



**26<sup>th</sup> September 2021**  
**XXVI Sunday in Ordinary**  
**Time**

**Administrator:** Fr Gustavo C. Farfan  
**Parish Secretary:** Sally Torkamani  
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**Saints of the week:**

*Monday 27<sup>th</sup>: St Vincent de Paul, priest. Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>: The Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels.*  
*Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>: St Jerome, priest, doctor. Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October: St Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin, doctor.*  
*Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>: The Holy Guardian Angels.*

**Though the church remains closed until further notice, if you need the assistance of a priest for Holy Communion, Reconciliation or for a talk, please contact the parish office, Fr Gustavo is available in the church or to visit you at your home.**

**Telephone: 9649 3855**

<b>SUNDAY MASSES:</b>	Vigil Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 8:00am, 10am
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES:</b>	Tuesday to Saturday 9.15am
<b>ROSARY:</b>	Tuesday Saturday 8.30am
<b>RECONCILIATION:</b>	Saturday 4.15pm and by appointment
<b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:</b>	Saturday 4.15pm
<b>BAPTISMS:</b>	Sundays after 10am mass and by appointment
<b>WEDDINGS:</b>	By appointment (minimum of six months notice required)
<b>ANOINTING MASS:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday in March, June, September & December
<b>PARISH SECRETARY:</b>	Tuesday & Thursday 9am to 3pm

(Mass Intentions & news items for the bulletin must be left at Presbytery by 12pm Wednesday)

**This Church is equipped with an induction loop for the hearing impaired**

## **REMEMBERING OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES**

**Recently Deceased:** Magdalena Velarde, Sister Patricia Thame, Joseph Doumit.

**Anniversaries:** Eugenio Ongcal, For all souls in purgatory: Rosita Ongcal, Salud & Claro Tungul Sur, Teresita Mora, Dodie & Priscilla Sta Cruz.

**May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.**

**We pray for:** Byron Jaramillo, Mary and family, Hillary Senanayake.



## **MARIAN PILGRIMAGE**

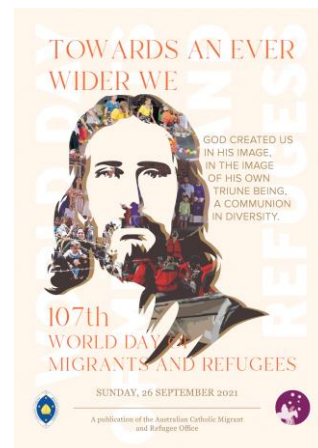
My dear friends on 7 October the church celebrates the memorial of “Our Lady of the Rosary” all of us know how powerful the prayer of the Rosary is. I invite you to consider the following: **1)** For those who walk every day, make your walk to the church praying the Rosary on the way, kind of a small pilgrimage. When you arrive there, I will be waiting with a small surprise. Also, if you want to receive communion or to approach for the sacrament of reconciliation, I will be available. Before starting your walk ask for a special grace to our dear Mother. **2)** For those who cannot go for a walk we will be streaming by Facebook the Holy Rosary from the church at 3pm on the 7 October.

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

**PASTORAL COUNCIL AND FINANCIAL COMMITTEE:** My dear friends as we prepared ourselves to re-open the church and make easy the way to participate and receive the sacraments, I would like to let you know that we need to work together as community to make sure that no one is excluded from such a wonderful opportunity to strength the relationship with God our Father. So, we need to reactivate the Pastoral council and the Financial Committee of the parish, if any one of you are interested in being part of such essential parish’s groups, please contact the parish office through telephone call or email, provide your full name, telephone number or email and we will be in touch with you. Thank you for considering this service to our community. God bless you.

**WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES:** Sunday 26 September is the 107th World Day of Migrants and Refugees. The Church keeps them in her prayers and care as much as it is possible. Migration is very close to the heart and life of a Christian because in somehow Christian life is in a constant motion, maybe the motives and goals will be different, but the unsettledness is the same. Let us remember the great statement of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop: “Remember we are but travelers here”, all of us are just passing by through this world but all of us are together in the adventure of life. Prayer: *Holy, beloved Father, your Son Jesus taught us that there is great rejoicing in heaven whenever someone lost is found, whenever someone excluded, rejected or discarded is gathered into our “we”, which thus becomes ever wider.*

*We ask you to grant the followers of Jesus, and all people of good will, the grace to do your will on earth. Bless each act of welcome and outreach that draws those in exile into the “we” of community and of the Church, so that our earth may truly become what you yourself created it to be: the common home of all our brothers and sisters. Amen. Pope Francis*



**CHARITABLE WORKS FOUND (CWF)** “100 years ago, when the world was struggling with the Spanish Flu, Christians offered their aid and resources to house and heal the sick, providing food, nursing and companionship to those affected.

Sadly, our current COVID-19 pandemic has not only killed millions, made others sick, and brought so much of ordinary life to a halt: it has also left many feeling isolated, lonely, abandoned, and despairing. Now, more than ever, our community needs the Gospel message of love and its fruits in ministries of mercy.”

We appreciate this is a very difficult time for everyone, but it is also the reason why we need to support our Charitable Works Fund, which in turn supports Catholic Care, the Ephpheta Centre and many other ministries in the Archdiocese of Sydney.

For online donations, please click [here](#) (Please if you do any donation online notify the parish office for accounting purposes)

**THE SAFEGUARDING AND MINISTERIAL INTEGRITY IN SJG PARISH:** Continuing the process in moving forward positively in relation to all Safeguarding measures, now you can find in the [parish website](#) a variety of helpful resources regarding to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Part of that material you can find at the entrance of the church as well.

As part of the Safeguarding procedures, we are now making available a suggestion box specially for children and young people in order that the parish takes into consideration their thoughts, feelings, and suggestions in a more proactive way.

**CHURCH VOLUNTEERS:** (Sacramental coordinators, sacramental group leaders, Catechists, Acolytes, Readers, parish collectors and Eucharistic Ministers) thank you very much for your generous help in the parish. There is an **Online Safeguarding Induction Training** to be completed by those who are engaged in one way or another in child-related work in the parish. Please go to this [link](#) (crt+click) and complete it once you have done it, please notify the parish the date you have complete the training so we can update our records which is a requirement from the Safeguarding Office. We work together for the safety of children and young people. If you have any inquiries, please contact the parish office.

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### **PARISH DONATIONS:**

Now for your convenience the parish offers an online donation system. At the top of the parish website, you can find a red button **SUPPORT US** click there and follow the easy steps. If you would like to specify for which collection (1st or 2nd) your donation is done, please contact us through the parish email. May God bless you for your great generosity.

### **A MESSAGE REGARDING SAFEGUARDING ISSUES FOR OUR PARISH**

A copy of the Safeguarding Policy has been uploaded to the website of St John of God and a copy will also be attached to our notice board. If anyone would like a copy of the Safeguarding Policy, one can be provided to you upon request.

As part of the Safeguarding procedures, the Parish is now making available a suggestion box especially for children and young people in order that we take into consideration their thoughts, feelings, and suggestions in a more proactive way. The Suggestion Box which will be placed on a table in the church foyer. We look forward to hearing from our children.

Also, as part of the Safeguarding procedures, it is available for parents, guardians and the general community a protocol 'Managing Safeguarding Complaints'. We value the process in moving forward positively in relation to all Safeguarding measures. If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Priest.

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org) You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

### **Sunday Readings**

#### **First reading: Numbers 11: 25-29**

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look,' he said 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

#### **Second reading: James 5: 1-6**

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

#### **Gospel acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

Your word is truth, O Lord:  
consecrate us in the truth.

*Alleluia!*

#### **Gospel: Mark 9: 38-43,45,47-48**

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'





### Gospel reflection

The readings of this Sunday are **a word of conversion**. We should be happy and attentive to these readings. We should read again and again until the word of conversion proclaimed becomes part of us, because it is our salvation. A word of conversion is not to put us down or to intimidate us, instead a word of conversion is full of love and zeal for the salvation of our souls.

In the gospel of today we heard that the apostles tried to stop a man of casting out devils. We can imagine they were disturbed and probably upset, jealous and felt threatened, because that man was doing their work and yet was not part of their group. One of the apostles, John, reported the incident to Jesus and behold, Jesus opened their minds with a wonderful teaching. Jesus made it clear that **all good comes from God the Father** and that doing charitable work was not the exclusive right of his followers. God moves where he wills and chooses whom he wills.

The exclusive thinking of the apostles is a temptation we all have. When we think along these lines, we are inclined to turn the church in on herself and deny that great works can be achieved outside her influence. We forget that an action can be good and Godly without being performed by a Christian. **Goodness in the world comes from God and not from men.**

Even within the church there is the temptation to form our own select groupings; to promote the club mentality which is basically about being in and keeping other people out. We have all witnessed unhealthy rivalry between different church organisations, different parishes and yet the aim of all is about furthering the kingdom of God.

In this context Jesus made the warning to his disciples, not to be an obstacle for others, Jesus invites us to cut off with our sins. And how we cut off from our sins? The gospel says: if your hand causes to sin cut it off, but obviously Jesus does not want only part of us in heaven. **Jesus loves our whole being, body and soul** and, the whole body not just part of it. In the gospel of Matthew 15:19 Jesus says: it is from the heart of man that all evil thoughts come. So then, we need to clean our hearts. The first step to clean our hearts is to acknowledge that, yes, we are sinners, and the second step is to look for the sacrament of Reconciliation. Personally, as priest, it has been a humbling and joyful experience to see that not few people have called me and made an appointment for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, people come to the church and ask for Holy Communion, for Confession, for blessing and for prayers, even if we are in lockdown, the Sacraments are still available for anyone who looks for them. It is true what saint Paul says in the letter to Romans 8:38-39: **no one, or anything can separate us from the Love of God.**

Let us ask the Lord to see that God can use different people and different means to manifest his mercy to others. He may be sending his message to us in the most unexpected and "tragic" events that befall us. Let us recognise the source of our sins and cut it off through the Sacrament of forgiveness.

God bless you.

### THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"If you are humble nothing will touch you, neither praise nor disgrace, because you know what you are"

Mother Teresa of Calcutta