

*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.*

**2nd February 2025**  
**The Presentation of the  
Lord Year C**

**Entrance Antiphon**

Your merciful love, O God,  
we have received in the midst  
of your temple.

Your praise, O God, like your  
name, reaches the ends of  
the earth; your right hand is  
filled with saving justice.

**First Reading** is from the  
Prophet Malachi 3:1-4

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 23:7-  
10. R. v.10  
(R.) Who is this king of glory?  
It is the Lord!

**Second Reading** from the  
Letter to the Hebrews 2:14-  
18

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

This is the light of revelation  
to the nations,  
and the glory of your people  
Israel.

**Alleluia!**

**Holy Gospel according to**  
Luke 2:22-40

**Communion Antiphon**

My eyes have seen your  
salvation, which you  
prepared in the sight of all  
the peoples.

**REFLECTION** by Fr Michael Tate

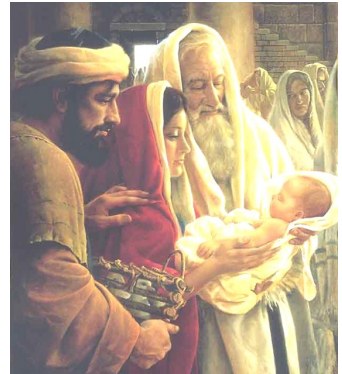
***The Word of God for young and old***

In a time (in the Western world at least) when there seems to be a growing gap between the old and the young, it is good to reflect on this Gospel incident. A young woman, still in her teens, a newly-wed cradling her newborn son in her arms, places that baby in the arms of a very old stranger who embraces her child with all the fervour of a *now* fulfilled hope. Is this the model for overcoming the distance between young and old in our culture? Can the young, like Mary, listen to the wisdom of tradition from an elder? Can the old like Simeon still be open to a moment of serendipity mediated by the young? The answer is: ‘Yes, when young and old come together around Jesus.’ As Pope Francis remarks of this encounter: ‘Jesus is at the centre.’ (*Homily 2 Feb 2018*) At whatever age we find ourselves, Mary is only too willing to place Jesus in *our* arms to fulfil our hopes and our yearnings. Perhaps we could pause for a moment to accept the gift of Jesus placed in our arms and hearts so that we can say with Simeon: ‘Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace...’

**9th February 2025**  
**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Year C**

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8  
Resp Ps: Ps 137:1-5. 7-8. R. v.1  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians  
15:1-11

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11



# Worship: Mass and Devotions

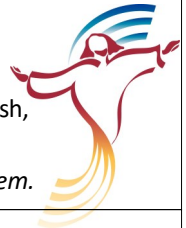
Sunday Mass	Weekday Mass	Devotions
Saturday Vigil: 6pm	Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri and Sat: Mass at 9am	Adoration with the Rosary: Saturday 9.30—10.30am
Sunday: 9.30 am and 5pm	Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm	Divine Mercy Devotion: Third Sunday at 3pm
Filipino Mass: Third Sunday at 11.15am		Alliance of the 2 Hearts Mass & Devotion: First Friday from 7.30pm
Samoa Mass: First Sunday at 12 noon	Healing Mass: First Saturday at 9am	Reconciliation: Sat 11am

## Prayer intentions

**For the sick and homebound:** Reg Bucknell, Mary Ponnappalam, Peter Presdee, Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Reg Gardner, Sr Heather Burke, Marie and Barry Atkins, Carol and Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys, Pat Stewart. *May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain and affliction.*

**For our recently dearly departed:** Christophur Pereira, Effin D’Cruz

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Hilda Young, Ivan Astolosh, Mrs. Rodriguez, Lio Feiloakitohi, Baldwin Lopez  
*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.*



## Contact us

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday  
9.30am-12.30pm  
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Email: [varroville@dow.org.au](mailto:varroville@dow.org.au)  
Website: [varroville.dow.org.au](http://varroville.dow.org.au)

Parish Priest:  
Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

Parish Associate:  
Sr “Jill” Girlie Sudario, CM

**Ministry Leaders** please check the parish calendar on the website when planning meetings and events. Call the parish office before you promote activities to ensure there is no clash with another ministry.

Promotion of upcoming events & information about your ministry can be submitted to the parish office for inclusion in the weekly bulletin and on the website.

# Parish and Community Notices

**CATECHISTS' APPEAL:** As the new school year begins, may we remind you about our Catechist Sunday Appeal we had before Christmas. Special Religious Education (SRE) Catechists come from all walks of life to ensure that all the children of our Parish hear of God's great love for them. There are still more children that we could be reaching! Are you able to give around an hour of your time a week to teach or help in a classroom, please? If you would like to get involved, please contact the Parish Priest (Fr Shane) or Catechist Coordinator (Josephine Theunissen) via the Parish Office - LL: 9603 7373 M: 0434 705 176 ). All you need to do is leave your name, email address and phone number and you will be contacted soon afterwards. We serve two schools, viz. St Andrews Public Primary and Robert Townson in Raby., Training is provided to prepare you for the role. There are two short courses offered during the year, with no homework or assignments, just your attention and interaction. Further information will be forwarded to you by email. Thank you.

**CLOTW Volunteers:** The ministry of Children's Liturgy of the Word now only has 4 volunteers, but we are great need of more people if CLOTW is to proceed. If you are interested please contact the Parish Office. CLOTW begins again on 9th Feb 2025.

**Restoration of Church Benches:** We are looking for more volunteers to help with the restoration of the Benches in the Church. Steve Locke and his team are doing a great job but really need your help. If you have a couple hours after the Weekday Masses please come along. Thank you to Steve Locke and the team for the work that they have done so far.

**Please note:** Patricia Wicks is away on a well earned holiday for 6 weeks. Stuart Lake will be acting in her position until Patricia's return. Stuart will be in the office Tuesday to Friday each week. You can contact him via the Parish Office or on the Parish Mobile.

**Friendship Group:** will meet this Tuesday with Mass at 10am followed by morning tea. Please call the parish office for further details.

**Lectors:** The Institution of Lectors will occur at all Masses next weekend 8-9 February for Word of God Sunday. Congratulations to all who are being Instituted.

**Blessing of your Bibles:** Something else that is occurring at all Masses next weekend 8-9 February Word of God Sunday is the Blessing of everyone's bible. so, if you want your Bible to be blessed please bring them along.

## Holy Gospel according to Luke 2:22-40

### **My eyes have seen your saving power.**

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said:

‘Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.’

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, ‘You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.’

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

