

To Know, love and serve Jesus by sharing our gifts through our baptismal mission

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We acknowledge and respect the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand, the elders, past and present and all the Dharawal people. May we too be good stewards of this land.

SUNDAY 9 JUNE 2024 TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B



Entrance Antiphon

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; whom should I dread? When those who do evil draw near, they stumble and fall.

First Reading from the book of Genesis 3:9-15

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 129. R. v.7
Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
The prince of this world will
now be cast out, and when I
am lifted up from the earth
I will draw all to myself, says
the Lord. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel according to Mark 3:20-35

Communion Antiphon

The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; my God is my saving strength.

NEXT WEEK ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

First: Ezekiel 17:22-24 **Resp Ps:** Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. see v.2

Second: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 **Gospel:** Mark 4:26-34

The Immaculate Heart of Mary.

This weekend, the diocese celebrates the patronal feast of the solemnity of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

As we celebrate the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the whole Diocese of Wollongong looks to Mary, the Mother of the Church. Thanks to the Marian shrines and churches around the diocese dedicated to the Mother of God, devotion to Mary should be very strong and widespread among the people in our local Church.

May we continue to contemplate the Virgin Mary, who pondered in her heart the mystery of Christ. We know that Mary is present as a mother to us and so shares in the many complicated problems which today beset the lives of individuals, families, parishes, schools and communities. We know that Mary has a heart for the Christian people in our constant struggle between good and evil, to ensure that we do not fall, or, if we have fallen, that we rise again.



The Blessed Virgin Mary is an image of the Church which, nourished by hope, acknowledges the saving and merciful action of God, in whose light our diocese reads our own journey and all of history. Mary helps us to interpret all that happens to us in the light of Jesus her Son. As a new creation moulded by the Holy Spirit, Mary causes the virtue of hope to grow within us.

To the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of hope and of consolation, we confidently lift up our prayer: to Mary we entrust the future of the Diocese of Wollongong.



Worship: Mass and Devotions				
Sunday Mass	Weekday Mass	Devotions		
Saturday Vigil: 6pm	Mon, Tues, Wed Mass at 9am	Adoration with the Rosary: Saturday 9.30am		
Sunday: 9.30 am and 5pm	Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm	Divine Mercy Devotion: Third Sunday at 3pm		
Filipino Mass: Third Sunday at 11.15am	Fri and Sat Mass at 9am	Alliance of the 2 Hearts Mass and Devotion: First Friday of each month from 7.30pm		
Samoan Mass: First Sunday at 12 noon	Healing Mass on the first Saturday of each month at 9am	Reconciliation: Saturday 11 am—12		
Maori Mass: First Sunday at 2pm				



Contact us

Parish Priest: Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

Parish Associate: Sr "Jill" Girlie Sudario, CM Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 9.30am-12.30pm

Phone: 9603 7373 / 0434 705 176

Email: varroville@dow.org.au Website: varroville.dow.org.au

Meetings and Gatherings

Friendship Group meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 9am.

Readers Ministry Meeting meets on the last Tuesday of every 2 months at 7.30pm via zoom.

Holy Family Fellowship meets on the 4th Saturday at 7pm.

Book Club meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10am.

Fundraising Team meeting is on Wednesday 29 May at 7.30pm.

Faith Circles meets every Monday via zoom at 2pm & 7.30pm.

Bible Reflection group meets every Monday at 10am.

Children's Choir will meet on 3rd Friday at 7.30pm.

Childrens Ministry Gathering will meet on the 4th Sunday from 3–5 pm.

Youth Ministry is on fire for faith, friendship and specially for God! All 13-17 years old are invited to join every fortnight on the 2nd & 4th Friday of every month at 6:30 pm.

Save the date: Parish Fiesta July 14

Prayer intentions

For the sick and homebound: Matthew Johnson, Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Amanda and John Meredith, Reg Gardner, Sr Heather Burke, Marie and Barry Atkins, Carol and Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Joe Spinnato, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys, Pat Stewart. Catherine, Elizabeth & Monika May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain and affliction.

For our recently dearly departed: Gerry Antilla, Emeritus Bishop Peter Ingham, Jaya Jones.

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Frazer Toweel, deceased members of the Thomas family, Ricardo Celiz Jr, Ivan Srebrenovic, Noreen & Joe Farrell, *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.*

Our Community: Rosters

16 June 2024	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm	
Welcomers	Glen & Arlene	Sarah, Jeanne & Jessica	Beatrix & Michael	
Altar Servers	Andrew, Diane, Sebastian, Eliarna	Orly	Stuart & Nathan	
Readers	Suzanne & Russell	Irene & Lee	Kathy& Tim	
Refreshments	Tracey & Richard	Nelia, Anita & Tina	Margaret' Geoff & Danni	
Altar Linen		CLOTW: Lee & Asinate		
Flowers	Tracey & Richard	Church Vacuuming	Tess & Effie	
Counters	Vilma, Jeanette & Irene	Foyer Cleaning	Estela & parish office	

Our Parish Notices:

First Holy Communion was held last weekend . Thank you to Loretta and her team of Catechists who prepared the children and guided them on this special day. Also a big thank you to the parishioners who helped with the weekend Masses, welcoming visitors and offering refreshments.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist will meet on 2 Saturdays 22 & 29 June from 4—5.30 pm for formation. All existing and new Eucharistic ministers must attend. If you would like to join this ministry please call the parish office for more information.



FOR TICKETS AND SPONSORSHIP CONTACT THE PARISH
(02)96037373 | 0434705176 _



Fundraising news: Our major raffle tickets are available from the foyer after all masses. Please take a book home and sell to family and friends. The draw will take place at our Fiesta.



This weekend you will be able to join a team for the fiesta: Each team will be responsible for one aspect of the event: We are forming teams in the following categories:

Novena: You can nominate a day for your ministry to host the Mass; music, readings, offertory & refreshments.

Logistics, traffic control, setting up/packing down.

Parish information Stalls for ministries to share info & invite people to join.

Food stalls: managing the stall and bringing a plate **Concert;** Performing plus also backstage & sound.

Working Bee will be held on Saturday 22 June for gardening, general maintenance and Fiesta preparation.

The next meeting for the Fiesta Committee will be held on Monday 17 June at 7.30pm.

Awake Day Retreat Saturday 15 June 2024 The Missionaries of God's Love Sisters are running a day retreat on the 15th of June starting at 9 am with mass finishing at 4 pm. It is a day of

Community Notices

On The Journey This Week: Two great reflections on the first reading; Fr Mark De Battista (I am part of the problem) and Fr Tony Percy (dialogue of salvation). Mother Hilda on experiencing absence in your life. Plus, Byron & Francine Pirola and Fr Mike Delaney. The Journey podcast available at www.jcr.org.au.

Praying with the Aramaic Jesus – Friday 28 June to Sunday 30 June A weekend retreat with Sr Magdalen Mather osb. In the framework of Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina, this weekend retreat will meet the Jesus who was Jewish, spoke Aramaic and was formed in a Middle Eastern culture. Through this lens we will meditate together and contemplate some well-known words and teachings of Jesus, providing a wealth of rich meaning to nourish our prayer and spiritual life. Pensioner discount or other reductions according to need are available. CONTACT: Book and pay for this retreat by ringing 02 4236 0011 Ext 114 or email cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au

Marriage Encounter Weekend 28 – 30 June 2024 at Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact 0490 774 419.

MenALIVE MAX national Conference – Varroville 19 - 21 July Many men have benefited from the challenges, encouragement and faithful brotherhood that comes from menALIVE. Here's a chance for men from all round Australia to come together- be renewed in faith for action, for good - and it is happening in our Diocese- so don't miss this. It's time to book you spot and stoke the desire to become fully alive as the men we have been created to be. For more infor and to book go to https://menalive.org.au/events/max-weekend-2024 or jude.hennessy@dow.org.au or Mob: 0408 236 191

Diocesan Youth Council Bishop Brian Mascord invites suitably qualified and eager persons to apply for the Diocesan Youth Council, an advisory and implementation body, tasked with initiating missional outcomes for youth and young adult (Y&YA) ministry. The council will meet quarterly. Applicants should be aged between 16-40, have a range of experiences, and be passionate about outreach, formation and building community amongst Y&YA. Does this sound like you? Applications are now open for those interested in serving on the council. To apply, head to: https://tinyurl.com/5668bfmf For more info contact the our youth ministry leader; Arnie Hurdoyal Arnie.hurdoyal@dow.org.au / MOB: 0431 611 128.

Caritas Australia's Papua New Guinea Landslide Disaster

Thousands are feared dead and many more are displaced after a devastating landslide struck a remote village in Papua New Guinea. Your urgent support is needed now. Donate at www.caritas.org.au/png

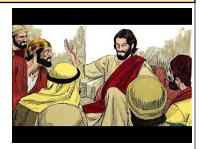
Get Connected with what is on around the Diocese; Every week, there are many great opportunities to be part of special events, courses, free resources and to nurture and encourage you and your family in your faith. Stay informed by subscribing at dow.sh/stayingconnected or visit dow.sh/weeklybulletin.

Holy Gospel according to Mark 3:20-35

It is the end of Satan.

Jesus went home with his disciples, and such a crowd collected that they could not even have a meal. When his relatives heard of this, they set out to take charge of him, convinced he was out of his mind.

The scribes who had come down from Jerusalem were saying, 'Beelzebul is in him,' and, 'It is through the prince of devils that he casts devils out.' So he called them to him and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot last. And if a household is divided against



itself, that household can never stand. Now if Satan has rebelled against himself and is divided, he cannot stand either - it is the end of him. But no one can make his way into a strong man's house and burgle his property unless he has tied up the strong man first. Only then can he burgle his house.

'I tell you solemnly, all men's sins will be forgiven, and all their blasphemies; but let anyone blaspheme against the Holy Spirit and he will never have forgiveness: he is guilty of an eternal sin.' This was because they were saying, 'An unclean spirit is in him.'

His mother and brothers now arrived and, standing outside, sent in a message asking for him. A crowd was sitting round him at the time the message was passed to him, 'Your mother and brothers and sisters are outside asking for you.' He replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking round at those sitting in a circle about him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers. Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

Family members are often the last ones to allow us to change from who we have been to who we want to become. Unintentionally, family will sometimes continue to treat us as the child we were growing up in the family environment, despite our various accomplishments and changes in direction. Sometimes it's easier to continue to treat someone we love as we have always treated them, rather than learning to adjust and accommodate a new way of relating. When you're the one seeking to establish a new life or a new way of operating, family can appear to be 'keeping you in a box'.

In a style typical of the Gospel of Mark, the two incidents with Jesus' family 'sandwich' and focus attention on the interaction with the Scribes who accuse Jesus of being under the influence of Satan. Like the family of Jesus who don't want to see him for who he really is becoming, or has become, the Scribes misunderstand Jesus' fight against evil. Jesus dismisses their claims through his use of the image of binding the strong man before entering the strong man's house. Jesus has 'bound' Satan – the strong man – proving himself the stronger and has set about undoing the work of evil in the world.

Today's gospel paints a picture of Jesus' family wanting him to play safe and remain the person they've known him to be, rather than growing into his ministry and preaching his challenging message. They can see that his actions are causing the authorities to pay attention and their reaction is to try to get Jesus to stay under the radar; to live small.

The incarnation of Jesus in the world – God becoming fully human and physically present in the world – was an act of supreme love for the world. The image of binding the strong man echoes this act of love. The image is reminiscent of a bully or tyrant who is wreaking havoc and terrorising a community. Before justice can be restored and the victims/survivors lifted up, the 'strong man' must be restrained and subdued. To bring about the loving act of God in the world, the power of evil must be resisted and bound up.

At the end of the today's gospel passage, Jesus states, 'Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.' Family bonds were critically important in First Century Palestine. Jesus does not deny his family kinship, but expands it to include anyone who does the will of God. All those who work to bring about the Kingdom or Reign of God share a bond with Jesus, they share a familial link with him. Whenever we act to bring about God's dream for this world, we join our efforts with those of our brother, Jesus.

Throughout the Gospel of Mark, the author explores the question of who people believe Jesus to be. Whilst his disciples have a less than perfect understanding of the question, 'Who do you say I am?', those whose faith reveals the truth of Jesus are quickly sworn to secrecy. In today's gospel, the misunderstanding of Jesus' family and the misunderstanding of the Scribes show their incomplete grasp of who Jesus is. Whilst the language about Satan, evil and unclean spirits is unfamiliar language today, the gospel writer uses this imagery to further his point that Jesus is the Messiah, the one who saves the world.