

St Michael's Church - Meadowbank

The Parish Bulletin

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Yr B/2

2018: Celebrating 70 Years as a Parish**Entrance Antiphon:***Cf. Ps 37: 22-23*

**Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!**

1st Reading:*Deuteronomy 6:2-6*

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.

Responsorial Psalm:*Psalm 17(18):2-4,47,51*

I love you, Lord, my strength.

2nd Reading:*Hebrews 7:23-28*

Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood.

Gospel Acclamation:*John 14:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

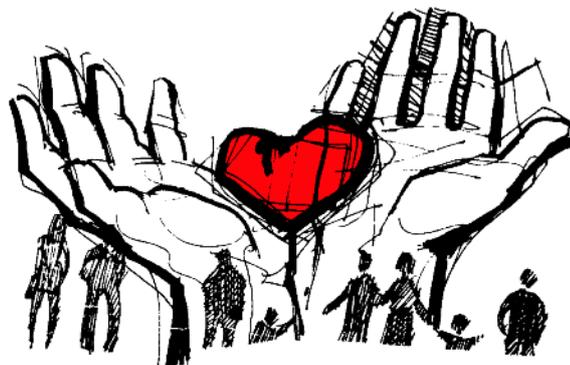
**All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.
Alleluia!**

Gospel: *Mark 12:28-34*

'You are not far from the kingdom of God'.

Communion Antiphon*Cf. Ps 15: 11*

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

Gospel*Mark 12:28-34*

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your

heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

A Reflection on Halloween and All the Saints by Fr James McCarthy

In Australia we do not have a strong tradition of celebrating Halloween, unlike the USA, although it is developing. You may have noticed cutout pumpkins and ghost decorations in some supermarkets and shops over the last week. Halloween has become a day when people, especially children, have fun scaring each other as witches, vampires, demons and so on, and then going to strangers homes and asking for lollies. Some children and adults dress up as evil and deathly characters. Many people think it's just children's fun and an opportunity to eat lots of sugar. But where does Halloween actually come from?

All Saints Day or All Hallows Day, as it was known by its old English title, is celebrated on the 1st of November. The eve, the day before All Hallows day, is known as Hallow Eve, or better known as Halloween. On All Saints Day we honour all the saints in heaven – those known and canonized and those unknown saints. It is a day to thank God for giving ordinary men and women a share in heavenly glory.

Pope Gregory IV in the year 835 ordered the Feast of All Saints to be observed throughout the world on November 1. This date was chosen because, like the date of Christmas, it coincides with a pagan feast day, and the Church wanted to Christianise a pagan festival.

November 1, according to pagan custom, was the Feast of Samhain, a festival celebrating the end of the lighter half of the year and the beginning of the darker half of the year. In the Celtic countries, from as early as the 2nd century, it was regarded as New Year. The ancient Celts believed that the border between this

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

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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

Liturgic Committee - Sue Metzmacher

Finance Committee - Stephen Topple

St Vincent de Paul Society - Jim Lemcke

Catechists - Judith Orrock

Parish Safeguarding Support Officer -

Lou Temprosa

St Michael's Primary School

School Principal - Brian Story

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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**

world and the after-life became very thin on November 1, and the pagans believed that spirits (both harmless and harmful) were able to pass into this world on that day. Celtic pagan families would then communicate with their deceased family members and invite the deceased back into their home. It was believed that harmful and unwelcome spirits could be warded off by wearing devilish and witch-like costumes and masks. It was thought that the harmful spirits could be tricked into thinking that some people were also harmful spirits, and thus the evil spirits would leave the other evil spirits alone. "Trick or Treat!"

Whether or not evil spirits can be tricked to go away from our homes, it is never a good idea to call on evil or unknown spirits, even in the context of a game or fun. The spiritual world is real. There are good and evil spirits. Every time we pray the Lord's Prayer we pray "Deliver us from evil." So to spend a day celebrating evil and scaring people is not the best thing for anyone, and at the very least, it trivialises spirituality into a children's game.

As Christians, we adopted November 1 as the day to celebrate All the Saints in Heaven. Throughout Christian history, the month of November is a special month dedicated to praying for the eternal rest of our deceased relatives. During November, families request Masses to be prayed for their deceased relatives and many go to cemeteries to pray at the graves of their relatives. This tradition continues today.

The practice of dressing up in costumes on Halloween continues, but for many people it is less about warding off harmful spirits and more a romanticisation of demons and darkness.

In the last 10 years or so, many parishes throughout the world hold All Saints Parties, where the stories of the saints are told and the participants recommit themselves to being saints for our world today. As Christians we are encouraged to tell the stories of the positive examples of saints and martyrs as often as possible. If we feel that it is absolutely necessary to attend a Halloween celebration or to TrickORTreat, then maybe we could facilitate our children and grandchildren to be dressed as saints from our tradition. Perhaps St Michael the Archangel could be a perfect figure to be dressed as, especially as St Michael courageously battled the evil serpent and the presence of evil.

The Charitable Works Fund Appeal(CWF) will occur next weekend (10 /11 November). The work of CWF's benefiting agencies represents our Christian values of mercy, social justice and compassion (www.cwf.org.au to find out more), giving your gift the power to change lives for the better. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Our parish quota for this appeal is \$3800. If every family in the envelope system donated \$40 each, then we will reach our quota. Please give generously.

Protection of Children. A copy of Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Policy on the care, well-being and protection of children and young persons is available in the Parish office and from the Parish Website.

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 28 October

Thank you for the generosity of all parishioners. Please note the new adjusted weekly targets in order to reach our budget.

1st Collection (assists clergy): \$1180

*New 1st Collection weekly target to cover costs: **\$1400***

2nd Collection (parish costs): \$2161

*New 2nd Collection weekly target to cover costs: **\$2000***

DIRECT TRANSFER GIVING

Please consider using a direct recurring automatic transfer for Sunday offerings. It is a safe, secure process that each person can easily setup via their own online banking to give to the parish on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis.

Parish First Collection Details: BSB: 062 784; Account Number: 04292002; Account Name: St Michael's Pastoral Revenue

Parish Second Collection Details: BSB: 062 784; Account Number: 04292000; Account Name: St Michael's Church

Family Spirit (by CatholicCare Sydney and Marist180)

Could you provide short-term help for long-term memories? Family Spirit need compassionate people to provide short-term foster care. To learn more, come to an information night on Tuesday 13th November 2018, 5.30-8pm, CatholicCare 2C West St (cnr Thomas St) Lewisham NSW 2049. Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to secure your place.

Inner WestFeast Youth Event in Ryde

Wed 7 November: Holy Cross College

Calling all young people (16 to 30) to join famous singer and musician Gary Pinto, who has worked with Guy Sebastian. Gary tours in his own right sharing his powerful music and story of conversion and God's love. A free night of dinner, music and a chance to encounter Christ. Dinner from 6pm and event starts at 7pm in Holy Cross College Chapel.

Rydalmere Parish Mission - 3 to 7 November

Holy Name of Mary Parish (2 Myrtle St, Rydalmere) is hosting a Parish Mission, presented by Simon and Madeleine Carrington.

Saturday 3 November - 6.30pm - Who am I? (Yr 5-8)

Sunday 4 November - 6.30pm - Finding the Love that Satisfies (Teen/Young Adult Talk)

Adult Talks

Tuesday 6 November - 7.30pm - Parenting Purity to Teens

Wednesday 7 November - 7.30pm - The Joy of Married Love

Special Mass for Pregnant Mothers

18 November at 10.30am: Are you expecting a baby or know someone who is? You are warmly invited to attend the annual Mass for Pregnant Mothers to be celebrated by Bishop Richard Umbers at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 18th of November at 10:30am. Enquiries: LMEvents@sydneycatholic.org or call 9307 8401.

November Roster of Church Cleaners

Felisa Tan, Rene Gittany, Cherise Cavalleri, Christina Spararo Dutturi

LINEN: Joan D'Souza; End of Month: Maureen Richardson

PULPIT POINTS 4-November

- East meets West: Adoration under the stars
- Red is for the persecuted
- North Bondi man is NRL teacher of the year
- Sinister schools agenda: Pat Byrne
- Movie review: Halloween
- Pope's new book

PARISH BIBLE STUDY:

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible - Every Monday evening until 3 December from 7pm to 8.30pm

This course has been very highly regarded and is led by Charbel Raish (Parousia Media director).

Make sense of the Bible and see how it relates to your everyday life, Discover the remarkable connections between the Old and New Testaments and See how the sacraments, the Church and our entire Catholic Faith is rooted in Scripture. Please text Elsa 0433914230 or just show up at 7pm this Monday night. Cost: Free or \$25 for study guide.

WHEN: Monday nights from 22 October to 3 December 7-8:30pm

ALTARATION 5-week course on The Mass

When: Monday from 9:15-10:15 (Ends on 19 November)

Where: St Michael's School Multipurpose Room

Cost: Free with Tea and coffee provided.

More info: contact Elsa elsa.manu@syd.catholic.edu.au OR 0433 014 230

Sydney Catholic Men's Ministry

Network Meeting: Calling all Men! We all need the supportive brotherhood of other good men. Come and find out more about men's ministry in the Sydney Archdiocese. Hosted by Bishop Richard Umbers, speakers include Tristan Ross, former lieutenant in the Army and Ben Galea from Young Men of God. Friday night November 23, 6.30pm Mass, 7.30pm Dinner, 8.30pm Presentations. St. Paul of the Cross Parish, 532 New Canterbury Rd, Dulwich Hill. Register: www.trybooking.com/431767 More Info: christopher.gordon@sydneycatholic.org

Guest Speaker at St Kevin's Church Eastwood on 15 November at 7pm

Talk titled: **Grace before Meals: Recipes and Inspirations for Family Meals and Life.**

Fr Leo Patalinghug is a young Filipino-American priest of the Community of Voluntas Dei. He is a priest, a TV chef, has a black belt and is a break-dancer. He has a large international following and will share tools to bring families back to the dinner table to be nourished- body, mind, and soul. You will laugh and be inspired from beginning to end. Register via email to alison.khalil@syd.catholic.edu.au

November Mass Offering Envelopes

All Masses during November are offered for the holy souls. Please submit November Mass Offerings with names of deceased relatives on any of the collections or to the parish office. 'It is a good and holy thing to pray for the dead.'



St Michael's Church, Meadowbank

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

NEXT WEEKEND

Roster: 10 / 11 November 2018

Time	Acolyte	Readers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
6:00PM Vigil	Jim Lemcke	Faby Lobo Colleen Maguire	1 Paul Thambyah 2 Liz Paricka 3 Mark Pereira 4 Prescilla Luzon 5 Pam Keenan 6 Joseph J K
8:00AM	Meynardo Talisayon	Gregory Cheng Jo-anne Peters	Joseph D'Mello Judith Orrock
10:00AM	John Fillion	Michelle Stait Nelyn Gasataya	1 Maureen Richardson 2 Celeste Villarente 3 Connie Buttigieg 4 Darryle Fernandes 5 Joel Tabuso 6 Lala Tabuso

Liturgy for this week (5 - 11 November 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 Service:** Monday

9:15am - **Weekday Mass:** Tuesday to Saturday

Weekend Masses:

6:00pm - Saturday Vigil Mass

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

Parish Morning Tea for November: Please

join us after the 10am Mass on 4 November for a Parish Morning Tea in the Fr Bush Parish Hall. The Catechists will be hosting.

MOWING HELP NEEDED.

The mowing team is desperately in need of assistance. Two members have moved away and we are short-handed. Mowing maintenance takes about 2-3 hours one day a month. If you can help contact Don Smith 0414 748 302

The Piety Stall will be open after all masses this weekend.

ADVENT CALENDARS are NOW ON SALE.

Parish Annual Volunteers Luncheon

Thank you to all contributors to the Parish. It has been a great year. Save the date on **Sunday November 25 @ 11.30am** in the Fr Bush Parish Hall. The Parish will provide the lunch and drinks, and attendees will be asked to bring desserts. Please Register on the tables at the entrance to the church or by contacting the parish office.



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.

Saints of the Week

Fri 9 DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN

BASILICA Feast

Sat 10 Saint Leo the Great, Pope, Doctor

ROSARY AT ANZAC PARK: We

invite everyone to join the Rosary on Saturday, 10th November at Anzac Park, West Ryde at 2:00-3:00pm for Our Lady of the Southern Cross. Rain or shine the event will go on. Any queries ring Annette Tidy at 98076892.

Christmas Mass Times:

24/25 December

Children's Mass with Pageant:

24 December at 5pm

Parish Mass: 8pm (followed by drinks and cake in the hall).

Midnight Mass: 12am with carols from 11.30pm

Christmas Day Mass: 9.15am

Please spread the invitations far and wide.

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.

CHURCH CLEANING, ALTAR LINEN AND FLOWERS.

We need more helpers to arrange flowers, cleaning and vacuuming of the church. A donation is also appreciated for the ongoing cleaning and flowers for the church. There is a box at the back and side doors of the church. Contact Marie Bennett on 0447 830 551.

Are you new to the Parish?

Welcome. It is great to have you here. Please make our parish your home. Feel welcome to share experiences and ministries from your previous parish with our community. Please complete a parish registration & census form at the office. Consider volunteering and joining the parish planned giving.