Mary Immaculate Parish

Quakers Hill – Schofields
125 Barnier Drive, Quakers Hill NSW 2763
Ph 9626 3326 · www.maryimmac.org.au · ABN 93 648 688 769



BULLETIN · 29 NOVEMBER 2026

First Sunday of Advent ~ Year B

Fr Oliver – Advent Message 2026



Advent is a season of waiting, hope, and preparation. It reminds us that God is always coming into our lives, sometimes in ways we expect, and sometimes through unexpected changes. As missionaries, we are called to take root wherever God sends us, to grow with the people entrusted to our care, and, when the time comes, to be ready to be uprooted and planted elsewhere where the mission needs us. Our roots may be in one community, but our hearts must always remain open to God's call.

It has been seven years and six months since I began my ministry here at Mary Immaculate Quakers Hill–Schofields Parish. I came as a missionary, but I leave with much more than I brought. I leave with friendships, beautiful memories, and a deeper appreciation of the faith, generosity, and welcoming spirit of this community. You have made this parish a home, and you have become part of my family. For all these, I am deeply grateful.

This year has also brought personal challenges, particularly my health and the diagnosis with cancer and the demands of treatment. It has taught me to accept my limitations, to slow down, and to recognize that serving God also means caring for the life and health He has given me.

There were moments when I felt embarrassed, especially when my coughing interrupted me at the altar. But those moments also made me reflect. I began asking myself, what is best for me? What is best for this parish? I believe this parish deserves a priest who can give his best, someone with the strength and energy to continue the work we have started and to lead the community toward the vision and goals we have set together. After prayer and reflection, and with the guidance of my superiors, I have accepted their decision to move to the Diocese of Hamilton in New Zealand, where I will join my MSP confreres.

Honestly, leaving you is painful and not easy. When a missionary has taken root in a community, leaving means carrying a piece of that community wherever he goes. But this is also the beauty of missionary life, we are called not to remain where we are comfortable, but to go where God needs us. We plant, we nurture, we grow and also allow God to plant us elsewhere.

As we prepare for Christmas, I encourage you to continue making this parish a welcoming home for everyone. Welcome your next priest with the same kindness you showed me. Continue the good works we have begun, and above all, keep Christ at the centre of your lives and this community.

I warmly invite you to join me on the **2nd of January 2027**, as I celebrate 30 years of priesthood and give thanks to God for the many blessings of my ministry. This will also mark the conclusion of my journey here with you. Thank you for your love, patience, generosity, friendship, and prayers. I may be leaving this parish, but I carry you in my heart and prayers. As Advent teaches us, every ending can become a new beginning when we place our trust in God.

May Mary Immaculate continue to guide this parish, and may the Lord bless us all as we continue our journey of faith and mission.

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: Cathy Hey

Saint John Paul II Catholic College
85 Hambledon Road, Schofields
Ph: 9208 7200
Principal: Robert Muscat

Parish Office Tuesday – Friday, 9am to 4pm · 9626 3326 · parishoffice@maryimmac.org.au · Accounts: accounts@maryimmac.org.au

First Sunday of Advent – Year B

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.

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

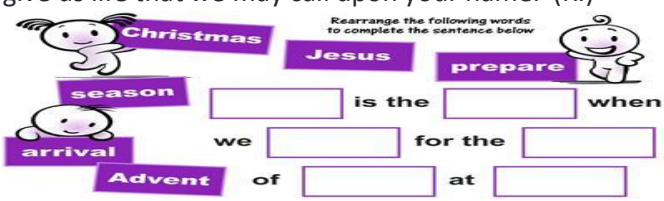
R. v.4

(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 received 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 without 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.

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, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

Daily Mass Readings



Mon 30 Nov Rom 10:9-18 & Matt 4:18-22
Tue 1 Dec Is 11:1-10 & Lk 10:21-24
Wed 2 Dec Is 25:6-10 & Matt 15:29-37
Thu 3 Dec 1 Cor 9:16-19. 22-23 & Mk 16:15-20
Fri 4 Dec Is 29:17-24 & Matt 9:27-31
Sat 5 Dec Is 30:19-21. 23-26 & Matt 9:35–10:1. 6-8

We're Stegglers for family.

Proud sponsors of our WYD Pilgrims for 2027

Future advertising space: please contact the Parish Office.

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We Remember in Our Prayer

The Sick: Nilda Benitez, Theresa Briffa, Felix D'Souza, Florance Heredia, Asmando Bautista, Bartolome Abad, Caden Vidal, Antonette Grech, Charito Angeles, Perlita Cadungog, Anna Fernandes, Robert Penafuerte, Theresa Briffa, Precious Guerrero Tamayo, Caroline Dias, Clarina Emanuel, Sr. Paulina, Rolly Valenzuela, Tita Garcia, Michael McTegg, Jaythde Hite-Deuna, Phillip Camilleri, Margaret Deshe, Resurrettion & Grace Espina, Graham Rutledge, Madeline Semisi, Ray Johnston, Sophia Pal, Harrison Whelan, Joseph Buttigieg, Jackson Naidoo, Aylyn Yu, Raymond Gajitos & Ruby L.

Recently Deceased: Jocelyn Ondous Clarin, Orlando Ondous, Lina Flores, Mary Anne Marquette, George Kosrsih Sugiri, Julieta Roldan, Rita Borges, Angelo Borges, Salvador Doy Motio, Miguel Escobo

May they Rest in Peace

Christmas Hampers

Would you or someone you know like a Christmas hamper with food, toys this Christmas?

Dear Parishioner, Christmas is a time of hope, kindness, and community. If you, a family member, friend, or neighbour are facing challenges due to unemployment, illness, loneliness, financial hardship, or homelessness, the Stanhope Gardens/Quakers Hill St Vincent de Paul Conference would like to provide a Christmas food, toy/gift hamper. If you would like to receive a hamper, please contact the parish office and provide a delivery address.

All information shared will be treated confidentially and used solely for the purpose of hamper distribution. Together, we can help ensure that no one in our community feels forgotten this Christmas.

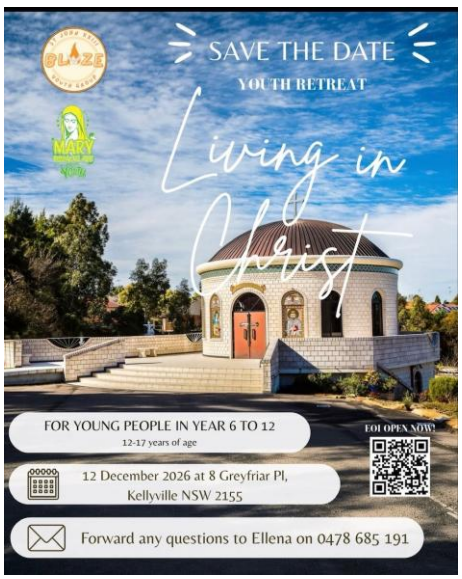
Alternatively, you may contact Vinnies member Roger Perera on 0413 713 911 for further details.

Enlisting New Altar Servers

The parish is seeking new Altar Servers to serve at Mass, especially for the Vigil, 12:30pm and 5:30pm Masses. If you have already received Holy Communion and are in Year 5 and above, we are looking for you! Training will commence on Wednesday 9th December at 5pm. If you are interested, please ask a parent to scan the QR code and sign up.







Mass Times

Weekend
Sat Vigil 5.30pm
Sun 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am, 12.30pm & 5.30pm

Weekdays
Mon 6.00am only
Tue – Fri 6.00am & 9.15am
Sat 7.30am
Wed 6pm – 7pm Holy Hour with Mass

Reconciliation
Saturdays 4pm – 5pm

This Week's Roster 28th / 29th November · 5th Sunday of the Month

Ministries	Vigil	7.30am	9.00am	10.30am	12.30pm	5.30pm
Senior Server	Tony A	Romany D	Conrad F	Lina Z Lawrence F	Marvin C	Rommel D Patricia H
Junior Servers	Kiana F Senadi F Christine S		Rachael P Aviel, Yavniel & Hadriel F Gabriel E	Katrina C Susan C		Paolo M M Georgie Annika D
Readers	Virginia F Mariquita P John F	Mere S Belen B Pen B	Bernie P Paea T Mary C	Anna Z Cora M Pat O	Divine M Merlyn F Alice Ho	Joy M Raymond T Tressy T
Special Eucharist Minister	Jane A Maria M	Maria M John B	Juvy E Neetha L	Patricia Z Zeny B		Ralph H
Greeters	Jerry A Pompey F		Brad & Angela A	Pat O		
Music Ministry	Recorded Music	Recorded music	Liam Shields & Paul Macaraeg	Mary Immaculate Parish Choir	Recorded music	5.S.M Choir
PowerPoint	Jess P			Choir	Jelynn M	Choir/ Ethan D
Piety Store		Sherry		Joe A	Merlyn F	Patricia D

The Sacraments

Baptism: Saturdays at 11:00am. Parents must attend a preparation session prior to baptism – held on the 1st Tuesday of each month. If you want your child baptized, please call Marthese in the Parish Office, 9626 3326.

First Reconciliation, First Eucharist & Confirmation: Please contact the sacramental coordinator for details – sacramental.coordinator@maryimmac.org.au

Weddings: By appointment. **All Youth Groups:** miyouthgroups@maryimmac.org.au

R.C.I.A: Patrick D. 0435 038 281 or 9626 3326

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

