



# Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year C Cycle 1 | 7 September 2025



## Happy Father's Day to All Our Dads!

This Father's Day we acknowledge the vital role of fathers, both earthly and heavenly, and seek God's blessings for all fathers. We recognise the example of faith and love fathers provide, and pray for strength, wisdom, and guidance for them. We pray also for fathers who have passed away, those longing to be fathers, and those struggling with fatherhood. The connection between earthly fathers and God the Father is unmistakable, and we ask the foster father of the child Jesus, St. Joseph, for his intercession on behalf of all fathers.

## The Trap of Creature before Creator

It's one of the most challenging things Jesus ever says: "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple."

There is the great spiritual principle that undergirds the entire Gospel: detachment. The heart of the spiritual life is to love God and then to love everything else for the sake of God. But we sinners, as St. Augustine said, fall into the trap of loving the creature and forgetting the Creator. That's when we get off the rails.

We treat something less than God as God, and trouble ensues. This is why Jesus tells his fair-weather fans that they have a very stark choice to make. Jesus must be loved first and last-and everything else in their lives has to find its meaning in relation to him.

In typical Semitic fashion, he makes this point through a stark exaggeration: "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters ..." Well yes, hate them in the measure that they have become gods to you. For precisely in that measure they are dangerous.

*The Word on Fire Bible* Bishop Robert Barron

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# Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

## At Stake

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives a stark warning to those who wish to follow him. Jesus had been drawing great crowds, he had been performing amazing miracles and his teaching must have been inspiring to hear. As Luke describes it, following Jesus must have been exciting, exhilarating, even fun.

Today's Reading comes just before Jesus and his followers set off for Jerusalem to celebrate Passover. Jesus knows that this journey will end in his death. His teaching shows him getting his followers ready for the changes they will encounter. Following Jesus will soon mean risking one's reputation and even one's life.

The language Jesus uses today sounds harsh. Can Jesus really be instructing us to hate our families? Jesus uses this extreme language to make a point. Sometimes in life we may find that we are presented with a choice: will we opt to put ourselves, our families, and our own desires and ambitions first? Or will we choose the potentially difficult and dangerous path of putting Jesus first, whatever challenges and hardships this will involve? Jesus warns his disciples that this choice is about to be presented to them and he tests their commitment.

Jesus makes clear that, in order to follow him, his followers are called to offer total commitment. Following Jesus through the events of his suffering and death isn't going to take mere friendship; it is going to take a determination that goes beyond common sense. As they witnessed Jesus going to his death on the cross, his followers might have been tempted to go home and get back to fishing or tax collecting. But in that dark and frightening time, did those disciples remember in their hearts how Jesus called them to follow him through his suffering: to take up their own crosses and choose the hard life of an apostle? The total commitment of those early followers of Jesus has provided the foundations for the message of Christ to travel across the centuries and across the globe.

We are fortunate that being a Christian here today means we will rarely encounter much worse than a sneer from those who disagree with our beliefs. Our challenge is to maintain the faithfulness that Jesus asks of us whatever situation we find ourselves in, even if we are not called to put it to the test in the same way that the apostles were. In the quiet of our hearts, can we say that if our lives were at stake would we still put Jesus first?

*The Living Word* Redemptorist Publications

## The Month of Our Lady of Sorrows

September is dedicated to our Sorrowful Mother and her seven sorrows. Please find pamphlets on the information tables detailing the sorrows and the graces attached to this devotion.

## The Pope's Prayer Intentions for September

For our relationship with all of creation. Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

**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 | **Cenacle Prayer Group:** Wednesday 9:30am

**Rosary:** Monday-Thursday 8:35am | Friday 11:20am | Saturday 9:30am

**Christian Meditation Group:** Friday 10:30am-11:30am Reynolds Room



# A Beacon of Faith, Hope & Love

## Ordinations to the Diaconate

Bishop Anthony Randazzo will be celebrating the Ordination to the Diaconate of Tân Nguyen, Huy Tran and Shayne D'Cunha on Friday 12 September at 7pm at Waitara Cathedral. We pray for them all, especially Tân who spent a year with us. The parish bus is now full and will depart at 5pm. Special thanks to Gae Lasanno for volunteering to drive the bus to the Cathedral.



## SeaSide Youth Group

The Seaside Youth Group invites YOU to join us next Saturday 13 September after the 5pm Vigil Mass, until 8pm, in the Upper Room. All years 5-12 welcome – and you can bring a friend along! The evening includes games, talks and pizza! Come along and be part of something meaningful. For any enquiries email [theentranceparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:theentranceparish@bbcatholic.org.au) or call 4332 2216.



## Family Mass

Come together as a family in faith! We invite you to join us for our next Family Mass on Saturday 13 September at 5pm, especially families of students in Year 1 and Year 3. Then join us following the Mass for a light supper in the Parish Centre. Feel free to bring a plate to share. For catering purposes please RSVP by 11 September. We hope to see you there! For any enquiries email [theentranceparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:theentranceparish@bbcatholic.org.au) or call 4332 2216.



## Franciscan Food Drive

The Secular Franciscan Fraternity is becoming involved in helping local marginalised members of the community. Parishioners and Franciscans, Anna Sirolli, Lui Bruni and Jarmila Cadra will collect donations of non-perishable items from parishioners and make them available for local distribution to the needy via the Benevolent Society Hub at The Entrance Community Centre. The Centre provides food relief four days a week, seeing an average of 120 people per week. The following items can be left in the baskets at the doors of the Church: tinned soups, tinned baked beans and spaghetti, long-life milk, juice poppers, noodles and noodle cups, tea and coffee, shampoo, conditioner and body wash. Thank you for your support.

## Ministry Refresher Training

**Readers** who are rostered for the Masses are asked to attend a Refresher Training morning with Fr Rosan and Dcn Paul next Saturday 13 September after 9am Mass and Rosary.

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**      **Wis 9:13-18 | Phil 9-10, 12-17 | Lk 14:25-33**

**Entrance Antiphon:** You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

**Responsorial Psalm:** In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.



# Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

## Please Note

### **Congratulations**

This weekend we joyfully celebrate the baptism of five of our RCIC candidates during 5pm Vigil Mass. Congratulations to Archer & Finlay Butterfield, Oscar & Harvey Lendich, and Rowan Shippan on this significant milestone in your faith journeys. Let us keep these children and their families in our prayers as they embrace the Sacraments of Initiation and continue to grow in their Faith.

### **Mass Monday Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

9am Monday 8 September we will have Mass for this special Feast day for Mary's Birthday. The memorial of St John Chrysostom 13 September.

### **Fr Brian Annual Leave**

Fr Brian is on Annual Leave, returning 25 September. We wish him happy travels on his break.

### **Nursing Home Communion Service**

A Communion Service will be held at Opal Killarney Vale on Tuesday at 11am.

### **Parish Morning Tea**

The Ambrosian Family Group is hosting our Morning Tea next Sunday 14 September in the Parish Centre after 9:30am Mass. All are most welcome!

### **Central Coast Secular Franciscans**

Come along to our meeting next Thursday 11 September at Lui Bruni's house at 2.30pm. In October meetings return to The Reynolds Room at OLR Church from 1pm to 2.30pm.

### **Holy Souls Crusade Prayer Group**

Please join in prayer with others around the world for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Tuesdays after 9am Mass in the Church. Enquiries: 0438 320 927.

### **Christian Meditation Group**

Join us in the Benedictine style of meditation. Fridays 10:30-11:30am in the Reynolds Room.

## Keep Us in Your Prayers

**Recently Deceased:** Linda Duggan, Stephanie Sheehan, Fr Kerry Bayada, Marie Rohan, Joan Chadwick, Maureen Boys, Charlie Grima, Joe Zammitt, Pam Wilton, Patricia Lane.

**Funeral:** The funeral of Linda Duggan will be held on Tuesday at 1pm in the church. Please keep Linda and her family in your prayers.

**Anniversaries:** Robert & Emmanuel O'Sullivan, Nora O'Leary, Charles Magri, Dorothy Manning.

**Remembrances:** Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, John Giutronich, Sam & Carmen Ghirxi, Martin Ghirxi, Mario Cauchi, Delma Clarke, John Bowditch, Frano Stitic, Joe Bond, Frank & George Grech, Carolyn Finch, John Bowditch, John Dwyer, Sam Marmara, Charlie, Martin & Lela Borg, James Grima, Tess Carter and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**Families:** Grech, Zahra, Grima, Cassar, Sciberras, Camilleri, Falzon, Patterson, Borg, Marmara, Zammitt, Xeureb & Cefai.

**Sick:** Abigail Holt, Leigh Walding, Walter Knoke, Carl Sanchez jnr, Teddy Williams, Linda Read, Pat McCudden, Sharon McDonald, Rod Slater, Pam Elliott, Janine Harpley, Rosanna Natali, Kitty Dowse, Patrick Yeo, Stjepan Tuka, Pauline Fowler, Anne Knoke, John McClement, Emma Horton, Kelly Will.



## Our Lady of the Rosary Sacred Gifts

### **God's Word 2026 Orders Taken Now**

If you would like to order *God's Word 2026* please let us know now! We are 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**