



PARISH MATTERS

The Parish of Sydney City South acknowledge the Gadigal People, the traditional custodians, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation of this land.

9th & 10th December 2023 | Second Sunday of Advent Year B

Fr Paul Smithers
Parish Priest
Rector, Shrine of Our Lady of
Mt Carmel, Waterloo
pp@citysouthcatholic.org.au
Presbytery: 93536310 (NEW)

St Joseph, Rosebery
Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Waterloo
St Vincent de Paul, Redfern

Parish Office
74 Rosebery Ave
Rosebery NSW 2018

Postal Address
PO Box 1067
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012 |
Office 93536300
secretary@citysouthcatholic.org.au
www.citysouthcatholic.org.au

Parish Team

Michelle Davies (Secretary)
Cristina Leontini (Secretary)
secretary@citysouthcatholic.org.au

Ruth Rawlinson
(Operations Manager)
manager@citysouthcatholic.org.au

Sr Rosemary (Pastoral Associate)
pastoral@citysouthcatholic.org.au

Elizabeth Arblaster
(Pastoral Associate for Mission)
mission@citysouthcatholic.org.au
0491 939 577

Parish Safeguarding Officers

Ruth Rawlinson & Michelle Davies
safeguarding@citysouthcatholic.org.au
9353 6300

Dear friends,

It's been a delight to spend time with so many groups the last few weeks as we prepare for Christmas. In recent weeks I've spent time with the parents of the baby's room in our preschool and both our schools as well as celebrate our parish Christmas party last Saturday. This time of year brings with it many blessings. But don't forget to take time for reflection and prayer. Please make use of the 24/7 Adoration chapel at Rosebery and the times listed below for Reconciliation/confession and extended periods of silent prayer. In the week before Christmas (and Easter) I offer extended periods of Adoration and confession.

Confession is an act of honesty and courage – an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God. - St John Paul II

Paul

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

St Joseph's Church

74 Rosebery Ave, Rosebery

Wednesday 20th December

Reconciliation and Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament 6.30pm-8.00pm

Sunday 24th December

7.00pm Mass (Children's Focus)

Monday 25th December

8.30am Mass

St Vincent de Paul Church

117 Redfern St, Redfern

Thursday 21st December

Reconciliation and Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament 6.30pm-7.30pm

Sunday 24th December

6.00pm Mass
(Bishop Danny Meagher DD)

Shrine of Our Lady of Mt Carmel

2 Kellick St, Waterloo

Tuesday 19th December

Reconciliation: 12pm-2pm with
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

5.00pm Mass followed by Sacrament
of Reconciliation and Adoration of
the Blessed Sacrament until 8.00pm

Sunday 24th December

5.00pm Mass
9.00pm Mass (Solemn Mass with choir)

Monday 25th December

10.30am Mass



Sydney City South Parish



*Parish of Sydney City South
under the patronage of Our Lady,
St Joseph &
St Vincent de Paul*



Weekday Mass times:

Monday

7.30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion,
St Joseph's Rosebery

Tuesday

5pm Mass & Adoration, Our Lady of Mt
Carmel Waterloo

Wednesday

7.30am St Joseph's Rosebery

Friday

8.00am Our Lady of Mt Carmel Waterloo

Normal Sunday Mass Times:

Waterloo: 5pm Sat Vigil

Rosebery: Sunday 7.30am (Rosary at 7am) &
9.00am. Reconciliation @ Rosebery 8.30am.

Redfern: 11.00am

Schools in Our Parish:

Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Waterloo

96991407

info@olmcwaterloo.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mrs Marg Holles

St Joseph, Rosebery

9184 6630

info@stjrosebery.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr Bernard Ryan

St Joseph Preschool & Long Day Care,
Rosebery

1A Kimberley Grove, Rosebery, NSW 2018

9030 4677/ 0457 036 456

scecs.rosebery@syd.catholic.edu.au

Director: Faye-Maree Genovezos

Jarjum School (Jesuits) Redfern

117 Redfern Street

99365450

Principal: Katherine Zerounian

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased: Christine McCarthy, Joe Joyce, Josie Shanahan, Tony Bannister, Patricia Jamieson, Meghan Mallee, Roger Lennon,

Anniversary: Jose Murillo (6/12), Ester Lopez (10/12), Elizabeth Bornor (10/12), Sebastian Lentini (10/12), Marelle Newton (11/12)

Deceased: Joseph Mizzi, Michael & Julia Mangan, Joe Egerton, Frank Delamere, Frank Finnegan, Clement & Rose Daly, Lena & Peter Daly, Henry Misfud, Lillian Pirschel, John & Noelene McAuiliffe, Robert Webb, Frances Casaletto, John Casaletto, Thelma, Arthur & Janice Gray, Ethel & George Gray, Bill & Pat Clarke, John & Eileen Dennett, Arthur & Edna Dennett, Sydney & Violet Green, Hazel Holly, Arthur & Rose Dennett, John and Rosemary Cooley, Bill, Muriel, Marc & Jamie Wickert, Shirley Turner, Sr. Patricia Wilkinson, Anna, Stanley & Jim Atkins, Jay Rosenstrauss. All Souls, especially those that have no one to pray for them, All Souls of the Unborn, All souls in Purgatory.

Those who are sick: Jimmie Mallee, Bambo Zervos, Virginia Peloe, Edmund Gonzales, Paul Morgan, Mariany Hidajat, Silvana Bevilacqua, Ned Dalton, Livia Mio, John Calleja, Anne Hudson, Maria Tsiailis, Cherry Ermita Dela Cruz, Lourdes Lubrin, Emmi Moeljowati, June Elliot, Lyndall Storey, William Gonzales, Nhia Nguyen, Marina Fox, Jo-Anne Davies, Maureen Maher, Lidia Freitas, Sr Dominic Furlong OSU, Ana Lucia Solorzano, Jack, Ruby, John Gavan, Geraldine Carrington, Therese Mullaney, Manolito Agnilar.

If you wish to be included in bulletin lists, please email the Parish Office. For Mass Intentions please email before 10am Friday secretary@citysouthcatholic.org.au. Donations can be made via website or given to Fr Paul directly.

Friendly reminder: In accordance with the Sydney Archdiocese privacy policies and State and Federal laws, if you are wanting a living person's name to be published in the bulletin, we require their written permission.

READING ROSTER

Mass		Readers
5:00pm	This	Lenette Carter
	Next	Bianca Rodrigo
7:30am	This	Josette Merchant
	Next	Charlotte Buxton
9:00am	This	Jenny Jago
	Next	Lisa Steel
11:00am	This	TBC
	Next	Ben May

Dates for your Diary

- ◆ **SAVE THE DATE!** Friday, 31st May 2023
6:30pm Annual Parish Dinner Tea Room, QVB

SVDP Christmas Appeal

The St Vincent de Paul Society will be conducting their Christmas appeal **Sunday, 10 December**. Society members will accept donations after each Mass and receipts will be issued on the day. Envelopes will be available if you wish take one home and return it the following week and place on the collection plate. A receipt will be issued and mailed to the information provided on the envelope. This information remains confidential and is not shared. In advance we thank for your kind generosity.

Redfern Christmas Morning Tea

Thanks to all the parishioners who attended the last Redfern morning tea of the year!



Christmas Eve Mass Rosebery 7pm

Inviting school age children to be involved in the Nativity scene at this Mass.

If your child would like to be involved (dressing up as the Nativity characters) please contact Sr Rosemary after Mass or by email:
pastoral@citysouthcatholic.org.au



Become a Catechist in our Parish!

Are you hearing the call to Share the Joy, Share the Hope, Share the faith?

Is God calling you to witness His love to our children in the state schools by bringing the presence of God into their lives?

Being a Catechist is both a calling and privilege. To be able to share the joy of the Gospel and the love of God to the students is what Catechists do weekly in public schools and it is something that we would like to invite others to experience. Can you be a Catechist or a helper?

Our parish of Sydney City South visit two schools each week and with a new school being developed in Zetland we will need to cater for the children there too. Is God calling you?

If so contact Sr Rosemary—
pastoral@citysouthcatholic.org.au



**CONFRATERNITY OF
CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE**

Financial Update

Week Ending 3 December

First Collection	Supports the Clergy Remuneration Fund	\$ 895
Second Collection (includes Parish Giving Program/ does not incl tap& go)	Supports the Parish	\$ 751



Thank you to all who are supporting the parish financially.

Please use the QR code, Tap N Go, Support Us Tab from Website or contact the Parish Office to make a donation OR be set up for a monthly



Dear All,

Safeguarding, put broadly, is the protection of the health, wellbeing and rights of children and people at risk. Safeguarding policy is proactive in that it aims to create and maintain a safe and supportive culture in our Parish.

Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL) is a national organisation established in 2020 with the purpose of promoting and overseeing a consistent approach to the practice of Safeguarding in our Church. The mandate of ACSL is "to support Church leaders and Catholic organisations to create safe and nurturing environments for every person who comes into contact with the Church in Australia". (ACSL Annual Report 2021 -2022).

The ACSL has developed ten Safeguarding standards which incorporate recommendations from the Royal Commission and also the National Principals for Child Safe Organisations, contextualising these requirements for the Catholic Church in Australia. In coming weeks we will look more deeply at these standards and how we as a community address these.

Currently our Parish is being audited by the ACSL with Fr Paul and the Parish Team working together on this audit. This has been an excellent opportunity to review our own ongoing Safeguarding processes and discuss these as a team. We will keep you all updated as this process continues.


Your current PSSOs are:

Michelle Davies and **Ruth Rawlinson**.

Do you have questions about Safeguarding?

Email us at:

safeguarding@citysouthcatholic.org.au

 **A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney:**

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org.

You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance.

The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED PRAYERS?

Our WhatsApp prayer group would like to pray for you.

Text your intentions to 0491 939 577.



Christmas Party

Thanks to everyone for joining us last Saturday for our Christmas Party. We saw a wonderful performance from the children in Sr Rosemary's Irish Dancing Class. And we enjoyed the great food and conversation. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the night with decorating, cooking, cleaning up, and hospitality to all our guests.




Listen

To Listen to Children and Young People in our Catholic communities is to be present, attentive and actively participate. Listening to Children and Young People, can encourage them to speak up, build their confidence and ensure our practices are informed by them.

Support & Engage

To Support & Engage Children and Young People in our Catholic communities is to empower them, through positive and affirming experiences. Empowerment builds confidence in themselves and in the Catholic communities.

Communicate

To Communicate with Children and Young People in our Catholic communities involves a two-way interaction that provides encouragement, allows expression, informs, and connects. Children and Young People will find their voice in a safe and supportive environment of a Catholic community.

SUPPORT & ENGAGE
LISTEN
COMMUNICATE



Supporting & Engaging | Listening | Communicating

Children's Atrium - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Last week, I showed you some beautiful items one of our parishioners sewed for our Children's Atrium of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. This week, I wanted to show you some items made by parishioner Paul Clinch.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd was created by Maria Montessori. A unique characteristic of the method she developed is the use of beautiful materials to help the child to encounter God and the Church through experiential activities undertaken with these materials.

Here you will see a number of items made by Paul. The first is a model altar and model lectern. You can see how small the items are by the postcard in the foreground. Nearby you will see, on the same scale, the inside of a model sacristy cupboard. The children use these to learn the names and purpose of important items used in the Mass, and what happens when they are used. The children set up the altar, and also return the items into the sacristy. Getting to see the items up so close and practice putting them out really helps them to understand what they see and participate in at Mass.

Thanks to Paul, who said he knew "a bit" about woodwork, but proved to know far more than he said! I think St Joseph would be very happy to see the gift of carpentry serve such a beautiful purpose. We pray that all the time and care you put into these items may be a blessing on our children and on our young families as they pass on the gift of their faith to their children.

Pax, Elizabeth Arblaster

Illuminating Christmas

We just finished the second week of our Advent program, Illuminating Christmas. 32 parishioners gathered, in person and online, to learn about the star, the Maji and the gifts given to Jesus at his birth. This week we learned about how it was that the Maji knew to look for a star above the place where Jesus was to be born, and why they knew he was a king sent to rule not only over the Jewish people, but over the whole world.



Important dates for 2024

Don't miss out on these great retreat days next year. Save the date in your diary now.

- The Way of the Heart Retreat (Part 2) – Sunday, 18 February 2024
- Retreat with the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia – Sunday, 7 April 2024





Thank you all for your generous contributions to the Good Samaritan Christmas Collection. The joy at Vinnies is palpable, and so many of their clients have already experienced your gracious donations.

Next weekend is our last weekend for this collection; however, Vinnies will be happy to receive any Christmas items by Wednesday, 20 December.

Gift suggestions include:

- Toys
- A movie ticket
- A gift card or voucher, for example, Myer, Coles Group, Woolworths Group
- A small pamper pack
- Some make-up
- Sporting item
- Chocolate-filled Christmas Stockings
- Christmas paper plates and napkins
- Santa sacks

Also, please remember that any donation placed in the hamper at the back of your Church will be collected regularly and delivered to Vinnies. My last pick-up for the year will be Wednesday, 20 December. Merry Christmas, some photos of the Vinnies Christmas Cave.



Today's Gospel is taken from the beginning of Mark. Unlike Luke and Matthew, Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins with the appearance of John the Baptist in the desert. On this the Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that he would bring to us.

Mark's description of the appearance of John the Baptist highlights John's continuity with the Jewish prophetic tradition. Mark combines quotations from the Old Testament books of Malachi, Isaiah, and Exodus. Mark's description of John as an ascetic, living in the desert, clothed in camel hair, and eating locusts and wild honey, is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah found in Second Kings. The people of Judea and Jerusalem flock to him, listening to his message of repentance and forgiveness; they also come to him to be baptized. Mark's Gospel is clear, however, that John the Baptist's role is only to prepare the way for another who will come, one who is greater than John.

Many scholars believe that the Gospels reflect the tension that likely existed between followers of John the Baptist and disciples of Jesus. Each of the four Evangelists report on John's preaching and baptizing, and they each emphasize the importance of Jesus' baptism by John. The four Gospels also explain that John was sent to preach in preparation for another. In the Gospel of Luke, the question is raised as to whether John the Baptist was himself the Messiah. Just as in today's Gospel, however, John speaks quite explicitly that the Messiah was to come after him.

In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus.

Parts of the Mass

Entrance Antiphon

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

Penitential Rite

Lord Jesus, you became flesh. Lord have mercy.
You offer us salvation. Christ have mercy.
You lead us rejoicing to the Father. Lord have mercy.

OR

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

And, striking their breast, they say:

through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;

Then they continue:

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,

we bless you,

we adore you,

we glorify you,

we give you thanks for your great glory,

Lord God, heavenly King,

O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

you take away the sins of the world,

have mercy on us;

you take away the sins of the world,

receive our prayer;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father,

have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Nicaean Creed

I believe in one God,

the Father almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the Only Begotten Son of God,

born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,

and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,

and rose again on the third day

in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory

to judge the living and the dead

and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins

and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Holy Holy (Sanctus) Vigil Mass

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) Vigil Mass

Agnus Dei,

quitollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei,

quitollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei,

quitollis peccata mundi: dona nobis pacem.

Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,

and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL

(Promulgated by Pope Leo XIII)

St. Michael the Archangel defend us in battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into Hell, Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl through the world, seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Console my people, console them'
says your God.
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and call to her that her time of service is ended,
that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the
hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'
A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.
Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
let every cliff become a plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'
Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.
Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah,
'Here is your God.'
Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.
The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm

R Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **R**
Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **R**
The Lord will make us prosper

and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **R**

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight,
and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'