



# Parish Bulletin Mary Immaculate Parish,

Quakers Hill ~ Schofields

125 Barnier Drive Quakers Hill, NSW 2763

Ph 9626-3326

ABN 93 648 688 769



## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ YEAR C Sunday 12th December

### PARISH VISION & MISSION

As a gathering of the People of God in Mary Immaculate Parish, one in Christ, proclaiming the Gospel, the teachings of the Church and promoting Mary and the saints as models of discipleship, our parish community will manifest itself as an open, transparent and accountable Church, which respects due process, rejects every form of discrimination, listens to its people, promotes co-responsibility in every facet of its mission and ministry, and is compassionate to its core; an inclusive parish, developing and implementing pastoral strategies to welcome and support all, particularly the marginalised.

### SEEKING NEW ALTAR SERVERS

Mary Immaculate is seeking new altar servers to serve at the altar. If you have already received your 1st Holy Communion, you can altar serve. Please collect an application form from the stand near the piety shop and drop into the SRE mail box. Or email the parish office with your details.

### Parish Fundraiser

THE PARISH IS GOING TO CELEBRATE ITS FIRST FUNDRAISER EVENT ON THE **12TH OF DECEMBER**. THERE WILL BE PLANTS, FOOD AND RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE TO HELP FUND THE NEW UNDERCOVER AREA. COME ALONG AND BUY A COFFEE, A MEAL, A PLANT AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO WIN SOME GOODIES! SUNDAY 9AM TO 12PM.



### R.C.I.A for 2022

Enrolments for 2022's RCIA program is about to start. If you or someone you know would like to enquire into joining or know more about the Catholic Church, please encourage them to contact Anthony in the Parish Office on 96263326 or email him at parishoffice@maryimmac.org.au Please keep the current group (Michelle, Rob and Caitlin) in your prayers.

### PARISH TEAM

**Priest of the Parish:** Rev Fr. Oliver Aro

**Deacon:** Rev. Leon Decena

**Parish Secretary:** Anthony Saliba

**Administrative Assistant:** Marthese Sultana

**Sacramental Coordinator:** Sr Valerie (0414638884)

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday—Friday 9am to 4pm

**Office email:**

parishoffice@maryimmac.org.au

**Sacramental email:**

sacramental.coordinator@maryimmac.org.au

**Our current Mass services are as follows:**

Monday – 6.00am only - Tuesday to Friday - 6.00am

and 9.15am - Saturday - 7.30am

Sunday Masses – Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30pm

Sunday- 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am, 12.30pm and 5.30pm

## We Remember In Our Prayers:

### Recent:

Melroy De Silva, Rosita Belista, Trinidad Reyes, Josephine Grace Vimala, Dawn Pratt, Fr Renofa Paras

### Anniversary

Dion Pribadi, Gilbert & Theresa Coelho, Jacob Gonsalves, John D'Souza, Aguello Fernandes, Gerard Bernard Gomes.

### In Memoriam:

Angelyn Yu, Claire & Soledad Liceralde, Leslie D'Souza, Daniel Salomon, Maud Bussier, Aborted Babies, Severino Marcelo, Bill Azzopardi, Thomas Kalogjera, Mary & Paul Zammit, Mary & Angelo Spiteri, Maria Dass, Okusi Joshua, Reggie Dalgado, Helen Grace Manabat Deloso, Valsa Devassy, Anthony Zahra, Fr Renato Paras, Dominic Botlero, Michae Gomes, Edelia Hamoy, Ma. Theresa Icao, Friolo Ico Sr., Remedios Icao, Salud & Abraham Morgia, Epifanio Paras, Josemaria Rafael Galang, Nenita & Rufino Galang, Denham Jacob, Anthony & Angelina Nazareth, Benjamin Rayner, Mary Keane, Brian Harding, Aveen Rayner, Dale Keane, Roslyn & Joseph Corera, Fernando Sr & Jr Espero, Florencia Espero, Ambrosio & Estela Gatuz, Vicky Quottromani, Loretta & Joseph Desa, Mamerta San Buenaventura, Mary Lucille & Robert Serrano, Claude & Rita Joachim, Mary Lucille, Perpetua & Mariano Jr, Roberto & Arsenia Serrano, Maria Cecilia Avancena, Eugenio Romero, Theresa Amjadali, Juliet Alfonso, Stan Saldanha, Pedro Arcelo, Nicholasa Capacio, Concepcion Teo, Yvonne Reymond, Francis Domingo Gorostiza, Julio De Mello, Catalino Estiago, Salud Aro, Ricardo, Dan Pieris, Hugo Sr. & Marita Agudo, Dominador Snr & Efigenia Granado.

*May they Rest In Peace*

### PARISH CHRISTMAS TREE

Every year, there are many children in our community that miss the opportunity to receive a gift at Christmas. With the help of ourselves and St Vincent De Paul, we can provide boys and girls something this Christmas. Please take a label off the Christmas Tree in the Church and place it on the wrapped gift that matches the age on the card and place it under the tree.

**Please see the parish website for the latest information.**

### **PLEASE NOTE!**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

**FROM BOXING DAY TO THE 12TH OF**

**JANUARY Apologies for any**

**inconvenience this may cause.**



### **RECONCILIATION**

Saturday's 4pm to 5pm

### **THE SACRAMENTS**

**Baptism & Preparation for sacrament during restrictions:**

Baptisms on Saturdays at 9.00am, 10.00am & 11.00am

Every Sunday of the month at 10.30am.

One child per Baptism ceremony on Saturday.

**One child per baptism ceremony on Sunday**

Parents must attend a preparation session prior to baptism.

**Preparation session on every 2nd Tuesday of the month**

**If you want your child baptized, please call Marthese in**

**the Parish Office Wed-Fri 9.00am-4.00pm**

**First Reconciliation, First Eucharist & Confirmation:**

Please contact sacramental coordinator for details.

### **PARISH SCHOOLS**

#### **Mary Immaculate Primary School**

125 Barnier Drive, Quakers Hill

Ph: 9626-3999. Principal: Stephen Dowd.

#### **St. Joseph's Primary School**

78 Alex Avenue, Schofields

Ph: 9626-1328. Principal: Lesley Studans.

#### **Saint John Paul II Catholic College**

85 Hambledon Road Schofields

Ph: 9208-7200. Principal: Jim Fanning.

The NSW Government has recently published some changes to the COVID-19 restrictions. Based on the announcement, the restrictions will ease further when NSW reaches 95% double vaccination or on 15th December, whichever comes first. For places of worship the following will apply:

- Congregational singing can resume at our liturgies and services.
- Mask wearing will be encouraged but will no longer be mandatory for places of worship.
- No density limits will apply.
- Social events can resume with no density limits.
- QR Check-in and recording is still required of patrons.
- COVID-19 Safety Plans are no longer mandatory.

Whilst masks are not mandatory, Fr Oliver would still like to encourage everyone to wear one when in the church.

### MASS FOR THE HOLY FAMILY

Due to Christmas being on a Saturday it does not count towards our Sunday Mass obligation. We are also required to attend again the Sunday mass for the Feast of the Holy Family to fulfill our Sunday obligation.

### NO Choirs or bulletins throughout January

### NEW YEARS EVE AND DAY MASSES

**Parish New Years Eve Mass 8pm for the Vigil  
Parish New Years Day Mass 7:30am & 9:30am**

### PARISH LADIES RAFFLE

This is the last weekend to enter the raffle. Tickets will be on sale for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. There are several prizes to be won. It will be drawn on the 12th of December after the 10:30am Mass. A big thanks to all who supported the parish.

### WARDENS NEEDED FOR A COUPLE OF MONTHS

The Parish is looking for some volunteers to be Wardens till the end of the year. We need some especially at the 1st and 2nd Sunday 10:30am Mass, 4th Sunday at the 5:30pm Mass please. Please email the office if you are able to step up.

### PIETY SHOP NOW FULL OF CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFTS

The Piety Shop has now been re-stocked with some great Christmas cards and gifts. Please come and see what is available and support your parish.

### THE PIETY SHOP WILL BE OPEN AGAIN FROM 9AM TO 3PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Jane Aguis & Rita Mangion on their valuable contribution to teaching Special Religious Education in our public schools. This is a great ministry that we can participate in with free training. On behalf of the SRE Coordinators, the parish would like to thank all those teachers who give of their time and talents for this great ministry.

### No 6am Masses during the Christmas Novena

There will be no 6am masses from the 16th of December to the 24th of November including Saturday the 19th due to the Christmas Novena Masses taking place.

### COMING TO MASS

QR coding upon entry will be mandatory. If you or someone you know is not able to do this, please call the office on 9626 3326 and we can help to obtain a personal QR code for us to use to sign you in. Recording on the sheets in the church is for the elderly unable to QR Code scan in. The Church is now subject to the 2 square metre rule. An update has been issued from the diocesan regarding Weddings and Funerals in relation to Covid-19.

## NOVENA MASSES IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS

Our parish will be celebrating Novena Masses in the preparation for Christmas. In order to give our parishioners an opportunity to participate and attend these Masses we will have "Misa De Gallo" each morning at 4.30am from 16th December to 24th December. From the 15th December to 23rd December we will have "Simbang Gabi" (Night Mass) each evening at 7.00pm. These nine-day novena Masses will be in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mother in preparation for Christmas. There will be fellowship only after the first & final Dawn and Nights Masses only.

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.**

## *Christmas Mass Times*

### Friday 24 December

**4.30am** - Final Novena Dawn Mass (*Misa De Gallo*)

**9.15am** - Mass

### Christmas Eve Masses

**5.30pm, 9.30pm & 12 Midnight**

Mary Immaculate Church

Family Mass. (All Welcome)

Youth & Young Adults Mass.

Singing of Christmas Carols at 9pm.(All Welcome)

Midnight Mass at Mary Immaculate Church.

Singing of Christmas Carols at 11.30pm (All Welcome)

### 12 Midnight

Christmas Day Mass - **8am & 10am**

### Saturday 25 December

\*\* There will be **No Saturday Christmas Evening Mass** but there is for the 5:30pm Vigil for The Holy Family. \*\*

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C ~ 12TH DECEMBER 2021

### **First Reading: Zep 3:14-18**

#### **A reading from the prophet Zephaniah**

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,  
Israel, shout aloud!  
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,  
daughter of Jerusalem!  
The Lord has repealed your sentence;  
he has driven your enemies away.  
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;  
you have no more evil to fear.  
When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:  
Zion, have no fear,  
do not let your hands fall limp.  
The Lord your God is in your midst,  
a victorious warrior.  
He will exult with joy over you,  
he will renew you by his love;  
he will dance with shouts of joy for you  
as on a day of festival.

#### **The word of the Lord.**

**(R.) THANKS BE TO GOD.**

### **Responsorial Is 12:2-6 R. v.6**

**(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.**

1. Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. (R.)
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name. (R.)
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord  
for he has done glorious deeds,  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (R.)

### **Second Reading Phil 4:4-7**

#### **A reading from first letter of St Paul to the Philippians**

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

#### **The word of the Lord.**

**(R.) Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!**

### **GOSPEL Lk 3:10-18**

#### **The Lord be with you.**

**All: And with your Spirit.**

#### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!' A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

#### **The Gospel of the Lord.**

**(R.) PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

### **Communion Antiphon: Cf. Is 35:4**

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.  
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.



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### **Daily Mass readings for the week**

**Monday 13th December:** 2 Cor 10:17 – 11:2, Mt 25:1-13

**Tuesday 14th December:** 1 Cor 2:1-10, Lk 14:25-33

**Wednesday 15th December:** Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-26, Lk 7:19-23

**Thursday 16th December:** Is 54:1-10, Lk 7:24-30

**Friday 17th December:** Gen 49:2, 8-10, Mt 1:1-17

**Saturday 18th December:** Jer 23:5-8, Mt 1:18-24



**CATECHIST  
WANTED!**

We are seeking Catechists to bring the word of God to our state schools in 2022, if you are available during the week and want to participate in this ministry please contact the parish office for more information.

Ph: (02) 9626 3326 or parishoffice@maryimamc.org.au

<b>NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER: 11th / 12th December 2021</b>						<b>[2nd Sunday of the Month]</b>
Ministries	5.30pm	7.30am	9.00am	10.30am	12.30pm	5.30pm
Senior Server	T Agius	P Sultana A Cauchi	J Shedad D Mojica	R Dionisio R Del Valle	I & L Zambrano	R Oblea
Junior Servers				A V Paul J Zolerick		P Marcial, ADass L Ybuan, E D'Lima M Georgie
Readers	D Hill V Fernandez J Fernandez	M Engle, P Bartolome, K Waddington (Comm)	J Mondragon D Fernandopulle Jenesia Fernandes (comm)	K Zamora M Chacko C Zolerick	E Aaron L Millare D Mesa	A Togado M Deshe
Special Eucharist Minister	M Muscat	T McDonald	B Wykes	A Zackria	T Hutama	Lita Walton
Warden	J Attard P Fernandez	T McDonald M McDonald	F & B Moa	A Joachim	Needed	Sylvia & Renato De Pedro
Music Ministry	Ray Pineda's Group	Recorded music	Recorded music	Hosanna EUKARISTI	Bethany Ministry Choir	MARY IMMACULATE YOUTH CHOIR
Power point	J Pacheco	D Pereira	Jenesia Fernandes	P Macaraeg	J Millare	C Dias

<b>NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER: 18th / 19th December 2021</b>						<b>[3rd Sunday of the Month]</b>
Ministries	5.30pm	7.30am	9.00am	10.30am	12.30pm	5.30pm
Senior Server	D Nalletamby	P Sultana A Cauchi	B Lastica	I Zambrano L Zambrano	P Macaraeg	D Mojica
Junior Servers			A Clouston	M Guerrero J Miranda		P Marcial, E D'Lima M Georgie L Ybuan A Dass
Readers	B Avila E Small D Hill	M Stewart B Morkel	A Fernando M Fernando R Harris	E Oblepias C Malong P Ong	B Moa D Macaraeg J Balintec	E Aaron
Special Eucharist Minister	E Abuel R Heredia	John Noort	S Peiris A Lastica	D Macaraeg L Valenton	R Hartanto J Hartanto	L Walton T Hutama J Escueta
Warden	J Attard P Fernandez	P Stewart	B & A Andrews	V & R Fernandez	A Aquini	B & G Rutledge
Music Ministry	C.F.C Family Ministry	Recorded music	Mary Immaculate Septet Choir	St Pedro Calungsod Devotees	Recorded music	Mary Immaculate Parish Choir
Power Point	J Pacheco	D Pereira	T Aldonker	V & R Fernandez	Operator needed	C Dias

**PLEASE SEE THE WEBSITE TO APPLY FOR 1ST RECONCILIATION AND 1ST HOLY COMMUNION**  
**APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN**

Those who were supposed to make First Reconciliation in 2021 will be able to make this sacrament in Term 1 2022. This will be available for children in Years 4 and older in 2022. These same children will make their First Holy Communion in June 2022. The preparation for First Reconciliation will take place in March 2022 and the children will receive this sacrament sometime before Easter.

Soon after Easter, the preparation for First Holy Communion will begin and the children will make their First Holy Communion in June 2022.

This will be a great deal of work for the parents and children, but this is the only way that we can catch up with all of the time lost due to the lockdown.

Applications are now online for both sacraments. It will be one application to cover both Sacraments. This application will be due back to us by 23 February 2022. Late applications will not be accepted.

In November 2022, children who will be in year 3 or older can make their first reconciliation with their First Communion taking place in June 2023.

Those who apply earlier will have a better chance of obtaining their first choice for First Holy Communion.

I hope this information is helpful for you.

Feel free to phone me or email me if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,  
Sister Valerie (Sacramental Coordinator: Phone: 0414 638 884) [sacramental.coordinator@maryimmac.org.au](mailto:sacramental.coordinator@maryimmac.org.au)

*Thank You*