

All Hallows' Five Dock



Fourth Sunday of Advent | Year B | Sunday 24th 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 Ddumba
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Parish Secretary:

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Parish Office:

Monday - Thursday
9am - 4pm

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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:

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A Reflection by Fr Sebastian

Gospel Reading Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel visits Mary to announce the birth of Jesus.

One of the challenges of faith is to recognize God's plan for us and to remain open to God's will and God's actions in our world. Filled with God's grace, Mary models for us the kind of faith that is needed to cooperate in God's plan of salvation. Like Mary, we are given the awesome opportunity to cooperate in God's saving plan. On this final Sunday of Advent, our Gospel invites us to consider how our preparations for Christmas have made us more aware of God's grace working in our lives.

Gather your family and talk about what you have been doing as a family to prepare for Christmas. How have these preparations helped you to better celebrate the central mystery of Christmas, the Incarnation? Our Gospel today talks about how Mary was prepared for her role in Christ's birth. Read today's Gospel, Luke 1:26-38. Consider the question: What enabled Mary to say yes to God? Which of your Advent activities have made you more aware of God's grace in your life? Conclude in prayer together that God's grace will enable your family to be more faithful and obedient to God. Pray together the [Magnificat](#).

With best wishes -
Fr Sebastian



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>.

New Deanery appointment

With the retirement of Fr Phillip Zadro at the end of this year, Archbishop Anthony Fisher has appointed Fr Sebastian as Dean of the Concord Deanery. This appointment will take effect from the 1st January 2024 and is for a term of 3 years.



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



Christmas at the Cathedral

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!

Loving Father,
help us remember
the birth of Jesus
that we may share in
the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and the worship of the wise men.
Close the door of hate and
open the door of love all over the
world. Let kindness come with every gift and
good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from
evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us
to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning
make us happy to be *Thy children*, and the Christmas
evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven,
for Jesus' sake.
Amen.

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.

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
Vania Iuston
Robert Iacono
Eva Zin
Lucrezia Cecere
Isabella Ciccolitto
Antonio Nesci



Anniversaries:

Domenico Polito
Leonora Bautista
Nicola Gregorace

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



Christmas Mass Readings

Christmas Eve:

1st Reading: Is 62:1-5
 2nd Reading: Acts 13:16-17, 22-25
 Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25



Midnight Mass:

1st Reading: Is 62:11-12
 2nd Reading: Titus 3:4-7
 Gospel: Luke 2:15-20



Come, let us adore Him!

Christmas Day:

1st Reading: Is 52:7-10
 2nd Reading: Heb 1:1-6
 Gospel: John 1:1-18

Reduced office Hours

The parish office will only be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during January from 9am to 3pm. The office will be back to normal hours from the 29th January 2024.

Prayer before a Christmas Meal

God of all gifts, we thank you for the many ways you have blessed us this day.

We are grateful for each of those who are gathered around this table.

We ask that you bless us and our food and bless those we love who are not with us today.

In our gratitude and love, we remember your humble birth into our lives and pray for those who are without enough to eat.

We remember the stable in which you were born and pray for those who have no place to live.

We remember your challenging message of caring and giving and we pray for peace in families and nations throughout the world.

We give you thanks as Your spirit brings our hearts to life this Christmas day and always.

Amen.

Christmas Pageant

A big THANK YOU to Frances Cordaro and all those who are assisting her to organise this year's Christmas Pageant. Thank you also to all of the beautiful children who are participating, and the parents who are supporting them, to make the family Christmas mass so special!



Christmas Pageant

The Christmas pageant will be held on Christmas Eve at 5:15pm in the Church, just before the Christmas vigil family mass.

Catholic Women's League

Congratulations to the Christmas Raffle winners!



- 1st Maria Cannone
- 2nd Sam Iacono
- 3rd Judy Heffernan
- 4th Paddy Greene
- 5th Alice Lapuzam
- 6th George Favotto
- 7th Jenny LoSurdo

Sincere thank you to all parishioners who supported our Christmas raffle.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas filled with joy and peace.



New Year's Mass Times

New Year's Eve - 31st December 2023

8:30am, 10am and 5pm

New Year's Day - 1st January 2024

8:00am morning Mass



Children's Corner

His name will be Jesus

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

Try to find these words:

- afraid
- confused
- Elizabeth
- Gabriel
- holy
- Israel
- Jesus
- Joseph
- Mary
- Nazareth
- servant
- son

First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16 A reading from the second book of Samuel <i>The kingdom of David will be established forever in the sight of the Lord.</i></p> <p>Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.' But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established forever."</p>	<p>(R.) Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.</p> <p>1. I will sing forever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts forever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)</p> <p>2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)</p> <p>3. He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me.' I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure. (R.)</p> <div data-bbox="646 795 901 907" data-label="Image"> </div>	<p>Romans 16:25-27 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans <i>The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.</i></p> <p>Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.</p> <div data-bbox="1141 739 1428 907" data-label="Image"> </div>
	<p>Next Week's Readings</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation</p>
	<p>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 1st Reading: Gen 15:1-6; 21:1-3 2nd Reading: Heb 11:8; 11-12; 17-19 Gospel: Lk 2:22-40</p>	<p>Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!</p> <div data-bbox="1396 1064 1548 1164" data-label="Image"> </div>

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
You will conceive and bear a son.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Love

The theme of Advent's fourth Sunday is the love that God has for mankind to become man and save us from death and sin. The candle is known as the candle of love or the "angel candle". It is in this fourth week of Advent that we reflect on the ultimate gift of love - Jesus Christ. Jesus is our true example of love, and He came to teach us to love God and others.



Sunday 24 December 2023
4th Sunday of Advent
Luke 1:26-38

In the
GOSPEL TODAY

MARY chosen by God

_____ (write your name) is chosen by God too! God wants us to live our lives close to him. He loves us so much. He has a special job for each of us. Draw a picture of yourself doing something helpful.



This is ME saying
"YES" to God

God sends the angel Gabriel with a message for Mary. She is going to have a very special baby! Mary does not know what this means, but she says "yes" anyway. Mary trusts God completely.

HAIL MARY!

Changing faces



Mary was worried when the angel Gabriel first appeared.



Make Mary's face happy after the angel tells her not to be afraid.



Yes!

Mary said "yes" to God. Circle the children who are saying "yes" to God and doing what he wants.

A PRAYER TO SAY

Hail, Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

A message for Mary

Today Mary receives good news from an angel sent by God. Join the dots to see the angel Gabriel.

a =	♥	o =	★
b =	👑	u =	👑
e =	👤	v =	👑
h =	👑	w =	🕯️
i =	🌿	y =	👤
l =	★		

The angel has good news for Mary. Use the code to find out what it is.