



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

The Baptism of the Lord | Year A Cycle II | 11 January 2026

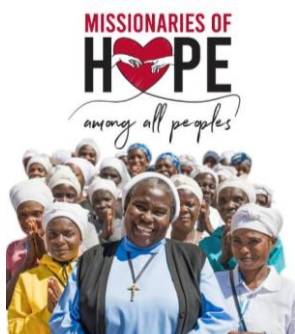


Love in Action

Today's Gospel is an invitation for us to reflect on the meaning and significance of our own Baptism. While our Baptism has initiated us into the Christian community, even a brief reflection on our lives reveals to us that we are all works in progress as we struggle with our Baptismal commitment to walk authentically in the footsteps of Jesus. In Baptism, we have been planted in God's love. Being loved calls for a loving response and our everyday experience with those close to us demonstrates that love works only when it is shared. Surely that implies reflecting something of the love God has for us with everyone we encounter. That doesn't happen automatically. Loving can be hard work, but it develops with practice and commitment, and a determination not to give up when we fail. Those we encounter, those with whom we live and work and study, will see our love only in our words and actions.

God's Word Br Julian McDonald CFC

Catholic Mission Appeal



This World Mission Month we invite you to extend your generosity to assist the vital work of the Catholic Church. Your support can make a significant difference to the lives of many, offering hope.

Featured this year are women in Zambia, who must choose between feeding their children or selling their crops to survive. Sr Jane (pictured) provides training and support to help them achieve sustainable farming.

Our Parish Appeal will be held next weekend 17/18 January.



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mission



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Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

This is My Beloved Son

At a graduation ceremony, a father in the audience stands, visibly emotional, as his child walks across the stage to receive their degree. As the applause rings out, he turns to those near him and says with pride, "That's my child." It's a small sentence, but it carries the weight of years of sacrifice, hope, encouragement – and love.

To be named in love is one of the most powerful experiences a human being can have. It's a moment of deep affirmation, of being seen and valued. Whether it comes from a parent, a mentor or a friend, being named and claimed in love tells us: "You matter. You belong." But not everyone hears those words in life. Many people move through their days wondering if they are seen or valued at all. For them, words of affirmation are not just welcome; they are deeply healing. And so, when we hear the Father's voice over Jesus in today's Gospel – "This is my Son, the Beloved" – we are not only witnessing something about Jesus; we are being reminded of the power of being named and loved.

Jesus enters the water to identify with us in our humanity. By choosing to be Baptised alongside ordinary people, Jesus chooses to stand with us, not above us. He steps into the muddy waters of the Jordan to show that no part of human life is beneath the presence of God. In choosing to stand with sinners, Jesus sets the tone for his entire ministry: he will always be found among the broken, the searching and the lost.

As Jesus comes up from the water, the heavens open. The Spirit descends upon him, and the voice of the Father declares: "This is my beloved Son..." This is a moment of revelation. It tells us who Jesus is – the Son of God – and what he has come to do.

Jesus does not begin his mission with spectacle. He begins with service. He does not assert power; he expresses compassion. The Spirit empowers him, not to dominate, but to heal. The Father's love is not just affirmation: it is a sending forth. The Baptism is the beginning of Jesus' mission, not the end of a private revelation.

Through our own Baptism, we are joined to Christ. We, too, are anointed with the Spirit. And the voice from heaven speaks to us as well: "You are my beloved." That voice is not a one-time event. It is the foundation of our identity as Christians, and that is our deepest identity. As the American poet Maya Angelou said, "Don't you know who I am? I'm a child of God!"

But Baptism also comes with responsibility. Like Jesus, we are called not simply to believe, but to live the Gospel – to go about "doing good". The servant in Isaiah brings justice not through shouting, but by lifting the crushed and freeing those who are bound captive. That is our calling too.

In a world where many feel unseen or forgotten, our task is to embody God's gentleness and mercy. And how do we help others know they are beloved? Sometimes, the most Christ-like thing we can do is simply to notice someone, to affirm their dignity, to include them, or to speak a word of encouragement. In this way, we are sent to love, to heal, to welcome and to serve. The Spirit that descended on Jesus at his Baptism is the same Spirit that lives in us and sends us forth.

As we begin a new year, this feast invites us to begin again from the waters of our Baptism. To remember that we are God's beloved children. And to live in such a way that others might know, through us, that they are loved too.

Sunday Living Word Majellan Family Media

Masses: Saturday Vigil 5pm | Sunday 8am & 9:30am | Reynolds Court 11am | Maronite Mass 5pm

Weekday Masses: Monday Communion Service 9am | Tuesday - Thursday 9am | Friday 11:45am
Saturday 9am | Reynolds Court Wednesday 10am

Reconciliations: Saturdays 9:30am - 10am | 4pm - 4:30pm **Liturgy of the Hours:** Saturday 8:40am

Rosary: Monday-Thursday 8:35am | Friday 11:20am | Saturday 9:30am

Holy Souls Crusade Prayer Group: Tuesday 9:30am **Cenacle Prayer Group:** Wednesday 9:30am

Christian Meditation Group: Friday 10:30am - 11:30am Reynolds Room



A Beacon of Faith, Hope & Love

Welcome Visitors!

A very warm welcome to anyone visiting our parish this Christmas Holidays. It is good to have you with us. Our parish family wishes everyone the blessings of the Season, for your time at The Entrance. If you have any queries please speak to Fr Brian, Deacon Paul or Deacon Tony after the Masses, or call the parish office on 4332 2216 during office hours.

Children's Nativity Mass

We thank all the children for their beautiful reenactment of the Nativity Story this Christmas.



Coming Soon – OLR Children's Liturgy!

Starting next month, on Saturday 7 February, during the 5pm Vigil Mass, Children's Liturgy of the Word will be available for all children, in the Family Room at the back of the Church. Children's Liturgy is when the children leave the congregation to celebrate and reflect on the Sunday Gospel reading in an age appropriate way. The children are led through prayers, songs and readings that are adapted to their level of understanding. For enquiries call 4332 2216.

Bequests

Have you ever thought of remembering OLR parish in your Will? While we have a great deal of assets here in the parish including Lakesea Apartments, we now must begin a series of loans as we pay out those in Lakesea when they terminate their Loan Licence agreements. Your generosity would enable us to pay off this loan and equally importantly enable us to continue to best serve the needs of all in our parish community now and into the future. Geoff O'Reilly, a Solicitor on our Parish Finance Committee (Nash, Allen, Williams & Wotton 4332 3588), has generously agreed to provide a Free Will to those bequeathing \$10,000 or more to our parish.

The Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 | Acts 10:34-38 | Matthew 3:13-17

Entrance Antiphon: After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.



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Please Note

Welcome!

At our Masses this weekend we have the Reception of the Toms, Charley and Davis Families whose children are soon to be Baptised.

Feast Days this Week

St Anthony 17 January.

Low Gluten Hosts

Please see one of the Priests before Mass if you are a coeliac.

Offertory Procession

Children are encouraged to take part in the Offertory Procession. Come to the Offertory table when invited by the Acolytes.

Car Park Closure

Please be aware the carpark gates are locked after the Saturday and Sunday morning services and are not opened again until the evening service.

David the Movie

David is a must-see action-packed animated biblical musical film featuring the character of David from the Book of Samuel in the Old Testament. It comes highly recommended! Starting 16 January.

Bus to Mass on Sundays

If you know someone in our parish who would like a lift to 9:30am Mass on Sunday mornings, please let them know we have a parish bus available. Ring 4332 2216 during office hours to book.

The Catholic Weekly

On sale at the entry tables. \$2 to the poor box please.

Theft Warning!

Due to thefts in the past we recommend you keep your possessions on you or in view at all times.

Keep Us in Your Prayers

Recently Deceased: Jeanette Douglas, Andrew Osborne, Peter North, Kevin Kelaher.

Funerals: The funerals of Kevin Kelaher and Andrew Osborne were held during the week. Please pray for them and their families.

Anniversaries: Don Graham, Stephen Byrne, Brian D'Costa.

Remembrances: Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Sam & Carmen Ghirxi, Martin Ghirxi, John Giutronich, Mario Cauchi, Delma Clarke, Richard Falzon, Nona Redman, Graham Henneberry, Simon Butcher, Michael Langley, Nick, Violet & George Shaw, Fr Gregory Leonidas OSB, Petar Lerotic and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Sick: Lynne White, Fr Geoff Bugden, Fr Brogan, Julie Fletcher, Walter Knoke, Pat McCudden, Linda Read, Rod Slater, Pam Elliott, Janine Harpley, Patrick Yeo, Stjepan Tuka, Pauline Fowler, Anne Knoke, John McClement, Emma Horton, Kelly Will.

Welcome Newly Baptised: Santiago Lane-Aranibar, Anica Lerotic.



Our Lady of the Rosary

**Sacred
Gifts**

4332 2216

We are Back!

We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break!
We open on Saturdays before and after the 5pm Vigil
Mass and Sundays before and after the 9:30am Mass.

Also weekdays by appointment.
You'll find us in the foyer of the Church.