

St Michael's Church - Meadowbank

The Parish Bulletin

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Yr B/2

2018: Celebrating 70 Years as a Parish**Entrance Antiphon:***Cf. Ps 85: 1-3*

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

1st Reading:*Joshua 24:1-2,15-18*

We will serve the Lord, for he is our God

Responsorial Psalm:*Psalms 33(34):2-3,16-23*

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

2nd Reading:*Ephesians 5:21-32*

Christ loves the Church, because it is his body

Gospel Acclamation:*cf. John 6:63, 68*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

Gospel: *John 6:60-69*

Who shall we go to? You are the Holy One of God

Communion Antiphon:*Cf. Ps 103: 13-15*

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

Gospel*John 6:60-69*

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus

was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

Reflection from Fr James McCarthy***The Body of Christ changes everything***

Several years ago I was working in a camp in Lebanon, near the border with Israel. I worked with young people who had severe mental and physical disabilities. For a variety of reasons, many of the young people were unable to keep quiet for more than 20 seconds at a time. Celebrating Mass for them was a very unique experience. Throughout the Mass, there were screams, shouts and noises occurring almost constantly. But during the consecration, when the bread and wine becomes Christ's body and blood, for about 1 minute, everyone was still and quiet. The disabilities that caused the bodies to yelp and screech were at peace. Amazingly, everyone seemed to be worshipping our Lord and God. When the sacred host was elevated, the young people with disabilities seemed to stop being people with disabilities and became young friends of Christ worshipping and adoring the Body of Christ. The bread and wine were changed, but my young friends were also changed, albeit only for 30 seconds or a minute.

Acknowledgement of the land

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of this land, the Wallumattagal clan, part of the Dharug people of the Eoiria nation. We walk gently on the land, sharing it with them as we now work and live on it.

Parish Directory

Parish Administrator: Fr James McCarthy

Email: pp@stmichaelsmeadowbank.org.au

Parish address & contact number:

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Office hours: Tuesday - Friday

9:00am-4:30pm

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Please submit requests for publication by 12 noon Wednesday.

Acolytes: Arthur Lee

Readers & Special Ministers of

Communion:

Sue Metzmacher

(Weekdays & Special Roster)

Felicity Donnelly (Vigils & Sundays)

Music Ministry

Coordinators for 6pm Saturday Masses:

1st Saturday - Richard Borges (Family Mass)

2nd Saturday - David Foong

3rd Saturday - Prescilla Luzon

4th Saturday - Aneela Pereira

Music Ministry - Sunday Masses:

1st & 3rd SUN 8am - Maree Twomey

2nd SUN 8am - Muntia Gouw

4th SUN 10 am - Muntia Gouw

1st SUN 10am - Peter & Jenchris

3rd, 5th SUN 10am - Mary Towers

2nd SUN 10am - David Foong

Children Liturgy - Elsa Manu

Sacramental Coordinators: Marisa

Squadrito & Liz Mulcare

Ushers/Collectors - Michael Wixted

Altar Society - Marie Bennett

Liturgy Committee - Sue Metzmacher

Finance Committee - Stephen Topple

St Vincent de Paul Society - Jim Lemcke

Catechists - Judith Orrock

St Michael's Primary School

School Principal - Brian Story

53 Maxim St, Meadowbank, NSW 2114

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Welcome to St Michael's Church - Meadowbank!

A warm welcome to all attendees and visitors to our church! May you find our parish community a place where your faith life will be nourished and you will take up the invitation to share your special gifts and talents. Your prayers, presence, talents and skills are most welcome.

**REFLECTIONCONTINUED**

Over the last 5 Sundays, the Church has been slowly reading through the great teaching of Christ on the bread of life - the Eucharist. Today we conclude the reading of John Chapter 6 and each of us are challenged to believe that bread and wine is changed into the body and blood of Christ during every Mass, that we are nourished and changed by Christ, and that we will receive eternal life by eating of Christ's body and drinking of his blood.

At my first holy communion, I remember being told to make an act of faith and belief that Christ is really present in the Eucharist "My Lord and My God"! But as we mature and develop as adults, so must our faith, and every time we come to Mass, it shouldn't be a routine or a simple statement of faith, but a unique encounter with God. During every Mass, be still and know that God is there. Seek to encounter God every time at Mass, even if it feels routine. Don't let anything or anyone distract you from encountering God. Rather, Let the distractions become an opportunity to find Christ in the Eucharist. Pray to become one with Jesus and the presence of God.

If we listen to the statistics about what Catholics believe in Australia, then supposedly only about 20% of Catholics believe that Christ is truly present in the Eucharist. The teaching on the Eucharist is primarily what distinguishes Catholics from other Christians. The Catholic Church teaches that the Eucharist is the only true interpretation of Jesus' words in John chapter 6 and the words at the last supper - "This is my body, this is my blood."

Heaven comes to us today and during every Mass. Christ is offering himself to us today to change bread and wine, but also to change us. This is an amazing mystery. If only we could truly believe! When receiving holy communion, pray for the nourishment of Christ in your life, especially for those things that need to be changed by the healing goodness of God.

Sacramental Programs 2018 - Sacrament of Reconciliation - Enrolment and Parent Meeting

There will be a parent formation meeting for all parents intending to enrol their child in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This will occur on Tuesday 4 September at 7pm in the Bush Parish Hall. Please spread the word!

Download & Sync Parish Calendar. The parish calendar of activities is available for download from the Parish Website. It is updated on a daily basis. If you use a google calendar, it is very easy to include the calendar in your own calendar by simply hitting the + button located on the parish homepage: www.stmichaelsmeadowbank.org.au

Collections Update from 19 August

Our collections have been slipping behind the Parish Finance Council budgeted amounts. Please give generously to assist with the financial needs of the Parish. Thank you for your support.

1st Collection (assists clergy): \$1161 (\$300 under target)

New 1st Collection weekly target to cover costs: \$1339

2nd Collection (parish costs): \$1549 (\$400 under target)

New 2nd Collection weekly target to cover costs: \$1960

CWF Collection (Charity of the Archdiocese): \$4000 (\$1800 still needed to reach target in August. Please give generously.

All donations for the CWF envelopes are 100% tax deductible. Please use envelopes in the pews.

If you would like envelopes for the 2nd collection and receive a 25% tax deduction, please contact the parish office.

Tax Receipts Clarification- FY2018

The weekly planned giving envelope given on the second collection is the total sum that was given both to the Charitable Works Fund TRUST and to St Michael's Meadowbank Parish.

This is shown in your tax receipt as follows:

Charitable Works Fund TRUST (Tax deductible). This is 25% of the amount given on envelopes.

St Michael's Meadowbank Parish (Not tax deductible) This is 75% of the amount given.

Please ring the office (9809 3536) for further clarifications.

Plenary Council

Why not be involved? The 2020 Plenary Council is a gathering of the Church in Australia to make decisions for the future. Your voice is important. You are invited to contribute to the Plenary Council agenda, by sharing your experience of faith and of the Church. To be involved, visit <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

Become an Ambassador, facilitating listening and dialogue groups in your parish. If you want to know more, please speak with your Parish Priest, contact 9390 5100 or email plenarycouncil@sydneycatholic.org

Come sing with Us!

All singers are invited to join the choir for the annual CCD Mass held in St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 23rd September 2018 at 2 p.m. Singers will be required to attend a rehearsal in the cathedral at 1 p.m. on the day and also at St. Charles Borromeo Church Victoria Road - Ryde on Wednesday 12th September at 7.30 p.m.

If you wish to sing, please register with Gabrielle Claridge gabclaridge@gmail.com

or Anita Lee Anita.Lee@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Father's Day Annual Appeal Next Sunday

Next Sunday we will celebrate Fathers Day. Every year on Fathers Day, there is a special collection for the Priests Retirement Foundation. The PRF assists with the housing and day-to-day living costs of all the retired priests in Sydney.

Please give generously to assist our former parish priests who are now retired. Donations given through the envelopes are 100% tax deductible.



St Michael's Church, Meadowbank

A copy of this bulletin is also available from the FB Page.

PULPIT POINTS 26-August

- Pray, fast against abuse: Pope's letter to the whole Church
- One step closer: Eileen O'Connor's cause progresses
- Faith freedom warning: Archbishop delivers Warrane lecture
- Safe for now: Euthanasia defeated
- Movie review: The Meg
- Little known WWII NZ martyr priest

Our Parish 70th Anniversary & St Michael's Feast Celebrations

Parish Retreat Day: Saturday 8 September

Begins with Mass at 9.15am, followed by testimonies, reflections and meditations - concluding at 1pm. Attendees are asked to bring finger food for a shared lunch at 12.15pm.

Novena of St Michael the Archangel: begins on 21 September: Will occur at the conclusion of every Mass until 29 September (Feast Day of St Michael). Novena cards will be provided.

Day of Prayer, Adoration and Reconciliation:

22 September - 3pm to 6pm. Parish Groups are invited to lead prayer and praise for 30 minutes at a time. Adoration and Reconciliation available throughout the afternoon. Concludes with Benediction at 5.50pm. More details in future weeks.

Anniversary Mass and Dinner Dance

Celebration: Saturday 29 September - Mass at 5.30pm, followed by dinner at 7pm for 7.30pm at the Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club. Cost is \$50 per head. Please start to coordinate and invite groups and former parishioners to attend. You might like to arrange a table. **Registration and payments can occur at the Parish Office.**

St Michael's Feast Day Children's Mass / Family

Luncheon: Sunday 30 September - Mass at 10am, followed by Lunch and fun around the parish. Children are invited to dress as Archangel Michael or as any angel. Lunch will be a BBQ and gold coin donation.

Memorial Mass for the Unborn

Bishop Anthony Randazzo, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney, will offer the annual Memorial Mass for the Unborn on Wednesday 29th of August at 7.00pm at St Mary's Cathedral. The Mass will be offered in commemoration of the unborn children lost to abortion and in solidarity with the mothers and fathers who grieve this profound loss. During the Mass 74 candles will be bought forward in remembrance of the 74 lives lost to abortion each day in NSW. All are invited to attend. Enquiries: Life, Marriage and Family Centre: 9307 8400 or LMFevents@sydneycatholic.org

NEXT WEEKEND

Roster: 1 / 2 September 2018

Time	Acolyte	Readers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
6:00PM Vigil	Jim Lemcke	Family Vigil Youth Readers	1 Joseph J K 2 Liz Paricka 3 David Doring 4 Pam Keenan 5 Paul Thambyah 6 Prescilla Luzon
8:00AM	Meynardo Talisayon	Chris Twomey Gemma Evesson	Norman Fairbairn Violet Moussa
10:00AM	John Fillion	Jeremy Billings Charlene Harrison	1 Joel Tabuso 2 Lala Tabuso 3 Maureen Richardson 4 Felissa Tan 5 Gloria Divine 6 Joan D'souza

Liturgy for this week 27 Aug - 2 Sept 2018)

Sacraments:

Reconciliation: Saturdays 5:15pm-5.45pm

Devotions: Prayer for Priests: 8:45am every 1st Saturday

Morning Prayer: 7:40AM every Sunday

Rosary: 8:50am on weekdays before the Mass (except Friday)

Friday before Mass : **Silent Prayer**

Holy Hour and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

8:15am-9:15am every Friday

8:15am-9:15am every Saturday (with Benediction at 9.05am)

Divine Mercy Novena & Chaplet - Wednesdays after AM Mass

Weekday Services this week:

9:15am - **Communion Services:** Monday to Thursday.

9.15am - Friday Weekday Mass

(Fr James is away until 31 August. Fr Alt will be assisting with Masses in his absence.)

Weekend Masses: 6:00pm - Saturday Vigil Mass

8:00am & 10:00am - Sunday (*Children's Liturgy at 10am Mass*)

The Piety Stall is open on the 1st & 3rd weekends of the month. Our next opening will be on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd September.

Church Cleaning, Altar Linen and Flowers

Join the Altar Society and keep our church fit for God. We are in need of more helpers in the Church to clean, do flowers and vacuum. More help needed. Contact Marie Bennett on 0447 830 551.

ROSTER CHURCH CLEANERS August 2018

Cherrie Cavaleri , Christina Spararo , Dutturi Moussa

Linen: Joan D'Souza & Maureen Richardson (*monthend only*)

Vacuuming: Malou La Yusadot

Are you new to the Parish?

Welcome. It is great to have you here. Please contact the parish office to register as a parishioner and to complete a parish census form. We look forward to praying and serving Jesus with you. Please make our parish part of your home.



Prayer to St Michael the

Archangel. Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of 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 evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Parish Weekly Mass Offerings

Friday 31st August 9.15am

Mass of Remembrance for Roza & Raymond Sassine, Hamama Younis, Nigie Eid, Ugenia Khatter, Shemounie Shehady & Soraya Sahady

Saturday 1st September 9.15am

Mass of Remembrance for Alan Scott
NOTE: ONLY ONE MASS OFFERING IS PERMITTED PER DAY

Saints of the Week

Mon 27 Saint Monica

Tue 28 Saint Augustine, Bishop, Doctor

Wed 29 The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist

St Michael's Youth Group

is on this coming Friday night 6:15-8:15 in the Parish Hall.. FUN...FOOD...FAITH! \$5 includes pizza. All Year 5 & 6 students from our Parish are welcome to join.

ST MICHAEL'S PLAYGROUP

When: Every Thursday 9-11am in the Parish Hall

Cost: \$2 plus piece of fruit

Age: All children 0-5 yrs

For either of these events please contact Elsa Manu 0433914230 or elsa.manu@syd.catholic.edu.au

Become a Catechist Now.

All Christians are called through our baptism to teach and help bring others to the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. A rewarding and outreach activity is to become a Catechist by sharing your faith with children in our local public schools. Ring **Judith Orrock on 98742825** if you are interested. You will be trained in conducting a class, what to teach and provided all teaching materials to make you a successful catechist.

Parish Altar Server 2 session Training this week

When: Tuesday 21 & 28 August: 6pm to 7pm in the Church.

Those who have received First Communion recently are encouraged to join. For further information and expression of interest please contact David (0418 233 353) or Stevan (0411 723 284).