

All Hallows' Five Dock



Third Sunday of Advent | Year B | Sunday 17th 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
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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,
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E: admin@allhallows.org.au

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



All Hallows Catholic Primary School:

School Principal:
Maria Femia

Ph: 9713 4469
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E: info@ahpsfivedock.catholic.edu.au
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A Reflection by Fr Richard

The Third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday. "Gaudete" in Latin means, rejoice. We are called to rejoice because the Lord is near. He is coming to restore and to renew all things. Once again, we reflect on the great classical Advent images: darkness giving way to light, grief to faith or even joy, the barrenness of a desert to the beauty of paradise.

Rejoice! That's what Advent is all about. It's about the hopes and fears of all the years, the triumphs and tragedies of all the years, the joys and griefs of all the years and in all our lives - and all this culminates in the salvation brought by the coming of Christ. The Gospel presents John the Baptist who speaks of his vocation in the words of Isaiah "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord'". John comes to us in the Advent readings to show us the light, that we might believe in the one who has come, who is coming, and who will come again.

"Rejoice in the Lord," for as miserable as life can seem at times, the reality is that God has clothed us "with a robe of salvation" that heals our poverty, our broken hearts, our bondage. "He has mercy on those who fear him," that is, those who look to him with awe and love. Therefore, "be preserved blameless for the coming of Jesus." Even though in the troubles of life you may not recognize him, "the one who calls you is faithful." He will soon come to save you.

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>).

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



Please remember in your Prayers:

Sick:

Anna Tan
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
Vanja Iuston
Robert Iacono
Eva Zin
Lucrezia Cecere
Isabella Ciccolitto
Antonio Nesci



Anniversaries:

Antonio Denaro
Lydia Fiorini
Peter Fiorini
Loretta Gioia
Ben Moores
Archer Grey
Carmelina Speranza
Monica Moschella
Joe Pozzato

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*



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.

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

Parish Notices



Christmas Masses - Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

If you are interested in assisting the distribution of the Blessed Sacrament at the Christmas Masses, please register your name on the sign up sheet in the gathering space. Please register for 1 mass only and include your contact details. We will contact you to confirm that you have been allocated to Mass.

End of the school year

As another school year finishes, we would like to wish the All Hallows Primary School principal, teachers, administration staff, students and their families a very happy and holy Christmas and a safe and joyful new year!



Christmas Prayer for Families

Loving God,

During this holy season of Christmas, we ask for your blessing on all families.

Let Mary's openness to your wondrous ways be an inspiration to place all trust in you.

Let Joseph's courage provide hope during times of anxiety and uncertainty.

Let Jesus' life ignite all families with a spirit of light and love.

May the grace that encircled the Holy Family widen to embrace all families.

For this we pray. Amen.

Baptisms



We welcome

**Thomas Paul Gannon
Jakob Lee Hewitt
Liam Arthur Hewitt
Jett Pinto**



who are 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 after 10am Mass.



Become a Catechist in 2024

Catechists are needed to teach the children of our parish who attend Five Dock, Abbotsford and Russell Lea Primary Schools. If you are retired or have flexible work hours, this is a great opportunity to share your faith with the children. Join our parish Catechists in this fulfilling mission of sharing the story of Jesus and the hope and joy he brings. Full training is provided. For more details contact the Parish Office 9713 7960 or visit www.ccd.sydneycatholic.org.



A Catechist Reflection

"I love teaching children about Jesus, it is a passion which I wish to share. As a Catechist I gain much satisfaction and many rewards from the children". - Ann.

"I find the role of Catechist most rewarding and fulfilling as I am strengthening my own faith as I teach it to our children." - Kerrie.




Children's Corner

Prepare for the Lord Jesus

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

Try to find these words:

answer
desert
Elijah
first
good
Jerusalem
leaders
Pharisees
ready
River
temple
water

First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11 A reading from the prophet Isaiah <i>I exult for joy in the Lord.</i></p> <p>The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'</p>	<p>(R.) My soul rejoices in my God.</p> <p>1. My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her nothingness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. (R.)</p> <p>2. The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. (R.)</p> <p>3. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty. He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy. (R.)</p> 	<p>1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians <i>May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.</i></p> <p>Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.</p>
	<p>Next Week's Readings</p> <p>Fourth Sunday of Advent 1st Reading: 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 2nd Reading: Rom 16:25-27 Gospel: Lk 1:26-38</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation</p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!</p> 

Gospel
<p>John 1:6-8. 19-28 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John <i>There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.</i></p> <p>A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.</p> <p>This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.'</p> <p>Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.</p>



Third Sunday of Advent - Rejoice / Joy
<p>The third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete" Sunday. <i>Gaudete</i> is the Latin word for Rejoice! Each Sunday in the season of Advent is supposed to be feast day, a celebration, but this week is especially so. The third week of Advent is a time of joy, a time of being thankful for all that has been given—the promise of the Savior who has come, who is present, and who promises a return. The colour of this Sunday is rose – a celebratory colour – and it is reflected in the vestments worn by the priest and in the colour of the third candle used in Advent wreaths.</p>



LOOK

Sunday 17 December 2023
3rd Sunday of Advent
John 1:6-8, 19-28

In the GOSPEL TODAY

JESUS, THE LIGHT

Who is coming?

Who do you think the light is?
Try to draw a picture of him.



Fill in the spaces, using the Gospel story to help.

John said that he had come to tell about ___ (het) ___ gh ___ (lit) which would _h___ e (nis) on ___v_e__y__n__ (reoe).

A PRAYER TO SAY

Loving Lord, John the Baptist knew Jesus was special. I know Jesus is special too. Help me to shine with Jesus' light in the way I share love and kindness. Amen.

People are wondering who John the Baptist is. He tells them he is God's messenger, sent to tell us all that Jesus is coming. Jesus is our light, someone so special that John is not good enough to untie his sandals.

Jesus shines through me

Draw yourself doing one of the pictured actions around the frame.



Dark to light puzzle

Match the shadow shapes with the pictures.



Whose sandals?

These feet belong to the important person coming after John the Baptist. Design a really special pair of sandals for him. Who do you think the sandals are for?



Cross out the first letter and then every other letter to find out who the sandals belong to.

X J Q E Z S Y U W S

Answers: Who is coming: the light which would shine on everyone. Whose sandals: Jesus.