



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

3rd Sunday of Easter | Year A Cycle II | 19 April 2026



Fellow Travellers

Today's Gospel describes Cleopas and the other disciple quitting Jerusalem, the scene of the crucifixion, despondent and embittered. God had let them down, they thought. Preoccupied, they hardly noticed the fellow traveller walking beside them. When he tried to join in their conversation, they reacted impatiently.

Only gradually did it dawn upon them that this stranger was Jesus. They had warmed to him as he explained the Scriptures, helping them grasp that their Master's death and resurrection were meant to be. Still unaware of his identity, they invited him to stay. Only then, in the breaking of the bread, did they recognise who he was. Meals can have that effect of turning strangers into friends. Jesus had become suddenly familiar in this intimate setting. He was alive! Recognising his presence brought them alive, too. The two who left Jerusalem so dejectedly, now sped back to the city to spread the good news.

Many are the encounters on life's journey. People pass us by; all-too-soon, they disappear. We may wish we had let them into our conversation more or offered warmer hospitality. Not all fellow travellers make pleasant companions, of course, but today's Gospel calls us to see the face of Jesus in everyone we meet. Each time a fleeting encounter is allowed to become something more, we are inviting in the risen Lord and asking him to stay.

Jesus will undoubtedly appear to us today, whether or not we are predisposed to recognise him. Some kind word or gesture from those around us will surely reveal his love. Whenever two or three come together in his name, Jesus promises to draw near. He is standing close as we listen to his Word; he invites us to receive him in Holy Communion. Don't let him pass by. Invite him to stay!

Sunday Living Word Majellan Family Media

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN: Fr Brian Moloney	ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Rosan Mathew
DEACON: Rev Paul Simmons	DEACON: Rev Tony Hoban
SEMINARIAN: Tám Nguyen	PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Colleen Smith
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Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

A Void that Can be Filled

Though loneliness can at times lead to desperation, it can also be the start of a journey to faith. To be lonely occasionally is a reminder that within us is a void that can be filled only by Jesus who walks with us, even if his presence is often unrecognised. This is the symbolism of the 'journey to Emmaus'. The two disciples saw Jesus acclaimed as king coming 'in the name of the Lord', then betrayed and crucified. Now they walk out of Jerusalem defeated, trying to understand the course of events and gather together the pieces of their lives broken by the death of their Master. In their troubled state, they do not at first recognise Jesus who joins them in their journey and explains to them that the Messiah had to suffer and die. Slowly their eyes are opened: loneliness gives way to a fire burning inside and hope finally blooms when they recognise Jesus in the breaking of the bread. The two disciples immediately become missionaries, returning to Jerusalem to bring this good news that they know will rekindle the faith and hope of the other disciples. Christianity does not guarantee a secure life. A Christian may sometimes feel so alone and God so distant because of unfulfilled expectations and hopes. The experience of Jesus' presence brings joy and challenges one to mission.

God's Word Fr Ruben C Areno SSP

Christ, the Model of Brotherly Love

The perfection of brotherly love lies in the love of one's enemies. We can find no greater inspiration for this than grateful remembrance of the wonderful patience of Christ. He who is more fair than all the sons of men offered his fair face to be spat upon by sinful men; he allowed those eyes that rule the universe to be blindfolded by wicked men; he bared his back to the scourges; he submitted that head which strikes terror in principalities and powers to the sharpness of the thorns; he gave himself up to be mocked and reviled, and at the end endured the cross, the nails, the lance, the gall, the vinegar, remaining always gentle, meek and full of peace. In short, he was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and like a lamb before the shearers he kept silent and did not open his mouth.

Who could listen to that wonderful prayer, so full of warmth, of love, of unshakeable serenity - *Father, forgive them* - and hesitate to embrace his enemies with overflowing love? Father, he says, forgive them. Is any gentleness, any love, lacking in this prayer?

Yet he put into it something more. It was not enough to pray for them: he wanted also to make excuses for them. *Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing*. They are great sinners, yes, but they have little judgement; therefore, Father, forgive them. They are nailing me to the cross, but they do not know who it is that they are nailing to the cross: if they had known, they would never have crucified the Lord of glory; therefore, Father, forgive them. They think it is a lawbreaker, an impostor claiming to be God, a seducer of the people. I have hidden my face from them, and they do not recognise my glory; therefore, Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing. If someone wishes to love himself he must not allow himself to be corrupted by indulging his sinful nature. If he wishes to resist the promptings of his sinful nature he must enlarge the whole horizon of his love to contemplate the loving gentleness of the humanity of the Lord. Further, if he wishes to savour the joy of brotherly love with greater perfection and delight, he must extend even to his enemies the embrace of true love.

But if he wishes to prevent this fire of divine love from growing cold because of injuries received, let him keep the eyes of his soul always fixed on the serene patience of his beloved Lord and Saviour.

The Mirror of Love St Aelred, Abbot

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 over the Easter holidays. We love to have you with us. If you have any queries, please speak to Fr Brian, Fr Rosan, Dcn Paul or Dcn Tony, or our new Seminarian Tám, who are all very happy to meet you. For general enquiries, the parish office is open Monday to Friday 9:30am-5:00pm.

Congratulations to our Newest Members

Last weekend Anna Sounantha was Received into the Church, being Confirmed and receiving First Eucharist. Shannon Exner and her three children, Marc, Bentley and Raegan Friend were Baptised, with Shannon being Confirmed and receiving her First Eucharist. Congratulations to you all!



Introduction to Pastoral Care Course

Volunteer Catholic Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion visit hospitals throughout the Diocese of Broken Bay providing comfort and care to Catholic patients. We are looking to encourage more volunteers to take Communion to the Sick at your local hospital. The course will be held over five consecutive Wednesdays: 29 April, 6, 13, 20 and 27 May from 9am to 3pm at the Ambrose Centre behind the Church. Please speak to Fr Brian or contact Denis O'Brien on 0439 009 932.

3rd Sunday of Easter **Acts 2:14, 22-33** | **1 Peter 1:17-21** | **Luke 24:13-35**

Entrance Antiphon: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us. Make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.



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Please Note

Parish Visitation Cancelled

With the recent appointment of Archbishop Anthony Randazzo to an important position in the Vatican, the proposed Parish Visitation (1-3 May), has been cancelled.

Congratulations Tony & Jill Duggan!

Congratulations to Tony & Jill Duggan on the occasion of your 60th Wedding Anniversary 21 April 2026.

Welcome!

This weekend we welcome the Leon, Newhall, Steven and Rose Families for the Reception of their children who are being Baptised in the near future.

ANZAC Day 2026

ANZAC Day falls on Saturday 25 April. Mass will be celebrated at 9am. (Public Holiday on Monday.)

Nursing Home Mass

Mass will be celebrated for residents at Nareen Gardens Bateau Bay on Tuesday at 10:30am.

New Ministry Rosters

Are now available from the Sacristy. Thank you all for participating in the Masses.

Bus to Ordinations

Those booked to travel on the bus to the Ordinations of Tán, Shane and Huy need to meet in the Church carpark by 5pm on Wednesday 29 April, for the trip to Waitara. The bus is booked out.

First Friday Cuppa

Our First Friday Cuppa will be back after the Easter break, on Friday 1 May, following the 11:45am Anointing Mass. Join us in the parish centre for a cuppa and nibbles. Feel free to bring a plate to share, and relax in good company. Enquiries to the parish office 4332 2216.

Mothers' Day Lunch

Central Coast Santa Maria Committee invites you to a Mothers' Day Lunch at Toukley Golf Club on Sunday 3 May 12noon-4pm. Two course lunch and nibbles with DJ. \$45pp pay by 16 April. Contact 0404 194 020 or 0448 742 591 to book.

Keep Us in Your Prayers

Recently Deceased: Anthony Baillie, Feliciano Escarlan, Sr Clare McCudden.

Anniversaries: Kay Taylor, Peter O'Grady, Patricia O'Hara.

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, Dino Gava, Neville O'Hara, Simon Butcher, Michael Langley and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Sick: Oscar Tanner (Yr 6 OLR student – operation), Liz Myers, Margaret Mahoney, Christine Bailey, Richard Drover, Sophie (operation), Susie Reyes, Harry McCarthy, Josephine McMahan, Lynette Falken, Steve Bond, 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.

Welcome Newly Baptised: Ella Rose Frize, Tobin & Mya Berry.

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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