



Parish Bulletin Mary Immaculate Parish, Quakers Hill ~ Schofields

125 Barnier Drive Quakers Hill, NSW 2763
Ph 9626-3326
ABN 93 648 688 769
WEBSITE: www.maryimmac.org.au



1st Sunday of Advent YEAR B - Hope & Faith 3rd December 2023

PARISH VISION & MISSION 2023

Our new Vision Statement is:

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

Our new 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.

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

On the 14th of December from 6:30pm-7:30pm, the parish will be offering 2nd Rite of Reconciliation for those needing confession before Christmas.

9TH DECEMBER 9AM-12PM WORKING BEE

We would appreciate as many helpers as we can to help clean the church and grounds before Christmas. Please bring along some cleaning equipment to help.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES 2024

For those who signed up or wish to become a Reader, Special Minister or Acolyte in our parish, you will need to complete the Ministry Formation course. The form to apply for 2024 is under the notice board.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The Ladies Group (along with the help of the Social Committee) will be selling tickets this weekend for the annual parish Christmas raffle. \$2 each or 3 for \$5. If you would like to donate something to the hamper to make it bigger and better, please contact Therese Buttigieg on 96263326.

PARISH TEAM

Priest of the Parish: Rev Fr. Oliver Aro MSP

Deacon: Rev. Leon Decena OFS

Parish Secretary & Accounts: Anthony Saliba OFS

Administrative Assistant: Marthese Sultana

Sacramental Coordinator: Sr Valerie (0414638884)

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick:

Joseph Buttigieg, Jackson Naidoo & Mary Vella

Recently Deceased:

Charles Sollis & Aquilina San Juan

Anniversary:

Eddie Coelho, Douglas Manson, Nelson Romero & Elisabeth Hutama

In Memoriam:

Bibiana Malaluan, Conception Campo Abastillas, Ilar D'Souza and Pinto families, Florencia Cunanan, Jim Bezzina, Josef Grech, Gleceria Nunez, Eduarda & Victoria Pagoy, Maria Clara, Marlo Miranda, Marcopolo Sr, Thomas, Sosima & Michael Anthony, Lucy Wijeweera, Catalina & Sol Perez, Jaime Gallardo, Expedito Tabligan, Filomena & Sergio Canefe, William Walker, Jelvin, Melba, Rosalinda & Vivincia Perez, Divino & Pacioncia Batandolo, Maria Shelley, Alberto, Mario, Donato & Henry Batandola, Leonida Ople, Marianita, Mario & Marianito Batelo, Hulya Epik, Joseph & Maria Zarb, Sinclair Mendonca, Ramsay Fernandes, Nobby Pires, Jacob Steilberg, Lorna Hall, Mila Lamerand, Esteban Alivo, Edward Ombina, Blas Perez, Maxima & Engracio Obatay, Salud Morgia, Joseph & Rosa Muscat, Migdonia Elamparo, Lilia Fontejon, Theresa & Kitty Fernandes, Francisco Sr & German To-Ong, Melissa Randal, Mary Luciller, Roberto & Maricar Serrano, Mary Lucille & Epifanio Serrano, Angela Rossetti, Rudy Heredia, Manger Pereira, Monica Rodrigues, Alton Sousa, Mary, Joseph & Bruno Gonsalves, Erlinda & Rodolf Rosales, Angel Santos, Leona Eleccion, Lydia Austria, Cordelia & Harold Pereira, Joseph Steven Camilleri, Romeo Jun De Guzman, Rafael & Benita Reyes, Calvin Wijeweera, Aurelia Tagudar, Mercedes Escobio, Anthony Mangion, John Camra, Suzie Mascarenhas, Loretta & Joseph Desa, Claude & Rita Joachim, Regina—Benito Franado, Joseph Grech, Roberto—Maria Reyes, Antonio—Lucia Santos, Francis Domingo Gorostiza, Julio De Mello, Regina & Cristeta Grando, Hugo Sr. & Marita Agudo, Natty Mutuc, Dominador Snr & Efigenia Granado, Dan Pieris & John Micallef, Sylvia Sapan, Elizabeth Anand, Joshua Anand, John Shedad, Manuel Solero, Freddie Gella, Stuart Richard, Bill Azzopardi, Tumarao Santos Families & Tarranza-Hizon Families.

May they Rest in Peace

DAILY MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday 4th Dec: Isa 2:1-5 & Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday 5th Dec: Isa 11:1-10 & Mt 10:21-24

Wednesday 6th Dec: Isa 25:6-10 & Mt 15:29-37

Thursday 7th Dec: Isa 26:1-6 & Mt 7:21. 24-27

Friday 8th Dec: Gen 3:9-15.20, Eph 1:3-6. 11-12, Lk 1:26-38

Saturday 9th Dec: Isa 30:19-21. 23-26 & Mt 9:35-10:1,6-8



RECONCILIATION

Saturday's 4pm to 5pm

THE SACRAMENTS

Baptism & Preparation for sacrament:

Baptisms on Saturdays at 10, 11:00am & 12pm

Two children per Baptism ceremony on Saturday.

Parents must attend a preparation session prior to baptism.

Preparation session on the 1st 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.

Weddings: By Appointment.

THE YOUTH GROUPS

Email: youthgroups@maryimmac.org.au

PARISH SCHOOLS

Mary Immaculate Primary School

125 Barnier 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 Hambledon Road Schofields

Ph: 9208-7200. Principal: Angela Hay.

PPC UPDATE

Your PPC working to build a cohesive & progressive parish



Advent is a time for us to understand that God is always doing something new for us. Unlike the commencement of the new year, the Universal Church begins its new liturgical year on the first Sunday of Advent. With this newness comes the revelation of seeing the world with fresh eyes so we can view the future and God's divine plan for us more clearly. Advent is all about watching and waiting. The word 'advent' comes from the Latin adventus, which means 'coming' or 'arrival'. We are called during this holy time to wait with anticipation knowing the joys of what is to come with the arrival of Christ. This is the time we come together to celebrate this joy with our loved ones. During Advent we practise the discipline of opening our hearts to the presence of Christ in our midst; we wait for a glimpse of the truth that he is with us; we long to experience the joy of his presence and the wonder of the love of our God, who became flesh and dwelt amongst us and whose Spirit is with us, encouraging us to join in the living of God's Kingdom now. Our task during the Advent season is to imitate Mary by pondering the Word of God and allowing it to resonate within our hearts and pour into our lives. Over four weeks this resource provides the opportunity for us to encounter the mystery of Christ present in the Advent Gospels and artwork. We are invited to gather, encounter, recall, reflect, share, connect and consider how we will live differently as a result of what we have experienced. By being together with our stories, our questions, our open hearts and minds, we can form a community that lifts, honours, and learns from each other as we are sent out with anticipation and joy this Advent season.

Our final Parish Council meeting for the year is in December.

ROSTERS FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASSES

We have now put out the mass schedule for Christmas and New Year. For those that can, please sign up on the sheets provided to help Fr Oliver with all the liturgies.

JOIN US FOR A GATHERING AND AN EVENING OF

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

PRESENTED BY MARY IMMACULATE CHOIRS

6:30pm Mass on the 8th Dec followed by the Carols.

TEA AND COFFEE WILL BE PROVIDED

Join us for an evening of carols and fun where our choirs will present various Christmas songs to usher in a beautiful 2023 Christmas celebration. It promises to be exciting and relaxing. The social committee look forward to welcoming you.

SANCTUARY UPGRADE

Thank you to all who have shown support for the new sanctuary design. In the new year, we hope to begin construction. It is expected that some changes will occur during this time of construction, however, we have taken steps to minimize disruptions to the parish liturgy. It would be appreciated if you could let us know if you are handy with tools so that the project may be completed more quickly.

A number of donations have already been received in support of this project. In spite of this, we are still in need of additional funds to cover all expenses. If you would like to make a specific donation, such as one of the six statues that we want to place on the rear façade or contribute to the new tabernacle please contact the office for more information at 96263326.

This is an exciting time for our church as we undergo an interior renovation.

To ensure that the office is aware of the purpose of your contribution, please use the word Sanctuary as a reference when contributing online. Thank you again for your support.

Let's Get Ready

Complete these sentences

I get ready for church by

I get ready for school by

I get ready for bed by

I get ready for Christmas during Advent by

VINNIES VAN

Distribution of Toiletries for homeless and low-income families visiting the Vinnies VAN at Mount Druitt and Parramatta

A donation box near the Piety shop is placed to accept the following donations

1. Shampoo & Body Wash (small bottles - 200ml or less)
2. Deodorant
3. Razors/shaving cream

Thank you for your continued support.



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Would you or any anyone you know would like a food hamper for Christmas?

Dear Parishioners, if you or anyone you know is experiencing hardships due to loss of job, illness, loneliness or homelessness and would like to receive a food hamper this Christmas from your local Stanhope Gardens/Quakers Hill St Vincent De Paul Conference, Please reach out to the parish office and provide a hamper delivery address. Your details will be kept confidential and used only for the hamper distribution purpose.

1ST WEEK OF ADVENT ~ YEAR B ~ 3RD DECEMBER 2023 - HOPE & FAITH

First Reading Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down
– at your Presence the mountains would melt.
No ear has heard,
no eye has seen
any god but you act like this
for those who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.
You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.
We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the wind.
No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.
For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our sins.
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.



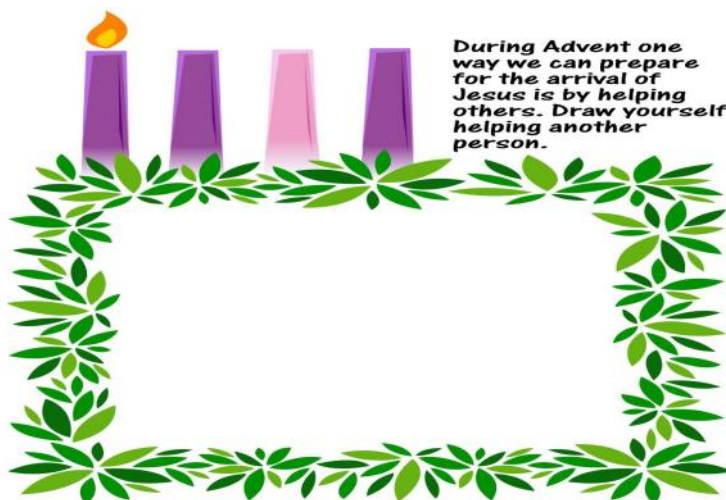
Gospel Acclamation Psalm 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 13:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake,
because you never know when the time will come. It is like a
man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his
servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told
the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you
do not know when the master of the house is coming, even-
ing, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he
must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all:



Responsorial Psalm Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4

(R.) Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you
grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have re-
ceived through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have
been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers
and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been
strong among you so that you will not be without any of the
gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus
Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and with-
out blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus
Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his
Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL TODAY 2023

Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care chaplaincy services. Will you support our chaplains to listen with the ear of the heart? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will help our 15 Catholic Care chaplains to provide pastoral, spiritual, and sacramental support to seriously ill, lonely, and distraught people this Christmas. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.



Thank You!

Your gift helps Catholic Care chaplains
bring comfort, faith, and hope
to people who are sick, suffering, and alone.

Thanks to your generosity, our Parish raised \$(insert amount).

To learn about the impact of your kindness, and enjoy a thank you message, please visit yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/thankyou

THIS WEEK'S ROSTER: 2nd / 3rd December				[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	Joseph S Ding M	Obet D Lina Z	Bobby L	Arnel R John B
Junior Servers	Katrina C		Aviel, Yavniel & Hadriel F Gabriel E.	Heleni M Johan M		Paolo M M Georgie Annika D
Readers	Rachelle L Edward S	Therese M Anna Z Jeana B	Rose B Jeanne C Perpetual F	Mercee M Lucy V Fasa M	Merlyn F Louis E Anne T	Paea E Belen B Margret D
Special Eucharist Minister	Edith M	Mercy E	Bessie M	Pat O	Tasia H	Ralph H
Greeters	Jerry A Pompey F		Ray & Sandra G		Alfredo P	
Music Ministry	Recorded music	Recorded music	Liam Shield's Group	Duly Noted	CFC Quakers Hill	Recorded music
Power point	Jess P	Marcus M	Liam S	Choir	CFC	Juvy A
Piety Store	Merlyn F	Anna Z	Eva C	Joe A	Ines A	Patricia D

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER: 9th / 10th December				[2nd 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	Joseph S Ding M	Obet D Rommel D	Isaac & Lina Z	Arthur W
Junior Servers			Aviel F Yavniel F Hadriel F	Rachelle Phimson Katrina C	Heleni M Johan M	J Machaya
Readers	Virginia F John F Edith M	Mercy E Pen B Rachelle L	Joy M Dianitha F Remy H	Mary Chacko	Lourdes M Louis E	Andrew H Bernadette W Cheri-Anne L
Special Eucharist Minister	Maria M	Therese M Maria M	Ruwanal F	Anna Z	Rudy H	
Greeters	Jerry A Pompey F	Therese M Marcus M		Aubrey J	Fasa & Bruce M	
Music Ministry	Ray Pineda's Group	Recorded	Blacktown Filipino Choir	Hosanna EUKARISTI	5.S.M	DULY NOTED
Power point	Jess P	Delyse P	Choir	Choir	Jelynn M	Charmaine D
Piety Store	Merlyn F	Alice D	Katherine C	Joe A		Patricia D

THE PARISH IS HAVING FREE TEA/COFFEE, HOT CHOCOLATE AND BISCUITS AFTER MASS

The Parish Pastoral Council has decided to make available tea/coffee, hot chocolate and biscuits after the Sat. Vigil, 9am and 10:30am **ON THE 1ST AND 3RD WEEKEND MASSES.** The Council needs volunteers to help with setting up and packing up. Please sign up using the clipboard under the noticeboard in the Foyer or contact the Parish office. A roster will then be kept on the noticeboard for future reference. Everything you need will be provided by the parish and kept in the café space.

FEAST DAY MASS FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER

Everyone is welcome to come to the Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on the 8th of December at 6:30pm. Following Mass we will have the parish Christmas Carol event. A free sausage sizzle will be provided half way through the event. Several of our parish choirs will be treating us with their Christmas tunes.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

FAMILY MASS: SUNDAY 24TH 5:30PM

YOUTH MASS: SUNDAY 24TH 9:00PM

MIDNIGHT MASS: 25TH 12:00AM

CHRISTMAS DAY:

MONDAY 25TH 8AM, 10AM & 5:30PM

NEW YEAR'S MASS TIMES

SUNDAY 31ST: VIGIL 5:30PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY :

MONDAY 1ST 8AM, 10AM & 5:30PM

DEEPENING THE FAITH SESSIONS

These sessions have commenced in the Parish meeting Room on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month following the 9.15am Mass. If you would like to refresh your knowledge or learn more about your faith, you are invited to join us for a "cuppa", a DVD, a little sharing and prayer. We use different DVD programmes to help deepen our faith further. No need to book. All are welcome! For enquiries phone Colleen: 0413 668 652 or leave a message on (02) 98375069.