



Entrusted to the Salesians of Don Bosco

# Our Lady of the Rosary

Catholic Church

26 Swanston Street, St Marys, NSW 2760

Tel: (02) 9623 1962

Parish Email: [secretaryolrchurch@iinet.net.au](mailto:secretaryolrchurch@iinet.net.au)

Parish Website: [www.olrchurchstmarys.org.au](http://www.olrchurchstmarys.org.au)



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A - 21 December 2025

### Entrance Antiphon:

Drop down dew from above,  
you heavens, and let the clouds  
rain down the Just One;  
let the earth be opened and  
bring forth a Saviour.

### First Reading:

Is 7:10-14

*The virgin will conceive.*

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said,  
'Ask the Lord your God for a sign  
for yourself coming either from  
the depths of Sheol or from the  
heights above.' 'No', Ahaz an-  
swered 'I will not put the Lord to  
the test. 'Then Isaiah said: 'Listen  
now, House of David: are you not  
satisfied with trying the patience  
of men without trying the pa-  
tience of my God, too? The Lord  
himself, therefore, will give you a  
sign. It is this: the maiden is with  
child and will soon give birth to  
a son whom she will call Emman-  
uel, a name which means  
'God-is-with-us'.'

**The Word of the Lord**

### Responsorial Psalm:

**(R.) Let the Lord enter; he is  
king of glory.**

1. The Lord's is the earth and  
its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm. **(R.)**

2. Who shall climb the mountain  
of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The man with clean hands and  
pure heart, who desires not  
worthless things. **(R.)**

3. He shall receive blessings  
from the Lord and reward  
from the God who saves him.  
Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob.  
**(R.)**

### Second Reading:

Rom 1:1-7

*Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the  
Son of God.*

From Paul, a servant of Christ  
Jesus who has been called to be  
an apostle, and specially chosen  
to preach the Good News that  
God promised long ago through  
his prophets in the scriptures.  
This news is about the Son of God,  
who, according to the human na-  
ture he took, was a descendant of  
David: it is about Jesus Christ our  
Lord who, in the order of the spir-  
it, the spirit of holiness that was  
in him, was proclaimed Son of  
God in all his power through his  
resurrection from the dead.

Through him we received grace  
and our apostolic mission to  
preach the obedience of faith to  
all pagan nations in honour of his  
name. You are one of these na-  
tions, and by his call belong to  
Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who  
are God's beloved in Rome, called  
to be saints, may God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ send  
grace and peace.

**The Word of the Lord**



### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

A virgin will give birth to a son;  
his name will be Emmanuel:  
God is with us.

**Alleluia!**



### GOSPEL:

Mt 1:18-24

*Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of  
Joseph, a son of David.*

This is how Jesus Christ came to  
be born. His mother Mary was  
betrothed to Joseph; but before  
they came to live together she  
was found to be with child  
through the Holy Spirit. Her hus-  
band Joseph, being a man of hon-  
our and wanting to spare her  
publicity, decided to divorce her  
informally. He had made up his  
mind to do this when the angel of  
the Lord appeared to him in a  
dream and said, 'Joseph son of  
David, do not be afraid to take  
Mary home as your wife, because  
she has conceived what is in her  
by the Holy Spirit. She will give  
birth to a son and you must name  
him Jesus, because he is the one  
who is to save his people from  
their sins.' Now all this took  
place to fulfil the words spoken  
by the Lord through the prophet:  
The virgin will conceive and give  
birth to a son and they will call  
him Emmanuel, a name which  
means 'God-is-with-us'. When  
Joseph woke up he did what the  
angel of the Lord had told him to  
do: he took his wife to his home.

**The Gospel of the Lord**

### Communion Antiphon:

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive  
and bear a son; and His name  
will be called Emmanuel.

# 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: [secretary@olrchurch@inet.net.au](mailto:secretary@olrchurch@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: Mrs Jackie Willard  
 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 20 Dec ST PETER CANISIUS**  
 6.00pm Roland Peters
- Sun 21 Dec FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
  
 7:30am Jurado and Rubio Families  
 9:00am Café Ivan (Soup Kitchen) members  
 10:30am Benjamin Santiago  
 5:30pm Cyril & Constance Wijeratne
- Mon 22 Dec**  
 6:30am Ernesto Cunanan  
 9:00am Concepcion Family
- Tues 23 Dec ST JOHN OF KANTY**  
 6:30am Deceased Parishioners  
 9:00am Darlene & Dereck Family
- Wed 24 Dec CHRISTMAS EVE**  
 6:30am and 12noon  
 6:30pm, 8:30am, Midnight
- Thu 25 Dec CHRISTMAS DAY**  
  
 7:30am Bruce Fernandes  
 9:00am Ivan Canic  
 10:30am Pro Populo
- Fri 26 Dec ST STEPHEN**  
 6.30am Gerald O'Sullivan  
 9:15am Josekutt J, Matthews, Shinju
- Sat 27 Dec HOLY INNOCENTS, ST JOHN, APOSTLE**  
 8.00am Gerard Ryan, Paul Ruhl

## 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, 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 Lipstick, Charlise McMillan, Crystal Darcy, Zdravko & Marija Palovic, Evotia Letele, Karen Barret, Josephine Mitchell, Emelita Howlett, Richard Dauglash, Emma Tucker, Jackie Cullen, Vicky Xerri, Esperanza Mirafuentes, Abraham Thomas, Reetahmma Abraham, Sophia Furey, Mhom Samson, David Villamor, Adam Burton, Annabelle Rego.

## PRAYERS FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED

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

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 Detting, 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, Alicia Bulatao, Milly Martin.

**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)* \$2505

*Second Collection (previous weekend)* \$1591

*Tap & Go Donations* \$1562

## 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

Parish office will be closed from  
24 December to 4 January 2026



**Don Bosco Youth Centre  
will be closed from  
21 December 25 to 3 January 26**

### CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

6:30pm, 8:30pm, Midnight

### CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am (No Evening Mass)



## CHRISTMAS MASSES



### CHRISTMAS EVE - 24 DECEMBER

#### MASSES

#### ACOLYTE

#### READER

**6:00pm CAROLS**

**6:30pm** Peter Morgan

Elle Matthys  
Kathy Faulkner

**8:00pm CAROLS**

**8:30pm** Leon Ross

John Sequeira  
Dylan Sequeira

**11:30pm CAROLS**

**Midnight Mass** Steve Buhagiar

Rhia Victorino  
Cynthia Arndt

### CHRISTMAS DAY - 25 DECEMBER

#### MASSES

#### ACOLYTE

#### READER

**7:30am** Kevin Brady

Veronika V  
Adrian Vulcik

**9:00am** Mick Bolonia

Niela Valenton  
Fedilies M

**10:30am** Philip Sebastian

Steffi Sequeira  
Parry Sequeira



## FAREWELL & THANK YOU!

**Fr Brendan Murphy**

**SUNDAY 21 December 2025**

**Bishop Vincent celebrating the 10:30am Mass  
thereafter to the Don Bosco Youth Centre  
11:30am to 2:30pm. All Welcome.**

## OLR PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

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

**Tuesday 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 again in the New Year.

**Wishing you and your families a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year 2026.**



## 2026 PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES



Please collect your Planned Giving envelope box from the church foyer.

Anyone who wishes to be part of the planned giving programme, kindly contact the Parish office on Mondays during office hours.  
God bless you.

## NEPEAN HOSPITAL

**Catholic Priest and Chaplaincy Service**

**Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm please call**

**47343150** and leave details - **Name, Ward, Bed No.**

and a Priest or Chaplain will visit the patient for Anointing, Holy Communion or a Supportive Visit.

**Monday-Friday between 5pm -9am and weekends** call the switch board for end of life anointing. To get a Priest in an emergency, request the nurse caring for the patient to ring the switchboard on **47342000** or you can phone the switchboard and make the request.



## December 21 2025 4th Sunday of Advent

*Dear Parishioners,*

**Welcome, Bishop Vincent,** celebrating our 10:30am Mass this morning, Sunday. Thank you for coming at this busy time.

**(Please see Bishop Vincent's pastoral letter below.)**

**Condolences:** We offer our sympathy to Mrs Annie Molejona on the loss of her mother Alicia Bulatao this week. May she rest in peace.

**Bondi tragedy:** Let us continue to pray for the deceased, for peace and reconciliation, and for effective action to restore and preserve civil harmony.

**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:**

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.**

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

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

*God bless.*

*Fr Brendan*

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### **Bishop Vincent's pastoral letter on the Bondi shooting: 15 December 2025**

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

*The tragedy at Bondi Beach yesterday has shocked and deeply saddened our entire community, with many carrying fear, grief and unanswered questions. Such violence is a grave assault on human dignity and can never be justified. We condemn this act unequivocally and reject all hatred that seeks to harm innocent people. There is no place for antisemitism, especially in Australia.*

*Together with all people, and with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, we stand in solidarity with the Jewish community and pray for all those affected – those who have lost their lives or been injured, and the many individuals, families and communities whose lives have been changed in an instant.*

*We also pray for the first responders, healthcare workers, and members of the public who acted with courage and compassion in the face of danger – protecting others, offering help and bringing calm and support amid uncertainty. These acts of self-giving love and care reflect the very best of our humanity, our shared values, and our hope for each other.*

*Let us continue to offer our care, compassion and prayers, calling on Mary, our Mother and Queen of Peace, to intercede for us.*

*At times like this, it is vital that we do not allow fear or anger to divide us. Violence, retaliation and discrimination are never the answer, even in the face of terrorism and antisemitism.*

*As Pope Leo XIV reminds us, peace is "an unarmed peace and a disarming peace, humble and persevering. It comes from God, God who loves us all unconditionally." This is the peace to which we are called, even when the path is difficult.*

*I invite our Diocesan community to pray for healing, for comfort for all who mourn, and for a renewed commitment to unity, mutual respect and peace across our diverse faiths and cultures. May we continue to stand together against violence in all its forms. May God be close to all who are suffering, and may His peace rest upon our community.*

*Yours sincerely in Christ,*

**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM**  
**Conv. Bishop of Parramatta**

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### **St John Henry Newman on Christmas Joy:**

"The Angel honoured a humble lot by his very appearing to the shepherds; next he taught it to be joyful by his message ... "Fear not," said the Angel, "for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

"Such were the words which the blessed Spirits who minister to Christ and His Saints, spoke on that gracious night to the shepherds, to rouse them out of their cold and famished mood **into great joy**; to teach them that they were objects of God's love as much as the greatest of men on earth; nay more so, for to them first He had imparted the news of what that night was happening ... It is a day of joy: it is good to be joyful—it is wrong to be otherwise.

"Let us seek the grace of a **cheerful heart**, an even temper, sweetness, gentleness, and brightness of mind, as walking in His light, and by His grace. Let us pray Him to give us the spirit of ever-abundant, ever-springing love, which overpowers and sweeps away the vexations of life by its own richness and strength, and which above all things unites us to Him who is the fountain and the centre of all mercy, lovingkindness, and joy."

