

All Hallows' Five Dock



Second Sunday of Advent | Year B | Sunday 10th December 2023

Parish Mission

We, the people of this place, live and celebrate a love of faith.

We share this faith in a spirit of service, that creates a sense of God's presence among us.

All Hallows' Parish Parish Priest:

Fr Sebastian Savarimuthu
E: pp@allhallows.org.au

Assistant Priest:

Fr Richard Dumba
E: ap@allhallows.org.au

Parish Secretary:

Elsa Waldie
E: admin@allhallows.org.au

Parish Bookkeeper:

Janelle Buckley

Parish Office:

Monday - Thursday
9am - 4pm

2 Halley Street,
Five Dock NSW 2046
Ph: 9713 7960

E: admin@allhallows.org.au

W: www.allhallows.org.au

Scan the QR code to donate to support the Ministry and Mission of our Parish.



All Hallows Catholic Primary School:

School Principal:
Maria Femia

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A Reflection by Fr Richard

In the old days when a monarch had to travel through the wilderness where there was no road, a crew of workers would precede him, making the way passable for his chariot. In our times, many crooked roads have been made straight, many narrow roads have been widened, and many rough roads have been made smooth. All this has made travel easier and safer. But this is not what John the Baptist is talking about when he cries out, "prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight". The word 'way' or 'road' stands for a person's manner of life and conduct. The straight road stands for right living. The crooked road stands for wrong living.

John the Baptist preached repentance as a means to prepare for the coming Messiah. Preparing the way of the Lord is not just a temporary clean-up for the visitor, but an embracing of the new possibilities that are opening to us. Repent, for no one is good enough for the kingdom. Only a repentant heart can be received into the kingdom. And you can't get away with just a short-term repentance like kids being good for a few days before Santa comes, you've got to bear fruit worthy of repentance. Repentance basically means "turning around", "changing direction".

We're not being called to turn away from everything that's good in life. We're being called to turn away from that which has passed its use-by date, that which no longer gives life, that which would now just anchor us in irrelevance and decay. And more significantly we are being called to turn to something, called to embrace the new possibilities that are opening to us, to launch out with courage and grace into exciting new visions and hopes for the future. And the Christ who is born anew in every age will go with us always. During this second week of Advent, may I resolve to live with an open, forgiving heart and bless others with my peaceful presence.

With best wishes -
Fr Richard



Sacramental Life

Holy Mass:

Saturday: 8am & 5.30pm Vigil

Sunday: 8.30am (1st Sunday of the month - Italian mass), 10am and 5pm

Monday - Friday: 8am

Wednesday: Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration - 12pm - 4pm

- Start: Exposition at 12 noon
- Divine Mercy prayers: 3:00pm
- Reconciliation: 3pm - 3:40pm
- Benediction: 3:45pm • Finish: 4:00pm

Reconciliation:

Saturday:
8:30am-9am / 4:45pm - 5:15pm
Or any time by appointment.

Sick Calls: Any time - day/night.

Baptisms:

Every Sunday at 11am.

Weddings:

Contact the parish office.



A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you, or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you

can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. To read the Archdiocese Child Safeguarding policy, please visit the parish website (<https://www.allhallows.org.au/safeguarding>).



Advent Groups - All Hallows 2023



This Advent, we will be exploring "The Sign" Advent program. Discover the profound spiritual journey of Advent and Christmas with The Sign: Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections 2023. We invite you to join in and participate in one of the Advent Groups, which will be meeting during this liturgical period.

The Advent groups will be meeting between **27 November and 23 December** at the following times:

- Wednesdays at 7:30pm / Thursdays at 7:30pm / Saturdays at 4pm

You will find Sheets in the Gathering Space to register your name. Please ensure you add your contact details. Enquiries: Sandy Lynch: 0402 075 976 or Ann Kerley: 0408 720 461

Christmas Mass Times

As Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year, we would like to clarify the mass times for the Sunday and Christmas masses. They are as follows:



Sunday 24th December

8:30am - Weekly Sunday Mass
10am - Weekly Sunday Mass

Christmas Eve

5pm - Christmas Carols and Christmas pageant
5:30pm - Christmas Vigil Family Mass

Monday 25th December - Christmas Day

12am - Christmas Midnight Mass
8:30am - Christmas Mass
10am - Christmas Mass



Announcement - Parish Council 2024

As we approach 2024, Fr. Sebastian and Fr. Richard wish to thank the following past and present members of the All Hallows Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), who have served on the council since Fr Sebastian arrived. Thank you to Ann Kerley, Beatrice Lorquet, Vince Moschella, Wendy Volpatti, Josie Pappalardo, Chrissie Conti, Helen Elliott, Christine Torresan and Graham Hextell for their service and commitment to the Parish.

They also wish to announce their intention to renew the PPC in accordance with new guidelines developed by the Archdiocese of Sydney. This renewal will create an opportunity to clarify, promote and support the evangelising mission of the Parish and will ensure that our mission is exercised in fruitful collaboration and co-responsibility with laity.

Fr. Sebastian and Fr. Richard are requisite PPC members, there are two ex-officio members (the School Principal and one member of the Parish Finance Committee) and one appointed member (the Chairperson).

Fr. Sebastian therefore invites the recommendation of 4 elected parishioners to join the PPC to bring the total number of members to 9. Fr. Sebastian is beginning this process with a period of discernment and suggests that those recommended for membership of the renewed PPC have at least some of the following qualities:

- o A commitment to the practice of the faith, and the Parish community
- o An ability to collaborate and consult with others for the mission of the Church
- o Good communication and interpersonal skills
- o A capacity to think strategically toward the development of Parish plans for mission

Representation of women and men, diversity in age and pastoral experience will also be important. Parishioners should ensure that recommendations of another parishioner or of themselves should be made in writing with supporting reasons and contact details to Fr. Sebastian via the Parish Office or via email (pp@allhallows.org.au) by **COB Monday 18th December**. Fr. Sebastian will then prayerfully short list the recommended candidates and announce the next steps in the process.



Please remember in your Prayers:

Sick:

Emilia Bocconi
Terry McGovern
Rosaria Iacono
Roberto Doronso
Ammara Masood
Terry McCabe & family
Frank Hume
Siosuia Sikulu
Philippa Mary Sikulu

**names will remain on the list for 1 month unless notified*

Recently Deceased:

Indriati Hadidjah
Dorothy Whitley
Vania Iuston
Robert Iacono
Eva Zin
Lucrezia Cecere
Isabella Ciccolitto
Antonio Nesci



Anniversaries:

John McCabe
Giuseppe Eletteria
Lucadonato
Gerardo Stella
Carmela Stella
Antonina Battiato
Carmela Parisi
Giuseppe Princi
Rose Princi

For the Souls of the Faithful Departed:

*Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord and let perpetual
light shine upon them.*

*May all the souls of all the
faithful departed, through the
mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Amen



Parish Notices



Calling all students from years 5, 6, and 7, from the All Hallows' community, to join us for the Youth Group Christmas Party on Sunday 10th December, after 5pm Mass, in the Parish hall.

Join us for games, Christmas karaoke, Christmas/Bible trivia, sausage sizzle and lots more.

Come and see what we can do to spread the good news of peace, joy and love, everywhere we go this Christmas season.

Baptisms



We welcome

Cian Matthias McMahon

who is being baptised into our parish community of All Hallows this weekend.



"Anyone who welcomes this little child in my name welcomes Me." - Luke 9:48.

Catholic Women's League

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

On sale this weekend

3 tickets for \$5 or 7 tickets for \$10

Great prizes!

Raffle drawn Sunday 17 December



Church Library

A reminder that our library in the church gathering space is now fully stocked with wonderful books - biographies, spirituality, prayer, Vatican documents, poetry and periodicals, all grouped in easy to find sections. Please feel free to browse the library and borrow some books!



Blessing of a Christmas Tree



*Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us
as we illuminate this tree.
May the light and cheer it gives
be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.
May all who delight in this tree
come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Children's Corner

Make a straight path for the Lord

F N B U F W B N I P A X W D Y
U N X Q Z P Q I A L A Z Y G P
B Z P S S O R R Y J W L I R P
H M U B G G Y C D Q A I M A R
Z Z M Q W Q J K F A T D P S O
A R C K T G V I M Z E F G S P
Q I H K Z E R J K W R M N H H
F C A M E L S R I B Z Y Z O E
S K U H C U S I N S X U X P T
U P J U D E A T C X L H K P J
T S A I B B G U E P A C S E O
I U O T M D S X L M I N Z R R
X T A B A P T I S T I J P S D
Y F A H O L Y S P I R I T N A
C R O W D H O N E Y M P I Q N

Try to find these words:

Baptist
camel
crowd
grasshoppers
Holy Spirit
honey
Jordan
Judea
prophet
sins
sorry
water

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP invites you to

CHRISTMAS at the Cathedral

a festival evening at St Mary's

14-25 DECEMBER

Experience the wonder and beauty of this Advent Season as we wait in joyful anticipation for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas

All Welcome!

First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11 A reading from the prophet Isaiah Prepare the way for the Lord.</p> <p>‘Console my people, console them’ says your God. ‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.’ A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness away for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’ Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’ Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.</p>	<p>(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.</p> <p>1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)</p> <p>2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. (R.)</p> <p>3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)</p> <div data-bbox="643 719 927 1043" data-label="Image"> </div>	<p>2 Peter 3:8-14 A reading from the second letter of St Peter We wait for new heavens and a new earth.</p> <p>There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, ‘a day’ can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.</p>
<div data-bbox="189 1151 367 1328" data-label="Image"> </div>	<p>Next Week’s Readings</p> <p>Third Sunday of Advent</p> <p>1st Reading: Isa 61:1-2, 10-11 2nd Reading: 1 Thess 5:16-24 Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation</p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!</p> <div data-bbox="1474 1267 1541 1346" data-label="Image"> </div>

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
Make straight the paths of the Lord.

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, ‘Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.’



Second Sunday of Advent - Hope

The second Sunday in Advent continues on the path started in the first week by looking forward to Christ’s first and second coming. This week focuses on John the Baptist, the Gentiles being included in God’s family, Christ’s coming in judgement and peace, and the church’s hopeful expectation of the completion of his promises. The second Advent candle (“The Bethlehem Candle”) is purple and represents peace. Peace is a central theme of the Advent season but the main focus of the second week of Advent.



LOOK

Sunday 10 December 2023
2nd Sunday of Advent
Mark 1:1-8

In the
GOSPEL TODAY

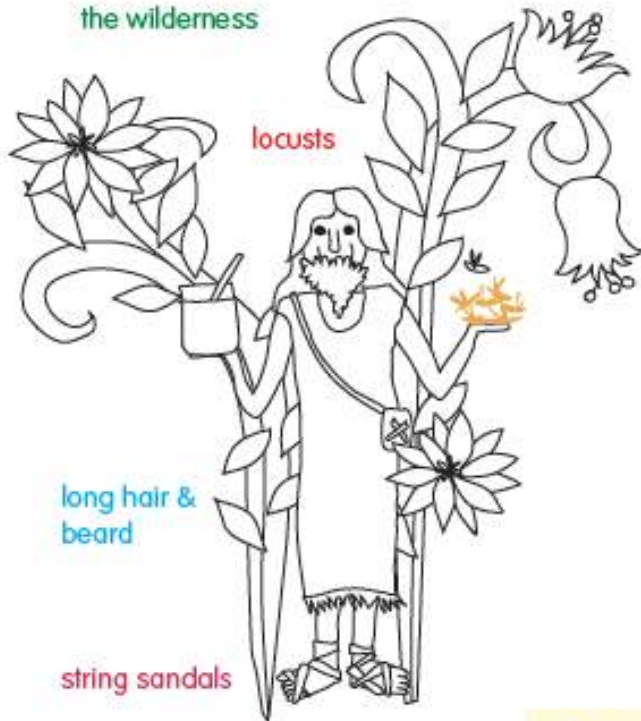
JOHN THE BAPTIST

John the Baptist is the messenger sent by God. He is helping everyone to get ready to welcome Jesus. John baptises people in the River Jordan. He tells people that the one coming after him is far more important. The promised one will baptise them with the Holy Spirit.

wild honey

strong, loud voice

the wilderness



locusts

long hair & beard

string sandals

camel skin tunic

Colour the picture of John, then draw lines to connect the words to the picture.

Maze

John the Baptist is in the middle of the desert. People hear his loud, strong voice. They come from far and wide to hear God's message.

Can you help them find their way?



Baptism

I was baptised in _____ church.

I can see the baptismal font in this church.

[] yes [] no

These people have changed their ways and become good! Give them happy faces.

John baptises them in the w_ _ _ _



River Jordan

A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear God, help me to get ready for Jesus: to help at home, to have fun with my family and to be kind to children who are sad. Amen.