
Granville

Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. 38.

September 20, 2026

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



Our Lady of Sorrows at the Foot of the Cross

Following our joy on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, our parish patron, the Church's liturgical calendar leads us directly into the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows, which we celebrated this past week on 15 September. This close proximity is far from accidental. In her deep wisdom, the Church places the Mother beside the Son, demonstrating that wherever Christ's Cross is raised, the Blessed Virgin Mary stands faithfully beneath it. As we continue Holy Cross Month here in our parish, this week invites us to ponder the unique role of Our Lady in the work of our redemption.

The mystery of Mary's grief was foretold at the very dawn of Our Lord's earthly life. When the holy prophet Simeon received the Infant Jesus in the Temple, he uttered words that would echo throughout our Blessed Mother's life: "and a sword will pierce through your own soul also." This prophecy found its total fulfilment on Mount Calvary. While Christ suffered physical agony upon the Wood of the Cross, Mary endured an interior martyrdom of love and

Grief, offering her immaculate heart in union with His supreme sacrifice.

Catholic teaching speaks of Our Lady's suffering as a *compassio* - that is a true suffering - with Christ. Although she was preserved from original sin and spared from physical execution, her maternal soul was united completely to the Passion of her Son. At the foot of the Cross, Mary did not collapse in despair or abandon her trust in God. As the ancient Latin hymn *Stabat Mater* proclaims, she stood - resolute, courageous, and perfectly resigned to the divine will. In that solemn moment, as Our Lord beheld His sorrowful mother and the beloved disciple John, He commended humanity to her care, declaring, "Woman, behold your son," and to the disciple, "Behold your mother."

Through this divine gift, Mary became the Mother of the Church and the spiritual mother of every Christian soul. Her steadfast presence at Calvary serves as the ultimate model of faithful discipleship. When we participate at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, we are spiritually

brought to Calvary, and like St. John, we are invited to stand alongside Our Lady, offering our own lives to the Father through the hands of her divine Son.

For us who follow Christ, Our Lady of Sorrows offers a refuge of profound comfort. None of us escapes the weight of suffering throughout our own lives, whether through physical illness, family grief, hidden anxieties, or spiritual trials. Yet the Blessed Virgin Mary teaches us that human suffering, when united to the Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ, is never meaningless. As we reflect and make our way through this month, let us entrust all our burdens to the Sorrowful Heart of Mary, asking her to grant us the grace to remain steadfast in faith beneath the Cross.

✠

O Sorrowful Mother, you stood faithfully beneath the Cross: obtain for us grace to bear daily trials patiently. Unite our sufferings to Christ's sacrifice, that our lives may become an offering pleasing to God. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be worthy of Christ's promises. Amen.

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

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

Nigerian Community

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, 7:15 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:

G.Pinto, M.Moses, S.Martin, M.Magpayo,
C.Elegado, N.Begley, J.Osei-Yamoah,
L.Tordilla, J.John, A.Abosh, O.Ifeanyi,
J.Raj, S.Pattalath Joseph

Readers

Vigil Rebecca Hanson, Gerry Pinto,
Rosette Chidiac

10:00 a.m. Jasmine Miranda, Sisters

Children's Liturgy

*No Children's Liturgy during School
Holidays*

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, Vincenzo
Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline
Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins,
Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro,
Zoe Mrzljak, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo,
Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provost, Ricardo Tognini, 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.

IN MEMORIAM

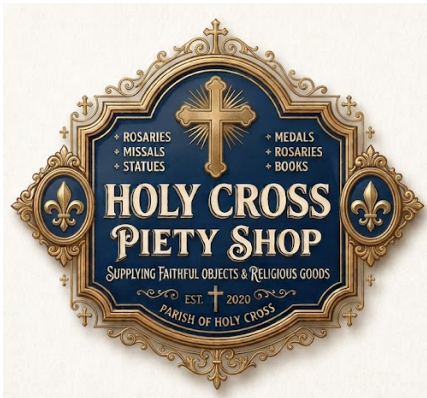
Geoff Armstrong, Norma Armstrong, Victor Azzopardi, Joseph
Baini, Carmen Bonello, Charlie Bonello, John Borg,
Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Alan Frost, Carmen
Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech,
Sam Grech, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki, Paul Karam, Nouhad
Khoury, Kaye King, Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe,
Mouna Malkoun, Bette McGrath, Roy McDonald, Aileen
McIntyre, Jack McIntyre, Lindsay McIntyre, Nancy McIntyre,
Mary McIntyre, Marie McDonald, Anthony Newell, Jack
Newell, Jean Newell, Jessica Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen,
Michael O'Brien, Peter Olsen, Zackary Orenshaw, Jack
Pickering, Samuel Pickering, Edward Pidgeon, Robert Pidgeon,
Sheila Pidgeon, Flory Pinto, Peter Robertson, Grace Saliba,
Louis Saliba, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Kerry Savvas, Alex
Taktak, John Toye, John Vella, Graham Wales, Carmel Watts,
Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe, Noelene Yott,
William Yott, Jessie Zammit, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter

N O T I C E S

Fr. Joseph on Annual Leave

Please note that Fr. Joseph, our Assistant Priest, will be taking four weeks of annual leave, commencing this coming Monday. Please keep Fr. Joseph in your prayers for a restful and holy period with his family.

As Fr. Galbert returns from his trip to Belgium this week, our parish Mass and Confession times will remain unchanged during this time. May Almighty God bless and protect Fr. Joseph while he is away.



Visit our Church Piety Shops

Are you looking for a holy gift for an upcoming Sacrament, or a devotional aid for your own spiritual life? Our parish piety shops offer a beautiful selection of sacred items to deepen your faith and assist your daily prayers. Stop by after Holy Mass this weekend to browse our stock. Our collection includes blessed rosaries, missals, Bibles, crucifixes, holy cards, and spiritual reading. Find the perfect sacramental keepsake or religious item to inspire devotion.

Children's Liturgy Volunteers Needed

We are seeking new volunteers to assist with our Children's Liturgy during the 10:00 a.m. Mass. If you feel called to help, please speak with Fr. Galbert or contact the parish office for more information.



*Make frequent visits to Jesus
in the Blessed Sacrament
and the devil will be
powerless against you.*

—St. John Bosco

WEDNESDAYS

Holy Family Church at 6:30 p.m.



FIRST FRIDAYS

Holy Trinity Church at 7:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Penance at Holy Cross Parish

Parishioners are encouraged to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Penance for the sanctification of their souls and spiritual renewal. Through humble confession and the priest's absolution, we receive God's mercy, purifying our hearts and restoring our union with the Church.

Confessions are heard each Wednesday at Holy Family Church from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and every Sunday from 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. At Holy Trinity Church, the Sacrament is available every Saturday from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Come and experience the peace of Christ's mercy.

Reminder to switch off Mobile Phones Before Holy Mass Commences

Before the Holy Mass begins, parishioners are reminded to turn off or switch their mobile phones to silent upon entering the church.

The church is the house of God and a place of sacred silence. A ringing phone directly disrupts the solemnity of the liturgy and distracts others from prayerful devotion before the Blessed Sacrament.

Please leave the noise of the world outside the church doors, offering our Lord your undivided attention. Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining quiet reverence and sanctity in our churches.

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.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Volunteers Needed!



Help pass on our Holy Faith to the youngest members of our parish through the Children's Liturgy ministry!

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO VOLUNTEER TODAY
0497 190 444 - GRANVILLE@PARRACATHOLIC.ORG



ST CARLO ACUTIS

MAJOR PILGRIM RELIC VISIT
ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
Parramatta

28-30 SEPTEMBER

Come and pray before the Major Pilgrim Relic of St Carlo Acutis and experience the Vatican International Exhibition of The Eucharistic Miracles of the World. All welcome.



EXHIBITION



Monday 28 September 4:30pm – 6:00pm
Tuesday 29 September 8:00am – 8:00 pm
Wednesday 30 September 8:00am–12:00 pm

THE RELIC



The Major Pilgrim Relic will be housed in the Chapel for personal prayer and veneration throughout the visit.

MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

4:30–6:00pm: St Carlo's Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition Open
6:00pm: Holy Mass to Welcome St Carlo's Major Pilgrim Relic
7:00pm: Talk on St Carlo & his relic by Friends of St Carlo Acutis in the Cathedral
7:30–8:00pm: Individual Blessing with the Relics of Saint Carlo

TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

6:30am: Mass with Relic present in the Chapel
7:00am: Talk on St Carlo & his relic by Friends of St Carlo Acutis
7:10am–7:30am: Individual Blessing with the Relics of Saint Carlo
8:00am–11:15am: Relic Veneration in the Chapel
8:00–8:00pm: St Carlo's Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition in the Cloister Hall
11:15am: Confession available
11:15–12:00pm: Adoration, Benediction in the Cathedral
12:00pm: Angelus & Rosary with Meditations from St Carlo Acutis
12:30pm: Mass
1:10pm: Talk on St Carlo & his relic by Friends of St Carlo Acutis in the Cathedral
1:30pm – 6:30pm: Veneration of the Relic in the Chapel
6:30pm: Individual Blessing with the Relics of Saint Carlo
7:00–8:00pm: Holy Hour & Benediction in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

6:30am: Mass with Relic present in the Chapel
7:00am: Talk on St Carlo & his relic by Friends of St Carlo Acutis
7:10am–7:30am: Individual Blessing with the Relics of Saint Carlo
7:30am–11:15am: Relic Veneration in the Chapel
8:00–12:30pm: St Carlo's Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition in the Cloister Hall
11:15am: Confession available
11:15–12:00pm: Adoration, Benediction in the Cathedral
12:00pm: Angelus & Rosary with Meditations from St Carlo Acutis
12:30pm: Mass (*St Carlo departs following Mass*)

Mass • Relic Veneration • Blessings • Adoration • Confession • Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition

COME AND PRAY WITH ST CARLO ACUTIS



MAP & EVENT DETAILS: STCARLOAUSTRALIA.COM





WEEKDAY HOLY MASS

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

TUES, THURS, FRI, SAT
9:15AM

WEDNESDAY
6:00PM

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

TUES
6:30PM

WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY
8:15AM

*"It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun
than to do so without the Holy Mass."*

~ St. Pio of Pietrelcina

Saints & STUFF

St. Dismas

In this Sunday's Gospel, Our Lords tells the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard, where a landowner generously bestows the exact same daily wage upon those hired at the eleventh hour as those who laboured through the heat of the day. A vivid historical testament to this radical divine generosity is St. Dismas, traditionally known as the Good Thief crucified alongside Christ.

Having lived a life of crime, St. Dismas found himself condemned to death next to Jesus on Mount Calvary. While the other criminal mocked Christ, St. Dismas recognised his own guilt and turned to Jesus with profound humility, asking simply to be remembered when Christ entered His kingdom. Though St. Dismas entered the vineyard of God's grace at the very last moment of his life, Our Lord promised him immediate entry into Paradise.

St. Dismas demonstrates that God's mercy is never earned through human merit, nor is it ever too late to receive it. His life challenges us to rejoice in God's boundless generosity towards others rather than measuring grace by human notions of fairness. Ultimately, he stands as a perpetual beacon of hope, proving that no soul is ever beyond the reach of Christ's redeeming love.

St. Dismas, pray for us!

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Unearned Gift of Grace

218 In the course of its history, Israel was able to discover that God had only one reason to reveal himself to them, a single motive for choosing them from among all peoples as his special possession: his forgiving love. And Israel came to understand that it was again out of love that God never stopped saving them and forgiving their unfaithfulness and sins.

898 By reason of their special vocation it belongs to the laity to seek the kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and directing them according to God's will. To their activity in particular falls the task of illuminating and ordering all temporal affairs to which they are closely associated in such a way that they may always be effected and grow according to Christ and may be to the glory of the Creator and Redeemer.

2008 The merit of man before God in the Christian life arises from the fact that God has freely disposed that the associate man with the work of his grace. The fatherly action of God is first on his own initiative, and then follows man's free acting through his collaboration, so that the merit of good works is to be attributed in the first place to the grace of God, then to the faithful.

CATHOLIC Trivia

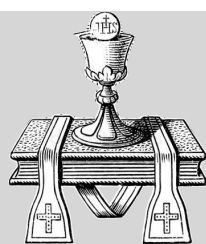
Blue and the Blessed Virgin Mary

Have you ever noticed that in classical Christian art, the Virgin Mary is almost always depicted wearing a rich blue mantle? This artistic choice was not merely about aesthetics; it was deeply rooted in history, economics, and sacred symbolism.

During the Middle Ages and Renaissance, the brilliant blue pigment was known as ultramarine—meaning "from beyond the sea." It was made by grinding lapis lazuli, a rare semi-precious gemstone imported exclusively from distant mines in Afghanistan. Because the extraction and transport processes were so arduous, this vibrant blue powder was literally worth more by weight than pure gold.

Due to its extraordinary cost, wealthy patrons and Church authorities strictly regulated its use. Painters reserved the precious pigment almost entirely for the robes of Our Lady. Dressing Mary in ultramarine was considered the ultimate gesture of reverence, offering the most expensive material available on Earth to honour the Queen of Heaven.

Beyond its financial worth, blue carries great spiritual meaning. It symbolises purity, truth, and the expanse of the heavens. Wearing blue visually proclaims Mary's role in bringing the light of Heaven down to Earth.



MASS MATTERS

~ The Blessing and Dismissal ~

As the Mass draws to a close, we prepare to step back into our daily routine. After any brief parish announcements, the priest imparts the Final Blessing, invoking the Holy Trinity. Making the Sign of the Cross, we are reminded that we carry God's grace and protection with us through the coming week.

Then comes the Dismissal: "Go forth, the Mass is ended," or "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life." The word "Mass" actually comes from the Latin *Missa*, which means "sent." This is not just an instruction to leave, but a commissioning. Having been nourished by God's Word and Holy Communion, we are sent out into our homes, schools, and workplaces to be Christ's hands and feet. The Mass ends, but our mission begins.

The Readings

Introit

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

First Reading
The Prophet Isaiah
(Isaiah 55:6-9)

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm
(Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18)

℟. The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. ℟.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. ℟.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. ℟.

Second Reading
Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians
(Philippians 1:20-24. 27)

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

(See Acts of the Apostles 16:14)

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel
The Gospel of Matthew
(Matthew 20:1-16)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

Communio
(Psalm 118:4-5)

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

"Why does Christ command us to go to him privately? Because a person whose fault is exposed publicly often grows brazen and hardened in his sin. But if he sees that his offence remains known only to him who suffered it, he is moved to repentance by the delicacy and consideration shown to him."

- St. John Chrysostom