

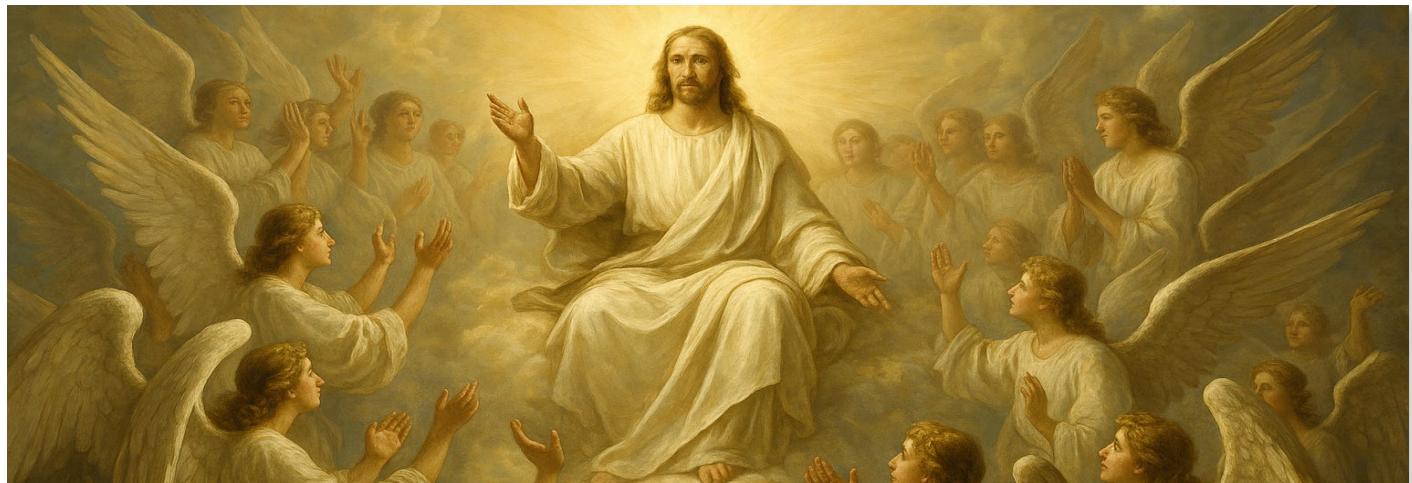
Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. 3.

January 18, 2026

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



THE GRACE of ORDINARY TIME

As the gold and white vestments of the Christmas season are folded away and the crib is carefully stored for another year, a distinct hush falls over the sanctuary. The poinsettias are gone, and in their place, we see the return of green. For some, the arrival of Ordinary Time can feel like a spiritual anti-climax, a return to the mundane after the celestial heights of the Incarnation. However, to view this season as merely plain or unimportant is to miss one of the Church's most profound invitations to sanctity.

The term "Ordinary" does not mean common or lacklustre. It stems from the Latin *ordinalis*, referring to numbers in a series. We are simply "ordering" our days, counting the weeks of our pilgrimage toward eternity. In this liturgical shifting of gears, Holy Mother Church invites us to step away from the specific mysteries of Christ's birth or resurrection and instead focus on the comprehensive mystery of His three year public ministry. If Christmas and

Easter are the mountain peaks of the liturgical year, Ordinary Time is the fertile valley where the real work of growth occurs. It is here, in the day-to-day rhythm of prayer and duty, that our faith is tested and matured.

The liturgical colour of this season is green, the colour of life, vitality, and hope. Just as nature silently works beneath the soil to produce the harvest, the Holy Spirit works silently within our souls during these numbered weeks. Green is the colour sprouting seeds and steadfast trees, reminding us that our spiritual life is not sustained solely by the spiritual highs of great feast days, but by the steady, often unseen, reception of grace through the Sacraments and daily fidelity to God's will. It is a time to cultivate the virtues of patience and perseverance, becoming like the "green wood" of the Gospel, alive with the sap of grace and bearing fruit in due season.

As we commence this new cycle for 2026, beginning with this Second Sunday, we are asked to find Christ

not in the manger or the empty tomb, but walking the dusty roads of Galilee. We sit at His feet to hear His parables, we watch Him heal the sick, and we observe His silence in prayer. This season challenges us to sanctify the "ordinary" moments of our lives - our work, our family life, our struggles, and our joys. It is an invitation to practise the "sacrament of the present moment." By offering up our daily tasks, no matter how trivial they may seem, we unite them with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, transforming the mundane into a path to holiness.

Let us not sleepwalk through these weeks. The "ordered" time is a gift, a specific period to deepen our prayer life, to return to the Confessional with regularity, and to study the truths of our faith. Let the green be a sign of renewed hope, to embrace the rhythm of this season with renewed vigour, knowing that it is in the ordinary fidelity of the Christian life that God prepares us for the extraordinary glory of Heaven.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Address

200 The Trongate,
South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parish Administrator

Rev. Fr. Galbert Albino

Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton, John Augustus, Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, John Borg, Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmel Galea, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Kay King, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provest, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine Vella, Sam Wardan, Gerard Watts.



*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.*

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, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

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

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Volunteers Needed

Flower Arranging

Patricia Robertson, Sharon Minns

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.

Confessions

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 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 Group 4: A. Quinlan, G. Pinto, M. Moses, S. Martin, M. Magpayo, C. Elegado, N. Begley, J. Osei-Yamoah, L. Todilla, J. John, A. Abosh, O. Ifeanyi, J. Raj, S. Pattalath Joseph

Readers

Vigil Racquel La Rosa, Rosette Chidiac, Ingrid Bifulco

10:00 a.m. Sisters, Mary Georges, Merlin Sandhiya

IN MEMORIAM

Victor Azzopardi, Joseph Baini, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Albert Camilleri, Les Camilleri, Tessie Camilleri, Doris Casha, Joseph Cunmao Chen, Jamil Chidiac, Christine Derwin, Maria Dinh, Maria Vu Thi Duyen, John Dover, Joe Paul Fehir, Alan Frost, Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki, Paul Karam, Chini Maya Kc, Nouhad Khoury, Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe, Frouzine Malkoun, Jacob Malkoun, Mouna Malkoun, Ofimia Malkoun, Jack McIntyre, Giovanna Mondello, Santo Mondello, Kudzai Gerald Mutongerwa, Anthony Newell, Jessica Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen, Michael O'Brien, Zackary Orenshaw, Oswald Pasqual, Doris Pickering, Robert Pidgeon, Anna Pham, Flory Pinto, Peter Robertson, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Carlito So, Noel So, Emanuel Tabone, Alex Taktak, John Toye, John Vella, Peter Van Duc Vu, Graham Wales, Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe.



NOTICES

Important Notice Regarding Receiving Holy Communion

There has been an unfortunate increase in Sacred Hosts being dropped when receiving Holy Communion. Whilst these are accidents, we all have a responsibility to ensure that the Sacred Host—the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ—is guarded and protected.

When receiving Holy Communion, please do not step to the side to consume the Sacred Host, and under no circumstances, turn away from facing the altar before you consume the Sacred Host. Please ensure that you consume the Sacred Host whilst still facing the altar and the Priest or the Extraordinary Minister.

Mass Offering Envelopes

Requests for Masses to be offered for various intentions can be sought by completing the Mass Offering envelopes which are located near the doors of the churches. Please clearly write the details of your intention on the envelope, and hand it directly to the priest before or after a Mass.

This will ensure your intention is not missed and will allow the priest to confirm your request.

Weekly Adoration at Holy Family Church

Join us each week for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament held every Wednesday evening, after the 6:00 p.m. Mass at Holy Family church.

Opportunities for confessions will still be available every Wednesday evening between 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Use this opportunity every week to spend some time before Our Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament and to receive the mercy given in the Sacrament of Penance.

Online Donations in Support of the Parish

Online donations can be made through the Holy Cross Parish website (holycrossgranville.org.au) using our BPoint facility by visiting the website or scanning the QR code below. Thank you to all those who regularly support the parish by your contributions. Your regular support of the parish is greatly appreciated and allows us to continue to undertake the many works of the parish and to look at what other works we can achieve, including the continuing restoration and maintenance of our two parish churches for generations to come.



Become a Parish Volunteer

We're always grateful for the dedication of our volunteers, and encourage others to come forward and get involved.

If you have a passion for service and some time to offer, consider joining one of our many parish ministries. There are opportunities for all ages to join in and take part in the life of the parish.

Please be aware that some volunteer positions will require a Working With Children Check whilst completion of safeguarding training is also required. Assistance will be available. For more information on how you can become a volunteer, contact the parish office. Begin the new year by becoming a parish volunteer!

Parish Office Reopening This Week

The Parish Office will reopen for regular office hours this coming Tuesday 20th January.

Your consideration and patience will be appreciated if you contacted the office these past few weeks as all enquiries are followed up and responded to in a timely manner.

Weekly Sacrament of Penance (Confession)

Experience the peace of God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Confession.

Confession times are available at Holy Family Church on Wednesday between 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and Sunday between 4:15 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. or at Holy Trinity Church on Saturday evening between 5:00 p.m. and 5:45 p.m.

No matter how long it has been, the Lord is waiting for you.

Volunteers Needed for Children's Liturgy Groups

We invite you to help pass on our Holy Faith to the youngest members of our parish. We are seeking at least four new volunteers to join our Children's Liturgy team. Children's Liturgy is run during the 10:00am Sunday Mass at Holy Trinity Church during school term.

Your help will allow us to form two additional groups, ensuring our children can hear the Word of God at a level they understand.

All volunteers must complete safeguarding training and hold a current Working with Children Check. Our Parish Office and Safeguarding Champion will provide full assistance with these requirements.

Please consider this vital service to our parish and email or call the parish office once it reopens to express your interest.



49TH ANNIVERSARY GRANVILLE TRAIN DISASTER

THE DAY *of the* ROSES

On the morning of 18 January 1977, a date forever etched into the consciousness of our local community and the nation, Australia experienced its worst rail tragedy. As a crowded commuter train derailed and struck the Bold Street Bridge in Granville, the subsequent collapse of the massive concrete structure onto carriages three and four claimed eighty-four lives and left more than two hundred injured. This weekend, as we mark the 49th anniversary of the Granville Train Disaster, we gather in prayer to remember those lost, to support the survivors who carry the weight of that morning, and to give thanks for the extraordinary heroism of those who laboured amidst the ruins.

For our parish, this anniversary holds a deeply personal and sacred significance as we recall the role played by our former parish priest, Father Les Campion (Parish Priest of Holy Trinity Church 1975 - 2008). In the immediate aftermath of the derailment, Fr. Campion was among the first on the scene, venturing into a landscape of unimaginable devastation. Although the train was hauled by an electric locomotive, the air was filled with the deafening hiss of escaping high-pressure air from the ruptured braking systems, the smell of gas, and the precarious tilt of

several hundred tonnes of concrete held up by the shattered remnants of the train, he did not hesitate to enter the wreckage to reach those in need.

Fr. Campion's involvement was a profound testament to the priestly vocation of presence. Witness reports from that day describe the harrowing conditions of the "corridor of death," where the height of the crushed carriages was reduced to barely eighteen inches (45 centimetres) in places. To reach the passengers, rescuers and clergy had to lie flat on their stomachs, sliding through narrow gaps between twisted steel and concrete. Throughout the exhausting rescue operation, Fr. Campion crawled into these confined, dangerous spaces to reach those pinned beneath the bridge. To the dying, he offered the Last Rites and the comfort of the Church; to the injured and terrified, he offered words of hope and the steady hand of a spiritual father.

He remained at the site for many hours, anointing the deceased and providing strength and comfort to rescue workers who were battling immense physical exhaustion and psychological trauma. His presence provided a calm, prayerful anchor in a scene of chaos. Those present recalled Fr. Campion's tireless ministry as he moved quietly

through the debris, never seeking the spotlight but always seeking the soul in distress.

In later years, Fr. Campion spoke of the "profound silence" and the "sacred duty" of those hours. He noted that in the face of such immense suffering, the only response is one of compassion and prayerful action. He often remarked on the staggering bravery of the victims, recounting stories of those who, though dying in agony, urged rescuers to leave them and help others first. These moments of selflessness in the face of death left a lasting impression on his ministry and his understanding of the human spirit.

As we mark this 49th anniversary, we hold in our hearts all those who still carry the pain of that day. We offer our prayers for the repose of the souls of the eighty-four victims, asking that they find eternal peace in the arms of our Lord. We pray also for the families and the survivors, that they may continue to find comfort and healing in the grace of the Holy Spirit. Fr. Campion's selfless service at Granville remains a guiding light for our parish, reminding us that even in our darkest moments of trial, God's mercy and presence are never far away. May the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace.



SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

SUNDAY
4:15PM TO 4:45PM

WEDNESDAY
6:30PM TO 7:00PM

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

SATURDAY
5:00PM TO 5:45PM

FIRST FRIDAY OF MONTH
6:15PM TO 6:45PM



*Confession heals, confession justifies,
confession grants pardon of sin,
all hope consists in confession;
in confession there is a chance for mercy.*

- St. Isidore of Seville



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

WEDNESDAY
AFTER 6:00PM MASS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

FIRST FRIDAY OF MONTH
AFTER 7:00PM MASS

*Sweet Sacrament, we thee adore;
Oh, make us love thee more and more.
Oh, make us love thee more and more!*



HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED THE HOLY CROSS PARISH APP?

The Holy Cross Parish app is just another way of keeping updated on everything that takes place in the parish!

In addition to finding available Mass, Confession and Adoration times available in the parish, the app also has some great tools such as prayers, daily reflections, audio bible, news feeds, and homilies which are published weekly.

You can also find links to popular catholic podcasts, such as Dr. Taylor Marshall, Fr. Mike Schmitz and updated news from outlets such as the Catholic Weekly.

Once you have downloaded the app to your phone or device, simply click on the 'myparishapp' button, click on "find a parish" and type in "Holy Cross Parish"

Search for 'myparish' on the App Store or Google Play to download the app today!

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Readings

Introit

(Psalm 65:4)

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

First Reading The Prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 49:3. 5-6)

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel,
in whom I shall be glorified';
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.
And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:
'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors
of Israel;
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv.8. 9.)

R. Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God. R.

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I. R.

In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart. R.

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord. R.

Second Reading

First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

(1 Corinthians 1:1-3)

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation (John 1:14. 12)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.
He enabled those who accepted him
to become the children of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel The Gospel of John (John 1:29-34)

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

Communio

(Cf Psalm 22:5)

You have prepared a table before me,
and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

*Please ensure mobile phones are switched off
or placed on silent during Mass.*

*Take a copy of this bulletin home with you
for important news and information.*