
Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. 7. No. 4

January 23, 2022

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



This weekend we celebrate Australia Day which the Church honours as a day of prayer and observance. The prayers of the Holy Mass for this day beseech almighty God for His saving grace to transform

our lives, and to be strengthened in the ways of justice so that we may know peace, that God may be our rock of strength, that He may keep us safe in every storm, and that our darkness may be turned to light.

Since 1844 Australia has been placed under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady, Help of Christians. The early Church in Australia had a special reason for turning to Our Lady. No priests were sent to the colony in its early years and Holy Mass was not allowed, except for one brief year, until 1820. So it was the holy Rosary that the faithful turned to nurture their souls and to keep the faith alive.

Australia was the first nation to declare the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of Our Lady, Help of Christians as patroness.

When Fr. John Therry arrived in Sydney in 1820 he assumed responsibility for the planning and construction of Australia's first cathedral, who dedicated the mother church of the nation to Our Lady, Help of Christians.

So on this Australia Day weekend let us implore the intercession of our national patroness that under the protection of her mantle Australia may know peace and prosperity and that it may be a beacon of justice and mercy to the world. And let us pray that the Church in Australia may be safeguarded against all attacks that seek to undermine and to destroy the integrity of our holy faith so that the faithful may know freedom of religion and the protection of our tradition.

May almighty God, deepen in our hearts our love of Mary, Help of Christians. Through her prayers and under her protection, may the light of Christ shine over our land. May Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace and be wisdom be granted to our leaders and integrity to our citizens.

THE PARISH OFFICE

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Shauna Nash

Acting Principal of Delany College

Shauna Nash

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Holy Rosary Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Rosters

Readers

8:30 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

First Friday of the month, 6:15 p.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration

of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning

Readers

Vigil Rosette Chidiac, Racquel La Rosa
10:00 a.m. Reanne Chidiac, Jake Fili,
Mary Georges

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton, John Augustus, Frank Azzopardi, Ann Blesson, Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmel Galea, Evangeline Grabato, John Graham, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Therese Khalil, Kay King, Ruth La Rosa, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Ester Matos, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Tony Moussa, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Flory Pinto, Don Provest, Anna Saunig, Therese Smeal, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine Vella, Sam Wardan.



*Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.
St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.*

IN MEMORIAM

Kabalan Abboud, Pius Ari, Lorenza Attwill, Danny Azan, Betty Borg, Kathleen Bradbery, Paul Bradbery, Charles Bugeja, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vince Cahill, Christine Derwin, Carmelo Galea, Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, Maureen Gardiner, Joseph Gibrine, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech, Sam Grech, Simon Haddad, Keegan family, Khalil Khoury, Nouhad Khoury, Therese Khoury, Anthony Koop, Anita Valenton La Rosa, Betty McGrath, Jack McIntyre, Giovanni Molinaro, Sam Moussa, Samantha Moussa, Des Miller, Haydee Nursoo, Neville O'Sullivan, Doris Pickering, Emmanuel Tabone, Phil Thompson, Bernadette Ulbrich, Joseph Vella, Miriam Welangoda, Xian Xi (Joseph) Yao, Dib Zaiter.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

First Collection and Second Collection Contributions

With the current situation we are unable to take up our usual collections during Mass. Because of this, we have placed two boxes by the doors of the church for the first collection and the second collection. Your support of these collections is greatly appreciated. The money raised in the first collection supports some of the works of the diocese. The money raised in the second collection directly supports the works of the parish and helps us to meet our expenses and to continue to meet the costs and expenses of operating the parish. Thank you, especially, to those who are a part of the planned giving programme and use their envelopes to contribute each week to the parish. Your regular contributions are a great support.

You can also financially support the parish by arranging a direct debit. If you would like to set up a regular contribution, let us know and we will be happy to assist you with this. Or, if you would like to be part of the planned giving programme, we will be pleased to arrange a set of envelopes for you for regular contributions which greatly assist the parish in planning the work we carry out.

Revocation of the Dispensation from the Obligation to Attend Mass

As of Wednesday, 15 December, the Bishop of Parramatta has revoked the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass. The dispensation was granted during the time of public health restrictions, but with the lifting of most restrictions, the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday has been re-instated and the Sunday obligation is imposed.

Requiescat in Pace

It is with sadness that we announce the death of Haydee Nursoo, a long time parishioner of the parish.

Please pray for the repose of her soul and pray, also, for the consolation of her husband, Ben, and her family in the faith and hope of the resurrection of the Lord.

The requiem Mass for the repose of her soul will be said on Wednesday, 2 February at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Family Church.

✠
*Eternal rest grant unto her,
O Lord,
and let perpetual light
shine upon her.
May she rest in peace.
May her soul and the souls
of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.*
✠

Holy Mass on Australia Day

Holy Mass on Australia Day will be offered at Holy Trinity Church at 8:15 a.m. and at Holy Family Church at 6:00 p.m. Please join with the parish for our nation, Australia, and to seek the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady, Help of Christians, the Patroness of Australia.

New Parish Bank Account Details

If you would like to make a contribution, either regularly or as a one-off, the new bank account details for the parish are:

BSB: 067-950

account number: 00007247

account name: Granville Catholic Parish of the Holy Cross

Thank you and may God bless you for your support and your generosity.

N.S.W. Government Public Health Restrictions from 15 December

On Wednesday, 15 December, the N.S.W. Government amended public health restrictions

Please use hand sanitiser and note that **face masks are mandatory**. Checking-in by use of the government QR code or by manually completing the sign-in sheets is also compulsory as it is for other places in order to assist with notifications of case alerts and contact tracing when necessary.

Please be aware that if you do not check-in on arrival that the N.S.W. Government can impose fines on individuals.

N.S.W. Police and N.S.W. Health officials may conduct spot checks on individuals to ensure compliance.

Current Government Public Health Requirements

1. Check-in using the QR code.
2. Wear a face mask indoors.
3. Maintain social distancing.

Please assist the churches to remain open by following these simple requirements which are for our sake and for the sake of the common good.

Holy Trinity Church Cleaners' Roster

The cleaners' roster for Holy Trinity Church for January to June of this year is now available in the piety shop.

Thank you to all those who regularly volunteer to clean the church. Your generous service is very much appreciated.

If you would like to volunteer to help clean the church once a month either on a Friday or Saturday morning, please contact the parish office and we will be grateful for your support.

PRAYER *for* AUSTRALIA DAY



*Grant, we pray, O lord our God,
that as the Cross shines in our southern skies,
so may Christ bring light to our nation,
to its peoples old and new,
and by saving grace, transform our lives.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.*

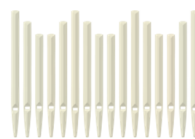
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OUR LADY,
HELP OF CHRISTIANS



St. John Chrysostom was the first to use the title Our Lady, Help of Christians in the year 345 as a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Later, in the 19th century, St John Bosco also propagated Marian devotion under this title.

It is under this title that, since 1844, the Blessed Virgin Mary has been the Patroness of Australia. Today, with the global pandemic, the Bishops again entrusted Australia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary under the title Our Lady, Help of Christians, seeking her intercession for the safety of all our people.

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother in the Order of Grace*

967 By her complete adherence to the Father's will, to his Son's redemptive work, and to every prompting of the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary is the Church's model of faith and charity.

968 Her role in relation to the Church and to all humanity goes still further. "In a wholly singular way she cooperated by her obedience, faith, hope, and burning charity in the Saviour's work of restoring supernatural life to souls. For this reason she is a mother to us in the order of grace."

969 "This motherhood of Mary in the order of grace continues uninterrupted from the consent which she loyally gave at the Annunciation and which she sustained without wavering beneath the cross, until the eternal fulfillment of all the elect. Taken up to heaven she did not lay aside this saving office but by her manifold intercession continues to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation... Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix."

CATHOLIC Trivia

The Catholic Church in Australia

22.6% of the population
is Catholic



Catholicism is the largest
Christian denomination



34 dioceses



1,394 parishes



2,900 Priests



253 seminarians



1,825 Catholics per Priest



4,161 religious Sisters



679 religious Brothers



1 in 5 students attend
a Catholic school

source: Australian Catholic
Bishops Conference
(www.catholicaustralia.com.au)



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PARRAMATTA CATHOLIC FOUNDATION



This Christmas will you show your Christian kindness to homeless young mothers and children?



\$25

Can provide **nappies or baby formula** for a young mum and baby.



\$50

Can provide **financial counselling** or a session on **parenting and living skills, education and employment support**.



\$75

Can provide **psychological counselling** for a mother in turmoil.



\$100

Can provide a **high chair**.



\$200

Can provide a homeless young mum with a **mattress, cot sheets, and blanket**.



\$250

Can give mums a **newborn hamper** with **basic essentials** like nappies, muslin wraps, bottles and baby shampoo.



\$500

Can provide two homeless young mums with a **baby bassinet/cot**.



\$600

Can provide three homeless young mums with a **mattress, cot sheets, and a blanket**.



\$1,000

Can provide four homeless young mums with a **maternity kit** including sleep wear, underwear, sanitary pads, and baby clothing.



\$2,000

Can provide a month's **shelter** for new mothers and babies fleeing domestic violence.

Your gift today will help homeless young families to find a place to call home.

Your gifts to Parramatta Catholic Foundation support the charitable works of the Diocese of Parramatta and CatholicCare across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, and are not limited to those described in this appeal.

How to Receive the Eucharist Worthily

Catholics receive the Eucharist regularly, but we do not focus our attention on preparing to receive Christ worthily and fruitfully in the sacrament.

The danger is complacency and allowing obstacles to creep in that block the graces of the Eucharist from taking root in us.

In the early Church, Christians received the Eucharist frequently, as we can see even in Acts: “And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they partook of food with glad and generous hearts” (2:46). By the time of the Middle Ages, however, it became the norm to receive Communion once a year. Eamon Duffy notes in his monumental work, *The Stripping of the Altars*, that when the first Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer, enforced the practice that one person must receive Communion at each service with the priest, parishioners paid someone else to receive in their place so as not to contravene the traditional practice. To them, the Protestant push for frequent communion was a sacrilege by not taking seriously the Real Presence of Christ.

We know, rather, that frequent Communion is a good practice, but we can also ask if there was any benefit to receiving Communion less frequently. Just as those medieval Christians feared, we also can stop taking the Real Presence seriously, as we fall into routine and complacency. Even if once a year is not enough, which the Council of Trent stated to be the case, medieval Christians are still a witness for realising the gravity of communion. One aspect of their preparation was to go to Confession immediately before receiving the Eucharist.

Pope Pius X, in particular, was the champion of frequent communion, issuing *Sacra Tridentina* to encourage it in 1905. He makes an overwhelming case for the importance of frequent Communion, with which I wholeheartedly agree, but there’s

another part to his teaching that needs emphasis—having the proper intention. “A right intention consists in this: that he who approaches the Holy Table should do so, not out of routine, or vain glory, or human respect, but that he wish to please God, to be more closely united with Him by charity, and to have recourse to this divine remedy for his weakness and defects.” I would also recommend taking a look at chapters 20-21 of the second part of St. Francis de Sale’s “Introduction to the Devout Life”, which speak of frequent communion and how to prepare for it, especially by breaking any attachment to sin.

Instead of fostering a right intention and removing obstacles, I think we have fallen into a routine reception of Communion. I have never heard a priest caution anyone from receiving the Eucharist, even though St. Paul warns us in First Corinthians 11:27-30:

“Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For any one who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself.”

Pius X gives some practical advice on this topic of preparation: “Since, however, the Sacraments of the New Law, though they produce their effect *ex opere operato*, nevertheless, produce a great effect in proportion as the dispositions of the recipient are better, therefore, one should take care that Holy Communion be preceded by careful preparation, and followed by an appropriate thanksgiving.” I’ll unpack this a little more with the following suggestions:

You must have faith

First, to approach Christ in the Eucharist we must have faith in His true presence. To receive without belief is the ultimate sacrilege and prevents us from recognising and receiving the grace Christ wants to give us.

You need to confess before receiving

The Church requires us to go to Confession at least once a year, but we are prohibited from receiving Communion in a state of mortal sin. If we do so, we commit another grave sin. Beyond that, we need to confess more regularly to break sinful habits and our attachment even to venial sin (as St. Francis de Sales recommends).

Be intentional

We should make a deliberate choice to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, breaking out of any routine complacency. Although it is good to receive Communion frequently, it can be helpful to remember that we are only required to receive once a year. If we are not properly prepared or need to go to Confession, it may be better to wait to receive.

Prepare

If we do make the choice to receive the Eucharist, we should prepare through prayer and removing ourselves from distractions. We should pray for the grace to make a good Communion when we wake up the day we are going to Mass and should say a prayer before Mass. There are beautiful prayers written to help us prepare to receive, such as the prayers of St. Ambrose and St. Thomas Aquinas.

Source: “How to receive the Eucharist worthily,” by Dr. Jared Staudt, www.thosecatholicmen.com, September 27, 2017.

The Readings

Introit (Cf. Ps. 95:1, 6)

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

First Reading

The Book of Nehemiah (8:2-6, 8-10)

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered Amen! Amen!; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read. Then Nehemiah—His Excellency—and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, ‘This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep’. For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law. He then said, ‘Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.’

Responsorial Psalm (Ps. 18:8-10, 15. R. see Jn. 6:63)

R. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. R.

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. R.

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. R.

May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock! R.

Second Reading

The First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

(12:12-14, 27)

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink. Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

Gospel Acclamation (See II Thes 2:14)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor
and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

Gospel of John (2:1-11)

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives
and to the blind new sight,
to set the downtrodden free,
to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, ‘This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.’

Communio (Cf. Ps. 22:5)

Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.