



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

The Baptism of the Lord

Year C Cycle I

12 January 2025



My Favour Rests Upon You

Although Jesus, as the sinless Son of God, had no need for re-birth through baptism, he chose, in his humility, to accept the washing by John in the waves of the Jordan. In doing so, he imparted sacramental power to the waters of baptism, whereby our own being is restored to its original blessedness and purity. When Christ emerged from the water, the Spirit descends upon him as a dove, while the voice of the Father proclaims, 'You are my Son, my Beloved; my favour rests upon you.' This descent of the Spirit and proclamation of love and favour from the Father is a reality for each baptised person. It is a reality which is renewed constantly, or rather has a potency which is indelible and eternal. If we still our minds from distractions, worries, aspirations and fears, and look upwards to the heavens, we shall see the Holy Spirit hovering above us, as the white dove of hope and faith. And if we listen intently, we shall not fail to hear our God proclaim with infinite love and joy to each of us personally, 'You are my beloved child, and my favour rests upon you.'

God's Word Fr Robert Nixon OSB

Farewell for Fr Joshi!

Fr Joshi has been appointed as Assistant Priest at Warnervale starting from 31 January. We thank him for his fine ministry with us since his appointment in August 2023 and wish him well. We continue to pray for him as he begins a new chapter at St Mary of the Cross MacKillop community.

We will have a farewell morning tea for Fr Joshi on Sunday 26 January in the Parish Centre after 9:30am Mass. Please join us in thanking Fr Joshi for his time with us. Please bring a plate to share - it may be dropped off to the parish centre before Mass.





**Feast Days
This Week**

St Anthony
17 January

The Catholic Weekly

The Catholic Weekly

Now on sale
on the
Church
tables.
\$2 to the
poor box
please.



**Offertory
Procession**

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



**Low Gluten
Hosts**

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

Strengthened by God's Words

The Gospel paints a picture of a curious man making a big impression by his mission to baptise, entreating all who come to repent and live an honest life. The people wonder who he is. They were constantly looking for the Messiah who would free them from the Romans. Could this be him? But John tells them they need to look elsewhere – someone greater is coming. He makes this expected figure sound rather terrifying. He will baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire and clear the threshing floor with his winnowing fork.

Then Jesus himself arrives to be baptised. The heavens open and the Holy Spirit descends on him like a dove. Jesus receives an affirmation of who he is and of God's approval: "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." Sometimes things are not what we expect, and sometimes we need reassurance that everything is okay. Jesus followed his vocation and accepted baptism from John. Then was reassured by the Father.

Jesus then went off into the desert to prepare himself for what was to come, strengthened by God's words. We too can hear the affirmation we need, if we listen carefully and follow the path God has set before us.

Sunday Living Word Majellan Family Media

The River Jordan Today

Visiting the site where it is believed Jesus was baptised in the Jordan is a memorable experience. If you approach from the Israel/Palestine side it involves travelling along a road where you are instructed not to stray onto the surrounding ground because there may be mines, and a barbed-wire fence reinforces the message.

The River Jordan itself is shallow, narrow and brown. It forms the international border between Israel/the Palestinian West Bank and Jordan, and visitors are warned not to cross and get out on the other side, which would get them into serious trouble. Tourists and pilgrims alike mingle on the edge. Some pilgrims go into the river to receive full-immersion baptism, while others remain on the bank as a priest uses a shell to pour the precious Jordan water over them.

A Christian pilgrim who expects to find the experience spiritually uplifting might find it difficult in the midst of the general chaos and noise of the guides giving information to tourists who've just come for a look. If you were expecting quiet reverence, which would allow you to have an encounter with God, you might find the barbed wire, the mines and the general noise and mayhem rather off-putting. But God is not always found in the places where people show respect. If you visit the Sistine Chapel in Rome you might encounter someone enforcing respectful silence by loudly "shushing", and you might find it destroys the holy atmosphere it is intended to preserve.

God is to be found in the midst of the hubbub and chaos in which we sometimes live our lives. Perhaps, if we pay attention, we are more likely to find him in the places where conflict and trouble exist. And, listening carefully, we might hear God say, "Yes, it is good that you are here. You are my beloved child and you are exactly where you need to be to show people how much I care about them."

Sunday Living Word Majellan Family Media

Priestly Ordination & Diary Dates

Bishop Anthony has announced that Deacon Rosan Mathew will be Ordained a Priest at OLR Cathedral Waitara on Wednesday 19 March at 7.30pm. We are also pleased to announce that Deacon Rosan has also been appointed to continue serving in our parish as Assistant Priest. Please keep him in your prayers as he prepares for this important occasion.

Two coaches have been booked to allow parishioners to be transported to the Ordination. We will take bookings shortly. The bus will leave around 5pm and return approximately 10pm. Your own personal transport will be needed to and from the Church.

A second celebration with invited guests will be Fr Rosan's First Mass of Thanksgiving, which will be held on Thursday 20 March at 11am, to which all are welcome to attend, followed by a light lunch in the Parish Centre.

There will also be a parish celebration at the 5pm Mass on Saturday 22 March, with supper to follow in the Parish Centre.

A busy year to come - more details to follow but please mark these very important dates in your diaries!

Catholic Mission Appeal next Weekend

Next weekend, you're invited to partner with the Church in Mongolia to help deliver essential services to people who need it most. Lack of access and social stigma mean that some of the most vulnerable people are not getting the support they require.

The House of Mercy will provide a haven for many people, including those affected by homelessness and domestic violence. Without your partnership, people in need will go without the assistance they require.

We are called to "Invite others to the banquet", and we invite you to share the warmth of God's love with our brothers and sisters who need it most in Mongolia. You can support this work by using the appeal envelope, going online at catholicmission.org.au/Mongolia or freecall 1800 257 296. Your gift will also assist many other Church programmes around the world.

Please Note

Engaged Encounter

Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. Choose from any of the coming weekends: 22-23 February; 17-18 May; 16-17 August. For further information, visit our website www.engagedencounter.org.au

SmartLoving Engaged: Online Marriage Preparation

Consisting of nine lessons, you progress through the course at your own pace, doing the couple activities as you go. There is an option for a married Sponsor Couple from your community to accompany you through the course. Go to: <https://smartloving.org/broken-bay>

Did you know we are on Social Media?

Facebook: Our Lady of the Rosary Parish The Entrance
Instagram: Our Lady of the Rosary Parish The Entrance
(olr_parish_theentrance)



Welcome Visitors!

A warm welcome to anyone visiting our parish over the Christmas Season. It is lovely to have you with us.



Welcome

to the Thorsby & Collins Families for the Reception of their children for the Sacrament of Baptism.

Parish Morning Tea



The Simply the Best Family Group is hosting our Morning Tea next Sunday 19 January in the Parish Centre after 9:30am Mass. All Welcome!



Shop Locally!

Please support the shops in the Carnival Hall building 40-48 The Entrance Road. These shops support our Parish.

THE ENTRANCE PARISH DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

A beacon of Faith, Hope and Love

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN OF THE CENTRAL COAST Fr Brian Moloney **ASSISTANT PRIEST** Fr Joshi Naduppura
DEACONS Rev Rosan Mathew & Rev Paul Simmons **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE** Colleen Smith
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Leanne McGill **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE MANAGER** Karen Green
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Email info@ourladyoftherosary.org.au **Facebook** Our Lady of the Rosary Parish The Entrance
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL Tel 7256 2115 **ST PETER'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE** Tel 4351 2344

Mass & Devotions

Sunday Masses Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am (11am at Reynolds Court) Maronite Mass 5pm.
Weekday Masses Monday - Thursday 9:00am Friday 11:45am Saturday 9:00am
Reconciliations Saturdays 9:30-10am and 4-4:30pm
Liturgy of the Hours Saturday 8:40am **Rosary** Monday-Thursday 8:35am Friday 11:20am Saturday 9:30am
Cenacle Prayer Group Wednesday 9:30am **Christian Meditation** Friday 10:30am-11:30am Reynolds Room

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7 Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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: Oh, bless the lord, my soul!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!

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

Keep Us In Your Prayers

There is no gift more precious than prayer - Fr Benedict Groeschel

Recently Deceased: Marie Williams, Patsy Purcell, Terri McFadden, Nona Redman.

Funerals: The funeral of Marie Williams will be held on Thursday at 1pm. Please pray for Marie and her family.

Anniversaries: Rita Malone.

Remembrances: Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Terence & Josephine Smith, Terry Howard, John Giutronich, Sam & Carmen Ghirxi, Martin Ghirxi, Tom Grigic, Mollie & Bob Amor, Barry Millwain, Marie O'Brien and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Sick: Patricia Bubb, Neville Allen, Rosalyn Evans, Charmaine Goodwin, Margaret Ayres, Glenda Way, Jacob McCarroll, Beau Davis, Max Leete, Frano Stitic, Anne Clancy, John McClement, Anne & Trish Knoke, Paul Smith, Emma Horton, Linda Read, Kelly Will and all with serious illness.

Welcome Newly Baptised: Freya & Koa Lipman, Lucija Lerotic.

Pearly
Gates
Revisited



Our Lady of the Rosary

GIFT
CENTRE

For all your devotional needs...

Welcome to the Gift Centre

The Gift Centre is open on Saturdays before and after the 5pm Vigil Mass and Sundays before and after the 9:30am Mass.

You'll find us in the foyer of the Church.

Enquiries: 4332 2216.