



### UPDATED RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- From Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February, restrictions on church attendance were eased further to allow **a two-square metre rule. Our three churches are still limited for numbers attending.** If there are too many people attending then those coming late may be asked to attend another Mass.
- Masks are no longer compulsory to attend Mass but are still recommended.
- Congregational singing, the sign of peace and passing of the collection plate continue to be suspended.
- When preparing to receive Holy Communion, parishioners are asked to go seat by seat to enable more distancing between others who are in the line. Please go from the nearest seat to the Priest or Acolyte but please wait until there is space to join the queue before standing up.
- The dispensation from the Bishops from attending Mass has been extended.
- ANYONE who enters the church must give their names and contact details before entering the church. These records will be kept for four weeks or use the QR code.
- Only one door will be opened to enable accurate recording of those attending.
- Hands must be sanitised when entering the church.
- Please do not come to the church if you are unwell, even with a simple cold.
- If a confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs in a parish, every person who has registered as an attendee of the parish will be notified of the diagnosis and the date and time the infected person attended the church. No other details will be provided.

### EXTRA FRIDAY MASS DURING LENT

On Friday evenings during Lent, there will be a 6.30pm Mass in St Joseph's Church followed by the Stations of the Cross at 7pm commencing next Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> February. **All welcome.**

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be held in both St Francis Xavier's and St Joseph's Churches, each Friday at 7.00pm during Lent commencing next **Friday 19th February.**

### 60<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Many congratulations to Bernie and Mabs Pasfield from Rockdale who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary (60 years) during the week. May God continue to bless you and all your family with health and happiness in the years to come. Bernie and Mabs have been very involved at St Joseph's Church for many decades. Bernie has assisted the two past parish priests and Fr Yacub as an Acolyte and on the Parish Finance Committee. We thank them both for their faith and commitment to us all.



### EMPLOYMENT CONGRATULATIONS

Mrs Monica Micallef, the School Secretary at St Joseph's, celebrated 35 years at St Joseph's Primary this past week. Over this time, she has worked with many hundreds of children and their families, some over more than one generation, seven principals and three parish priests. Her dedication, friendliness and commitment to St Joseph's have been second to none. As a Parish, we thank her for all she does and pray that God will continue to bless her and reward her outstanding efforts for our school.

### A PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Blessed are you, Father, who, in your infinite love sent us your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, that we may have life, and have it in abundance.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, renew our Eucharistic communities. May they be places of encounter with the living Christ, centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy. Grant us the gifts of faith, hope and love to be faithful disciples of Jesus and radiant witnesses to the people of Sydney.

Our Lady, Help of Christians. *Pray for us!*

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelisation. *Pray for us!*

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. *Pray for us!*

### PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

Today is Project Compassion Sunday. Project Compassion Envelopes are available for collection this weekend at all Masses. Please take a set home and return it each week by placing it in the special box provided in each of the churches. This Lent let us remember those less fortunate than ourselves. One of the great traditions in Lent is to give-up something we enjoy. The money normally spent on this enjoyment could be given to Project Compassion as a means of linking your alms-giving with your Lenten sacrifice and penance.

### LENTEN PENANCE

1. Abstinence from meat, and fasting, must be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain.

2. On all other Fridays of the year including the Fridays of Lent, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

(a) prayer – for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the rosary.

(b) self-denial – for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country; limiting use of social media, smart phones or television.

(c) helping others – for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

Lent lasts from Ash Wednesday to the Mass of The Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday). On Good Friday and, if possible, also on Holy Saturday until the Easter Vigil, the Easter fast is observed.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Elena Carrabs, Ross Hili, and Sr Marcia Dawson RSJ

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Raquel Goncalves, Leonora Fasanella, Barrie Fisher, Giuseppe & Maria Guarnieri, Domenico Puopolo,

**We especially remember those for whom Masses have been requested, those in our Memorial Books and all our deceased relatives, friends, parishioners, and benefactors. May they rest in peace. Amen.**

### ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"May God be praised for all, and keep me strong."  
13.5.1895

