



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

Parish Website: www.olrchurchstmarys.org.au

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A - 26 July 2026

Entrance Antiphon:

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell
in his house; he himself gives
might and strength to his people.

First Reading:

1 Kgs 3:5.7-12

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved,
O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means
more to me than silver and gold.
(R.)

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) Lord, I love your commands

2. Let your love be ready to
console me by your promise
to your servant.
Let your love come to me and
I shall live for your law is my
delight. *(R.)*

3. That is why I love your
commands more than finest
gold. That is why I rule my life
by your precepts:
I hate false ways. *(R.)*

4. Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives
light and teaches the simple. *(R.)*

Second Reading:

Rom 8:28-30

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones
the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!



GOSPEL:

Mt 13:44-52 (or shorter form Mt 13:44-46)

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his store-room things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon:

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

IN OUR PARISH

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr. Jeff Miller SDB
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Gersio Amaral SDB
 Parish Secretary: Fleur Mathias
 Asst. Secretary: Violetta B (Monday)
 Parish Telephone: 9623 1962
 Parish Email: secretaryolrchurch@inet.net.au
 Parish Website: 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

Don Bosco Youth Centre: Phone: 9623 0450
 Director: Fr Joseph Huong SDB

Salesian Sisters:
 Community Leader: Sr Edna Mary McDonald

Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School
 Principal: Ms Jackie Willard Phone: 8856 8301
 Email: olorstmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au
 Web: www.olorstmarys.catholic.edu.au

Emmaus Catholic College
 Principal: Mrs Gabriela Osterlund Phone: 9670 4588
 Email: emmaus@parra.catholic.edu.au
 Web: www.emmauskempscreek.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday: 6:30am, 9:00am, 7:00pm
 Saturday: 8:00am, 6:00pm
 Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 5:30pm

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Jesus the Healer, we commend to your gentle hands
 Marilyn Villamor, Margaret Gallagher, Rose Cauci, Emmanuel & Josephine Vella, Maya Glinski, Ruth Magnaye, Jorge Oliveras, Josephine Evans, Brian Xerri, Tenesha Faulkner, Rudy Rupac, Elinda Lopez, Norma Sulvita, Michael McDermot, Reynaldo Handog, Wayne Reynolds, Maryanne Santos, Denise Blanche, Patrick Levelle, Peyton Daley, Mario Cauchi, Robert Engelebrecht, Reynaldo Bendayral, Vanessa Trujillo, Renee Azzopardi, Juliet Lee, Margaret Lawrence, Ashton D'Costa, Rolando Aguda, Hugo Labra, Andre Rodriguez, Ginnah Alia, David Freeman, Susie Lipstack, Crystal Darcy, Zdravko & Marija Palovic, Evotia Letele, Karen Barret, Josephine Mitchell, Emelita Howlett, Emma Tucker, Allan & Jackie Cullen, Esperanza Mirafeuntes, Fr S.R, Abraham Thomas, Reetahmma Abraham, Sophia Furey, Mhom Samson, Aurora Jimenez, Adam Burton, Arou Akot, Jozef Karkowski, Ronald Manzano, Anna Juresa, Ronnie D'costa, Beatrice Leary, Lorraine Damian, Fr Jepsen B, Monica Thomas, Shuashawnee Hancock, Miloh Molesi, Blanche Jones, Clare LeGrand, Renato Manongdo, Bernard Prendergast, Merwyn D'Souza, Bertha Wetton, Bobby Jose, Edward Sebastiano, Corrine Cedor, Joe Duval.

RECONCILIATION TIMES

Saturdays: 9:00am - 10:00am and 5:00pm - 5:30pm
 Mon to Fri: 7:30pm to 8:00pm (after the 7pm Mass)

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat 25 July ST JAMES
 6:00pm Camillo Piccirilli

Sun 26 July SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME
 7:30am Susan Avila and siblings
 9:00am Charlie Buttigieg
 10:30am Jim & Monica Galea
 5:30pm Pro Populo

Mon 27 July
 6:30am Sr M Rebecca
 9:00am Victoria Borg
 7:00pm Raphael Blazevic

Tue 28 July ST ALPHONSA OF INDIA
 6:30am Devonshire & Cortis Family
 9:00am Pablo De Silva
 7:00pm Wilson Filamor

Wed 29 July ST MARTHA, MARY, LAZARUS
 6:30am Tommy Duic
 9:00am Nathan Gary Newson
 7:00pm Olivia and Mark

Thu 30 July ST PETER CHRYSOLOGUS
 6:30am Holy Souls in Purgatory
 9:00am Colleen Assimus
 7:00pm Karam Family

Fri 31 July ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA
 6:30am Holy Souls in Purgatory
 9:00am Grguric Family
 7:00pm Bill Montgomery

Sat 1 Aug ST ALPHONSO LIGOURI
 8:00am Milan, Michael and Martin

PRAYERS FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED

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

Peter Aquilina, Angela Barca, Victoria Borg, Deacon Petelo Savea, Andrew Vaessen, Milly Martin, Alicia Bulatao, Pasquale Bellino, Br Rey Pongo, Tony Martin, Patricia Armstrong, Stephen Neville, Raymond Clarke, Sarafino Enadid, Felicia Sisinni, Eileen Morrow, Vincent Leary, Pellegrino Penna, Lucija Jeronic, Chito Redoblado, Vicky Xerri, Linda Weightman, Norma O'Sullivan, Peter Gatchalian, Maria Maciejewska, Janene Martin, Maria Rohrlach, Theresa Menezes, Manolo Lobrin, MaryAnn Salazar, Camillo Piccirilli, Jose Maria Pepingco, Charlie Buttigieg, Grace Micallef, Stipe Kulas, Josephine Saporita, Antonietta D'Angola.

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

1st and 2nd 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) \$1450

Second Collection (previous weekend) \$2120

Tap & Go Donations \$2722.33

Collections are no longer conducted during weekend Masses. A collection box is located at the back left of the church on weekends only.

TAP & GO MACHINES

The two Tap & Go machines in the church, donations will go towards the Church 2nd collection.
Kindly Select your donation amount \$5, \$10, \$20 or other.

COMING EVENTS:

26 July: **World Day for Grandparents**
Pilgrim Mother Apostolate Rosary, 11:45am
27 July: Catechist Meeting, Parish Centre Mtg Rm, 10am
Holy Wounds Devotion, Church, 7:30pm
31 July: The Search, Parish Hall, 7pm (details below)
8 Aug: Bingo (details below)

COME JOIN US!

Pilgrim Mother Apostolate

4th Sunday of the Month Rosary

When: Sunday, 26th July 2026

Time: 11:45am (after 10:30am Mass)

Venue: MacKillop Centre, Collins St, St Marys.

Followed by a light lunch (provided). ALL WELCOME

Enquiries: Fenina - 0431 867 491



DEVOTION TO THE HOLY WOUNDS OF JESUS



2nd and 4th Mondays of the month.
Next one on **Mon 27 July 2026, 7:30pm**
in the Church.

THE SEARCH IS BACK!

What are you searching for?

Join us for *The Search*, an engaging and inspiring series from the Augustine Institute hosted by Chris Stefanick.

Through powerful videos and meaningful discussion, we will explore life's biggest questions about happiness, purpose, faith, and the person of Jesus Christ. Whether you are a committed Catholic, returning to the faith, or simply curious.

All are welcome.

Starting: Thursday 30 July Time: 7:00pm

Venue: OLR Parish Hall, St Marys

To register, simply scan the QR code.

"Seek and you will find." (Matthew 7:7)

Come and discover what you've been searching for.



BINGO BINGO BINGO

Saturday 8th August 2026

7:30pm in the Parish Hall

Sausage Sizzle from 6:30pm. *Cash Prizes.*

Supper provided - gold coin donation

Any donations to cover costs is greatly appreciated.

Denis Collins 0459 185 517



IMMACULATE MARY STATUE

Mr & Mrs Newton

3 Margaret St, St Marys

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

Invitation to Perpetual Adoration

OLR Blessed Sacrament Adoration Chapel
open 24 hours, 7 days a week.



Please consider being rostered weekly

If you are able to commit to just 1 hour or more a week, we invite you join the Adoration Chapel Roster.

- ♦ Registration forms available in the Chapel.
- ♦ Contact the Parish Office for information.

All Welcome.



ADULT CONFIRMATION 2026

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year.

This will be on Saturday 29th August, 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown.

A light lunch will be provided on the day.

It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$40 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the Catechesis Day.

The Confirmation will take place on Tuesday 1st September, 2026 at 7:30pm at the Cathedral.

Please Note: Enrolment forms and a copy of Baptismal Certificates should be sent to OFW before Monday 18th August.

For more information, please contact the Office for Worship on ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

MARRIED COUPLES RETREAT

"Reflect, Renew & Reconnect"

Date: Saturday 5 September 2026, 8:30am-4:30pm

Venue: Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1 Marion St, Blacktown. *Bookings Essential.*

Cost: \$45 per couple (lunch included)

See flyer on Notice board for more information

Register at parracatholic.org/marriedcouplesretreat/

BE THE WITNESS - THE MUSICAL

The story of Jesus through the eyes of Peter

10-13 September 2026

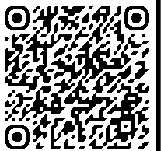
Riverside Theatres, Parramatta

Special Parish Group 20+ Offer

Discounted prices

Don't Miss out! Book Now. Limited seats.

Scan to book your group.



CAFÉ IVAN

SOUP KITCHEN KKOTONGNAE & OLR

We welcome our needy neighbours / homeless for a warm meal on **Thursdays 6pm - 7pm,**

Parish Hall - Basement.

(corner of Swanston St & Collins St, St Marys)

For more info, kindly speak to Br James KBJ.

Dear Parishioners,

I'd like to begin with a vote of thanks and congratulations to the twenty-strong group of parishioners who bravely and generously carried out our inaugural *Project 72* last weekend. Having spent 6 Friday evenings preparing, the group set out in pairs along the main streets of our parish boundaries, going door to door as ambassadors for the parish. For eight hours across the Saturday and Sunday, the pairs visited homes to inform residents about our parish programs, to hand out prayer cards and medals, and also pray with them when requested. At the afternoon debriefs, our pioneers shared stories of their many blessed encounters in what was an overwhelmingly successful first attempt for this initiative. Having begun to sow the seeds, we trust their efforts will bring about many fruits in the community and our parish, as it already has done for those who participated. We hope *Project 72* will become a recurring initiative in the future.

Last week's bulletin included a summary overview of Pope Leo's first encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas*. Much of the encyclical is addressed to leading AI developers and national policy makers, urging them to ensure that the creation and implementation of AI contribute to establishing a "civilisation of love" rather than a "culture of power." However, a paragraph in the final chapter explains that:

212... a subtle temptation may emerge, namely the thought that the problems are too big and we are too small, and that our choices, therefore, cannot make a difference. This is a polite form of resignation, often disguised as realism. Certainly, not everyone has the same power to make a difference. There are those who govern, make investment decisions, lead institutions, conduct research, educate, produce or provide information, and then there are those who only seem to live their daily lives. Yet, no one is without responsibility. We all have our own areas for action, and it is precisely there — and nowhere else — that we must choose whether to fuel the mentality of force (even if only through indifference, cynicism, lies or hatred), or to preserve the mindset of peace (with truth, moderation, closeness and care).

Quoting *The Lord of the Rings'* Gandalf, Pope Leo continues:

213... "It is not our part to master all the tides of the world, but to do what is in us for the succour of those years wherein we are set, uprooting the evil in the fields that we know, so that those who live after may have clean earth to till." The civilization of love will not arise from a single or spectacular gesture, but from the sum total of small and steadfast acts of fidelity that serve as a bulwark against dehumanization. For this reason, it is worthwhile pausing to reflect on some aspects of how we, each in our own way, can cooperate in building the civilization of love. Without presuming to exhaust this theme, I would like to propose five paths toward daily and public responsibility: the need to disarm words, building peace through justice, adopting the perspective of victims, cultivating a healthy realism and reviving dialogue and multilateralism.

We shall unpack these five paths over the coming weeks.

Yours faithfully,

Fr. Jeff Miller