



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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A - 16 August 2026

Entrance Antiphon:

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

First Reading :

Is 56:1.6-7

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm :

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1.O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help (R.)

2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. (R.)

Responsorial Psalm :

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

3.Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Second Reading :

Rom 11:13-15. 29– 32

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you –will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

The Word of the Lord



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL :

Mt 15:21-28

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon:

With the Lord there is Mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

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: secretary@olrchurch@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

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 15 Aug ASSUMPTION OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
 6:00pm Cyril & Constance Wijeratne

Sun 16 Aug TWENTIETH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME
 7:30am Llewellyn DeSouza
 9:00am Jesus Manalang
 10:30am Zarko Markovic
 5:30pm Pro Populo

Mon 17 Aug 6:30am Aurelio
 9:00am Lynus Labayo
 7:00pm Melita Delos Reyes

Tue 18 Aug 6:30am Mary Kutti
 9:00am Mick Boyle
 7:00pm Holy Souls

Wed 19 Aug ST JOHN EUDES
 6:30am Jeron Jose
 9:00am Holy Souls in Purgatory
 7:00pm Camillo Piccirilli

Thu 20 Aug ST BERNARD
 6:30am Holy Souls
 9:00am Holy Souls
 7:00pm Personal Intention

Fri 21 Aug ST PIUS X
 6:30am Leo & Theresa Pereira
 9:00am Joy & Gary Avila
 7:00pm Antonia Santos & Domingo Santiago, Benigno Aquino

Sat 22 Aug QUEENSHIP OF MARY
 8:00am Holy Souls

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, Loyda Cruz, John Newton June Dodd.

PRAYERS FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED

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

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 Jeroncic, Chito Redoblado, Vicky Xerri, Linda Weightman, Norma O'Sullivan, Peter Gatchalian, Maria Maciejewska, Janene Martin, Maria Rohrlach, Manolo Lobrin, MaryAnn Salazar, Camillo Piccirilli, Jose Maria Pepingco, John Birch, Charlie Buttigieg, Grace Micallef, Stipe Kulas, Josephine Saporita, Antonietta D'Angola, Marija Sterle, Joseph Mazurkiewicz, Verna Venus, Mick Boyle.

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) \$1169.25

Second Collection (previous weekend) \$1328.35

Tap & Go Donations \$2861.00

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:

15 & 16 Aug Parish Council Elections
16 Aug: Charismatic Healing Mass, 2pm
22-23 Aug: OLR - Bee Hive Honey Sale
23 Aug: Pilgrim Mother Apostolate
27 Aug: Parish Youth Group 6-8pm
28 Aug: The Holy Wounds Formation Night
29 Aug: Bethany Pilgrimage (details below)
13 September: Schoenstatt Centenary Jubilee

St Carlo Acutis's Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition: 9-23 August

Designed by St Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint, this exhibition documents reported Eucharistic miracles from around the world, and it is touring parishes right across our Diocese. Next, it visits **Our Lady of the Angels, Rouse Hill, 9 - 23 August.** entry is free and no bookings are required. To see where the exhibition is heading next across the Diocese, visit parracatholic.org/iec2028/



CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS

Sunday 16th August 26, 2:00 pm Prayer and Praise, 2.30pm Mass, at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, St Marys.

Mass will be followed by individual prayer for healing. All welcome!



OLR - BEE HIVE HONEY

Honey for sale after Saturday 6pm and Sunday 10:30am Masses next weekend 22nd & 23rd August.

\$10 per jar, all proceeds will go towards the Church Refurbishment. Only while stock lasts.



COME JOIN US!

Pilgrim Mother Apostolate
4th Sunday of the Month Rosary

When: Sunday, 23rd August 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

PARISH YOUTH GROUP

Next gathering, Thursday 27th August, 6-8pm @ Don Bosco, Upper Room.

For school children from years K-10. Includes catechesis, faith sharing, activities, and prayer. Light supper provided.



IMMACULATE MARY STATUE

Mr & Mrs Nebre
187 Carpenter Street St Marys

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

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, 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.



BETHANY PILGRIMAGE 2026

All women of the parish are invited to join the **Bethany Pilgrimage** on **Saturday 29 August, 8am–5pm. \$20pp.**

We will visit 5 churches while reflecting on the theme of "Totally Yours" **Please note that this years pilgrimage will begin at St Josephs Chaldean Church.*

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/DLHVS>



THE HOLY WOUNDS Formation Night

The Holy Wounds, the precious blood and the divine love of Jesus Christ.

Friday 28th August 2026
7.30pm-9pm

Venue: OLR Parish Hall
(Corner Of Swanston St & Collins St Marys NSW)
For Further Information please contact Alan D'Souza on 0436 308 178



SCHOENSTATT CENTENARY JUBILEE

Sunday, 13th of September at Mount Schoenstatt, Mulgoa.

Beginning with Holy Mass @ 10am celebrated by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP,

Followed by refreshments and program until 3pm.



MARY'S CAFÉ

Refreshments served after 9:00am and 10:30am Mass on Sundays (weather permitting) at the Church Café.

All Welcome



Dear Parishioners,

MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS

In this week's reflection, we look at Pope Leo's third path for promoting a civilization of love: adopting the perspective of victims.

216. There are times when, in order to remain human, we must set aside our reservations and take a stand. In some conflicts, it is unjust to remain neutral, nor is it enough merely to claim that we are not complicit. When we witness the bombing of civilians, attacks on hospitals, schools or vital infrastructure, and violence that affects children, we are confronted with scandals that wound humanity itself. For this reason, we cannot limit ourselves to the level of abstract analysis. Pope Francis encouraged us to "touch the wounded flesh" of those who suffer, look at their faces, listen to their stories and acknowledge their wounds. Painful events require both history and memory, the former to recount the facts, the latter to bear witness to lived experiences.

217. Giving space to the perspectives and voices of victims through communication and education helps us to become aware of the abyss of evil inherent in war, and generally in all forms of violence. It helps us to reject the normalization of conflict; not to turn away when human dignity is violated; and to restore to victims the dignity of being recognized and heard. Paying attention to these voices strengthens the conviction that, apart from violent minorities, humanity does not desire war. In a particular way, the Church can be a place of living memory for victims. As Saint Paul VI recalled, the Church feels she must make her own both the voice of those who died in past wars and the voice of the living who still bear wounds today, so that their cries may become an appeal for peace and harmony and not a prelude to new conflicts.

In these paragraphs, Pope Leo draws our attention to the familiar risk of becoming desensitized to the sufferings of our global brothers and sisters. Anyone who consumes any form of news media will know how easy it is to become overwhelmed by the endless stream of violence and misery projected upon us. Yet this risk of becoming numb and tuning out is no less real for the temporal sufferings of humanity as it is for the eternal; if we can accept how insidious the former is, then we should appreciate how very tragic the latter is. An American Civil War general once famously stated that "War is Hell." While this statement was meant to demystify war, it also oversimplifies hell. War ends - hell does not. If the Pope urges us to care about the plight of international war victims who, realistically, most of us can do very little to help, how much more urgently should we take up the cause of souls destined for hell who, in practical terms, we can actually do a great deal for? Our masses, prayers, and devotions - especially the Rosary and Divine Mercy - might not be the difference between a war ending, but they can certainly be the reason that countless souls are spared an eternity in hell. As we heed Pope Leo's call to sympathise with and support the victims of temporal tragedies, may we show equal dedication to the casualties of the eternal battle for souls.

Yours faithfully,

Fr. Jeff

