



# Mary Immaculate Parish

Quakers Hill—Schofields  
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## BULLETIN

7 December 2025

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT~ YEAR A

#### FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER

##### Mass times: 6.00am & 6:30pm

Rosary will be prayed before Mass starts. Then after mass there will be a candle light procession with the statue of Our Lady followed by fellowship. Please bring a plate to share. Thank you



### PARISH LADIES GROUP

**This weekend, the Ladies Group are selling tickets of the Christmas Raffle. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.**

There are two hampers up for winning. The first a \$250 hamper donated by Lina from Yahua's of Healing. The second is a hamper at the value of \$180 from our parish ladies.



### DAILY MASS READINGS: 8-13 DEC

Mon 8 Dec: Gen 3:9-15, 20, Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 & Luke 1:26-38  
Tues 9 Dec: Is 40:1-11 & Matt 18:12-14  
Wed 10 Dec: Is 40:25-31 & Matt 11:28-30  
Thurs 11 Dec: Is 41:13-20 & Matt 11:11-15  
Fri 12 Dec: Is 48:17-19 & Matt 11:16-19  
Sat 13 Dec: 2 Cor 10:17-11:2 & Matt 25:1-13

### WORKING BEE 20th DECEMBER

On the 20th of December, the parish is having its annual Advent Working Bee. It is a lot of work keeping the church and its grounds maintained. If you are able to assist us in cleaning some of the areas inside and outside the church, it would be most appreciative. Please bring a broom or vacuum cleaner to help and some cleaning products.



### WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

#### Sick:

Caroline Dias, Clarina Emanuel, Nina Mangion, Sr. Paulina, Fr Oliver Aro, Rolly Valenzuela, Liberty Ventura, Tita Garcia, Michael McTegg, Mila Ranoso, Peter Saliba, Jaythde Hite-Deuna, Phillip Camilleri, Tony Yu, Diani, Margaret Deshe, Colleen Asimus, Resurrection & Grace Espina, Barry Morkel, Graham Rutledge, Dominador Vicho, Anna Fernandes, Madeline Semisi, Ray Johnston, Sophia Pal, Dominic Fernandez, Harrison Whelan, Joseph Buttigieg, Jackson Naidoo, Faye Demagante, Chadia Kaminski.

#### Recently Deceased:

Airene Ee

#### Anniversaries:

Emmanuel & Tracey Attard, Jesusa Jansen, Daisy Coelho, Eddie Coelho, Anthony & Anselina

#### In Memoriam:

Raymund Benitez Sr., Therese Amjadali, John D'Souza, Primitivo Alegado, Bibiana Malalun, Michael Fernandez, HRB Sharma, Nigel Barrat, Elisabeth Hutama, Karthir Florence, Mr & Mrs Santhus, Mr Robsoa Fernandez, Msgr Pat O'Connor, Maricar, Arsenia & Perpetua Serrano, Crispina Paras, Colleen McCunnie, Alfred Luna, John Quattromani, Loretta & Joseph Desa, Joseph Steven Camilleri, Annette Houghton, Antinitio Demagante, Rosemary & Joan Houghton, Maria & Jacob Gonsalves, Roberto & Mary Lucille Serrano, Bill Azzopardi, Calvin Wijewera, Irene Dassanayaka, Claude & Rita Joachim, Regina—Benito Franado, Roberto—Maria Reyes, Antonio—Lucia Santos, Julio De Mello, Regina & Baby Granado, Hugo Sr. & Marita Agudo, Dominador Snr & Efigenia Granado, John & Frances Micallef, Stuart Richard, Dan Peiris, Nilo Abalos, Eugenio De Jesus Jr., Goring Bacalso, Margaret Cooper, Crispina Paras, & all the souls in purgatory.

*May they Rest in Peace*

## Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With the beginning of Advent, the Church begins a new liturgical year. We await the birth of Jesus. Christmas takes on different meanings to different people. While Santa Claus and Christmas trees add the materialistic aspects, let us not forget that the spiritual and liturgical aspects must be foremost in our minds.

Last Sunday we saw another very successful Parish event in the Christmas Family Fun Day. And what a day it was! Besides the funds raised for the Parish, most attendees – particularly the kids had a really enjoyable time with fun and games. All community groups within the Parish were represented in making it a successful day. The international foods and flavours was enjoyed by all. A big thank you to all those who worked to make this event a success and those who supported the event by participating. It demonstrated the vibrancy of Mary Immaculate Parish.

As we look back on another year coming to a close we can reflect on the continuing growth of our Parish both in terms of numbers as well as spiritual aspects. It is particularly pleasing to note the initiatives of the young next generation. We were also saddened with the news of the ill-health of our much loved spiritual shepherd Fr. Oliver. We pray for his recovery and are appreciative of his continuing work in the Parish despite his predicament.

The Parish survey was very revealing and insightful and demonstrates that our Parish is on the right trajectory of growth as well as demographic mix in the context of ethnic and cultural aspects as well as a very healthy age mix. Mary Immaculate is certainly a young vibrant and assimilating congregation. Despite our rich unique differences we must remember that we are one congregation.

In light of what has come out of the survey, it is apparent that there are new focus areas going forward. It therefore warrants new thinking and new Parish leadership to reach even greater heights. As such it is my desire to step down from the PPC and hand over leadership to more enthusiastic and visionary persons. We certainly have many amongst us and I urge those with the capability, enthusiasm and desire to step forward and get involved. This is a healthy change of guard.

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve Mary Immaculate and all of you as Chair of the PPC over the last three years. I wish all success to the next incumbent and expect that your wholehearted support will be forthcoming, as it did with me.

God Bless you all. Aubrey Joachim Outgoing Chairman  
PPC 24/25

## **2ND RITE RECONCILIATION**

**Thursday  
11 December  
6.30pm**

## **PARISH ADVENT RECOLLECTION DAY**

You are invited to our Parish recollection Day on **Saturday 13 December 10.00am-2.00pm**. Sign up sheets are in the foyer of the church. Please bring a plate to share. All are welcome!

## **CHRISTMAS HAMPERS**

A message from SVDP:

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 and gift 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. Rest assured, your details will be kept confidential and used only for the purpose of distributing the hampers.

## **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY GIFT-GIVING INITIATIVE**

This year, more children and young adults are facing hardships and are at risk of not receiving a Christmas gift. To help make their Christmas brighter, we invite you to participate in our gift-giving initiative.

At the bottom of the Christmas tree, you will find a basket filled with name tags. Each tag represents a child or young adult. Please take a name tag and purchase a suitable gift based on the age indicated. We kindly ask that you place your gift under the tree by December 15th. This deadline ensures that St. Vincent DePaul can deliver the gifts on time. Please briefly write a description of the gift so that we don't have to unpack to make sure the gift is suitable for a particular individual.

If any gifts are delivered after December 15th, they will be given to the recipients in the new year.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity in thinking about those less fortunate during Christmas. Your contribution will surely bring smiles and joy to many. Please reach out to Roger Perera (0413 713 911) from Vinnies for further info or if you would like to volun-

### **FAMILY FUN DAY AND CHRISTMAS MARKET SALE**

Congratulations and thanks to everyone whose collective effort and incredible support contributed to the success of our **Family Fun Day and Christmas Market** held on Sunday, 30 November. We raised a total of **\$9,132** – much needed funds for the ongoing maintenance and repairs of our church building.

To the people who donated and cooked dishes from different cultures, thank you for showcasing our parish culinary diversity – from the Aussie sausage sizzle, baked goods and cookies, to delicious dishes from Sri Lanka, India, South Africa, Philippines, Malaysia and Vietnam. The popular Bubble tea and Halo Halo added to the fun and sweet experience on the day. We are also grateful for the contributions from the Plant sale, Christmas decors and party supplies, Christmas Photo booth and Yahuah's Healing organic products.

It was also a fun-filled day for the families and kids who enjoyed various friendly games and other exciting activities.

Most importantly, the day provided an excellent opportunity for parishioners to connect with one another, to share and enjoy the festive atmosphere that strengthens and helps us grow as an inclusive and multicultural parish community. **THANK YOU!**



**First Reading Isaiah 11:1-10**

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,  
a scion thrusts from his roots;  
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,  
a spirit of wisdom and insight,  
a spirit of counsel and power,  
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.  
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)  
He does not judge by appearances,  
he gives no verdict on hearsay,  
but judges the wretched with integrity,  
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.  
His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless,  
his sentences bring death to the wicked.  
Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,  
faithfulness the belt about his hips.  
The wolf lives with the lamb,  
the panther lies down with the kid,  
calf and lion cub feed together  
with a little boy to lead them.  
The cow and the bear make friends,  
their young lie down together.  
The lion eats straw like the ox.  
The infant plays over the cobra's hole;  
into the viper's lair  
the young child puts his hand.  
They do no hurt, no harm,  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters swell the sea.  
That day, the root of Jesse  
shall stand as a signal to the peoples.  
It will be sought out by the nations  
and its home will be glorious.

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. v.7**

**(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement. (R.)
2. In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. (R.)
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor. (R.)
4. May his name be blessed for ever  
and endure like the sun.  
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,  
all nations bless his name. (R.)

**Second Reading Romans 15:4-9**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures  
was meant to teach us something about hope from the  
examples scripture gives of how people who did not  
give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us  
when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant  
with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus,  
so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to  
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each  
other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you.  
The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised  
Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry  
out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to  
get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as  
scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you  
among the pagans and sing your name.

**Gospel Acclamation Luke 3:4. 6**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached  
in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message:  
'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'  
This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he  
said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair  
with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was  
locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea  
and the whole Jordan district made their way to him,  
and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan  
they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of  
Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to  
them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the  
retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant,  
produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to  
tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father,"  
because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham  
from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots  
of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce  
good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire.  
I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who  
follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit  
to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy  
Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he  
will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into  
the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will  
never go out.'

**Happy 30th Anniversary  
Dominic & Perpetual  
Fernandez**



THIS WEEK'S ROSTER: 6th / 7th December					1st Sunday of the Month	
Ministries	5.30pm	7.30am	9.00am	10.30am	12.30pm	5.30pm
Senior Server	Tony A	Angelo C Arnel R	Joseph S Joseph A	Rommel D Conrad F	Ralph H Patricia H	John B Romany D
Junior Servers	Kiana F Ezekiel D		Aviel F Hadriel F Gabriel E John Shedad	Heleni M Johan M	Stephanie S	Paolo M M Georgie Annika D
Readers	Therese B Mariquita P Jai A	Therese M Anna Z Edgie A	Rose B Jeanne C Chrysanthi S	Mercee M Divine M Fasa M	Merlyn F Anne T Perpetual F	Paea T Belen B Neil N
Special Eucharist Minister	Edith M Pompey F	Mercy E Charmaine A	Eva C	Pat O Esperanza D	Aida L Tasia H	Mary Mathew Raymond T
Greeters	Jerry A Pompey F		Ray & Sandra G		Alfredo P	
Music Ministry	Recorded Music	Recorded music	Liam Shield's & Paul Macaraeg Group	Hosanna Eukaristi	Recorded music	Rise Up Soul Singers
PowerPoint	Jess P		Choir	Choir	Ariel or Faye D	Juvy A
Piety Store	Merlyn F	Sherry	Eva C	Joe A	Ines A	Patricia D
NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER: 13th / 14th December					2nd Sunday of the Month	
Ministries	5.30pm	7.30am	9.00am	10.30am	12.30pm	5.30pm
Senior Server	Tony A Arthur W	Angelo C Michael C	Joseph S Joseph A	Conrad F	Isaac & Lina Z	Ralph H Patricia H
Junior Servers	Kiana F Lucia C Olivia C Samisoni W		Yavniel F Hadriel F Gabriel E John Shedad	Rachael P Katrina C Susan 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 C Kevin L Nerissa T	Louis E Therese Del Valle Jeninah De Leon	Cheri-Anne L Nikita D
Special Eucharist Minister	Maria M Jai A	Therese M Maria M	Katherine C	Anna Z Esperanza D Juvy E	Angela D	
Greeters	Jerry A Pompey F	Therese M Marcus M		Aubrey J	Fasa & Bruce M	
Music Ministry	Recorded music	Recorded music	Blacktown Philipino Choir	Hosanna Eukaristi	5.S.M	Recorded music
PowerPoint	Jess P	Delyse P	Choir	Choir	Jelynn M	
Piety Store	Merlyn F	Alice D	Katherine C	Joe A	Sherry	Patricia D

### PARISH TEAM

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

**Assistant Priest:** Rev Fr. Jonathan Germinanda 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

Saturday - 7.30am, Wednesday 6pm- 7pm Holy Hour with Mass.

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**

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