Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

1st Sunday of Advent | Year B Cycle 1 | 29 November 2026



Wakefulness

Today, the First Sunday of Advent, is about making sure we are awake in time to celebrate the biggest event in world history: Jesus' coming into our world as one of us. And in the Gospel Jesus tells us a parable to warn us to be ready for his second coming. Advent is about looking forward to the birth of Christ, but also to his second coming. We are to be prepared for the Last Judgement – when God will ask us one question: have we obeyed the commandment to 'love one another as I have loved you'?

Advent calls us to a different kind of wakefulness: not anxiety or fear, but attentive hope. The image of sleep reminds us how easily we can drift through life, dulled by routine or distracted by lesser concerns. Yet the season urges us to stay spiritually alert, because God is at work in ways that are both hidden and transformative. The Gospel's warning about the servant teaches that readiness is measured not by idle watching but by faithful living. To be prepared for Christ's coming, whether at Christmas or at the end of time, means to live each day in love, responsibility and trust. Advent therefore gathers us together in longing, vigilance and promise: we await the Lord who has come, who comes still, and who will come again. Our task is simple and demanding: to remain awake to his presence, and to show by our life that we have learned to love as he loves.

Sunday Living Word Majellan Family Media

Welcome Seminarian Matthew French



This weekend we welcome Seminarian Matthew French who is on placement in our parish for one month. Matthew, the younger brother of Fr Sam French, began seminary formation in 2021 after working as a lawyer. On 14 March this year Matthew was admitted to Candidacy for Sacred Orders.

The French Family hail from the Central Coast, so Matthew will be familiar with our area. Please make Matthew welcome when you see him, as he gains experience in ministry in local parishes.

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN of the CENTRAL COAST: Fr Brian Moloney
ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Rosan Mathew | DEACON: Rev Paul Simmons
DEACON: Rev Tony Hoban | PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Colleen Smith
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Leanne McGill | PROPERTY MAINTENANCE MANAGER: Karen Green
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Watch & Pray

Our Saviour gave this warning when he was leaving this world - leaving it, that is, as far as his visible presence is concerned. He looked forward to the many hundred years which were to pass before he came again. He knew his own purpose and his Father's purpose gradually to leave the world to itself, gradually to withdraw from it the tokens of his gracious presence. In this text, he mercifully whispers into our ears, not to trust in what we see, not to share in the general unbelief [around us], not to be carried away by the world, but to "beware, keep alert," and look out for his coming.

Parochial and Plain Sermons St John Henry Newman (*The Word on Fire Bible* Bishop Robert Barron)

Preparing for Christmas – Advent Adoration

Can we watch and pray as the Lord asks? It is a great preparation for his coming, and a wonderful way to detach from the busyness and frivolity of the commercial Christmas experience. Spending quiet prayerful time before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament during the weeks leading up to Christmas helps us slow down, reflect and prepare spiritually for his coming, focusing on hope, peace, joy and love, as we anticipate both Christ's birth at Christmas and his second coming. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held on all Saturday mornings of Advent, for one hour, following 9am Mass.

Our Synodal Journey Continues

The Synod on Synodality (2021-2024) has marked an important moment in the life of the Church, but our journey has not yet ended. It continues!! We are currently in the Implementation Phase, while also taking time to recollect and reflect on our journey so far. An Ecclesial Gathering in Rome is planned for October 2028, as part of the ongoing Universal Synod journey. Planning is underway for a Diocesan Assembly, to be held in the first half of 2027, as part of this continuing journey.

How is our Diocese responding to this journey? What is happening across Broken Bay as we continue to nurture a synodal culture of listening, discernment and participation? Read the monthly *Journeying as One* newsletters to keep up to date and discover how we will prepare and share our story, as we continue our journey forward together. Read the newsletters online by scanning the QR code.

Congratulations Carole & Colleen!



Last week Colleen Smith and Carole Cogdon graduated from the Foundations of Missionary Leadership course from the Areté Centre run by Fr Chris Ryan of the Missionaries of God's Love. The course addresses the practical dimensions of leadership for mission and is about parish renewal and being called to mission.

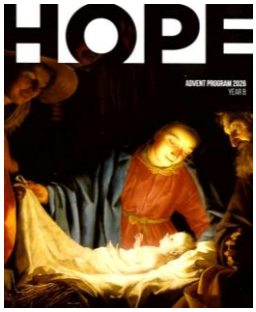
Since January 2026, Colleen and Carole have gone on 4 retreats [including a silent retreat], attended weekly Wednesday lectures, participated in small mentor groups, built up confidence in prayer ministry, and passed 4 assignments. They have been transformed by the times for prayer, growth in faith, active listening for the Holy Spirit to guide them, made 60+ new friends from around Australia and New Zealand, and to 'have fun storming the castle' [The Princess Bride]. This renewal of Spirit they bring to their active participation at OLR The Entrance Parish. A big 'Thank You' to Fr Brian and Fr Rosan for their support during this year.

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

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

The SVDP Christmas Appeal will be held on the weekend of 12/13 December. Donations are vital at this time of year for those whose budgets are already over-stressed. Please spare a thought, prayer and whatever you can afford for the needy of our parish and the growing number of families in crisis facing Christmas with dread. Your donation will directly help with food, clothing and living expenses. Envelopes will be available on the pews. Thank you for your kindness.



Hope – Advent Reflection Mornings

All are invited to journey prayerfully through the Sunday Gospel Readings of Advent, opening the stable of our hearts to the hope and wonder of Jesus' coming into the world, led by Deacon Paul. Continuing Thursday 3 December in preparation for the 2nd Sunday of Advent, at 9:30am in the Reynolds Room. Refreshments provided. No RSVP necessary – just turn up. Enquiries 4332 2216.

Crossroads Companions at First Friday Cuppa

Crossroads Companions will again be attending the First Friday Cuppa in the parish centre after the Anointing Mass next Friday 4 December. The Companions group from CatholicCare are available for meaningful conversations around life, death and everything in between. Join the conversation - or simply listen! Space will also be provided for deeper, more personal and private conversations separately if required. For more information call: 1800 324 924 or email: info@catholiccaredbb.org.au

Kids Club Christmas Party

Kids Club is getting ready to celebrate Jesus Birthday! Kids Club is a parish social group for 5-12 year olds who want to have fun, make new friends and learn more about Jesus! Games, craft, activities and snacks are provided. Parents of under 5 year olds must stay – all parents are welcome to stay. The date is Saturday 12 December from 3pm-4:45pm in the Reynolds Room. All are welcome to join us afterwards for the 5pm Vigil Mass. Enquiries: 4332 2216.

Seaside Youth Group Christmas Party

All youth are invited to join us to celebrate Christmas on Saturday 5 December from mid-morning (11am). This is our last get-together for the year. We will have a BBQ in the Church precinct, so come and join the fun. We welcome youth in school years 6-12 – newcomers always welcome! (Dates for next year to be announced shortly.)

World Youth Day 27 Registrations OPEN!

Are you ready to apply for World Youth Day? World Youth Day is a powerful experience of encounter with the global Church and the person of Jesus Christ. Applications for young people aged 16-35 and potential leaders aged 21 and over are now open! Due to limited places and the importance of cultivating a safe, prayerful, and positive pilgrimage culture, all pilgrims are required to complete the application process. Don't miss out!! For information about the Broken Bay pilgrimage visit www.bbwyd27.org.au First-round applications close 17 December.

1st Sunday of Advent **Is 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8 | 1 Cor 1:3-9 | Mark 13:33-37**

Entrance Antiphon: To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.
Responsorial Psalm: Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation! Alleluia!
Communion Antiphon: The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

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Please Note

Welcome Back Fr Brian!
This week we welcome back Fr Brian from his overseas Sabbatical in Scotland. We look forward to hearing his bonnie wee tales!

Feast Days this Week
St Andrew, Apostle, 30 November; St Francis Xavier 3 December.

Anointing of the Sick
First Friday 4 December during 11:45am Mass.

First Friday Cuppa
Friday 4 December following the 11:45am Mass, in the Parish Centre. Feel free to bring a plate to share. Crossroads Companions will be available to chat at the Cuppa.

Advent Adoration
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on all Saturdays of Advent following 9am Mass, for one hour, concluding with Benediction.

***Hope* Advent Reflection Books**
Please find this free Diocesan resource for your Advent journey to Christmas on the Church tables.

***God's Word* Orders In**
Those who pre-ordered *God's Word 2027* may now pick them up from the parish office during business hours. Cost is $22.

St Joseph's Appeal for Retired Priests Thanks
A big thanks to parishioners for contributing $4,180 towards practical support for our retired priests.

Christmas Service & Carols
St Andrew's Presbyterian Women's Association invite all to celebrate a Christmas Service and Carols at St Andrew's Church The Entrance on Wednesday 2 December at 10am. Morning tea will follow. RSVP Fran Beek 0401 302 517.

A Morning to Slow Down, Reflect and Prepare Your Heart for Christmas
Soul Sorting in the Silly Season is a women's breakfast event at Mary MacKillop Spirituality Centre, Baulkham Hills, offering space to pause and prepare your heart for Christmas through prayer, discussion and reflection, facilitated by Sr Virginia Bourke RSJ. Saturday 12 December 8:00am-10:30am $35 includes breakfast. Book: https://mmsm.org.au/events/soul-sorting-in-the-silly-season/

Keep Us in Your Prayers

Recently Deceased: Peter Cearns, Virgie Cordero, Rolando Rivas, Ann & Yousef Touma, Paul Langmack.

Remembrances: In November we especially pray for all the Holy Souls. The Mass intentions are placed on the Altar during the Masses. Please hand your envelopes in at the Sacristy or the Office.

Sick: David Bowers, Pat McCudden, Lorraine Laing, Pam Elliott, John, Jennifer, Walter and Anne Knoke, Tully Jones, Linda Read, Michael & Julie Trussell, Linda Ho, Angela & Tony Fowler, Lynette Falken, Rod Slater, Patrick Yeo, Stjepan Tuka, John McClement, Emma Horton, Kelly Will.

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Sacred Gifts

Christmas Gifts in Stock Now!

The Gift Centre now has lovely gift ideas and Nativities on sale. 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