Dowsett, Ivan Canic, Josh Bulloch, Ruth Borg, Ostono Vaurasi, Len Dettling, Damian Bonser, Sr Joanna Healey, Clementina Canuto, Ross Graham, Paul Muscat, Lenin Nunes, Frank Stricek, Christine Walker, Paz Jacinto, Perry Peisley, Beryl Martin, Pauline Rogers, Carmel Jeffery, Greg Whitby, Charlie Kirk, Marie Rosario, Suzana Stojcevski, Fr John Briffa SDB, Fr Frank Moloney SDB, Mary Kumar, Serge Nalletamby, Peter Aquilina, Angela Barca, Victoria Borg, Deacon Petelo Savea, Andrew Vaessen

**Eternal rest grant unto their souls O Lord, let light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen**

## 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Collections:

**We Thank you for your generosity and ongoing support.**

**If you prefer to donate via ONLINE BANKING,**

**Please refer to details below:**

**(1st Collection) - For the Clergy's sustentation & care**

**BSB NO:** 067 950 **ACCOUNT NO:** 00004414

**ACCOUNT NAME:** St Marys Pastoral Revenue

**(2nd Collection) - Parish Ministry & Maintenance**

**BSB NO:** 067 950 **ACCOUNT NO:** 100000329

**ACCOUNT NAME:** St Marys Catholic Church

*First Collection (previous weekend)* \$2295

*Second Collection (previous weekend)* \$2245

*Tap & Go Donations* \$1959.70

## TAP & GO MACHINES

**The two New Tap & Go machines in the church, donations go towards the Church Refurbishment.**

*Kindly Select your donation amount \$5, \$10, \$20 or other.*

## COMING EVENTS FOR THE DIARY

14 Dec: **Carols by Candlelight, 7:30pm**  
15 Dec: Holy Wounds Devotion, Church, 7:30pm  
16 Dec: **2nd Rite of Reconciliation, 7:30pm**  
16-24 Dec: Misa De Galo Mass (English), **5:00am**  
21 Dec: **Farewell - Fr Brendan, Br David**  
21 Dec: Charismatic Healing Mass, 2:00 pm



## WE WELCOME

Kaia Phillips, Summer Awut Akon,  
Melody Maddison Beazley, Nazareth  
Leonido Pullan, Adele Penelope Doyle

**into our Parish Family through the Sacrament of Baptism.**

## OLR - BEE HIVE HONEY

Honey for sale after all Masses this weekend **14 December 2025.**



**\$10 per jar. Only while stock lasts.**

*Pure Raw 100% natural honey with all its natural goodness. from our very own Bee Hive.*

## Carols by Candlelight

**Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> December**

**Time: 7:15pm for 7.30pm start**

**MacKillop Centre, Cnr Swanston & Collins St**

*Children are welcome to come dressed as Angels & Shepherds.*

**If any choirs / singers would like to participate kindly contact Tina on 0402 619 250.**

**Bring your own snacks, drinks, chairs, candles.**

**Cardinal Newman Centre will be open on the night for purchase of Christmas Gifts**

**Strictly No Alcohol permitted on the premises**



Dear Adorers,

As we approach the Christmas season and the New Year, we sincerely thank you for your continued commitment and devotion to Adoration this throughout this year.

**Please Note:** we will be taking a break, the Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed from **Monday 23 December from 12:00 noon until 12:00 noon Thursday 2 January 2026.**

During this period, we encourage you to take the time to rest, be renewed, and spend quality time with your family and loved ones.

*Although the Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed during this time, the chapel will remain open for private prayer. You are welcome to come in for quiet personal time with the Lord in the Tabernacle.*

We also advise that some cleaning and maintenance may occur during this period.

Once again we Thank you all for your commitment and dedication to adoring our Lord. We look forward to your presence once

## FAREWELL & THANK YOU!

**Fr Brendan Murphy**

**SUNDAY 21 December 2025**

**Bishop Vincent will be celebrating the 10:30am Mass thereafter to the Don Bosco Youth Centre 11:30am to 2:30pm**

We will also be farewelling Br David O'Brien  
Everyone is invited to come along to this Special Event. Please bring a dish to share to help with the catering.

*Catering Details in the Church Foyer*

## CAFÉ IVAN SOUP KITCHEN

by KKOTTONGNAE & OLR

We welcome our needy neighbours for a warm meal on **Thursdays,**

**6pm - 7pm, Parish Hall Basement.**

*(corner of Swanston St and Collins St, St Marys)*

**We are looking for volunteers to cook meals (once a month) If you are able to help kindly speak to**

**Br James KBJ or email: [ke8djg@gmail.com](mailto:ke8djg@gmail.com)**



## IMMACULATE MARY STATUE

**Mrs Helena Kubala  
12 Beatty St, St Marys**

If you would like the Rosary Statue in your home for a week, kindly contact Mr & Mrs Johnson 0404 028 823.



## Dominican Friars and Sisters Weekend Retreat

Single adults, ages 18-35

Venue: St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park

Date: 3-15 February 2026.

*Retreat includes talks, discussion, silence, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass, fellowship.*

Places limited. Fee: \$300 pp.

<https://www.trybooking.com/DHJBL>



December 14 2025  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**Gaudete Sunday**



Dear Parishioners,

**Gaudete Sunday today:** *Gaudete* is a Latin word meaning 'Rejoice'. The theme in the liturgy today is joy.

**New Salesian Rector:**

Provincial Fr Peter Hoang SDB has recently announced the new rector for the St Marys Salesian community, Fr. Petelo Vito Pau SDB.

We thank God for the gift of Fr Petelo, and await our opportunity to welcome him in the new year.

**Carols by Candlelight** this evening, Sunday December 14. See inside this bulletin for details. Bring your friends and neighbours.

**Thank you** to those who have set up our crib in the church front yard.

**Sister Anna FMA** leaves us for Vietnam this week. She will return to St Marys after Christmas to assist in the Youth Centre during January before moving to Engadine. Safe journey, Sister, and happy Christmas.

**Situation vacant:** Our sculptor, Marijan, who gave us Our Lady of Fatima last year, is about to undertake a smaller project, carving in the same granite rosary beads to adorn the church sandstone wall. Is there someone who has the time and willingness to assist Marijan in this project? Someone who would like to work in stone... This might be a great opportunity for someone to learn.

**Adoration Chapel:** Please note that there will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Adoration Chapel from Tuesday December 23 12 noon until Friday January 2 12 noon. The chapel remains available for personal prayer.

**Coming Up:**

**Sun Dec 14:** Parish Carols by Candlelight.

**Tues Dec 16:** 5:00am Misa di Gallo Mass.

**7:30pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation.**

**Tues Dec 23** 12 noon – **Friday Jan 2** 12 noon:

No exposition in Adoration Chapel.

**Christmas Masses:**

**Wed Dec 24: 6:30pm, 8:30pm, 12 midnight.**

**Thurs Dec 25: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am.**

**NO Evening Mass on Christmas Day**

**Wed Dec 31:** 11:00pm Adoration. 11:20pm Mass.

**Thurs Jan 1:** Masses 6:30am, 9:00am.

God bless.

Fr Brendan



**100th anniversary of the First Saturday devotion:**  
**Origin of the First Saturday devotion**

On December 10, 1925, the feast of **Our Lady of Loreto**, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Sr. Lucia at a convent in Pontevedra, Spain.

In this new private revelation **eight years after the visions at Fatima**, Mary requested the institution of the **five consecutive First Saturday devotions in reparation to her Immaculate Heart**.

Here are the words of the Virgin Mary: "Look, My daughter, at My Heart, surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce Me at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console Me and announce in My name that I promise to assist at the moment of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, **on the first Saturday of five consecutive months**, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep Me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to Me."

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**Charlie Kirk was 'close' to becoming a Catholic as he meditated on Virgin Mary as solution to 'toxic feminism'**

The assassinated conservative activist Charlie Kirk was reportedly close to becoming a Catholic at the time of his death, which included him considering the Virgin Mary as a solution to "toxic feminism" in the United States.

Robert Brennan, a Los Angeles-based writer and the brother of Bishop Joseph Brennan of Fresno, California, has written about how Kirk had a "personal exchange" with the Californian prelate about a week before the 31-year-old CEO and co-founder of Turning Point USA was killed at Utah Valley University on 10 September, reports the Catholic News Agency (CNA).

In an 18 September column for *Angelus*, the Los Angeles archdiocesan newspaper, Robert Brennan wrote that Kirk had spoken to his bishop brother at a prayer breakfast, telling the prelate "about his Catholic wife and children and how he attended Mass with them".

Kirk had acknowledged "speculation" about his interest in becoming Catholic and told Bishop Brennan: "I'm this close" to converting, Robert Brennan wrote in *Angelus*.

Brennan notes that his brother had given him permission to share the story. He also highlights a recent video made by Kirk, in which while the evangelical Christian acknowledged some "big disagreements" with Catholicism, he also discussed how Protestants "under-value" the Virgin Mary. "We don't talk about Mary enough. We don't venerate her enough," said Kirk, arguing that Mary is "the solution [to] toxic feminism" in the US.

September 20, 2025 [The Catholic Herald](https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/charlie-kirk-was-close-to-becoming-a-catholic-as-he-meditated-on-virgin-mary-as-solution-to-toxic-feminism)

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