



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

4th Sunday of the Year | Year A Cycle 11 | 1 February 2026



Hope & Encouragement

The Beatitudes might well be described as the opening of Jesus' inaugural speech as he set about explaining to a large gathering what his mission was going to be. He began with eight statements of hope and encouragement directed to ordinary people struggling with things like injustice, destitution, grief and discrimination. In the kingdom of God which he was ushering in, they would find consolation, blessing, comfort and acceptance. But before proceeding, he hastened to explain himself: 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law and the prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them' (*Matthew 5:17*). The Beatitudes, then, complement the Law and the Prophets, describing people who struggle yet remain faithful, who turn their attention to compassion and care for others, who work for justice and peace. Let us bring the Beatitudes to life in our world today.

God's Word Br Julian McDonald CFC

Building the Kingdom

To hunger for righteousness is to ache for a world where no child goes hungry, where dignity is not denied by race, poverty, or status. To be merciful is to stand with the oppressed, not from pity, but from solidarity. To be a peacemaker is to disrupt systems of violence with the courage of compassion. Jesus does not say, "Blessed are the successful," but "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake." He declares this as the cost of discipleship: to speak truth when silence is safer, to act when apathy is easier. The Beatitudes are not a reward for the comfortable: they are a challenge to the Church. They call us to build the kingdom not in theory, but in practice: in policy, in protest, in presence.

Sunday Living Word Majellan Family Media

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How Lucky You Are

Jesus begins his primary teaching with the "Beatitudes" (*Matt 5:3-11*), a title that stems from the Latin noun *beātītūdō*, meaning "happiness" or "blessedness." Through this series of paradoxes, surprises, and reversals, Jesus begins setting a topsy-turvy universe aright.

How should we understand them? A key is the Greek word *makarios*, rendered "blessed" or "happy" or perhaps even "lucky," which is used to start each of the Beatitudes.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit." We might say, "How lucky you are if you are not addicted to material things." Here Jesus is telling us how to realise our deepest desire, which is the desire for God, not for passing things that only bring temporary comfort.

"Blessed are those who mourn." We might interpret it this way: "How lucky you are if you are not addicted to good feelings." Doing the will of God sometimes involves the acceptance of enormous pain, but when you're free from dependence on good feelings, you're liberated for whatever life demands.

"Blessed are the meek." One of the world's greatest seductions is power. But what we ought to do is eschew worldly power, so that the power of the will of God might reign in us.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account." In other words, how lucky you are if you are not addicted to the approval of others.

Later in his sermon, Jesus teaches, "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment." Killing is an action, but that action is rooted in a more fundamental dysfunction: a hateful attitude, a disordered soul, a basic misperception of reality. To be like God utterly, we obviously have to eliminate cruel and hateful actions, but we have to go deeper, eliminating cruel and hateful thoughts and attitudes as well, for God is love, right through.

The Word on Fire Bible Bishop Robert Barron

Photo Corner

We are always happy to welcome back Deacon Tán Nguyen, who visited us recently, pictured here (centre) with Deacon Paul and Fr Brian. And photo right: A familiar face seen at the Big Bash last Friday.



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

Sunday of the Word of God

Today the Church especially encourages people to read, appreciate and pray daily with Sacred Scripture. Let us embrace Sunday of the Word of God to help us launch our new year with a deeper and richer encounter with the Risen Lord. Most are no doubt familiar with the saying of Vatican II: “the Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures as she has venerated the Lord’s Body ... offering people the bread of life from the one table of the Word of God and the Body of Christ (*Dei Verbum* 21).” In the same vein we quote St Jerome: “For me, the Gospel is the Body of Christ; for me, the holy Scriptures are his teaching. And when he says: ‘whoever does not eat my flesh and drink my blood’ (*Jn* 6:53), even though these words can also be understood of the [Eucharistic] Mystery, Christ’s Body and Blood are also the word of Scripture, God’s teaching.”

Liturgy News Fr Tom Elich

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.



Pope’s Prayer Intentions for February

For children with incurable diseases.

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

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.



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zph 2:3, 3:12-13 | 1 Cor 1:26-31 | Mt 5:1-12

Entrance Antiphon: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad: your reward will be great in heaven. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.



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Please Note

Welcome!

At our Masses this weekend we have the Reception of the Bosco and Egan Families whose children are being Baptised in the near future.

Feast Days this Week

The Presentation of the Lord 2 February, St Agatha 5 February, St Paul Miki & Companions 6 February.

Nursing Home Communion Service

A Communion Service will be held for residents at Killarney Court, Killarney Vale on Tuesday 3 February at 11am.

Anointing of the Sick

First Friday 6 February during the 11:45am Mass.

First Friday Cuppa is Back!

Join us for our first Cuppa of the year after the Anointing Mass. All are welcome to bring along a plate to share to the parish centre and enjoy a cuppa and a chat.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Saturday 7 February for one hour following the 9am Mass, and concluding with Benediction.

Parish Morning Tea

Our first Parish Morning Tea this year will be held next 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!

Franciscan Food Drive

The Secular Franciscans of our parish are collecting donations of non-perishable items for distribution to the needy via the Benevolent Society Hub at The Entrance Community Centre. Donations such as tinned foods, long-life milk, tea, coffee, shampoo etc may be left in the baskets at the Church doors. Thank you for your support!

Confession Times

Just a friendly reminder about our Confession times: Saturdays from 9:30am to 10:00am and again from 4:00pm to 4:30pm. If these times don't work for you, please feel free to reach out to the office, and we'll be happy to help you arrange an appointment with a priest.

Keep Us in Your Prayers

Recently Deceased: Fr Paul Glynn SM, Gilly Nyhof, Dennis Holmes, Miguelina Nobrega, Fr Gregory Leonidas OSB.

Remembrances: Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Sam & Carmen Ghirxi, Martin Ghirxi, John Giutronich, Mario Cauchi, Delma Clarke, Richard Falzon, Nona Redman, Fr Michael Kelly, Petar Lerotic, Joe Bond, Simon Butcher, Michael Langley, Carlos & Virginia Bilaw, Elisa Celedonia and all the Holy Souls.

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