Entrance Antiphon
As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading
Is 55:10-11
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The rain makes the earth fruitful.
Thus says the Lord: ‘As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.’

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:
(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.
1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. (R.)
2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. (R.)
3. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)
4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sin (R)

Second Reading: (contd)
The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decalidence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God.
Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

Gospel:
Mt 13:1-23
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Jesus went out to sow. Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.
He said, ‘Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the outer edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!’ Then the disciples went up to him and asked,

Gospel: (contd)
‘Why do you talk to them in parables?’ ‘Because’ he replied ‘the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled: You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. ‘But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it. ‘You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.’

The Gospel of the Lord
**PARISH TEAM**

Parish Priest: Fr. Brendan Murphy SDB  
Assistant Priest: Fr Guy Riolo SDB  
Parish Secretary: Fleur Mathias  
Parish Telephone: 9623 1962  
Parish Email: secretaryolrchurch@iinet.net.au  
Web: www.olrchurchstmarys.org.au  
Parish Fax: 9833 1063

For Enquiries Please Phone The Parish Office between 9:30am - 1:30pm & 1:30pm - 3:30pm, Mon-Fri

**SALESIAN COMMUNITY**

Salesian Community:  Phone: 9623 1220  
Rector: Fr John Walenciej SDB  
Don Bosco Youth Centre: Phone: 9623 0450  
Co-Directors: Sr Jenny Doudle FMA Fr John Walenciej SDB

**Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School**

Principal: Mr Michael Siciliano  
Email: olorstmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au  
Web: www.olorstmarys.catholic.edu.au

**Emmanual Catholic College**

Principal: Mr Robert Nastasi  
Phone: 9670 4588  
Email: emmaus@parra.catholic.edu.au  
Web: www.emmauskempscreek.catholic.edu.au

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**MASSES THIS WEEK**

**Friday:** 8:30am - 9:00am. followed by Mass at 9:15am  

**Wednesday:** 11:15am - 11:45am, Mass at 12 noon  

**Every Saturday:** 9:00am - 10:00am, 5:00pm - 5:30pm  

**Every Wednesday:** 11:15am - 11:45am.

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**RECONCILIATION**

Every Wednesday: 11:15am - 11:45am.  
Every Saturday: 9:00am - 10:00am, 5:00pm - 5:30pm

**ADORATION BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Wednesday: 11:15am - 11:45am, Mass at 12 noon  
Every Thursday: 9:30am - 6:00pm (after 9:00am Mass)  
Friday: 8:30am - 9:00am, followed by Mass at 9:15am

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**1st and 2nd Collections:**

1st Collection: for the support of the priests of the parish  
2nd Collection: (including planned giving envelopes) goes towards the running costs of the Parish.  
Thank you for your ongoing support.

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**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults - RCIA**

Do you know anyone interested in becoming a Catholic?  
Please invite them to contact:  
Vera on 0416 008 582 or the Parish Office on 9623 1962

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**PARISH MINISTRIES**

**St Vincent de Paul Society:** meets every Tuesday at 7:00pm in the St Vincent de Paul Office beside the Parish Hall.  
**Junior Legion of Mary:** meets on Fridays, 4:30pm to 5:45pm in the Parish Hall and Parish Meeting Rooms. Young people welcome  
**Senior Legion of Mary:** Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm in the Parish Hall Meeting Room. All Welcome to join.  
**The Cenacle:** Every Thursday after 9am Mass, you are invited to join us to pray the Cenacle of the Marian Movement of Priests.  
**Cuppa and Craft Club:** Thursdays at 9:30am, Parish Hall.  
Contact Parish Office 9623 1962.  
**Computer Class (50 years & over):** Basic: 9.30am-11.30am and Advance:1.30pm-4pm, Parish Hall Mtg Rm. Please contact Parish Office.  
**Rosary Statue:** meets Thursdays, 7:30pm, Parish Meeting Room. Know someone who would like to be a Catholic? New enquirers welcome.  
**Catechists:** Teaching God’s Word in our State schools. Volunteers needed. Contact Maureen Watts 9623 9272.  
**Mother’s Prayers:** Every Monday, 10am at the Infant School.  
**Ladies Auxiliary:** 2nd Mon’s, Parish Office Meeting Room, 7:30pm  
**Youth Choir:** Choir Practices on the 2nd Sunday of the month, 2.30pm - 4pm. Choir sings at the 9am Mass on the 4th Sunday of the month. All young people welcome 6 -16 years.  
**ORL-Schoenstatt Pilgrim Mother Apostolate (PMA) Rosary Prayer:** every 4th Sunday of the month after the 10.30am Mass (11.45am) in the Church. All Welcome!

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**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

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

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

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**PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

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

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

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**Next Sunday’s Readings: 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19  
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 85: 5-6, 9-10, 15-16  
2nd Reading: Romans 8:26-27  
Gospel: Matthew 13: 24-43
If you know anyone who is admitted to Nepean Hospital Public or Private and would like to receive Communion, please contact the hospital Chaplain on 4734 3150.

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal 2017

The SVDP Conference St Marys would like to thank all the generous parishioners who donated to our recent Winter Appeal in the parish. The total amount raised was $4,617. This will go towards supporting local families who are struggling to find enough money for food. We are humbled by your support and generosity. We thank you dearly and keep you in our prayers. We are humbled by your support and generosity.

This will be our final collection for this Term. “Flowers are the sweetest thing God ever made and forgot to put a soul in.” Henry Beecher with that in mind how could we not place them on our Altar. We pray, may God Bless us all.

Core group members Judy, Carmel, Antonia, Gladys.

Catholic Youth Parramatta (CYP)

LIFTED Retreat: 21 - 23 July

‘Made for Greatness’

In its third year, the annual LIFTED Retreat is an opportunity for young adults 18+ to gather for a weekend at the Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Grose Vale. This year’s theme “Made For Greatness” will encourage us to live our lives to the full with courage and joy in preparation for ACYF in December.

Visit www.facebook.com/catholicyouthparramatta for more details, or contact rdrum@parra.catholic.org.au

Holy Hour for Vocations: 28 July

Everyone is welcome to join the Holy Hour for Vocations from 6:30pm Friday (please note new day) for an hour of adoration, prayer, music and quiet time in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in St Patrick’s Cathedral, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta. For information about priesthood in the Diocese of Parramatta and Holy Spirit Seminary.

Please contact Fr John Paul Escarlan, Director of Priestly Vocations, vocations@parra.catholic.org.au

Screening of THE SULTAN AND THE SAINT:

29 July

The Australian premiere of a new film about the historic meeting between St Francis of Assisi and the Sultan of Egypt, Malik Al-Kamil, in the midst of the conflict of the Fifth Crusade, will take place on 29 July at Western Sydney University’s Parramatta South Campus.

More information and a trailer for the film can be found at: www.sultansandthesaintfilm.com Tickets are $10 book at https://sultansaintsydney.eventbrite.com.au

MISSIONS - FIJI

A lovely couple from our parish travelling to Fiji in early August, have offered to carry any donations in cash or kind (pencils, books, pens, erasers, rulers) for the use of the children in Fiji where Br. Stan is stationed. Kindly drop off all donations at the Parish office latest date 28 July.

St Marys Gardens Nursing Home

Communion Roster

Sun 16 July: Jasna Bekic, Miranda Lim, Geraldine Doyle
Sun 23 July: Reno Portelli, Ines & Robert Olsen
2017: Fatima Centenary Year

July 15-16: Ordinary Time 15th Sunday

Dear Parishioners,

Welcome back to any who have been away on holidays. Best wishes to all returning to school or university studies.

Berrimah pilgrimage: Over sixty parishioners attended the July 13 Penrose Park Shrine of Mercy Fatima commemoration. It was a beautiful day. Thanks to the organiser and to all who attended.

Wednesday July 19: Mass at 9am due to clergy Meeting 10:30am - 2pm:

Father Guy is away July 17-31, with family in Perth.

Coming Up:

July 17: PPC executive meeting 6pm
July 19: Parish Finance Committee Impact Camp Royal National Park
July 26: Parish Council (PPC) meeting 7:30pm.
Aug 5: Adoration chapel blessing by Bishop Vincent.
Aug 8: St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.
August 15: Assumption of Our Lady (holy day of obligation): Masses: Vigil Mon 7:30pm. Tues 6:30am, 9am, 7:30pm.

God bless.

Fr Brendan

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Third Apparition at Fatima: July 13 1917

(Part 1)

The appearances of Our Lady in July and October of 1917 were the most powerful and important of all the Fatima apparitions. By the time Our Lady appeared on July 13, word of the apparitions had spread throughout Portugal. About four thousand people attended the July 13 apparition at the Cova da Iria. As in May and June, Our Lady appeared above the holm oak tree. Lucia asks the Lady: “What do you want of me?”

Our Lady responds: Return on the thirteenth of the month, pray the Rosary daily to obtain world peace “in honour of Our Lady of the Rosary… because only she can help you.”

Lucia asks: “I would like to ask you to tell us who you are, and to work a miracle so that everybody will believe that you are appearing to us.”

Our Lady promised to reveal her identity and perform a miracle in October. In her memoirs, Lucia described the July message from Our Lady in three parts, three ‘secrets’.

1. A vision of hell.

Our Lady said to the children: “Sacrifice yourselves for sinners, and say many times, especially when you make any sacrifice: O Jesus, it is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.”

She then opened her hands as she had done in her two previous apparitions. Rays of light once again came from her hands, but what the children saw was far different from what they had seen the first two times.

The children were given a vision of hell, later described by Lucia. Lucia later said that if our Lady had not already told them that they were going to heaven, they might have died of fright. Witnesses at the Cova at the time, though not knowing what the children saw, said that after the July apparitions their faces showed signs of fear, terror and shock.

Why did Jesus and Mary allow such a terrifying vision of hell? She came to lead men back to God, who has been so grievously offended by their sins. The children did not need to see the vision of hell for their own sakes; they had already been assured by our Lady that they would be going to heaven and they were living good and holy lives pleasing to God. They were given the vision of hell to remind us that hell is real. That in turn reminds us that we must live our lives in such a way that we stay close to God. We must make our salvation our main purpose in life.

Lucia wrote that the vision of hell profoundly affected all three of the visionaries, but that Jacinta, the youngest of them, seemed to be especially moved.

“The vision of hell filled her with horror to such a degree, that every penance and mortification was nothing in her eyes, if it could only prevent souls from going there.”

The vision of hell had such an impact on Jacinta that she wished everyone could see it and be persuaded to stop sinning. Though so young, Jacinta showed an ardent love for souls and a tremendous capacity for sacrificing for others. For example, she often gave up food for those who ate too much. Even when sick, she went to a weekday Mass for those who failed to go on Sunday.

The final and most telling example of little Jacinta’s zeal for souls came at the end of her brief life on earth. Our Lady appeared to her and her brother when they were suffering from influenza.

Our Lady told her she would take Francisco to heaven soon, but asked her if she wanted to remain longer on earth to convert more sinners. Jacinta agreed to stay and suffer longer. Francisco died on April 4, 1919, six months after he and his sister fell ill. Jacinta lingered until February 20, 1920, when she died in a Lisbon hospital.

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2. World War II foretold:

Our Lady told the children:

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