

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)

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD- Year B - 10 January 2021

### Entrance Antiphon:

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered; This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

### First Reading:

Is 42:1-4. 6-7

*Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I am well pleased.*

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations. He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets. He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame. Faithfully he brings true justice; he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth for the islands are awaiting his law. I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand and formed you; I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

### The Word of the Lord

### Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 28:1-4. 9-10. R. v.11

(R.) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

1. O give the Lord you sons of God, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his name. Adore the Lord in his holy court.

(R.)

### Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

2. The Lord's voice resounding on the waters, the Lord on the immensity of waters; the voice of the Lord, full of power, the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. (R.)

3. The God of glory thunders. In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!' The Lord sat enthroned over the flood: the Lord sits as king for ever. (R.)



### Second Reading:

Acts 10:34-38

*God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power.*

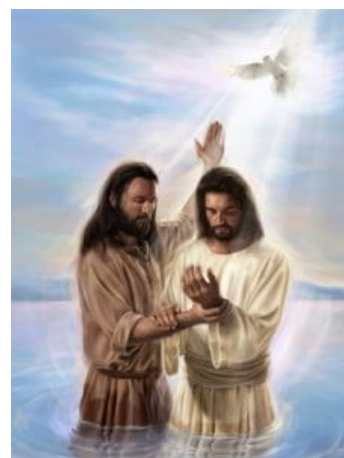
Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him. 'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ - but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

### The Word of the Lord

### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Alleluia!



### GOSPEL:

Mk 1:7-11

*You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.' It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

### The Gospel of the Lord

### Communion Antiphon:

Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

# IN OUR PARISH

## PARISH TEAM

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

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

**Salesian Community:** Phone: 9623 1220  
Rector: Fr John Walenciej SDB

**Don Bosco Youth Centre:** Phone: 9623 0450  
Director: Fr John Walenciej 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: Mr Robert Nastasi  
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)

## MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat 9 Jan

5:00

Purposely hidden.

For more information, please contact Parish Office  
on (02) 9623 1962

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

1<sup>st</sup> Collection: for the support of the Parish Priests

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: goes towards the weekly operating budget for the Parish.

**We Thankyou for your ongoing support.**

## If you prefer to donate using ONLINE BANKING, details are as below:

### (For 1st Collection) - PASTORAL REVENUE

BSB NO: 067 950  
ACCOUNT NO: 00004414  
ACCOUNT NAME: St Marys Pastoral Revenue

### (2nd Collection) - CHURCH PLANNED GIVING

BSB NO: 067 950  
ACCOUNT NO: 00222  
ACCOUNT NAME: St Marys Catholic Church

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

**Jesus the Healer, we commend to your gentle hands those who are sick**

Purposely hidden.

For more information, please contact Parish Office  
on (02) 9623 1962

## PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

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

Purposely hidden.

For more information, please contact Parish Office  
on (02) 9623 1962

## Rosary Statue

Mr & Mrs Bonnici  
169 Forrester Rd, St Marys



## RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Wednesday: 11:15am - 11:45am. Mass at 12 noon  
Saturdays: 9:00am - 10:00am, 5:00pm - 5:30pm

## ADORATION BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Thursdays: 9:30am - 8:50pm, Church (All welcome)  
Friday: 8:30am - 9am



## Holy Family Adoration Chapel

may be used with social distancing and no more than four persons in the chapel at any one time.

**It is important to record your details.**

## COMING EVENTS FOR THE DIARY

21 Jan: Hall Management Meeting, 7:30pm  
24 Jan: Pilgrim Mother Apostolate Rosary, 11:45am  
26 Jan: **Australia Day**  
28 Jan: Pre-Baptism Programme, Church, 7:30pm  
31 January: Feast of Saint John Bosco. Family Day  
at Don Bosco Youth Centre after 10:30am Mass.

Parish Office will re-open on Monday 11 January

**Office Hours:** 9:30am to 12:30pm and  
1:30pm to 3:30pm

### Parish Church use

Dear Parishioners,

1. **Bookings advised for all Weekend Mass**  
Parishioners continue to be dispensed from the Sunday Mass obligation.
2. **Parishioners who are not well are requested not to enter the church.**
3. **The use of masks while attending Mass is mandatory as per NSW Govt Covid restrictions.** Fines of \$200pp can be issued for non compliance.
4. **All who enter the church for prayer or liturgy MUST record their name and contact number. (This is a legal requirement)**
5. Social (physical) distancing must be observed at all times in the church.
6. **If you are waiting for a COVID-19 test result, please isolate and DO NOT come to Church**
7. No more than hundred (100) persons (plus ministers) are permitted in the church at any one time.
8. Assistance with sanitising pews after Masses is appreciated.

### Hope for healing after an Abortion

Rachel's Vineyard Healing Ministries is offering three new online reflections to bring healing and hope to those who seek spiritual healing from grief and loss.

Register at [info@rachelsvineyard.org.au](mailto:info@rachelsvineyard.org.au) or call our confidential phonenumber on 0400 092 555. Please mention you are registering for an online session. More details: [rachelsvineyard.org.au](http://rachelsvineyard.org.au)

### Life, Marriage and Family Office Marriage Preparation Courses

Dates for the Diocesan Life, Marriage and Family Office's in-person marriage preparation weekend courses in 2021 are now available, with the SmartLoving Engaged Online course another option to prepare for your marriage.

To book your course, call (02) 8838 3460 or visit [www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://www.parracatholic.org/pmp).



## **TRIVIA NIGHT** **13<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2020!**

Come one and all to make this night a fun night of laughter, friendly banter and lots of great prizes to be won.

**Raffle tickets and Trivia tickets will be on sale shortly.**

Trivia Team

*If you have any New / Unwanted Christmas gifts or anything else you think we could use, please put them aside for us to collect or kindly drop them off at the Parish office after 11 January 2021.*

**Trivia Night final decisions will be made based on the Government's Covid Restrictions for social gatherings.**

### **Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend:** **21 – 22 February**

#### **How prepared are you for marriage?**

Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship.

The next Engaged Encounter Weekend will be held on 21 – 22 February 2021 at St Joseph's Baulkham Hills. For further information and to register, visit [www.engagedencounter.org.au/](http://www.engagedencounter.org.au/)

### **RCIA: Exploring the Scrutinies** **Workshop: 10 February**

The Office For Worship will be running an RCIA workshop on the Scrutinies for RCIA coordinators and teams early next year on the evening of **Wednesday 10 February** at the Institute For Mission, Blacktown (IFM).

If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or [anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org](mailto:anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org)

### **Natural Fertility Services is still open**

Following COVID-19 restrictions, Natural Fertility Services has reintroduced face-to-face instruction. We will, however, continue with Zoom meetings as this has enabled more couples access to information.

We have educators available to teach any of the three methods of Natural Family Planning. If you would like more information, or to book an appointment, please contact Catherine via email [catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org](mailto:catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org) or call 0400 427 605.



**Parish Bulletin**  
*Year of Saint Joseph*

**January 9-10 2021: Baptism of the Lord  
75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year**

*Dear Parishioners,*

**Congratulations and best wishes** to Gerald and Norma O'Sullivan on the occasion of their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Friday Jan 8.

**Servant of God Eileen O'Connor's** 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of death is today, Sunday Jan 10. Let us continue to pray for her canonisation.

**Free security licence training:** A parishioner has made us aware of JobTrainer funding available for security licence training. Please see the noticboard for details..

**Mass times for next weekend,** January 16-17, will be the same as for this weekend, unless otherwise advised. That is, Saturday evening 5:30pm and 6:30pm; and Sunday 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:00am, 10:30am and 5:30pm. Parishioners are advised to book for next weekend's Masses.

**The Parish Office** opens this Monday, January 11.

**Coming up:**

**Sunday January 10:** Centenary of death of Servant of God Eileen O'Connor.

**Sunday January 31:** Feast of Saint John Bosco. Family Day at Don Bosco Youth Centre after 10:30am Mass.

God bless.

Fr. Brendan

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**January 16:  
Feast of St Joseph Vaz, Apostle of Sri Lanka:**



Father **Joseph Vaz** was born on April 21, 1651, in India. He was a Goan, born in Benaulim, and was raised in the villages of Benaulim and Sancoale. When he grew up, his father sent him to a school at Benaulim to learn Latin as a preparation for his priestly studies. Joseph Vaz made such rapid progress in his studies that his father decided to send him to the city of Goa, to the Jesuit College of Saint Paul. After completing his studies with the Jesuits, Joseph Vaz entered the Academy of Saint Thomas Aquinas for his philosophical and theological studies. In 1676 he was ordained a priest.

How the call to mission came to him, we do not know exactly. He knew about the misery of the Catholics of Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and their complete abandonment. Ceylon was a Buddhist Country. But there were, at that time, a large number of Catholics living on the island without a priest or a church. In 1658, the Dutch, being adherents of the Dutch Reformed Church and fearing that Catholics would support the Portuguese, began to persecute the Catholics, forbidding the practice of the Catholic faith within their territory. Joseph Vaz's heart was afire to go and save the Church in Ceylon at any cost. In April, 1687, he disembarked in Ceylon as a poor beggar.

In 1658, 120 Catholic missionaries had left Ceylon, and the churches were closed or destroyed. From 1658 to 1687 Catholics were isolated: no priest, no sacraments, and no church. Joseph Vaz arrived in Jaffna. He started his life in Ceylon without any logistic support. With a rosary on his neck he begged from door to door for his survival. That was how he made contact with Catholics. Joseph Vaz was the first non-European missionary to come to Ceylon. He came, not sent by civil, royal or ecclesiastical authorities. And he came in simplicity and poverty, without the support or protection of an institutional Church.

The Dutch commander of Jaffna noticed the revival of Catholic life in his district. On Christmas night, 1689, two years after Joseph Vaz had started his apostolate, the commander detected the presence of the priest. Three hundred Christians were imprisoned. But Joseph Vaz was not among the prisoners. No one knows how he escaped.

With the help of some Catholics, he went to Puttalam since this was part of the Kandy Kingdom outside of Dutch authority. Joseph Vaz had chosen Kandy the center of his apostolate to avoid the vigilance of the Dutch. But, as soon as the King, Vimaladharma Surya II, was informed, Joseph Vaz was bound in chains and conducted to a prison in Kandy, as he was seen as a foreign spy. Joseph Vaz had studied Tamil and now, in Jaffna, in the prison, he started to study the local language, Sinhala. In 1693 the king set the priest free. As soon as he obtained the freedom to minister to the Catholics of the city, Joseph Vaz had the people build a simple church and dedicated it to Our Lady.

*(to be concluded next week)*

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