

9th November 2025

The DEDICATION of the LATERAN BASILICA

Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica: Our Hearts, God's Temple

This Sunday, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica—the oldest Christian church in the world and the first permanent home of worship for Christians. Built by Emperor Constantine after centuries of persecution, this Basilica stands as a living testament to the courage, faith, and love of early Christians who refused to abandon Christ, even under threat of death. It reminds us that the Church is not just bricks and stone; it is the faithful hearts of those who love God.

Across the square stands a statue of St. Francis of Assisi, arms wide, as if embracing the world. Centuries ago, he came here to meet the Pope, asking permission to start his religious order. Inspired by Christ's words, "Rebuild my Church," he humbly entrusted the mission of renewal to the Holy Father. From one angle, the Basilica appears perfectly framed between St. Francis' outstretched arms—as if the saint himself were holding up the Church. This striking image shows us that the Church thrives not through architecture alone, but through the devotion, courage, and love of the faithful.

Yet the greatest temple of God is not made of stone. Each of us is called to be a living temple of the Holy Spirit. This Sunday's Gospel tells of Jesus cleansing the Jerusalem Temple. Just as the Temple required purification, so too must our hearts. Ask yourself: Is my heart free from anger, jealousy, or selfishness? Do I nurture love, forgiveness, and faith? Am I open to the Spirit, allowing Christ to dwell fully within me? Purifying our hearts is not a single act; it is a daily commitment, a choice to let God transform us from the inside out.



(image from Google Street View, corrected with Google Gemini)

The Feast of the Lateran Basilica invites us to rekindle our zeal for God and His Church. Loving the Church begins with loving God in our hearts. When we purify our intentions, thoughts, and relationships, we create living spaces for Christ to dwell. We uphold the Church not only through prayer and service but by witnessing His love in every encounter, every act of mercy, every word of encouragement.

Life brings trials. The Church faces challenges, even scandals, that can test our faith. Yet God's promise never fails: He is always with us. Through His grace, He purifies and strengthens our hearts, helping us persevere in faith, hope, and love. As living temples, our hearts support the Church, sustain her mission, and bear witness to Christ's enduring presence in the world.

On this Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, let us reflect on our hearts as temples of the Spirit. May the Lord purify, strengthen, and fill us with His love. Let us renew our commitment to Him and His Church. With faith, prayer, and devotion, we hold up the Church. In doing so, our hearts become living sanctuaries where God's glory shines brightly, radiating His love to all who encounter us.

Fr Sebastian

Mass of the Angels

Tuesday 11th November, 7pm.

Have you known the loss of a child in pregnancy or during early or older life? AND / OR: Would you like to reach out and bring a friend (of any faith background) who carries such a story? All are welcome to share in the comfort, care and prayer of the Mass of the Angels here in the church.

Attention Liturgical Ministers

A reminder to all Liturgical Ministers to please complete the **Roster Availability Form** regarding your availability for **Christmas, December, January and February**. Completed forms can be placed in the yellow envelope in the Working Sacristy or dropped off at the parish office. Thank you.



Faith B4U...

Craft Market Greystanes - free entry
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Remembrance Day 11 November

Photo by Diana Parkhouse on Unsplash

Mass and prayers for deceased Clergy: 12 November

The Diocese of Parramatta invites you to its annual Mass for our deceased clergy on Wednesday 12 November at 9:15am at Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere, followed by prayers at the gravesites of clergy buried in Rookwood Cemetery. All are welcome to attend and give your gift of prayer to those whose lives were dedicated to bringing us all closer to Christ.

Getting ready for Christmas?

What are you excited about? What are you stressed about?

Spend a little time with fellow parishioners sharing the spirituality of the **Advent Season** over a cuppa after Mass on **Wednesday 10th December from 10am - 12.30pm in the St George Preca Centre.**

Get into the spirit of the season and find out about the Jesse Tree and take one home to share with your family.

Our morning will be led by Marilyn Hancock from the Parramatta Diocesan - Mission Engagement.

To RSVP pick up a flyer in the church to complete or contact the parish office.



We invite you to pray for our young people who will be expressing and confirming their faith through the Sacrament of Confirmation on the 18th and 22nd of November.

Did you know?

"Certain places need greater protection because of their immense importance" for all life on earth. (LS 37) These Biodiverse lungs of our planet, the Amazon Rainforest and Congo River Basins, must be protected from the economic interests of corporations seeking to exploit and abuse their resources. (LS38)

How can I encourage government and business to care for local biodiversity in both current practice and future development?

Watch this space

For details of a film night to be held in the St George Preca Centre on Saturday 29 November at 6:00pm

Let us pray...

FOR OUR SICK, that they will be nourished with hope & recognise the loving presence of God in their lives.

Elie Aboumelhem, Mary Anjoul, Rita Attard, Amara Bewert, Ellen Boissett, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Karl Croning, Mario Curmi, Kathleen Davies, Nerida Fabri, Solonge Faddoul, Delina Galea, Dorothy Gatt, Kay Jaunais, Margaret Jones, Rachel Karbic, Tulla Kavich, Patrick Kelly, Tyler Kenedy, Peter Kennedy, Maxine Kroebel, Michelle Makin, Joyce Mifsud, Elsie Moran, Joseph Moses, Alex Noble, Bob Nowfel, Brendon Onorato, Benjie Santiago, Connie Shembri, Carmel Thompson, Connie Tudman, Eddie Vella, Joe Vella, Gerard Watts, Grace Widjaya, Maureen Zarb

FOR DEATH ANNIVERSARIES, that they now know the fullness of life & delight in God - may they pray for our active purpose in God's Mission.

Roy Moore

FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED, may our Lord embrace them with unimaginable joy & bless those who grieve with the power of hope.

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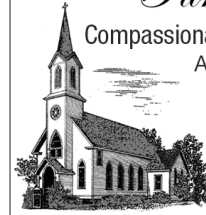
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Our Mission: To grow as a community in the likeness of Christ.

November Remembrances

Throughout November, we pray for our loved ones who are no longer with us.

REMEMBRANCE BOOK

If you would like the names of those you are especially praying for to be placed in the Remembrance Book, please write their name on the special sheets provided.

Sheets can be found on the table near the organ and at the back of the church. No donation required.

MASS OFFERING

In addition, you can offer a Mass for your loved ones. To offer a Mass, please write up to 4 names on the envelopes provided. Place your donation in the envelope (suggested amount of \$10), seal the envelope and then give the envelope to the priest, acolyte or parish office.

Envelopes can be found on the table near the organ and at the back of the church.

Save the date! Carols 2025

Saturday 6th December



5pm Mass

6pm BBQ in the hospitality area followed by **carols in the church from 6.30pm to 8.00pm.**

All are welcome.

Safeguarding Face to face training now available

Sat 15 Nov (Modules 1-3) from 10am to 3pm at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Wentworthville.

This training is for ALL Volunteers, group leaders and assistant group leaders who are yet to complete their Safeguarding training.

For more information, please email: safeguardingtrain-ing@parracatholic.org

If you volunteer at the parish and are unfamiliar with Safeguarding, please contact the parish office for more details.

FEAST DAYS

This week we celebrate

10th Monday **St Leo the Great**, pope, doctor

11th Tuesday **St Martin of Tours**, bishop

12th Wednesday **St Josaphat**, bishop, martyr

Greystanes Maltese Seniors

Monday 10 November @ 10.30am, in the St George Preca Centre

Speaker: My Aged Care Specialist

All members & friends welcome.

Contact Marisa Previtera, OAM, JP on 0414 863 123

This Sunday's Readings

1st Reading

Ezekial
47:1-2, 8-9, 12

2nd Reading

1 Corinthians
3:9-11, 16-17

Gospel

John
2:13-22

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading

Malachi
3:19-20

2nd Reading

2 Thessalonians
3:7-12

Gospel

Luke
21:5-19

Mass Times

Monday - 9:15am

Tuesday - 9:15am

Wednesday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Thursday - 9:15am

Friday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Saturday - Vigil 5:00pm (live streamed)

Sunday - 7:00am | 8:30am | 10:30am | 6:00pm

Memorial Mass - Last Tuesday night of each month (except December) at 7:00pm

Mass for Peace with anointing of the sick - First Saturday of each month (except January) at 10:30am

Reconciliation:

Saturday - 4:00pm - 4.45pm

Please join us via Facebook or Website, olqp.org.au, every Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Rosary in the church: Weekdays at 8:30am & Friday nights at 7:30pm

ZOOM option available Friday night for those who cannot travel to the church for rosary.

Meeting ID: 896 7944 2594 | Passcode: rosary

P: 9631 8135 | E: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

Emergency Contact Only 0447 509 207

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Parish Office hours: 9am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm Monday to Friday

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