



Mary Immaculate Parish

Quakers Hill—Schofields
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BULLETIN

12 October 2025

TWENTY-EIGHT SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ YEAR C

Finding Christ in My Battle with Cancer

Rev. Fr. Oliver P. Aro, MSP

It all began with a painful foot. I thought it was just ordinary gout, but because the throbbing pain continued, I went to consult my GP. He sent me for a series of medical tests—an X-ray, scan, MRI, PET scan, blood tests, and a chest X-ray, all searching for answers to unexplained pain and discomfort. After a long and anxious waiting period, the final confirmation came through a biopsy: the bone cancer was caused by the diagnosis of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, an aggressive form of cancer that required immediate chemotherapy treatment.

Hearing the words “you have cancer” was something I never imagined I would face. It was difficult to admit that I have this physical problem, and even harder to accept it emotionally. As a priest, I am used to offering comfort to others in their moments of pain, yet suddenly I found myself the one in need of comfort.

When people began asking me about my diagnosis, I found the questions hard to answer. At times, they even irritated me not because I didn't appreciate their concern, but because each question reminded me of a reality I was still struggling to

accept. Resisting the situation didn't help my inner peace, so I turned to the only source of true consolation, my faith.

I began to spiritualize what was happening to me. I looked at the Cross and realized that this suffering is not just an affliction to endure, but an invitation from Jesus to walk with Him on His own journey of suffering. In uniting my pain with His, I found a new depth of prayer a quiet place in my heart where faith and suffering meet.

It has also been a great consolation to know that so many people are praying for me, my family, my friends, and my parishioners. Their love and prayers give me strength. I am humbled and grateful by your gesture. Each message, each prayer, and each small act of kindness remind me that I am not alone in this fight. Thank you!

On the 1st of October, I completed my second session of chemotherapy. The treatment continues every three weeks, and while the process is difficult, I hold on to the hope that God will continue to give me the strength to persevere. My greatest desire is to return to the altar, to celebrate the Holy Mass as usual with the people I serve and love.

In this journey of suffering, I have discovered that even in pain, there is grace. Even in weakness, there is strength. And even in illness, there is the unmistakable presence of Christ, who never leaves our side. Once again brothers and sisters thank you!

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick:

Clarina Emanuel, Nina Mangion, Sr. Paulina, Fr Oliver Aro, Rolly Valenzuela, Liberty Ventura, Tita Garcia, Michael McTegg, Mila Ranoso, Lorry Debono, 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.

Anniversary of Death:

Sergio Lintag, John Galea, Maria Dalgado, Baby Elamparo & Walter Valenton

Recently Deceased:

Anthony Calleja

In Memoriam:

Fely & Edwardo Escabas, Joe Grech, Thindie Rogue, Teresita Racaza, Edwardo Ombina, Salad A Morgia, Maxima & Engracio Obatay, Felicidad Danilo Dingle, Cheryl Gabel & Nigel Barrett, Michael, Sharma & S. Fernandez Florence, Mr & Mrs Robson Karthir, Dan Pieris, Panapa Sakaria, Bernadette Ryan, Salud Dumaguet, Peggy, Douglas & Christobel Outschoorn, Camelina Abreu, Sebastin & Amelia Pereira, Valentine & Lena Fernandes, Ignaius & Phyllis Pereira, Paul D'Rozario, Caroline Dias, Crescenciana Ebarola, Flower Clement, Raji John, K.J. John, Michael, Imee Quital, Rosalina Balderama, Esperanza Repollo, Isabel Amistoso, Jacob Gonsalves, Theresa Amjadali, John Amjadali, Caji Gonsalves, Doreen Gois, Joseph Kassis, Felimon Parcon, Elizabeth & Joshua Arand, John Ranbhise, John Shedad, Beata Anacion, Joseph Vella, Louise Camilleri Bibiana, Marciano, Virgilio Mala Iuan, Susan Rigor, Alfred Luna, Nelo Bracero, Jacob Gonsalves, John Dsouza, Angel Aligada, Mary Grace Quintio Mogg, Ramon Parcon, Edelberta Tura, Imee Quital, Anthony Magion, Sam Mercieca, Grace Mercieca, Alice Cruz, 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

FEAST OF ST FRANCIS SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER: PET BLESSING



HOLY LAND VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE

It was wonderful to see more than 30 members of our parish gather together for Merlyn's virtual pilgrimage. So much interest in these events has prompted another visit next year. Thank you to the Merlyn and the Ladies Group for organising such a great day.



SAINT CARLO ACUTIS

Join us for games, laughs, and inspiration with special guest: video game creator @type7studios

1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown

7:30pm - 9:00pm

Light refreshment available

RSVP to Eleanor.bonwick@parracatholic.org

FAMILY FUN DAY 30TH NOV 10AM

Our parish will be holding a fundraising event on Sunday Nov 30 from 10am to raise funds for ongoing church building repairs and necessary improvements. This event is also an opportunity for us to come together as a parish community; celebrate diversity by sampling food, cakes and sweets from various international cuisines, stock up on Christmas decorations and party supplies, pick up a pot or two from the plant sale, and enjoy a family fun-filled morning with organised games and other fun activities for kids.

We are inviting the various ethnic communities and ministry groups in the parish to band together to support this initiative by donating food and other items that can be sold on the day.

Together let us support our parish. Your contribution will help ensure that our church facilities are regularly maintained to ensure safety, functionality and longevity.

Mary Immaculate Parish Invites You to Come Along and Join the **FUN!**

FAMILY FUN DAY AND CHRISTMAS MARKET SALE



GAMES & FUN
ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS



INTERNATIONAL FOOD
CAKES & SWEETS
TEA / COFFEE & DRINKS

WHEN:
Sunday
30 Nov 2025
10am to 12pm

WHERE:
Mary
Immaculate
Parish
125 Barnier Dr.
Quakers Hill



XMAS DECORS AND
PARTY SUPPLIES



PLANT SALE

**FUNDRAISING FOR ONGOING CHURCH
BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS**

First Reading 2 Kings 5:14-17

A reading from the second book of the Kings

Naaman the leper went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, as Elisha had told him to do. And his flesh became clean once more like the flesh of a little child.

Returning to Elisha with his whole escort, he went in and stood before him. 'Now I know' he said, 'that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now, please, accept a present from your servant.' But Elisha replied, 'As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing.' Naaman pressed him to accept, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'Since your answer is "No," allow your servant to be given as much earth as two mules may carry, because your servant will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any god except the Lord.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 97:1-4. R. see v.2

(R.) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. (R.)
2. The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel. (R.)
3. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

Remember the Good News that I carry. 'Jesus Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of David'; it is on account of this that I have my own hardships to bear, even to being chained like a criminal - but they cannot chain up God's news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are chosen, so that in the end they may have the salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal glory that comes with it.

Here is a saying that you can rely on:

If we have died with him, then we shall live with him.

If we hold firm, then we shall reign with him.

If we disown him, then he will disown us.

We may be unfaithful, but he is always faithful, for he cannot disown his own self.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

For all things give thanks to God,
because this is what he expects of you in Christ Jesus.
Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 17:11-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, 'Jesus! Master! Take pity on us.' When he saw them he said, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, 'Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner.' And he said to the man, 'Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.'

DEEPENING THE FAITH SESSIONS

These sessions will recommence in the Parish meeting Room on the 22nd of October following the 9.15am Mass. The topic for this secession is "The Forgotten Church—Purgatory". 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.

DAILY MASS READINGS: 13-18 Oct

Mon 13 Oct: Rom 1:1-7 & Lk 11: 29-32

Tues 14 Oct: Rom 1:16-25 & Lk 11:37-41

Wed 15 Oct: Rom 8:22-27 & Jn 15:1-8

Thurs 16 Oct: Rom 3:21-30 & Lk 11:47-54

Fri 17 Oct: Phil 3:17- 14:1 & Jn 12: 24-26

Sat 18 Oct: 2 Tim 4: 10-17 & Lk 10: 1-9

TOONGABBIE LEGAL CENTRE INC.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH JUSTICE SINCE 2007!

Making a difference in Western Sydney for over 15 years, Toongabbie Legal Centre provides FREE legal assistance to those who need it most. Our mission? To ensure no one is left behind in accessing justice!

Our Services:

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- ✓ SUPPORTING VULNERABLE & MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES
- ✓ RESPONDING TO REAL COMMUNITY NEEDS
- ✓ FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE & CONSULTATION
- ✓ COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMS
- ✓ FREE LEGAL EDUCATION SEMINARS
- ✓ MCLE - PROFESSIONAL ADVOCACY WORKSHOPS
- ✓ NOTARY PUBLIC SERVICES
- ✓ JUSTICE OF THE PEACE (JP) SERVICES
- ✓ DEDICATED VOLUNTEER-DRIVEN SUPPORT
- ✓ TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION OPTIONS

Contact Us →

Phone Number: 1300 373 353 E-Mail: admin@tlc.asn.au Website: www.tlc.asn.au

THIS WEEK'S ROSTER: 11th / 12th October					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 Michael C	Joseph S	Conrad F	Romany D	Arthur W Ralph H
Junior Servers	Kiana F Lucia C Olivia C		Yavniel F Hadriel F Gabriel E John Shedad	Rachael P Katrina C	Heleni M Johan M	J Machaya Samisoni W
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	Bernadette W Nikita D
Special Eucharist Minister	Maria M	Therese M Maria M	Katherine C	Anna Z Esperanza D Juvy E Bessie M	Angela D	Patricia H
Greeters	Jerry A Pompey F	Therese M Marcus M		Aubrey J	Fasa & Bruce M	
Music Ministry		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		Patricia D

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER: 18th / 19th October					3rd Sunday of the Month	
Ministries	5.30pm	7.30am	9.00am	10.30am	12.30pm	5.30pm
Senior Server	Tony A John B	Angelo C Arnel R	Michael C Conrad F	Joseph S	Paul M Marvin Co	Romany D
Junior Servers	Kiana F		Aviel, Yavniel Hadriel F Gabriel E	Katrina C Jeremy A Johan A	D & D De Leon Heleni M Johan M	P Marcial, M Georgie A Dass
Readers	Belen B Nikita D Anthony S	Mere S Laurinda A Rachelle L	Amila F Mary Dinushi Rose B	Eleanor O Pat O Alice H	Divine M Bruce M Fasa M	Gary C Paea T Perpetual F
Special Eucharist Minister	Jane A	Maria M Mary Mathew	Aida L Katherine C Mariquita P	Lucy V Patricia Z	Rudy H Tasnia H	Juvy E Edgie A
Greeters	Jerry A Pompey F	Peter S	Brad & Angela A		A Aquini	
Music Ministry	C.F.C Family Ministry	Recorded music	Blacktown Philipino Choir	St Pedro Calungsod Devotees	Voices of Zion	Mary Immaculate Parish Choir
PowerPoint	Jess P	Delyse P	Tanishq A	Choir	Choir	Choir
Piety Store	Merlyn F	Sherry	Therese B	Joe A		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 Hambledon Road Schofields
Ph: 9208-7200. Principal: Robert Muscat