

Parish Sacramental Programme for 2020

Dear parents and carers please put the following dates in your diaries for upcoming Sacraments at our Parish for 2020.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Children from Year 3 and above who have made their First Reconciliation.

Enrolment Night:

Tuesday 26th May, 2020 at 7pm in St Mel's School Hall.

Sunday Lessons:

31st May, 7th June, 14th June, 21st June

Family Workshop:

Tuesday 23rd June, 2020 at 7pm-8pm at St Mel's School Hall.

Reflection Day:

Thursday 25th June, 2020 from 9am-3pm at St. Mel's School Hall.

First Holy Communion: Sunday 28th June, 2020 at 12.00pm midday at St Mel's Church.

CONFIRMATION

Children from Year 6 and above who have been Baptised in the Roman Catholic Rite and have received their First Holy Communion.

Enrolment Night:

Tuesday 30th June, 2020 at 7pm in St Mel's School Hall.

Sunday Lessons: 5th July, 26th July, 2nd August.

Family Workshop:

Tuesday 4th August, 2020 at 7pm at St Mel's School Hall.

Reflection Day:

Thursday 6th August, 2020 from 8.45am to 3pm at St. Mel's School Hall.

Confirmation: Sunday 9th August, 2020 at 3.30pm at St Mary's Cathedral Sydney.

For further information please contact Diane Daher at the Parish Office on 9787 1582

The Season of Lent

The season of Lent is the most appropriate time for celebrating the Sacrament of Penance. Already on Ash Wednesday the people of God has heard solemn invitation, *Turn away from sin and believe the Good News.* It is therefore fitting to have several penitential celebrations during Lent, so that all the faithful may have an opportunity to be reconciled with God and their neighbor and so be able to celebrate the paschal mystery in the Easter Triduum with renewed hearts.

Divine Mercy Sunday

19th April 2020

A special celebration will be held in the following Catholic Churches:

St Ambrose - Concord West

Celebrant: Bp Terrence Brady
12midday - 3pm Devotion
3pm Mass

Holy Innocents - Croydon

Celebrant: Fr John Rizzo
1.30pm - 3pm Devotion
3pm Mass

National Advice on Liturgical Implications in Light Coronavirus (COVID-19)

In our parish we are implementing the following procedures in line with the national health guidance.

- Holy Water is temporarily removed from stoups at the Church doors to reduce the possibility of transmission of the virus.

- When exchanging the sign of peace, individuals should avoid shaking hands but say *Peace be with you*, offer a smile, wave, nod or bow.

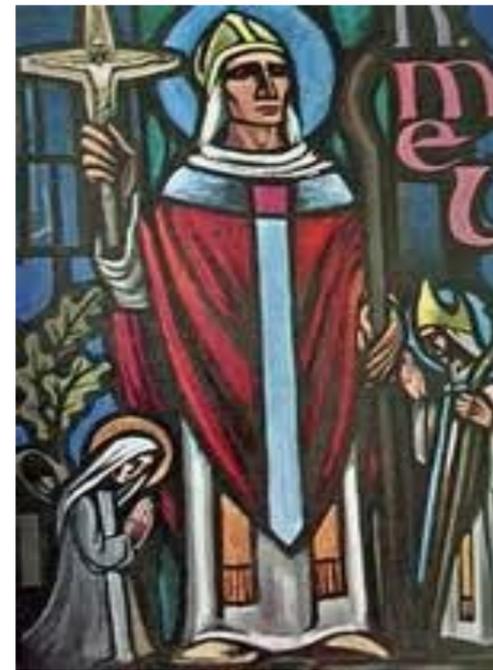
- All Ministers of Holy Communion are asked to take particular care to wash their hands before and after distributing Holy Communion.

- Until further notice Holy Communion from the chalice will cease.

- The coronavirus is easily spread through saliva. Therefore, **Holy Communion will only be administered in the hand** because of the high risk of transmission if people continue to receive on the tongue.

- The faithful who are too unwell to attend Sunday Mass - whether due to coronavirus or some other condition - or are at particular risk of contracting the COVID-19 can honour their Sunday obligation by participating in a time of prayer within the home, reading the Scripture or watching Mass on television or online (<http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>.)

This advice will be updated as and when appropriate. Thank you for your co operation.



St Mel's Parish

Est 1915

7 Evaline Street Campsie NSW 2194
Ph. 9787 1582

Email: stmelscampsie@bigpond.com

Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Mifsud

Parish Secretary: Diane Daher

Parish Office Opening hours: 9.30am-3pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
Monday & Wednesday office is closed.

St Mel's Catholic Primary School:
9789 3800

PARISH MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 5pm
Sunday: 8.30am & 10am
Weekdays: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 9am
Wednesday: 7pm followed by adoration.

SACRAMENTS:

Reconciliation: Saturday 10am to 10.30am & 4pm to 4.30pm.
Baptismal Preparation: First Tuesday of The Month. Call Parish Office to register.
Baptisms: 11am Sundays
Weddings: By arrangement with six months notice
Care for the Sick: Please call the presbytery.

DEVOTIONS:

Rosary: After weekday masses
Adoration: 9.30am Saturday & first Friday of the month
Italian Prayer Group: Tuesday. 10am - Lower Parish Hall.

SAINTS and FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

TUESDAY 17th March: St Patrick (Bishop) - Solemnity
THURSDAY 19th March: St Joseph Spouse of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Readers:

Vigil 5pm: Owen & Teresa
Sunday 8.30am: Ronnie & Liz
Sunday 10am: Anne Marie & Matthew

Next week :

Vigil 5pm: Renee & Tonia
Sunday 8.30am: Ronnie & Lucy
Sunday 10am: Mary & Joeceph

15th March, 2020

Third Sunday of Lent (Year A)

FIRST READING Ex 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. ‘Why did you bring us out of Egypt?’ they said. ‘Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?’ Moses appealed to the Lord. ‘How am I to deal with this people?’ he said. ‘A little more and they will stone me!’ The Lord said to Moses, ‘Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.’ This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, ‘Is the Lord with us, or not?’

WORD OF THE LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8

(R.) *If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts*

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R.)**

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. **(R.)**

O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.’ **(R.)**

SECOND READING Rom 5:1-2. 5-8

A reading from letter of the St Paul to the Romans

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God’s glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. **WORD OF THE LORD.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION See Jn 4:42. 15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL Jn 4:5-42

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink.’ His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, ‘What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?’ – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

‘If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.’ ‘You have no bucket, sir,’ she answered ‘and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?’ Jesus replied:

‘Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.’

‘Sir,’ said the woman, ‘give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.’ ‘Go and call your husband’ said Jesus to her ‘and come back here.’ The woman answered, ‘I have no husband.’ He said to her, ‘You are right to say, “I have no husband”; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.’ ‘I see you are a prophet, sir’ said the woman. ‘Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.’ Jesus said:

‘Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.’

The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.’ ‘I who am speaking to you,’ said Jesus ‘I am he.’

At this point his disciples returned, and were surprised to find him speaking to a woman, though none of them asked, ‘What do you want from her?’ or, ‘Why are you talking to her?’ The woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town to tell the people, ‘Come and see a man who has told me everything I ever did; I wonder if he is the Christ?’ This brought people out of the town and they started walking towards him.

Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, ‘Rabbi, do have something to eat’; but he said, ‘I have food to eat that you do not know about.’ So the disciples asked one another, ‘Has someone been bringing him food?’ But Jesus said: ‘My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work. Have you not got a saying: Four months and then the harvest? Well, I tell you: Look around you, look at the fields; already they are white, ready for harvest!

Already the reaper is being paid his wages, already he is bringing in the grain for eternal life, and thus sower and reaper rejoice together. For here the proverb holds good: one sows, another reaps; I sent you to reap a harvest you had not worked for. Others worked for it; and you have come into the rewards of their trouble.’ Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman’s testimony when she said, ‘He told me all I have ever done’, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, ‘Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.’ **GOSPEL OF THE LORD**

We remember in our Masses

Lord, we commend to your loving care all the sick of our parish: Fr Ozy, Fr William, Brian Pereira, Librada Pangan, Iris Eagleson, Dyan Rivai, Max Lay, Jerome Evan Carrillo, Joan Karam, Violet El-Kazzi, Elena Lorenzo, George Mattar, Nicholas Galvez Sr, Jeanette Lahood, Michelle & Toufic El-Dib, Leila Machaalany, John Duigan, Helena Knox, Cong Hen Khong, Peter Xu, Flordeliza Gonzales, Joshua & Francesco Frascella, Lisa Santo, Lyn Martin, Irene Antonio, Bill Gaynor, Cindy Williams, John Heirlehy, Mary Maney, Chahid Hanna, Joseph Romain, Maura Turija, Betty Williams, Vicky Pineda, Leonardo Hasham, Ampy Bollman, Mark & Merle Batterson, Ramon Alonzo, Rosalie Ferraren, David Sheumack, Claude & Jeanette Chidiac, Madeline Abouzeid, **Lord, we pray for our recently deceased especially:** Gennaron Sica, Filippo Palazzotto, Angela Marabe Infante, Hisna Moses, David Mahaffey, Rosie De Felipe, Clara Baet, Esme Elefante, Yolanda Javier, **We also pray for all the Souls of the faithful departed:** Fernandes & Gonsalves family members, Badwiy & Dalal Boutros, Jose Santos, Antonio Ramos, Francesco Viterale, Concepscion Ebuenga, Badih & Bud Stanton, Therese Badaoui, James Lahood, Sayed Saad, **We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Ray, Tunis & Linda Coorey, Gaetano, Marcello & Gaetano Crolla, Caterina Repice, **Lord Hear Us.**

EASTER MASS SERVICES

Stations of The Cross

Every Friday during Lent until the 3rd April.
Rosary at 6.30pm
Mass will be celebrated at 7pm followed by Stations of the Cross.

Reconciliation (1st Rite)

28th February -10th April, 2020

Every Friday & Saturday during Lent from 10.00am –10.30am.
Saturday evenings from 4pm - 4.30pm
10th April- Good Friday Following the Stations of the Cross.

Palm Sunday: 4th / 5th April, 2020

Blessings of palms at all masses.

**5pm Vigil Mass on Saturday 4th April, 2020
8.30am and 10am Mass Sunday 5th April, 2020**

Holy Thursday: 9th April, 2020

(No 9am Mass)

7pm: Mass of the Lord’s Supper
8pm – 10pm: Quiet prayer & adoration
Concluding with night prayer. The Church will remain open until 10.30pm

Good Friday: 10th April, 2020

10.00am: Stations of the Cross

1st Rite of Reconciliation: after Stations of the Cross

3pm: The Lord’s Passion

Holy Saturday: 11th April, 2020

No 9am Mass

6.00pm: Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday: 12th April, 2020

Mass at 8.30am and 10am.

Easter Monday 13th April, 2020

No Mass