



Catholic Parish of Baulkham Hills

Our Lady of Lourdes Church

1 Canyon Rd Baulkham Hills NSW 2153
Telephone 02 9639 8385 • olol@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au
www.parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au

YEAR A

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 22ND JANUARY 2023

Parish Information

St Michael's Church

1 Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills

Saturday Vigil 5.30pm,
Sunday 8.00am, 10.00am, & 6.00pm

Weekday Masses

Monday ~ Friday 9.15am
Saturday 9.00am

Our Lady of Lourdes Church

1 Canyon Rd,
Baulkham Hills

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm
Sunday 9.30am

Weekday Masses

Wed - Friday 9.30am

Adoration of Blessed Eucharist

Friday 8.50am
Prior to 9.30am Mass

1st Friday of Month

Mass of Blessing of the Sick

Reconciliation - OLOL

Saturday 5.00-5.30pm

Reconciliation - St Michael's

Saturday 9.30-10.30am
Saturday 4.45-5.15pm

Baptism

By Appointment
4th Saturday of the month at 11.15am

Our Lady of Lourdes Office

Mon/Tues 1.30pm - 4.30pm
Wed - Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm

Parish Priest

Fr Wim Hoekstra

Assistant Priest:

Fr Jessie Balorio
Fr Chadi Ibrahim SDB

Deacons:

Rev. Roque Dias

Parish Secretary

Louise Ryall

Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School Principal

Mr. Steven Haskins

Conversion of Heart – Pope Francis

~ 22 January 2017



Today's Gospel passage (cf. Mt 4:12-23) recounts the beginning of Jesus' preaching in Galilee. He leaves Nazareth, a village in the mountains, and settles in Capernaum, an important centre on the lakeshore, inhabited largely by pagans, a crossroads between the Mediterranean and the Mesopotamian inland. This choice indicates that the beneficiaries of his preaching are not only his compatriots, but those who arrive in the cosmopolitan "Galilee of the Gentiles" (v.

15, cf. Is 9:1): that's what it was called. Seen from the capital Jerusalem, that land is geographically peripheral and religiously impure because it was full of pagans, having mixed with those who did not belong to Israel. Great things were not expected from Galilee for the history of salvation. Instead, right from there — precisely from there — radiated that "light" on which we meditated in recent Sundays: the light of Christ. It radiated right from the periphery.

Jesus' message reiterates that of the Baptist, announcing the "kingdom of heaven" (v. 17). This kingdom does not involve the establishment of a new political power, but the fulfilment of the Covenant between God and his people, which inaugurates a season of peace and justice. To secure this covenant pact with God, each one is called to convert, transforming his or her way of thinking and living. This is important: converting is not only changing the way of life but also the way of thinking. It is a transformation of thought. It is not a matter of changing clothing, but habits! What differentiates Jesus from John the Baptist is the way and manner.

Jesus chooses to be an itinerant prophet. He doesn't stay and await people but goes to encounter them. Jesus is always on the road! His first missionary appearances take place along the lake of Galilee, in contact with the multitude, in particular with the fishermen. There Jesus does not only proclaim the coming of the kingdom of God, but seeks companions to join in his salvific mission. In this very place he meets two pairs of brothers: Simon and Andrew, James and John. He calls them, saying: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (v. 19). The call reaches them in the middle of their daily activity: the Lord reveals himself to us not in an extraordinary or impressive way, but in the everyday circumstances of our life. There, we must discover the Lord; and there, he reveals himself, makes his love felt in our heart; and there — with this dialogue with him in the everyday circumstances of life — he changes our heart. The response of the four fishermen is immediate and willing: "Immediately they left their nets and followed him" (v. 20). We know, in fact, that they were disciples of the Baptist and that, thanks to his witness, they had already begun to believe in Jesus as the Messiah (cf. Jn 1:35-42).

We, today's Christians, have the joy of proclaiming and witnessing to our faith because there was that first announcement, because there were those humble and courageous men who responded generously to Jesus' call. On the shores of the lake, in an inconceivable land, the first community of disciples of Christ was born. May the knowledge of these beginnings give rise in us to the desire to bear Jesus' word, love and tenderness in every context, even the most difficult and resistant. To carry the Word to all the peripheries! All the spaces of human living are soil on which to cast the seeds of the Gospel, so they may bear the fruit of salvation.

May the Virgin Mary help us with her maternal intercession to respond joyfully to Jesus' call, and to place ourselves at the service of the Kingdom of God.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Entrance Antiphon:

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

Is 8:23 – 9:3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.
You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase,
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor,
these you break as on the day of Midian.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
Before whom shall I shrink? **(R.)**
2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple. **(R.)**
3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Cor 1:110-13, 17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you.

What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 4:12-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,
Galilee of the nations!

The people that lived in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death
a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him. Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

Communion Antiphon

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

REFLECTION FOR THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULIAN McDONALD CFC AO

"From what Chloe's people have been telling me, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul who was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?"

1 Corinthians 1: 10-13, 17

If anyone unfamiliar with the contemporary Catholic Church were to stop to take a close look at it, he or she might well conclude that it is a community moving in the direction of disintegration, for no other reason than a fair number of its members seem to have developed factionalism and polarisation into an artform. There are times when the Catholic Church, instead of looking like a united community of followers of Jesus Christ, looks more like a ragtag conglomeration of groups at loggerheads with one another. It's a bit like the Church of Corinth to which Paul was writing in today's second reading.

Those of us on the inside, still doing our best to be loyal to the Jesus in whose footsteps we try to walk, are aware of some of the slogans and catch-cries: 'Pope Francis is far too liberal!', 'Vatican II led us astray', 'We're for the Latin Mass', 'We want clear, moral guidelines for life', 'Religious Education has to get back to basics'.

In a large institution like the Catholic Church, there will always be differences and even confusion which easily lead to the formation of factions, each of which claims to be right. The casualty of factionalism is loss of the skill or capacity to deal creatively and harmoniously with difference. An outcome of this is that groups and factions slip into giving themselves and others labels that divide and distance.

At the very beginning of his appeal to the Church community of Corinth to settle their differences, Paul wrote: "Instead of disagreeing among yourselves, I appeal to you to be united again in your belief and practice" (1 Corinthians 1: 10). Being united is not Paul's prescription for uniformity. We have only to recall what he had written to the Church of Rome. In that letter he made a point of standing up for diversity, justifying it with the assurance that God deals differently with different people, that people have grown into faith from different starting points and that their consciences have been shaped in different ways. Paul was not promoting relativism but rather recognising that we all grow differently and are worthy of the same respect from one another that God extends to us: "So, let's stop passing judgement on one another", he wrote (Romans 14: 13). Later, in Chapter 15, following his urging the members of the Roman community to respect those who had joined them from Gentile backgrounds, he urged: "May the God who gives you endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind towards each other as Christ Jesus had for you" (Romans 15:5). In order for us to live in unity, it is vital that we recognise that Jesus accepts us as individuals who are different from one another yet striving to walk in his footsteps but not in lockstep uniformity.

What unites us is the unconditional love, compassion, mercy and forgiveness of God held out to us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died for us. Jesus began his public ministry by proclaiming the advent of the kingdom of God, inviting us to reflect in our lives something of the compassion, love, forgiveness and mercy which he embodied. He reinforced the call of the Baptist for our need of a change of mind and heart. One-line slogans and recipes held out by factions smack of elitism, status and power, and forget that we are all tainted by sin and in need of conversion and forgiveness.

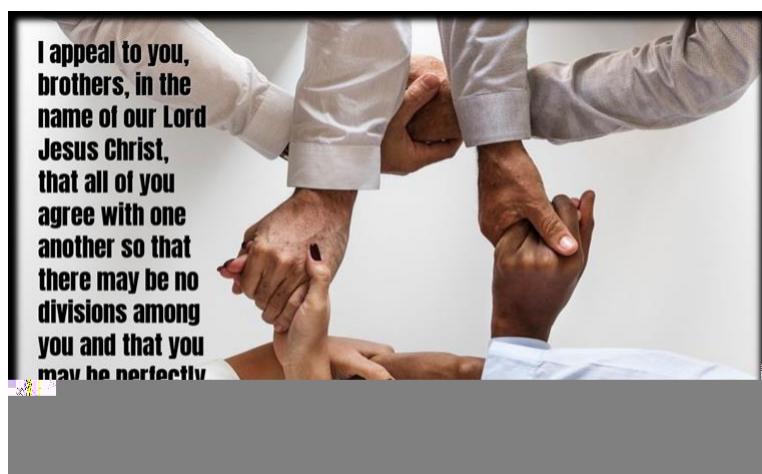
Paul's appeal in today's second reading to rid our community of factions and to accept diversity complements today's gospel-reading account of Jesus choosing his apostles. They were a group with a mixture of similarities and differences. Some, we know, knew the hard life of fishermen, one was a tax-collector of doubtful reputation. Peter revealed himself as impetuous, John was gentler and sensitive, James turned out to be severe and ambitious. They all slipped into being competitive. Jesus himself was unable to rid them of the human differences with which they all struggled. After he left them at the time of his ascension, tensions, factions and prejudices among them began to be more evident.

So, it need be no surprise that we, too, have to deal with similar issues. What is disappointing is the fact that, all too often, we deal with difference by telling those who don't agree with us that they are in error. In so doing, we close off the possibility of collaboration, of working together to serve others in need.

Again and again, we have encountered communities establishing partisan connections with critics of Pope Francis, with an Archbishop Vigano who called for the resignation of Pope Francis, with a Lefebvre who separated himself and his supporters from mainline Catholicism, with a Church community that is sometimes opposed to healthy change.

The call of Jesus to us all to be "fishers of people" is a call to be open to engaging and meeting with groups and individuals who differ from us, both within and beyond the Christian community. A world, and, indeed, a Church, in need of peace, justice and reconciliation surely have no need of competing factions intent on demonstrating that those who don't agree with them are in error. As followers of Jesus, we surely have a responsibility to invest ourselves in the kind of dialogue needed to eliminate factions that divide and distance. Jesus himself made that clear when John complained about a man he saw as a competitor: "Master", said John, "we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we tried to stop him because he does not accompany us." "Don't stop him", Jesus replied, "for whoever is not against you is with you" (Luke 9:50).

Diversity in any group is surely a blessing with the potential to enrich all its members. It is up to all of us who seek to follow Jesus and his Gospel to cooperate with one another to direct the diversity of our personalities, gifts and talents to the good of all whom Jesus calls us to serve. There is no place in the kingdom of God for polarisation and faction among those who long to be part of that kingdom. If we really long to be part of the kingdom of God, we might become less afraid of the Gospel call to a change of mind and heart.



Prayer Requests



Please remember in your prayers the relatives and friends of our Parish Communities for whom prayers have been requested:

Recently Deceased: Felix Nazareth, Cardinal George Pell

Anniversaries: Nicola De Lutiis, Theodorus Agus Prawiro, Augustus Anthony Roche

Our sick relatives & friends

Eulalia Bare Sabater, Julian & Max Epondulan (Premature twins) Mabel Yabsley, Maria Roche, Benett Perera, Joel Uvero (Lourdes Subijano's brother), Melba Oki, David Wadick, Peter Dawson, Harry Williams, Peter Campbell, Philippa Ford, Honor Rosario, Lavinia Costello, Pablo Herrara, Anne Torina Wayman, Michael Dawborne, Holly Burns, Evan Garcia, Brian Roche, Warren Moses, Carmel Willis, Matthew Burke, Julie Bracks, Roumanos Nehme, Deba Beani, Edward Beani, Richard Meagher and all who are ill or struggling as a result of the Coronavirus throughout the world.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in Our Lady of Lourdes Church each Friday morning prior to the 9.30am Parish Mass. Adoration commences at 8.50am.

Are you Coeliac/Gluten Intolerant?



If you are Coeliac or Gluten- Intolerant we have low gluten (negligible) hosts to enable you to receive the Body of Christ in Communion.

Please speak to Father or the Acolyte before Mass. Please go to the priest celebrating Mass to receive Communion.



Keeping You Connected

The following links will take you to the live-streaming of Saturday evening Mass:

21st January 2023, "Third Sunday in Ordinary Time"
..... <https://youtu.be/PKzV07XjDgo>

28th January 2023, "Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time"
..... <https://youtu.be/Rcb8bnsLizw>



RCIA is more than a program of instruction.
It is a process of conversion.

RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

A life changing opportunity for those considering becoming a Catholic Christian.

The journey begins on 8th January 2023
in the Parish of Baulkham Hills.

If you or anyone you know is interested
please contact Monica 9639 0598, Louise 9639
8385

or Brad 0418 619 510 by 19 December 2022.

Monica & Brad

*It begins with an awareness...or stirring
in one's heart for something more.*

*It could be a curiosity or a sense of longing for
fulfilment.*

*Maybe it's God calling you to explore the life
of faith, love, and justice within the
community*

of the Catholic Church.



Thank you & God Bless

This weekend we offer our sincere thanks to Claire Vella who has been an extraordinarily active member of our Faith Community at Our Lady of Lourdes for many, many years. Claire has been enthusiastically involved as a Catechist, Children's Liturgy facilitator, Reader, Musician/singer, Extraordinary Minister of Communion both at church and to Aminya.

What a blessing Claire has been to our community! She has always answered the call for assistance with a spirit of generosity and joyfulness and we now wish her every blessing and happiness and say "Thank You" for her simple but important presence in our midst.

Morning Tea ~ Welcome to the New Year

Following 9.30am Mass, we welcome you to join us for a cuppa and chat to give us an opportunity to get to know each other a little better.

Our regular morning tea is held on the 3rd Sunday of the month but because we farewelled Fr Andrew with morning tea, this month we will hold it on the 4th Sunday and we invite you join us. Come along & meet other members of our parish community & enjoy each other's company.

Please bring a small plate to share



PARISH NOTES - FRIDAY JANUARY 20

A COVID SAFE PARISH

Dear Parishioners,

We welcome Fr Chadi Ibrahim SDB to our parish as assistant priest.

Since his arrival in Australia, he has worked at Parramatta and Blacktown, and we now wish him a happy pastoral ministry here in the Hills.

He'll write a little bit about himself for next week's bulletin. I'm sure you'll make him welcome.

AUSTRALIA DAY – THURSDAY 26 JANUARY

Masses will be as usual on this public holiday - at 9.15am at St Michael's and 9.30am at Our Lady of Lourdes.

MASS LINK

The Mass link for this Saturday for Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A (Sat 6pm) and available on YOUTUBE after that is <https://youtu.be/PKzV07XjDgo> Please copy the link into browser if it does not immediately work.

Mass is live streamed on Saturday evening at 6pm from Our Lady of Lourdes, and available for viewing afterwards via the link. We are also using FACEBOOK links via the Parish of Baulkham Hills FACEBOOK page. Thank you to Jim and Brian for your help with this every week.

CARDINAL PELL – REQUIEM MASS AND BURIAL

A Pontifical Requiem Mass for Cardinal George Pell will be held at St Mary's Cathedral on Thursday, February 2, before a private burial in the cathedral's crypt, the Archdiocese of Sydney has announced.

Cardinal Pell's successor as Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP, will be the Principal Celebrant at the 11am Requiem Mass, following which the cardinal will be buried in a private ceremony in the St Mary's Cathedral crypt.

The Mass will be livestreamed on the St Mary's Cathedral You Tube Channel and via the link <https://youtu.be/fgL7QnnxN1o>

POPE FRANCIS AND THE PASSION FOR EVANGELISATION

Pope Francis has commenced a new catechesis on the theme of The Passion For Evangelization: The Apostolic Zeal Of The Believer. This time the theme is The call to the apostolate. The following is a summary of the catechesis. The full text follows these notices.

Dear brothers and sisters: Today we begin a new series of catecheses on apostolic zeal. Christ's Church, founded on the apostles, was born with missionary zeal, sent by the Holy Spirit to radiate the light of Christ to every land and people. Apostolic zeal is the very oxygen of our Christian life and an index of the Church's spiritual health. Drawing upon the Scriptures and the Church's living tradition, we can find a first, eloquent example of this in the calling of the apostle Matthew. The Gospel tells us that Jesus "saw" this despised tax collector; he looked at Matthew with eyes of mercy and called him to become his disciple. Matthew then "got up

and followed him"; now a changed man, he left behind his ill-gotten gains and embraced, with Jesus, a life of discipleship and service to others. Significantly, the first thing Matthew did was bring Jesus to a dinner with many other "tax collectors and sinners". He went back to where he lived and introduced Jesus to others. This can be our primary lesson in apostolic zeal; in the words of the late Pope Benedict, it proclaims Jesus not by proselytism but by attraction, out of a joyful desire to share with others the loving gaze of Jesus and the call to follow him as his disciples.

THE DECEASED

Please remember those for whom prayers have been requested, especially for:

Recently deceased: Dionisia Banayos, Maria Malinis Bartolome

Anniversaries: Nicola De Lutiis, Augustus Anthony Roche, Paula Dazo Erana, Evelyn Parra, Emerita Parra

LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES 2023

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

We would really like to see many of our parishioners undertaking this course, as it will help us. Please consider.

Fr Wim

SUPPORT DONATIONS

Although the collections are now back, we appreciate your support, especially those who do not yet feel comfortable returning to Church. To assist with the proper recording for the second collection, please include your envelope number if you have one.

For EFT to the First Collection - supporting the priests

BSB 067 950

Account No 000004265

Account Name Diocesan Clergy

Reference 6001 your name

For EFT to the second (envelope and loose) Collection – for support of the Parish,

BSB 067 950

Account No 000000214

Account Name St Michael's Baulkham Hills

Reference Envelope Number or Your Name

If you wish to pay by credit card, please use this link <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/stmichaelsparishbaulkhamhills>



SCAN ME

Liturgical Ministry 2023

Are you interested in Parish Ministry ???

The following courses are once again offered by the Parramatta Office for Worship, for Formation in Liturgical Ministry. Each component is completed over two Monday nights from 7.00pm to 9.00pm at Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown.

Your formation begins with 1 week – *Introductory Session* on **20th February**. On completion of this introductory week, the participant continues with the two-week course of choice outlined below:

27 th February	Ministry of the Word – Session 1
6 th March	Ministry of the Word – Session 2
13 th March	Extraordinary Minister of Communion
20 th March	Extraordinary Minister of Communion
27 th March	Communion of the Sick & Dying*
24 th April	Ministers at the Altar**
1 st May	Ministers at the Altar**

**If you wish to complete Communion to the Sick and Dying you must attend Minister of Communion first.*

***If you would like to become a Minister at the Altar, and are new to ministry, you must attend all 8 Sessions.*

We would love to see some new faces involved in our ministries. Please speak to Fr. Wim or contact the Parish Office if you are interested in any of these Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses.

Registration Forms are available at the back of the church.



Australia Day

Mass on Australia Day (Thursday) will be celebrated at:

Our Lady of Lourdes Church at 9.30am
St Michael's Church at 9.15am

Why not come along and give thanks to our God for the wonderful country in which we have been blessed to live and pray for the future peace and wellbeing of our people.

Sr Nathalie Becquart Sydney Public Forum and Lecture: 3rd February



Sr Nathalie Becquart XMCJ, the Vatican's most influential female, is coming to Australia for a whirlwind tour in February 2023. Sr Nathalie will be in Sydney on Friday 3rd February, presenting at a public forum at 4.00pm and a public lecture at 7.00pm, both held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Places are limited, so please register via <https://parracatholic.org/srnathalie/>.

Faith & Formation Session for Catholic Healthcare Professionals:



~ 11th February

You are invited to a faith and formation session for those who work and volunteer in the health care ministries of the Church on Saturday 11 February, from 9am to 10.30am at the All Saints of Africa Centre, 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown. Join us afterwards for the World Day of the Sick Mass at St Patrick's Church Blacktown. Please RSVP for catering purposes by 6 February to met@parracatholic.org For enquiries, please contact Michael.Tan@parracatholic.org

Liturgical Ministry Co-ordinator – Help Needed

As we commence a New Year, Our Lady of Lourdes is currently in need of a Liturgy co-ordinator whose main responsibility is to prepare the Liturgical Ministry Rosters for our faith community.

This involves the preparation of the Roster for our ministers which then works via an email circle with ministry team members making contact with each other, when change is necessary.

If you would be interested in assisting with this important task, would you kindly speak to Father or contact OLOL Office:

Louise@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au

Celebration	Date	Mass	Acolyte	Reader 1	Reader 2	EMC
3 rd Sunday in Ord Time	21 st January	Saturday Vigil 6.00pm	John Cavalieri	Zelda Booth	Madeline Leslie	Sonia Tannous
	22 nd January	Sunday 9.30am	Anthony Pope	Chris Luther	Nicole Christoy	Madeleine Menasse Louise Ryall
Australia Day	26 th January	Thursday 9.30am	John O'Grady	Lourdes Subijano	Volunteer	Volunteer
4 th Sunday in Ord time	28 th January	Saturday Vigil 6.00pm	John Vassett	Colette Rajan	Jane Wilks	Nicole Whittaker
	29 th January	Sunday 9.30am	Anthony Pope	Marietta Guillema	Michael Guillema	Janina Starkey Kay Bull

Groups & Ministry at Our Lady of Lourdes

As we come together again with a new hope, our Parish community would like to welcome you and invite you to think about becoming more involved in the Groups and Ministries that add to the Spirit and wellbeing of Our Lady of Lourdes community.

A New Year - A fresh start!

These include:

- Senior Server
- Readers
- Extraordinary Minister of Communion
- Junior Altar Server
- Audio Visual operator
- Children's Liturgy
- Musician/Choir
- Liturgy Group
- SRE – Catechist in State Schools
- Pastoral Visitation to the Elderly/Sick
- Altar Society – those who generously prepare the Altar and Flowers each week. This works on a roster system where you would be required approx. once every 8 weeks - feel free to gather some friends to make a small group or join one of our existing groups.
- Hospitality is usually held on the 3rd Sunday of each month.
- Blokes Shed – meet each Tuesday morning behind the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre for a chat and a cuppa. New members are always welcome.
- Catholic Women's League – meet on the 3rd Friday of each month. New members are always welcome.

Perhaps you are new to our Parish community and are looking for a way to meet people or now have some spare time and are now ready to help out in some capacity. If so, you would be most welcome. As you can see there are many ways for you to become a more active member of our parish community and make new friends. Please speak to Fr. Wim, contact Louise at OLOL Parish Office on 9639 8385 or email Louise@parishofbaukhamhills.org.au

OLOL Blokes Shed



**OUR LADY OF LOURDES
1 CANYON ROAD
BAULKHAM HILLS**
(Behind Parish Office)

The aim of the OLOL Blokes Shed is to promote the Social, Health and Spiritual wellbeing of the male members of our parish community. It provides an opportunity for men of the Parish to come together on a regular basis to spend time with other blokes with similar values. Discussion of current topics takes place over a mug of coffee or cuppa tea. Why not join us on Tuesday morning?

OLOL Pastoral Group Initiative – Arrupe

~ Jesuit Refugee Service



Thank you to those who continue to provide regularly for this cause by placing one or two items in the boxes provided at the back of our church.

This is a Pastoral initiative of Our Lady of Lourdes, and we are still collecting Personal Hygiene items such toiletries, toothbrushes, sanitary pads, nappies and other items that may assist those who have come as refugees and asylum seekers, to make their home in Australia.

Arrupe Foodbank



The foodbank is always in need of non-perishable items. All we ask is that you place one or two items in your shopping trolley when you do your regular shop. We are continuing with this practice as there are still many people in need of our continued assistance and support.

JRS is most grateful for all donations they receive, but it would be helpful if we can do that little bit extra to assist with a difficult situation for those in dire need.

Basmati Rice

Tuna in Oil

Cooking Oil

Tinned Tomatoes

Long Life Milk

Pasta or Spaghetti

This is a list of staple goods that the centre's clients need on a regular basis – no matter what time of year.

Your donations can be left in the boxes provided at the church doors or dropped off at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre.

Children's Liturgy - Can you help in 2023???



Due to COVID, it has been some time since we have offered our Children's Liturgy Program at Our Lady of Lourdes.

This Liturgy is for children of school age and is held during 9.30am Mass each Sunday, during school terms. The children listen to the Word of God at their own level and participate in different discussion/activities focusing on the message of the Gospel.

We hope to re-commence our Children's Liturgy program with the commencement of the School Term in 2023.

Would you like to join this Team? Contact the Parish Office on 9639 8385 or email olol@parishofbaukhamhills.org.au

Catechesis of the Holy Father

POPE FRANCIS AND THE PASSION FOR EVANGELISATION

– The call to the apostolate



Biblical text – Matt 9.9-13

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Today we begin a new cycle of catechesis, dedicated to an urgent and decisive theme for Christian life: *the passion for evangelisation*, that is, *apostolic zeal*. It is a vital dimension for the Church: the community of Jesus' disciples is in fact born apostolic, born missionary, not proselytizing. And from the start we have to distinguish: being missionary, being apostolic, evangelizing, is not the same as proselytizing, they have nothing to do with one another. It concerns a vital dimension for the Church. The community of the disciples of Jesus is born apostolic and missionary. The Holy Spirit moulds it outwardly – the Church moves out, that goes out – so that it is not closed in on itself, but turned outward, a contagious witness of Jesus – the faith is also contagious – reaching out to radiate His light to the ends of the earth. It can happen, however, that the apostolic ardour, the desire to reach others with the good news of the Gospel, diminishes, becomes tepid. Sometimes it seems to be eclipsed; there are "closed-off" Christians, they don't think of others. But when Christian life loses sight of the horizon of evangelization, horizon of proclamation, it grows sick: it closes in on itself, becomes self-referential, it becomes atrophied. Without apostolic zeal, faith withers. Mission, on the other hand, is the oxygen of Christian life: it invigorates and purifies it. Let us embark, then, on a process of rediscovering the evangelising passion, starting with the Scriptures and the Church's teaching, to draw apostolic zeal from its sources. Then we will approach some living sources, some witnesses who have rekindled within the Church the passion for the Gospel, so that they may help us to rekindle the fire that the Holy Spirit wants to keep burning within us.

And today I would like to begin with a somewhat emblematic Gospel episode; we [just] heard it, the call of the Apostle Matthew. And he himself tells the story in his Gospel, which we have heard (cf. 9:9-13).

It all begins with Jesus, who, the text says, "sees a man." Few people saw Matthew as he was: they knew him as the one who was "sitting at the tax booth" (v. 9). He was, in fact, a tax collector: that is, someone who collected taxes on behalf of the Roman empire that occupied Palestine. In other words, he was a collaborator, a traitor to the people. We can imagine the contempt the people felt for him: he was a "publican," as they were called. But in the eyes of Jesus, Matthew is a man, with both his miseries and his greatness. Be aware of this: Jesus does not stop at the adjective – Jesus always seeks out the noun. "This person is a sinner, he's that kind of person..." these are adjectives: Jesus goes to the person, to the heart, "This is a person, this is a man, this is a woman." Jesus goes to the subject, the noun, never the adjective, He leaves aside the adjectives. And while there is distance between Matthew and his people – because they see the adjective, "publican" – Jesus draws near to Him, because *every man* is loved by God. "Even this wretch?" Yes, even this wretch. Indeed, the Gospel says He came for this very wretch: "I have come for sinners, not for the righteous." This *gaze* of Jesus is really beautiful. It sees the other, whoever he may be, as the recipient of love, is the beginning of the evangelising passion. Everything starts from this gaze, which we learn from Jesus.

We can ask ourselves: how do we look upon others? How often do we see their faults and not their needs; how often do we label people according to what they do or what they think! Even as Christians we say to ourselves: is he one of us or not? This is not the gaze of Jesus: He always looks at each person with mercy and indeed with predilection. And Christians are called to do as Christ did, looking like Him especially at the so-called “distant ones.” Indeed, Matthew's account of the call ends with Jesus saying, “I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners” (v. 13). And if any one of us considers themselves righteous, Jesus is far away. He draws near to our limitations, to our miseries, to heal them.

It all starts, then, with the gaze of Jesus. “He sees a man,” Matthew. This is followed - second step - by *a movement*. First the gaze: Jesus sees. Second, movement. Matthew was sitting at the tax office; Jesus said to him: “Follow me.” And “he rose and followed Him” (v. 9). We note that the text emphasises that “he rose.” Why is this detail so important? Because in those days he who was seated had authority over the others, who stood before him to listen to him or, as in that case, to pay tribute. He who sat, in short, had power. The first thing Jesus does is to detach Matthew from power: from sitting to receive others, He sets him in motion towards others, not receiving, no: he goes out to others. He makes him leave a position of supremacy in order to put him on an equal footing with his brothers and sisters and open to him *the horizons of service*. This is what Christ does, and this is fundamental for Christians: do we disciples of Jesus, we Church, sit around waiting for people to come, or do we know how to get up, to set out with others, to seek others? Saying, “But let them come to me, I am here, let them come,” is a non-Christian position. No, you go to seek them out, you take the first step.

A look – Jesus sees; a movement – “he rose”; and third, *a destination*. After getting up and following Jesus, where will Matthew go? We might imagine that, having changed the man's life, the Master would lead him to new encounters, new spiritual experiences. No, or at least not immediately. First, Jesus goes to his home; there Matthew prepares “a great feast” for Him, in which “a large crowd of tax collectors” – that is, people like him – takes part (Lk 5:20). Matthew returns to his environment, but he returns there changed and with Jesus. His apostolic zeal does not begin in a new, pure, place, an ideal place, far away, but instead he begins there where he lives, with the people he knows. Here is the message for us: we do not have to wait until we are perfect and have come a long way following Jesus to bear witness to Him, no. Our proclamation begins today, there where we live. And it does not begin by trying to convince others, no, not to convince: by bearing every day to the beauty of the Love that has looked upon us and lifted us up. And it is this beauty, communicating this beauty that will convince people – not communicating ourselves but the Lord Himself. We are the ones who proclaim the Lord, we don't proclaim ourselves, we don't proclaim a political party, an ideology. No: we proclaim Jesus. We need to put Jesus in contact with the people, without convincing them but allowing the Lord do the convincing. For as Pope Benedict taught us, “The Church does not engage in proselytism. Instead, she grows by ‘attraction’” ([Homily at the Mass for the Inauguration of the Fifth General Conference of the Bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean, Aparecida, 13 May 2007](#)). Don't forget this: when you see Christians proselytising, making a list of people to come... these are not Christians, they are pagans disguised as Christians, but the heart is pagan. The Church grows not by proselytism, it grows by attraction.

I remember once, in a hospital in Buenos Aires, the women religious who worked there left because they were too few, and they couldn't run the hospital. And a community of sisters from Korea came. And they arrived, let's say on a Monday for example (I don't remember the day). They took possession of the sisters' house in the hospital and on Tuesday they came down to visit the sick in the hospital, but they didn't speak a word of Spanish. They only spoke Korean and the patients were happy, because they commented: “Well done! These nuns, bravo, bravo!” “But what did the sister say to you?” “Nothing, but with her gaze she spoke to me, they communicated Jesus,” not themselves, with their gaze, with their gestures. To communicate Jesus, not ourselves: This is attraction, the opposite of proselytism.

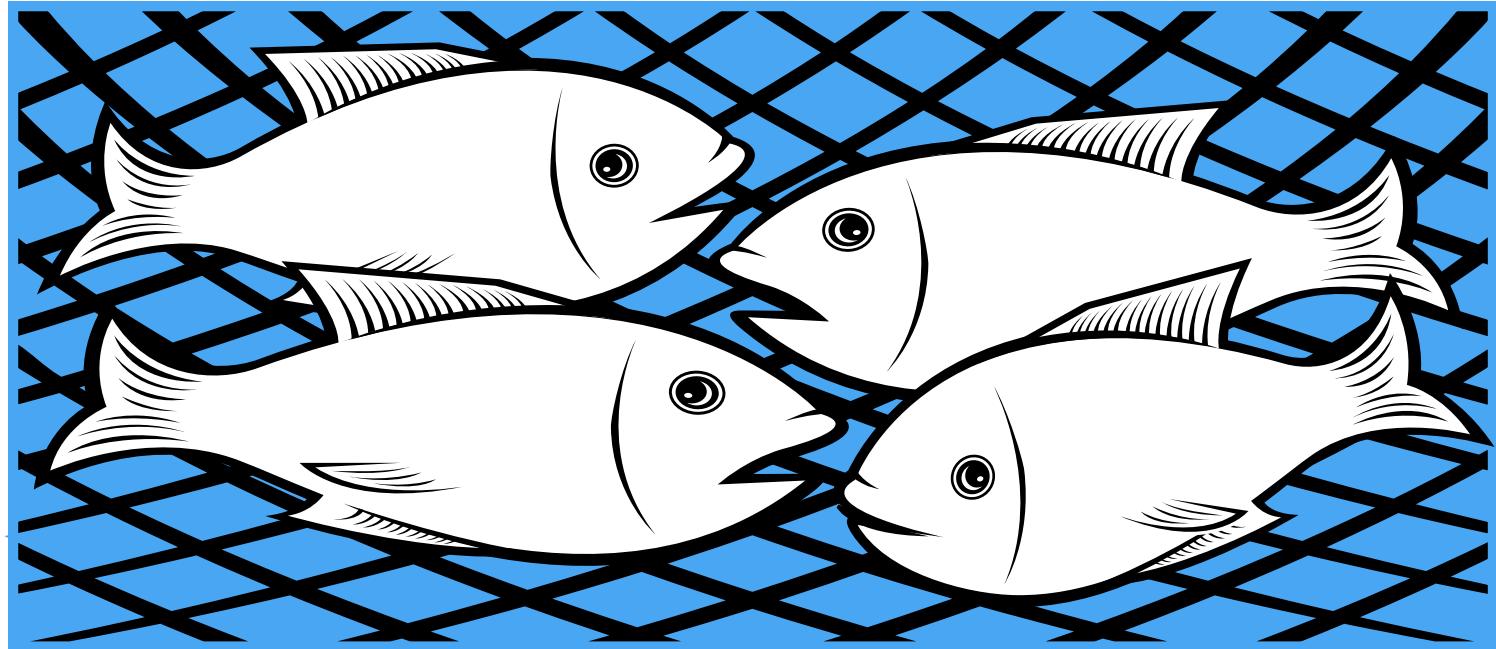
This attractive witness, this joyful witness is the goal to which Jesus leads us with His loving gaze and with the outgoing movement that His Spirit raises up in our hearts. And we can consider whether our gaze resembles that of Jesus, to attract the people, to bring them closer to the Church. Let's think about that.

Come With me!



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The disciples were called by Jesus to bring people to God. Inside the fish write down some of the ways that we can bring people to God in our everyday lives.



Write down the names of four people you know who follow Jesus. For each person give an example of how they follow Jesus.



Andrew



John



Peter



James

The first disciples to be called by Jesus were all fishermen. Connect each of these apostles with his correct description.

Also known as Simon, Jesus called him the “rock” upon which he would build the church. After the Ascension, he became a leader of the apostles and is regarded as the first pope.

He was the brother of John and one of the sons of Zebedee. He was chosen by Jesus to be one of the witnesses to the Transfiguration. He was the first of the apostles to be martyred.

He was one of the sons of Zebedee and a close friend of Jesus. He stood at the foot of the cross with the virgin Mary during Jesus’ crucifixion. One of the Gospels bears his name.

He was the brother of Peter and the first called by Jesus. He was martyred by being crucified on an ‘X’ shaped cross, which became his symbol. He is the patron saint of Scotland.

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

I will teach you how to bring people instead of fish

Mt 4:17-23

P E T E R F A Y W Q E D L R
L V G U U V T T K R S S J J

S H Z X C F I S H E R M E N
I Z D C S R H E A V E N W P

K M V H E A L G M K I W X N
K D L T V X R B G X V U T E

Q T V W D S J V Z J V A K T
V M A O O Y J U O U R K N S

Y N H P U Y K P W U E A H T
A P W M T B Z P C H P O J U

F A T H E R X P O N O U G H
H D R L U E Y U M J A M E S

O P S K J E U M E R I L R U
J D A W T W S E C L A K E Y

F C W G A L I L E E F I S H
F C W G A L I L E E F I S H

Try to find these words:

come

father

fish

fishermen

Galilee

heal

heaven

James

lake

nets

Peter

two



SAVE THE
DATE

A photograph showing several hands reaching towards each other, with one hand holding a small white jar of oil, representing the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

World Day of the Sick Mass

including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Saturday 11 February 2023

Mary Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown

**SAVE THE DATE – Diocesan World Day of the Sick Mass:
Saturday 11 February 2023**

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held on Saturday 11 February 2023 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown.

All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. More information to come.

RCIA is more than a
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It is a process of **conversion**.



RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

A life changing opportunity for those
considering becoming a Catholic Christian.

The journey begins on 8th January 2023
in the Parish of Baulkham Hills.

If you or anyone you know is interested please contact
Monica 9639 0598, Louise 9639 8385 or Brad 0418 619 510

Monica & Brad

*It begins with an awareness...or stirring
in one's heart for something more.*

*It could be a curiosity or a sense of longing for fulfilment.
Maybe it's God calling you to explore the life of faith, love,
and justice within the community of the Catholic Church.*



PARISH OF BAULKHAM HILLS

2023 Sacramental Programme Details for The Sacraments of Initiation and the Sacrament of Reconciliation for Children of Catechetical Age who have been baptised.

St Michael's Church ~ 1 Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills
Our Lady of Lourdes Church ~ 1 Canyon Road, Baulkham Hills

School Term 1/2 **Sacrament of Confirmation**

~ children must be 10.5 years before the celebration

Online Registration : Friday 17 February to Friday 3 March

Parents' Information Evening : Monday 6 or Tuesday 7 March

Celebration at St Michael's : Monday 8, Tuesday 9, Friday 12 May at 7.00pm

Celebration at Our Lady of Lourdes : Wednesday 10, Thursday 11 May at 7.00pm

Term 3 **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Online Registration : Friday 16 to Friday 30 June

Parents' Information Evening : Monday 17 or Tuesday 18 June

Celebration : Monday 21 to Friday 25 August
(venue, dates & times to be advised)

Term 4 **Sacrament of Eucharist**

~ children must be 8.5 years before the celebration

Online Registration : Friday 1 to Friday 15 September

Parents' Information Evening : Monday 18 or Tuesday 19 September

Celebration at St Michael's :

Friday 10 November / 17 November ~ 7.30pm,

Saturday 11 November / 18 November ~ 2.30pm

Sunday 12 November / 19 November ~ 12noon and 2.30pm

Celebration at Our Lady of Lourdes :

Friday 24 November ~ 7.30pm

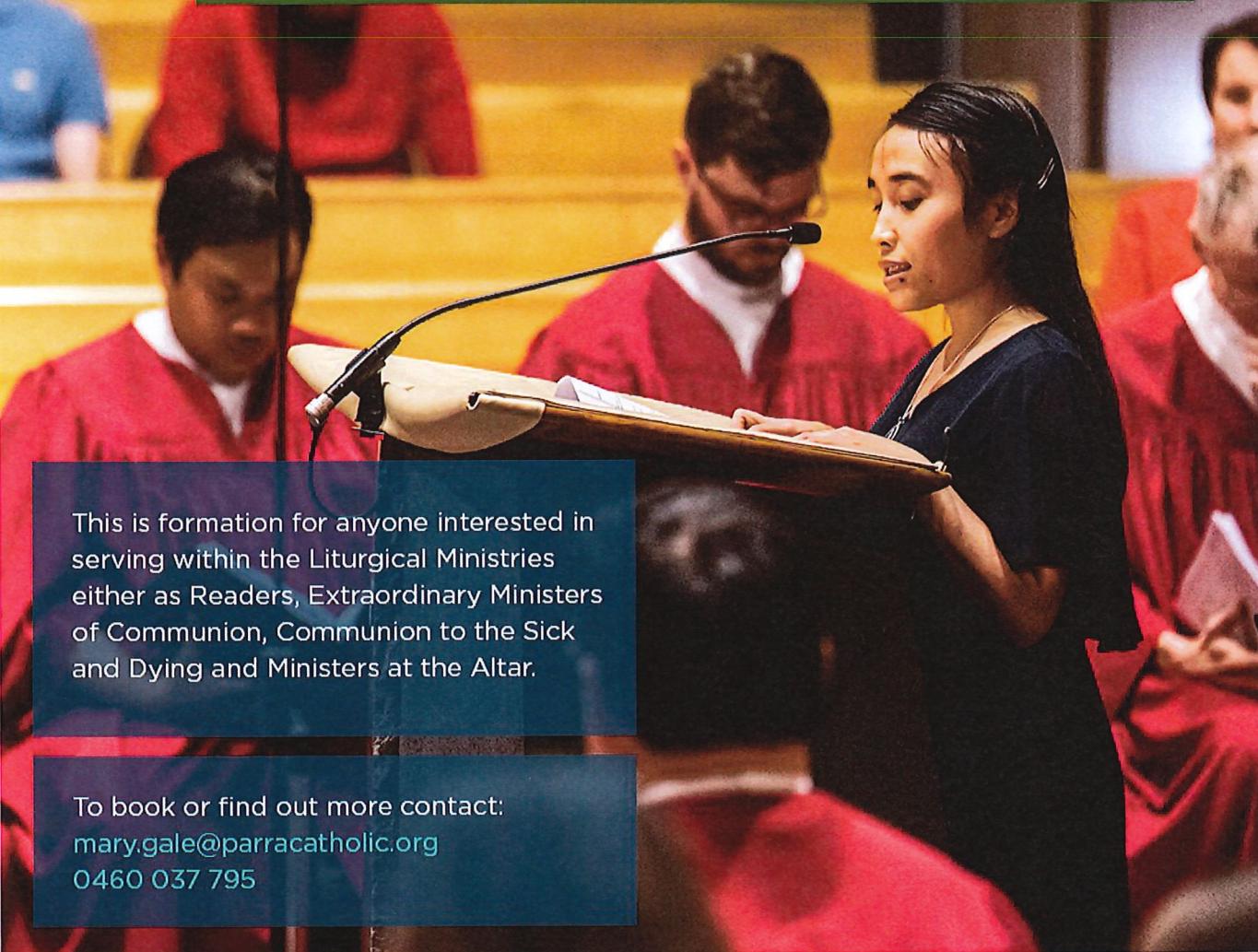
Saturday 25 November ~ 2.30pm

Sunday 26 November ~ 9.30am



Liturgical Ministry Course

Beginning February 2023



This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar.

To book or find out more contact:
mary.gale@parracatholic.org
0460 037 795

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2023

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence next year in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>



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DEAN OF ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, PARRAMATTA,

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RSVP: FRIDAY, 03 FEBRUARY

New Online Course for Parish & School Music Ministers!



LEARN + DISCOVER

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THE WHY, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE & HOW
OF MUSIC IN THE MASS

Music is an integral part of parish and school Masses and other liturgical celebrations. Many volunteers and professional musicians serving in this vital ministry have never had the opportunity to access quality formation on the purpose, place and principles of music in liturgy.

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Prepared and presented by expert professional liturgists and musicians, *Liturgy Brisbane's* new course, *Music Ministry in the Liturgy*, provides sound formation and practical guidelines for choosing and leading the liturgical song of the People of God.

Based in the *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, *Musicam Sacram*, and *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship*, course topics include:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ Introduction to Liturgy⇒ Vatican II & Liturgy⇒ Liturgical Participation⇒ Principles of Liturgical Ministry⇒ Music in the Mass⇒ Which parts do we sing?⇒ Four Judgments for Liturgical Music⇒ Choosing Repertoire | <ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ Who are the Ministers of Music?⇒ Choirs, Cantors & Instrumentalists⇒ Preparing Music Step-by-Step⇒ Leading the Song of the Assembly⇒ Music for Children & Families⇒ Developing a Core Repertoire⇒ Copyright for Church Music⇒ <i>and much more ...</i> |
|---|---|

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- Short quizzes to reinforce key concepts
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Total Course time: approx 3hrs

Course Cost

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K E Y N O T E S P E A K E R S



Timothy P. O'Malley Ph.D. is academic director of the Notre Dame Centre for Liturgy and director of education at the McGrath Institute for Church Life. He teaches and researches at the University of Notre Dame in liturgical-sacramental theology and is the author of ten books including works on liturgical formation and the doctrine of real presence. Prof O'Malley speaks at conferences and events throughout the USA and Europe and is a consultant to various committees of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops.



Bernadette Farrell is a renowned liturgist and composer whose hymns, including *Christ Be Our Light*, *Unless a Grain of Wheat*, and *God Beyond All Names* are known and loved throughout the world. Alongside directing church music ministry, she has been a Seminary lecturer and an advisor to the UK Bishops Conference. Bernadette has a passion for social justice which comes to the fore in many of her songs and has inspired her work as a Community Organiser with Citizens UK advocating for refugees, fair housing, a living wage and access to community health care.

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For all enquiries contact liturgy@liturgybrisbane.net.au

