

Ministry Roster.

This Week: 23rd Sunday in Ord Time Yr B, (8/9.) 24th Sunday Yr B,15/(9.)

Ministry	Vigil	8:30AM.	Vigil	8:30 AM.
<u>Acolyte.</u>	R Kemmis.	G. Verhoeven	R Kemmis.	G Verhoeven
<u>Commentator.</u>	P Gannon.	Volunteer.	T Burgheim.	L Blahut.
<u>Reader.</u>	T O'Donnell.	K Powell.	S Sheean.	Cathy V G.
<u>Flowers.</u>	J West.		K Powell.	
<u>Cleaning.</u>	R Verhoeven.		T Griffiths & G Hitchen.	

If you are unable to carry out your ministry please organise a replacement or call Richard on the Parish phone number listed on the first page of this bulletin before COB Fridays(5:00PM).

Positions Vacant:

- Development Manager – Property Services, Diocese of Parramatta.
- Parish Secretary – Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere.
Lead Facilitator of Diocesan Plan Implementation – Diocese of Parramatta –
Applications close 25 September

More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

THE CALL TO LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR IN THE SICK AND THE DYING.

The Diocese of Parramatta Healthcare Ministries Formation Community is founded on the call of Jesus to love one's neighbour in the sick and the dying. Within the community are Catholics involved in the Pastoral Care of the Sick, Aged Care, Lay Chaplains as well as Healthcare Professionals. We invite all students interested in pursuing a career in Professional care of the sick and the dying to a Formation session:

**21/9/2024 St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood
from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. followed by lunch.**

At this session, students will hear from professionals involved in the care of the sick and the dying. They will also have the opportunity to meet experienced professionals in their proposed field of study at university.

*Creative Mondays are back. Next meeting Monday
Sept 9 , 10.30 - 2.30 in the Santa Maria Hall. Following
dates October 14,& November 11.
Enquiries to Sr Veronica 0419 532 303.*



Our Lady of Nativity Parish Bulletin .

254 Great Western Highway, Lawson, NSW 2783. PO BOX 44, Lawson, 2783.

Phone: **4759 1034 or 0418 214 548.**

Email: lawson@parracatholic.org Parish Website: www.lawsoncatholicchurch.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Slyney - 0418 461 316.

Parish Office Hours: Thursdays & Fridays 10.00 am - 3.30 pm.

Weekend Masses: **Saturday 5:00 PM & Sunday 8:30 AM.**

WEEKDAY MASSES : Week day Masses are cancelled.

Baptisms: First & Third Saturdays at 11:00 AM. Weddings: Call the office & six months notice.

Funerals: Call the office. **BENEDICTION: First Fridays 7:00 PM.**

Confirmation Program.

Our Confirmation preparation is now more than halfway through, and the families have been exploring the actions of the Holy Spirit. At the first Pentecost there is an account about the coming of the Holy Spirit accompanied by fire and wind. These symbols together with the symbols of breath and a dove all point to the mysterious actions of the Holy Spirit which can be powerful or gentle. The Holy Spirit is a giver of gifts and a part of the Confirmation ceremony involves seven of the traditional gifts of the Spirit being requested for each of the candidates.

To help the children understand the gifts of Knowledge, Understanding, Wisdom, Courage, Reverence, Right judgement and Wonder, each candidate has been given 7 small tangible gifts to represent each of the gifts of the spirit. For example, for the gift of Reverence each candidate has been given a few colourful pebbles because Reverence is the gift that helps us to respect the results of God's Love in everyone and in all creation.

These gifts of the Spirit were given to all us at our own Confirmation. They are still good for us today. We just need to remember to use them.

So, let us all pray for the gifts of the Spirit of the Holy Spirit, not only for the candidates preparing for Confirmation but also for all of us, especially in the times we really need them.

Maureen
for the Sacramental Team

2024 Safeguarding Sunday

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that respects the dignity of all children and adults at risk, and empowers and listens to all people, especially those who are vulnerable. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Safeguarding-Sunday-2024>

We acknowledge and pay respect to the Darug and Gundungarra People and their elders - the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather.



Recently Deceased: Eamonn Spellman.
Anniversaries:

Sick: Tony Gilmour, Rob Nickl, Lan Franco Matteucci, Anthony Griffin, Daniel Smith, Sienna Erdmanis, Kees Van Der Donk, Mary Whyte, Shirley Bennett and all Private Intentions. *Due to the strict privacy laws, names of the deceased and sick can only be included in the Bulletin with the permission of the immediate family. Thank you.*

First Reading

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Isaiah prophesies about God’s vindication.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 146:7,8-9,9-10

A song of praise to God

Second Reading

James 2:1-5

James teaches that there is to be no partiality within the Christian community.

Gospel Reading

Mark 7:31-37

Jesus restores a man’s hearing and speech.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we continue to hear the Gospel of Mark proclaimed. In today’s reading, Jesus heals a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. This is a story about Jesus’ healing power, and in it we find clues about our understanding of sacrament. We are struck by the physical means used to heal the man, the use of spittle and touch. The Church continues to celebrate the sacraments using physical means. In the Sacrament of Baptism, water and oil are used to show the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we are anointed with holy oil on the forehead and the hands. In the Eucharist, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. We are a sacramental people who believe that God’s grace is given to us through these physical signs.

Some, however, see in this Gospel an image of the proclamation of the good news of Jesus to the Gentiles. The geographic references tell us that Jesus is journeying through Gentile territory. Jesus had previously visited this region and healed a person possessed by a demon. Jesus was already famous there, which explains why people brought the deaf man to him. The story that precedes this reading in Mark’s Gospel sets the stage. Jesus encounters a Gentile, a Syrophenician woman who asks him to heal her demon-possessed daughter. Jesus engages her in a dialogue about not feeding to dogs the food intended for children. Jesus is struck by the woman’s great faith when she replies that even dogs eat the food that falls from the table, and he heals her daughter immediately. The faith of this Greek woman compels Jesus to respond to her plea.

Mark shows that Jesus’ own mission affirms the early Church’s mission to the Gentiles. This was a significant issue to the early Christian community, which found that the good news of Jesus took root and spread quickly among the Gentiles. Yet there is an irony in the story of healing that Mark tells. Jesus gives the man the gift of speech, but then tells him not to use it. Jesus asks that the news of his healing power, which is evidence of his identity as the Messiah, not be spread. This is a recurring motif in Mark’s Gospel and is sometimes called the “messianic secret.”

OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY

SCHOOL

7 Somers Street, Lawson.

Phone: 4753 2200. Email:

oln@parra.catholic.edu.au



**[SANTA MARIA](#)
[CONFERENCE CENTRE](#)**

Available for meetings,
functions and
conferences. Phone
Sr Veronica on 4759 1116.

From the Finance Committee.

For the year ended 30 June 2024 the parish posted a loss of approximately \$12K net of repairs & maintenance expenses which were required for the presbytery and office insurance claim.

We have received funds from our insurer for the rebuild of the parish office and are **still** awaiting council for DA approval.

The operation of the parish relies 100% on the generosity of the parishioners and the parish is grateful for all donations. A reminder that the most economical way to support the parish is via direct credit into the Parish Bank Account

Account name: Lawson Our Lady of the Nativity

BSB: 062-950

Account Number: 00000164

Tom Boyd.

Chairman Finance Committee.

Bishop’s Father’s Day Appeal supporting our retired priests .



This Father’s Day, let us show our thanks and appreciation for our priests’ lifelong gifts of faithful service. They have dedicated their lives to guiding us spiritually and emotionally, often at great personal sacrifice. Your compassionate donation cares for our clergy’s health and wellbeing during sickness and retirement. Please give generously to the Bishop’s Father’s Day Appeal at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.

Launch of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church.

On Saturday 10 August, the Diocese of Parramatta launched the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church. Our pastoral plan represents the culmination of our Synod journey, where we have come together to listen, discern, and envision a path forward for our diocese over the past 16 months. To download a copy of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, visit parracatholic.org/synodality.

MET Worship Ministry to the Sick and Dying Formation: 19 October.

Are you currently taking Communion to the Sick and Dying in the Diocese of Parramatta? If so, please join the Office for Worship for a day of ongoing formation to further your knowledge and understanding of this important topic. Saturday 19 October from 9.30am - 2pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Morning tea and Lunch provided. For more information and to register before 14 October, please contact Hannah on hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org or 0488 000 211 or visit <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=office-for-worship>