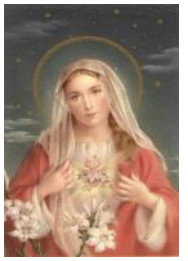




Mary Immaculate Parish

Quakers Hill—Schofields
125 Barnier Drive, Quakers Hill, NSW 2763
PH 9626 3326

Website: www.maryimmac.org.au ABN 93 648 688 769



BULLETIN

23rd February 2025

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

Ash Wednesday Masses will take place on the 5th of March:

Mass times 6.00am
9.15am
7.00pm



Please bring your old blessed palms for burning on Shrove Tuesday 4th March.

PARISH VISION & MISSION

Our Vision Statement is:

To create a vibrant, loving Catholic community that inspires and empowers members to make a positive impact in our world.

Our Mission Statement is:

To provide an inclusive, engaging environment for members to deepen their faith, use their talents to serve others, and make a positive impact in our world.

DAILY MASS READINGS: 24-1 MAR

Mon 24th Feb: Sir 1:1-10 & Mk 9:14-29
Tues 25th Feb: Sir 2:1-11 & Mk 9:30-37
Wed 26th Feb: Sir 4:11-19 & Mk 9:38-40
Thurs 27th Feb: Sir 5:1-8 & Mk 9:41-50
Fri 28th Feb: Sir 6:5-17 & Mk 10:1-12
Sat 1st March: Sir 17:1-15 & Mk 10:13-16

SANCTUARY STATUE UPDATE

For a few weeks now, we have had the company of the statue of St Anthony in our new sanctuary. We are now ready to accommodate the others. The cost for each statue will be \$6,700.00. This includes the manufacture of the statue and delivery. We have a way of providing a tax deductible option. Please speak to Anthony in the Parish Office. Thank you to all those who have donated to the statues thus far.

**Diocesan Holy Hour
For Vocations**
@ Mary Immaculate Parish, Quakers Hill

WHEN: FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY
TIME: 7PM-8PM
(JOIN US AFTERSWARDS FOR SOME REFRESHMENTS, DISCUSSIONS AND GAMES IN THE PERGOLA SPACE)

INSTAGRAM: @MIYA_QUAKERSHILL
EMAIL: PARISHOFFICE@MARYIMMAC.ORG.AU

Sick:

Lorraine Sultana, Colleen Asimus, Resurrection & Grace Espina, Anna Marie Jackson, Barry Morkel, Graham Rutledge, Dominador Vicho, Anna Fernandes, Madeline Semisi, Ricardo de Mesa, Margaret Cooper, Nina Chavez, Ray Johnston, Precious Tamayo, Sophia Pal, Dominic Fernandez, Liberty Ventura, Harrison Whelan, Joseph Buttigieg, Jackson Naidoo, Faye Demagante, Chadia Kaminski & Christine D’Rosario

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Anniversary of Death:

Helen Tanti, Adriana Muscat, Paul Thompson, Rita Joachim, Nieves Parrayno, Onesimo Sr., Theresa Salem, John Shedad, John Ranbhise

Recently Deceased:

Joseph Vella, Deacon Rodrigo Rupac, Raymond Wannappa, Sebastian Kocha

In Memoriam:

Florencio Obatay, Salud & Abraham Morgia, Marie & Boulas Monsour, B. Salem, Irene David, Napoleon Aguila, Fr. Gualbert Fantonial, Pedro Maano, Francis Villarino, Albert Gomes, Eli Rys Manus, Eladio Rosagaran, Paul Radomski, Cadeling family members, Blasa & Josefina Alivo, Paul Domingo, Linda & Michelin Lim, Ginggong Granado, Joseph Steven Camilleri, Edward Ombina, Mamerta San Buenaventura, Annette Houghton, Antinitio Demagante, Rosemary & Joan Houghton, Maria & Jacob Gonsalves, Bibiana Malaluan, Mary Lucille Serrano, Marilou, Mariano Jr., Perpetua, Arsenia, Roberto, Marichar & Horacio Serrano, Joselito & Bobet Serrano, Epifanio Serrano, Lois & Bede Hill, Mari Mackenzie, Ben McShane Hill, Albert & Michael Agius, Anthony Farrugia & Haber & Farrugia family members, Bill Azzopardi, Calvin & Alberto Wijewera, Loretta & Joseph Desa, Claude Joachim, Regina—Benito Franado, Joseph Grech, Roberto—Maria Reyes, Antonio—Lucia Santos, Julio De Mello, Regina—Baby Granado, Regina & Cristeta Granado, Hugo Sr. & Marita Agudo, Naty Mutuc, Dominador Snr & Efigenia Granado, John & Frances Micallef, Stuart Richard, Dan Peiris & all the souls in purgatory.

May they Rest in Peace

FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent, we will be praying the Stations of the Cross in the church at 6:30pm. They will start Friday 7th March. All are welcome to come along.

CYMI (YOUTH) NEWS

Last Friday (14th of February) during our first gathering of the year our youth were able to understand the essence of God's love and the importance of St. Valentine additionally, not only through a spiritual and a reflective connection that the Youth have embraced throughout this gathering they also enjoyed the social aspect that was also associated during the CYMI gathering.

Our next CYMI gathering will take place on the 14th of March. If you, or you know someone that has high school students in Years 7-12, spread the word and, encourage them to attend CYMI. If you have any questions or you'd like to learn more about CYMI please do not hesitate to contact the CYMI Leadership team.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO DEACON

Our Deacon Leon Decena O.F.S. is celebrating 21 years as a Deacon for the Catholic Church and a professed member of the Secular Franciscan Order for 33 years. We thank him for his valuable service and dedication to the Church in the footsteps of St Francis of Assisi.

BRING YOUR OLD BLESSED PALMS

Now is the time to bring your old blessed palm branches for burning to become the ashes for the coming Ash Wednesday. Kindly place them in the tab labelled palms for Ash Wednesday. We will also be burning some on Shrove Tuesday before sharing in some pancakes.

SHROVE TUESDAY 4th MARCH

Our Shrove Tuesday 4th March ritual will take place at 6pm under the pergola. Please hold off on bringing in your broken blessed items to the church to disposed of properly. As they will be correctly disposed of at Easter time.

We also invite everyone to come for pancakes following the ritual, hosted by our Social Committee and friends.

PILGRIMAGE 2025

Fr. Clifford D'souza is inviting you to join him on a pilgrimage to the saints of Portugal, Spain, France and Italy- Fatima, Avila, Loyola, Lourdes, Nevers, Lisieux, Paris, Padova, Assisi and Rome. 31 August-19 September 2025. For more details pls contact Fr. Clifford on cliff_dsouza03@yahoo.com.au or atitours@atitours.com.au/

PARISH UPDATE - A FRUITFUL YEAR AHEAD

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Two weeks ago, the PPC held its first meeting of the year, now expanded to include Youth and Young Adult representatives. The meeting was well attended, signalling a promising year with numerous pastoral initiatives.

A key highlight of Fr. Oliver's report was the increasing attendance at weekend Masses, reflected in the higher consumption of Eucharistic hosts. Parking has become more challenging despite ample space at Mary Immaculate, so parishioners are encouraged to arrive early if using street parking.

The Children's Liturgy is also thriving, with more children participating before Mass and joining Fr. Oliver for a blessing afterward. This growth extends to the Kids, Youth, and Young Adults ministries, with new PPC representatives sharing their visions for the year. Parents are encouraged to involve their children, as a vibrant parish depends on its future generations.

Our active Youth Groups have taken on a new ministry at diocesan level. Mary Immaculate is now the Hub for Vocations Promotions. A monthly Holy Hour will take place on the fourth Friday of each month, starting on Friday the 28th facilitated by our Youth Groups. All are welcome to join and pray for vocations.

Encouraging reports from parish school principals suggest stronger school-parish collaboration this year.

As Lent approaches, the Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday, led by various parish groups, as noted in the weekly bulletins. With the new Assistant Parish Priest arriving in June, Fr. Ever will assist with Holy Week liturgies. Plans are underway to enhance the Lenten experience, and we encourage active participation.

Lastly, the PPC is organizing a Day of Reflection to discern the parish's future path.

God bless,
Aubrey Joachim

LENT: WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Lent is more about taking the time to look deep within ourselves and reflect on trimming excessive actions and habits that burden us while allowing God to take hold of our hearts and lighten our loads. So when you fast, do not proclaim it but smile and go about your day happy, as it says in the bible.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025

To apply go to the Parish website
www.maryimmac.org.au

Click on sacraments on top of the page.

Applications will open online on **15th March**.
We cannot accept late applications.

**PLEASE READ THE INFORMATION PROVIDED
BEFORE CLICKING APPLY.**

First Reading 1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.
(R.)
3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)
4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

Gospel Acclamation John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 6:27-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

LENTEN PROGRAM

For those interested in participating in a Lenten Reflection Program, there is a sign up sheet under the Noticeboard. **Minimum of 10 people needed to get it started.** Cut off for sign up is the 19th of February to commence on 5th of March and subsequent Wednesday's after that during Lent.

THIS WEEKS Roster: 22nd / 23rd February						4th Sunday of the Month
Ministries	5.30pm	7.30am	9.00am	10.30am	12.30pm	5.30pm
Senior Server	Tony A	Angelo C Michael C	Conrad F Ding M Ruwanal F	Rommel D Isaac Z	Arnel R Louis E	Ryan H Arthur W Ralph H
Junior Servers	Ezekiel D Katrina C		Aviel F Yavniel F Hadriel F Gabriel E	Katrina C Jeremy A Johan A	Heleni M Johan M	Allenth E Samisoni W
Readers	Virginia F John F Perpetual F	Mercy E Pen B Mere S	Therese B Paea T Fe H	Rukshan A Therese D Ariel or Faye D	Loli M Nerissa T Remy H	Cheryl Z Patricia H Bernadette W
Special Eucharist Minister	Pompey F	Maria M Anna Z Belen B	Eva C Charmaine A	Ariel or Faye D Juvy E Eleanor O	Angela D	Lita W Edgie A
Greeters	Jerry A Pompey F			Aubrey J	Ines A	
Music Ministry	Fusion	Recorded music	Divine Hope Choir	C.F.C Choir	Ray Pineda's group	S.C.M.I Choir
Power point	Jess P	Delyse P	Choir	Choir	Ray Pineda's	Choir
Piety Store		Sherry	Merlyn F	Joe A		Patricia D

NEXT WEEKS Roster: 1st/ 2nd March						1st Sunday of the Month
Ministries	5.30pm	7.30am	9.00am	10.30am	12.30pm	5.30pm
Senior Server	Tony A Conrad F	Angelo C Romany D	Joseph S Ding M Ruwanal F	Lina Z Isaac Z	Ralph H Patricia H	Arnel R John B
Junior Servers	Kiana F Ezekiel D		Aviel F Yavniel F Hadriel F Gabriel E	Heleni M Johan M	Stephanie S	Paolo M M Georgie Annika D
Readers	Edward S Anthony S Jeana B	Therese M Anna Z Edgie A	Rose B Jeanne C	Mercee M Divine M Fasa M	Merlyn F Anne T Perpetual F	Paea T Belen B
Special Eucharist Minister	Jane A Edith M Pompey F	Charmaine A	Eva C Bessie M	Pat O Zeny B	Aida L Tasia H	Mary Mathew
Greeters	Jerry A Pompey F		Ray & Sandra G		Alfredo P	
Music Ministry	Fishers of Men	Recorded music	Liam Shield's & Paul Macaraeg Group	Hosanna Eukaristi	CFC Quakers Hill	Rise Up Soul Singers
Power point	Jess P	Marcus M	Choir	Choir	Choir	Juvy A
Piety Store				Joe A		Patricia D

PARISH TEAM

Priest of the Parish: Rev Fr. Oliver Aro MSP

Deacon: Rev. Leon Decena OFS

Parish/Finance Administrator: Anthony Saliba OFS

Administrative Assistant: Marthese Sultana

Sacramental Coordinators: Anthony OFS & Marthese

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday—Friday 9am to 4pm

Office Email:

parishoffice@maryimmac.org.au

Accounts Email:

accounts@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 - Wednesday 7pm - Saturday - 7.30am

Sunday Masses – Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30pm

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

RECONCILIATION

Saturday's 4pm to 5pm

THE SACRAMENTS

Baptism & Preparation for sacrament:

Baptisms on Saturdays at 10:00am & 11:00am

Two children per Baptism ceremony on Saturday.

Parents must attend a preparation session prior to baptism.

Preparation session on the 1st Tuesday of each month

If you want your child baptized, please call Marthese in the Parish Office marthese.sultana@maryimmac.org.au

First Reconciliation, First Eucharist & Confirmation:

Please contact sacramental coordinator for details.

Weddings: By Appointment.

ALL THE YOUTH GROUPS

Email: miyouthgroups@maryimmac.org.au

R.C.I.A: Patrick D. 0435038281 or 96263326

PARISH SCHOOLS

Mary Immaculate Primary School

125 Barrier Drive, Quakers Hill
Ph: 9626-3999. Principal: Sharon Mizzi.

St. Joseph's Primary School

78 Alex Avenue, Schofields
Ph: 9626-1328. Principal: Lesley Studans.

Saint John Paul II Catholic College

85 Hambleton Road Schofields
Ph: 9208-7200. Principal: Robert Muscat