



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

3rd Sunday of the Year | Year A Cycle II | 25 January 2026



Thus Begins...

Jesus begins his public ministry in the small town where he grew up. Though its importance was foreseen by Isaiah, the people at the time of Jesus are still walking in darkness with nobody to guide them. Jesus decides that it is time to change that situation. He begins very slowly, going to the lakeshore and calling four fishermen. The fishermen who receive the call immediately follow him. Thus begins the movement called Christianity, with over two billion followers today worldwide. Armed only with confidence in God his Father, Jesus sets out without ever looking back, thereby inspiring countless men and women to continue his work. The unprecedented growth of the Church and Church institutions are the proof of God's hand on them. May God inspire us too!

God's Word Fr Augustine Kanachikuzhy SSP

Happy Australia Day!

God of all peoples, Lord of the journey, who always walks with us in this land, you have blessed us with the first inhabitants of the land who have loved it through the ages: for them we give you thanks. You have blessed us in the settlers who made this land their home, and forged a nation with their toil: for them we give you thanks.

You have blessed us in the many peoples of different languages and cultures who have found a new home here: for them we give you thanks.

We ask that you make a home among us, so that justice and truth may flourish here and all Australians may walk together into the future you are preparing: for that we give you thanks.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Archbishop Mark Coleridge

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN OF THE CENTRAL COAST: Fr Brian Moloney

ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Rosan Mathew

DEACON: Rev Tony Hoban

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Contemplating our God

Jesus was both active and contemplative in equal measure. Today he is teaching in the synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and affliction. He travels far and wide to the towns and villages, and wherever his ministry takes him. Then he retires to a remote place to pray and to contemplate the glory of his Father.

There is a rich Catholic tradition of contemplative prayer. There are many Religious Orders devoted to contemplation of God – but contemplative prayer is for all of us. We all want to be deeply prayerful and also to be active in our Gospel life.

Sometimes we may have encounters with the divine without fully recognising what is happening: a moment that feels special; perhaps when overwhelmed by beauty in nature; in comfortable silence with a partner or friend; being moved by the selfless actions of others. These times are special: they are a gift. God is in those moments, even if we don't recognise his presence. These are moments of contemplation.

The Psalmist today has only one longing in his heart: "One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple."

Gazing on the beauty of the Lord is reciprocal: we are in turn gazed upon by the Lord; his gaze is benign, loving and accepting. In gazing upon the Lord, and with the Lord gazing on us, we are drawn into deeper communion with him. Christ, has come and is shining in our midst.

There is a double challenge for us here: how can we gaze on the beauty of the Lord, contemplate his presence, and then allow our contemplation to bear fruit in gospel action? Firstly, the Catholic Christian tradition has a deep emphasis on contemplation. Every Church has a crucifix, stations of the cross, statues and perhaps icons. Looking at them and allowing them to lead our thoughts and feelings towards prayer and devotion is contemplation. In exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament we gaze on the sacramental presence of the Lord where, in his risen body, he is under the appearance of bread. We can talk with him, listen spiritually to him, or simply gaze at him, hidden as he is.

Another form of contemplation is allowing our minds to roam free: we begin with a prayer, look at a sunset, go on a walk, light a candle or simply sit still, offering the moment to the Lord. It's not just us seeking him: he is actively seeking us, and in contemplating him we are also opening our heart and mind to him. Is this form of prayer associated only with the beauty of nature, with pleasant environments, with feeling good? If we are in the inner city, for example, or in an unattractive environment, are we still able to contemplate? Of course! Our focus changes. We might be looking at ugliness, squalor, painful situations, even tragedy – so we pause, pray, then contemplate where the Lord might be in this situation... Can I meet him here as truly as anywhere else? He isn't fussy. He will meet us whoever and wherever we are, regardless of our situation and however unworthy we might consider ourselves to be. Truly, the Light is here to shine in our darkness. Let us gaze on the beauty of the Lord. This is where we encounter God. Let him speak to us. Hear him.

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

2026 Sacramental Programme

The dates for our 2026 Programme have now been set. Please see the parish website for more information, pick up a flyer from the Church foyer or scan the QR code to take you to our webpage.



Parish Morning Teas

Our Sunday parish morning teas have long served as a wonderful opportunity for parishioners to connect with family and friends after the 9:30am Mass. These gatherings have historically received strong support and involvement from our Family Groups. With a decline in participation from these groups due to health and other reasons, we would like to extend an invitation to all parishioners to consider joining a new parish ministry in forming a Hospitality Team. This team would assist in hosting our Sunday morning teas on a roster basis and has the potential to expand into other parish events in the future if interest arises.

The essence of our Sunday morning teas is to foster community spirit and share cherished stories over a cup of tea and a light snack, be it a cake or biscuits. We kindly encourage attendees to bring a plate of treats to share. To keep things simple, we will refrain from serving hot foods, maintaining the intention of morning tea as a casual gathering with refreshments.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming part of this ministry, we invite you to reach out to our parish office for additional information. Let us strive to work together as we build a community that serves as a beacon of Faith, Hope and Love. Call us on 4332 2216.

Children's Liturgy Helpers Needed

We are seeking helpers to join a team for the Children's Liturgy during our 5pm Masses on Saturdays throughout the school terms, hopefully starting in February, provided we have enough leaders.

The Liturgy will be in the back of the Parents' Room, where children can sit on the carpeted area and enjoy stories and activities. We aim to create a roster, so no one person leads every week.

A Working With Children Check (WWCC) is required, and we're happy to help with the application process if you don't already have one. Material and resources will be provided each week.

If you're interested or would like more information, please contact Colleen Smith in the parish office or chat with Fr Brian or Fr Rosan. Thank you for considering this wonderful opportunity!

Seaside Youth Group 2026

Seaside Youth Group is back for the new year. We are a youth group made by youth, for youth! A space for young people to connect with friends and faith. We welcome youth in School Years 5-12. Our first dates for the year are 14 February, 14 March, 9 May and 13 June. These are the second Saturdays of the month excluding school holidays. We gather after the 5pm Vigil Mass in the upstairs Upper Room until 8pm. Newcomers are always welcome – you can bring a friend! Any questions call 4332 2216.



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Isaiah 8:23-9:3 | 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 | Matthew 4:12-23

Entrance Antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.



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Please Note

Australia Day Mass

A very warm welcome to anyone visiting our parish this long weekend. It is good to have you with us. Mass will be celebrated this Australia Day public holiday Monday at 9:00am. All welcome!

Welcome!

At our Masses this weekend we have the Reception of the Treweeke and De La Cruz Families whose children are being Baptised in the near future.

Feast Days this Week

St Thomas Aquinas 28 January, St John Bosco 31 January.

Parish Morning Tea

Our first Parish Morning Tea this year will be held on Sunday 8 February after the 9:30am Mass. All are invited to come along to the Parish Centre for a lovely cup of tea, biscuit and chat!

Catholic Mission Thanks

We would like to thank you for your generosity supporting the Church and its missionaries around the world. For further donations please call 1800 257 296 or scan the QR code.

Book Stall Thanks

Thank you for your donations to our Mary's Meals Book Stall. \$285.30 was raised!



Reconciliation Times

We would like to kindly remind everyone of our scheduled Confession times, which are Saturdays from 9:30am to 10:00am and 4:00pm to 4:30pm. Please note that Fr Brian and Fr Rosan may have prior commitments after Mass and may not be immediately available for individual requests. To ensure that everyone's needs are met, we encourage you to reach out to the office to schedule an appointment with a priest if you wish to receive Confession outside of these designated times. Thank you for your understanding.

Keep Us in Your Prayers

Recently Deceased: Dennis Holmes, Miguelina Nobrega, Fr Gregory Leonidas OSB, Jeanette Douglas, Andrew Osborne, Peter North.

Funerals: The funeral of Dennis Holmes was held during the week. Please pray for Dennis and family.

Anniversaries: Fr Kelly, Fr Reg Reynolds, Ray Cunico.

Remembrances: Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Sam & Carmen Ghirxi, Martin Ghirxi, John Giutronich, Mario Cauchi, Delma Clarke, Richard Falzon, Nona Redman, Petar Lerotic, Margaret Foley (birthday), Simon Butcher, Michael Langley, Rita & Barbara Malone, Sam Marmara, Charlie Borg, Frano & Maria Kozul, Marko Vidovic, Mark O'Sullivan (birthday) and all the Holy Souls.

Families: Borg, Marmara, Grima, Zammit, Xeureb.

Sick: Fr David Taylor, 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.



Our Lady of the Rosary

**Sacred
Gifts**

Welcome!

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.

4332 2216