



MINISTRY DRIVE

Serving in the church shouldn't feel burdensome; instead, it's a privilege and a joy! When we approach our tasks with a grateful heart, we inspire those around us. The Bible encourages us to serve not out of obligation but with genuine enthusiasm. Our joy is contagious, and when we serve with a positive attitude, we reflect Christ's love to everyone we meet.

Leadership in serving the church is crucial. As we step into leadership roles, we carry responsibility not just for ourselves but also for those around us. Good leaders inspire, motivate, and guide others, using their influence to create an atmosphere of growth and faith. The Bible gives us guidance on what it means to lead with humility, integrity, & love.

Serving in the church is an act of worship. It is a way for us to express our love for God by serving others. When we help those in need, we are also honouring our Creator. We can transform ordinary moments into sacred ones when our hearts are set on loving others as Christ loved us.

Being faithful in our service is a testament to our commitment to God and His mission. No matter how small our contributions may seem, God calls us to be diligent and trustworthy in our service. We can find great rewards in faithfulness, and our steadfastness can inspire others to do the same.

Serving in the church can sometimes feel overwhelming, but we have a wonderful opportunity to lift each other up! Encouragement is essential in our journeys, and we are called to spur one another on with love and good deeds. A kind word, a heartfelt prayer, or even a simple smile can go a long way.

Serving our local community is an extension of our service in the church. It's about reaching out beyond our church walls and making a positive difference in the lives of others. Whether it's volunteering at a local shelter or lending a helping hand to a neighbour, every act of service matters. God calls us to be His hands and feet, spreading His love in practical ways.

Each act of service, big or small, has the power to change lives and strengthen our faith. As we read the scriptures, let's commit ourselves to serve wholeheartedly in our church community & beyond. Together, we can shine our light brightly and make a lasting impact.

Let's not forget that being a part of God's family means lifting one another up and fulfilling our duties with kindness and enthusiasm. May we continuously seek ways to serve others in our daily lives and experience the joy of being God's hands and feet in this world.



2025 Catholic Mission Church Appeal

Thank you for choosing to support the work of Catholic Mission this year, and for sharing the important and vital work of missionaries around the world with your parishioners.

As the Australian agency of the international Pontifical Mission Societies, Catholic Mission works on behalf of the Pope to support Church-run mission programs around the world.

Thanks to the generosity of Australians like you, last year we were able to support life-giving programs like The House of Mercy and share the story of Chuluunbaatar.

The House of Mercy provides a safe shelter to people in need; from people experiencing homelessness, those impacted by domestic violence and people in need of first aid services. On average, more than 400 people in need receive support from the House of Mercy every month. Without your partnership,

19 October 2025 Twenty ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Entrance Antiphon

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

First Reading from the book of Exodus 17:8-13

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 120. R. v.2

Response: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Second Reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy 3:14 – 4:2

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel according to Luke 18:1-8

Communion Antiphon

The Son of Man has come to give his life as a ransom for many.

Next Week

**26 October 2025
Thirtieth Sunday in
Ordinary Time Year C**

First: Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:2-3. 17-19. 23. R. v.7

Second: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

Appeal Overview

MISSIONARIES OF

HOPE

among all peoples

Mass and Devotions

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 9.30am & 5pm

Samoan Mass: 1st Sunday of October at 12noon

Maori Mass: 1st Sunday of each month at 2pm

Filipino Mass: 3rd Sunday of each month at 11.15am

Children's Mass: 5th Sunday of the month at 9.30am

Weekday Mass

9am each day except Thursday;

Thursday at 7.30pm

Healing Mass on the 1st Saturday of each month at 9am.

Reconciliation

every Saturday at 11am

Devotions & Prayer groups

Adoration with the Rosary: Saturday at 9.30am

Alliance of the 2 hearts Mass & devotion: 1st Friday of each month at 7.30pm

Divine Mercy Devotion: 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm

Faith Circles: every Monday at 2pm & 7pm via zoom

Holy Family Fellowship: every 4th Saturday at 7pm.

Book Club: meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 10am.

Friendship Group: is on the 1st Tuesday of the Month

Bible Study & Reflection Group: meets Monday at 10am.

Children's Ministry Gathering will meet on the 4th Sunday from 3– 5 pm

Ascent Youth Ministry: meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday from 6.30pm.

People like Chuluunbaatar would be facing immense difficulty getting back on their feet. But there is still work to be done in many other Church-run programs around the world.

This year, Pope Francis calls us to be “*Missionaries of hope among all peoples*”, extending Christ’s love to those in need. In this spirit, we invite parishioners to support vulnerable people through the work of Sr Jane Kaputa at the Women’s Cooperative, and midwife Kayula at the Chilonga Mission Hospital in Zambia.

These dedicated missionaries carry the vision of Bishop Edwin Mulandu as they walk with their people and embrace their realities with action. Through the Women’s Cooperative, Sr Jane supports women like Sharon whose family faces worsening drought and painful choices – selling crops for survival or feeding their children. Through this project women are gaining sustainable farming skills and resources to boost their production and generate income.

Through the Chilonga Mission Hospital, midwife Kayula meets expectant mothers like Grace, who endure dangerous journeys for medical care, only to face overcrowding, limited resources, and the heartbreaking risk of losing their baby or their own life. With your support, the hospital can receive crucial upgrades to equipment and facilities that are required to provide women and their babies with the care and dignity they deserve.

We invite you and your parish to partner with us to support this crucial work. To donate online go to catholicmission.org.au/donate

Parish Notices

Ministry Drive: In the past few weeks we have heard wonderful testimonials from parishioners who are involved in ministry in our parish. Please consider prayerfully, where your gifts and talents can best serve our community.

I especially encourage young adults and families to make a commitment to our parish. You are the future of our church. Also, please return your commitment forms as soon as possible.

First Reconciliation preparation classes commence on Saturday 25 October at 4pm. Registrations are being accepted at the parish office.

Pilgrimage to The Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy, Penrose Park, on Sunday 26 October.

Meeting place in the Church at 9 am for commissioning rite. Children must be accompanied parent/s or guardian. All parishioners are welcome to join; Transportation: We have been able to hire a 23 seater bus for the day. The cost is \$20 per adult. You can also drive your own car or carpool; If you wish to join please call the parish office to reserve a seat on the bus or call Sr Ines: 0468462814. For those who are driving the address is 120 Hanging Rock Road, Sutton Forest.

All Souls Day Mass in the Columbarium. This year All Souls day will be on Sunday 2 November. We will celebrate the outdoor mass at 5pm.

Raffle tickets are still available to take home and sell. Please ask the welcomer for a book of tickets or call in at the parish office to collect. Sold tickets can be returned at any time.

Friendship Group Melbourne Cup lunch will be on Tuesday 4 November.

Dinner Dance: Disco theme on 8th Nov 2025 from 7pm onwards in the Parish Hall. We have a catered dinner and entertainment featuring The Chillers & DJ Calvin. Tickets Available: Adult \$50; Child \$20; Family of 2 adults & 3 or more children \$150. Booking is Compulsory. For more info contact the Parish Office.

What's on around the Diocese? dow.sh/stayingconnected or dow.sh/weeklybulletin see everything that is on around our Diocese!

Rally to End Sex-Selective Abortions A public rally titled “Rally to End Sex-Selective Abortions” will be held on Wednesday, 22 October at 5:30pm on the steps of the NSW Parliament, Macquarie Street, Sydney. The event coincides with John Ruddick MLC’s introduction of a bill in Parliament concerning the prohibition of abortions based on the gender of the baby. More information and registration details are available at: https://www.drjoannahowe.com.au/rally_sydney_johnruddicksbill

Marriage Enrichment Weekend; We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on 24-26 October 2025 at a Marriage Encounter Weekend at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville. Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

Formation For Instituted Ministries of Acolyte and Lector will take place at the Xavier Conference Centre Wollongong on 30 November from 9.30am to 1pm including the celebration of Eucharist in the Cathedral at 10.30am. To register: dow.sh/im25.

Two Formation Opportunities in Liturgy will take place on Saturday 1 November at Holy Family Parish, Ingleburn. Following Mass for All Saints at 9am, the first session for Lectors will run from 9.45am to 10.30am. After a break for morning tea, the second session will focus on Lay Leadership in the absence of a Priest and the ministries involved, finishing around midday. Please register for the session/s that applied to you: Lector Formation Day: dow.sh/lectors_nov25; Lay Leadership Formation Day: dow.sh/layleadership_nov25

Diocese of Wollongong Men's Prayer Breakfast Launch Friday, 28 November 6:30am-8am; Guest Speaker: Peter Abela; Xavier Conference Room, 38 Harbour St Wollongong; Enjoy a breakfast buffet, prayer and inspiring guest speaker input. Be supported and inspired by other men, seeking to be authentic disciples on mission. RSVP: Monday, 17 November dow.sh/mpb25 Cost: \$20; *The Men's Prayer Breakfast Series is organised by the Office of Renewal and Evangelisation and menALIVE in the Diocese of Wollongong*

Prayer intentions

For the sick and homebound:

May Whitlock, Pat Cullen,
Mary Ponnappalam,
Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran,
Karen Browne, Reg Gardner,
Sr Heather Burke, Barry
Atkins, Carol & Gabriel
Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez,
Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty,
Rose Levoune, Doris Wahhib,
John Kajdrys, Pat Stewart,
Allan Marquinez, Richard
Scolyer, Angela Pavlovic,

*May they experience the
saving power of the risen Lord
amidst their pain & affliction.*

For our recently departed

Fe Vertuccio, John Rogan,
Maurice Laroche-Coralie,
Marie Atkins

Anniversaries that occur at this time:

Joe Spinnato,
Rozalia Astalosh,
Edmund Stanley Gomez,
Mara Srebenovich
*Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord, may perpetual light
shine upon them.*

Our Rosters

26 October 2025	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm
Welcomers	Glen, Arlene & Berna	Chris, Margaret & Gabriel	Beatrix & Michael
Altar Servers	Andrew, Diane, Sebastian & Eliana	Vu	Stuart & Nathan
Readers	Suzanne & Margaret	Irene & Lee	Niya & Effie
Altar Linen	Sr Jill	CLOTW: Rebecca & Sarah	
Counters	Richard & Michael	Church Vacuuming	Susan



Contact Us
Parish Priest:
Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

Parish Associate:
Sr “Jill” Girlie Sudario, CM

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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.

Holy Gospel according to Luke 18:1-8

God will see those who cry to him vindicated.

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart.

‘There was a judge in a certain town’ he said ‘who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, “I want justice from you against my enemy!” For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, “Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death.”’

And the Lord said, ‘You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?’

The Gospel of the Lord.



Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

In the gospel of Luke, widows represent the lowly of society. They also are a measure of how the society is travelling. In the Old Testament, God commanded the people to care for widows, orphans and strangers. Widows, in particular, were to be cared for by the whole community. From that point on, the level of compassion within the society could be measured by the care extended to the widows. A number of the prophets point to neglect of the widows as a sign that the community has turned its back on the covenant with God. The gospel of Luke picks up this prophetic tradition and on several occasions uses widows as the key figures in stories or parables.

In this parable, the widow is petitioning her local judge for justice against towards the widow, but the judge fobs her off repeatedly. The widow, knowing that her cause is just, persists and finally wears down the judge.

Another feature of the gospel of Luke is that the lowly and poor – represented here by the widow – are those who recognise their own condition and call on the mercy of God to lift them up. Jesus says that God will see justice done to those who cry out for God’s help. Jesus’ final comment about finding any faith on earth is a reminder that human beings have a tendency to think they can solve all their own problems and forget that they need God’s action in their lives. The faithful in the gospel of Luke are those who know that they are in need of God’s mercy and love and call out for it.

When Jesus tells this parable about the widow and the judge, he is actually painting a picture about God for his disciples. This is not to suggest that God needs to be worn down by persistence but rather it is a description of what God is not. If such a wicked and unjust judge can eventually be worn down, how much more quickly will God respond to a just cause? Yet the parable is told to reinforce the need to pray continually. The continuous prayer is not to wear God down – like the judge – but rather to demonstrate the genuine need.

Since chapter 9 of this Gospel, Jesus has been making a steady journey towards Jerusalem and the events of the Passion that await him there. This whole second half of the gospel is a series of teaching moments as Jesus seeks to prepare his disciples to continue his ministry after he has gone. Remembering that the gospel is written 50 or more years after the events described, the gospel writer has also deliberately structured these teaching moments for the audience of believers struggling day by day to live out the message and ministry of Jesus. As such, these teachings are just as important for modern audiences.

Does this teaching about the need for continual prayer mean that God needs to be convinced of our cause? Does a one-off prayer not get heard? Is God swayed by the force of numbers? Can the prayers of ten people carry more weight than the prayers of one? All these questions miss the point of the parable. It is not God who needs our prayers, but we who have to recognise, through prayer, our need for God’s mercy and gracious love. The constancy of prayer is not to convince God but to remind ourselves of our dependence upon God.



Pilgrimage in Berrima

26 October 2025, Sunday

Meeting Place in the Church

@ 9 am for Commissioning Rite

Children with parent/s or guardian

Adults are also welcome to join

Transportation: Drive your car or carpool

There is also bus available for \$20 / adult

(children are subsidized)

Lunch: BYO

For More Details Please contact

The Parish Office or Sr. Ines: 0468462814

