

All Hallows' Five Dock



2nd Sunday of Advent | Year C | Sunday 5th December

Parish Mission

We, the people of this place,
live and celebrate a love of faith.

We share this faith in a
spirit of service,
that creates a sense of
God's presence among us.

**All Hallows' Parish
Administrator:**
Fr Danny Meagher

Assistant Priest:
Fr Richard Ddumba

Deacon:
Rev. Mr Constantine Rodrigues

Parish Secretary:
Elsa Waldie

Safeguarding Officers
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9am - 4pm

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[All Hallows Catholic School](#),
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A Message from Fr Richard

Dear Parishioners,

In the old days when a monarch had to travel through the wilderness where there was no road, a crew of workers would precede him, making the way passable for his chariot. In our times, many crooked roads have been made straight, many narrow roads have been widened, and many rough roads have been made smooth. All this has made travel easier and safer. But this is not what John the Baptist is talking about when he cries out, "prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight". The word 'way' or 'road' stands for a person's manner of life and conduct. The straight road stands for right living. The crooked road stands for wrong living.

John the Baptist preached repentance as a means to prepare for the coming Messiah. Preparing the way of the Lord is not just a temporary clean-up for the visitor, but an embracing of the new possibilities that are opening to us. "Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven has come near." (Mt 3:2) Repent, for no one is good enough for the kingdom. Only a repentant heart can be received into the kingdom. And you can't get away with just a short-term repentance like kids being good for a few days before Santa comes, you've got to bear fruit worthy of repentance. Repentance basically means "turning around", "changing direction".

We're not being called to turn away from everything that's good in life. We're being called to turn away from that which has passed its use-by date, that which no longer gives life, that which would now just anchor us in irrelevance and decay. And more significantly we are being called to turn to something, called to embrace the new possibilities that are opening to us, to launch out with courage and grace into exciting new visions and hopes for the future. And the Christ who is born anew in every age will go with us always. During this second week of Advent, may I resolve to live with an open, forgiving heart and bless others with my peaceful presence.

With best wishes -

Fr Richard.

Sacramental Life

Holy Mass:

Saturday: 8am & 5.30pm Vigil

Sunday: 8.30am, 10am and 5pm

Monday - Friday: 8am

Reconciliation:

Saturday:
8:30am-9am / 4:45pm - 5:15pm
Or any time by appointment.

Sick Calls:

Any time - day/night.

Baptisms:

Every Sunday.

Weddings:

Contact the parish office.

This Week:

Sunday 6:

Corpus Christi Sunday
Youth Group // 4pm - Parish Hall

Wednesday 9:

3pm - Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration

Sunday 13:

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Youth Group // 4pm - Parish Hall



Notices from Fr Danny

Childcare Centre

We had a joint meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Committees on Wednesday last week. It was to discuss a proposal to commence a childcare centre here at All Hallows. We decided to proceed and having reviewed two proposals from childcare operators, have decided to proceed with Sydney Catholic early childhood services (SCECS). This is a fairly new childcare operator, part of the Church here in Sydney, and a not-for-profit organisation.

We see many advantages:

- It will provide a great service to families with children at All Hallows Primary and be a feeder into our Primary School;
- It will allow the parish a wider opportunity to engage in evangelising families in the parish;
- It will provide the parish with a good source of income so that parish facilities can be properly maintained and we will have resources to conduct our pastoral and evangelising activities.

The proposal currently is to use the parish hall, which would be very extensively refurbished. We have indicated that we would like to have a parish room in the new centre, about the size of a classroom, with kitchenette and toilets and that we would like a design that allows for some parish social use on weekends. The quiet enjoyment of the residents of the Msgr John Peoples retirement village is also of paramount importance to us.

The next step in the process is for us to work with SCECS on an initial design. This design will then be presented to parishioners for comment – we discussed pinning drawings on walls in the foyer to the Church and providing comment sheets. The parish consultation process will be fundamental.

Any questions, please contact members of the PPC or finance committee or Fr Richard or Fr Danny.

Ordination

Again, may I repeat my invitation to all parishioners to attend my episcopal ordination at St Mary's Cathedral, this Wednesday, 8 December, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, at 7pm. You are all most welcome. I pray that it will be an occasion of great joy and grace to all who attend.

CWF Appeal

CWF appeal envelopes remain around the Church if you missed taking one last week. Please return your donation this week or next. Thank you for your generosity.

First Holy Communion Masses

Congratulations to all the children who have received their first Holy Communion this weekend. Thanks to their parents who have helped in their preparation, to all the musicians who have assisted with the ceremonies and, especially, to the members of the parish Sacramental team who have been working so hard in recent weeks trying to fit in the Sacraments of Confirmation and first Holy Communion into this year.

CWF Parish Appeal



The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) Appeal will be happening this weekend and we need your help!

Your donations will help those most struggling at this time – single mothers facing homelessness, those struggling with mental health and our Aboriginal communities. You will also be building a culture of support and encouragement for our hospital and university chaplaincies, and our future priests at the Good Shepherd Seminary.



Special envelopes are available at the parish.

Alternatively, you can learn more and donate securely at www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf.

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

Please remember in your Prayers:

Sick:

Silvana La Selva
Joseph Cacnio
George Malouf
Norman Merlino

Recently Deceased:

Joyce Shaw
Vito Pinto
Tony Michael
Francis Cornelius Twomey
Pasquale Ardore
Mary Shelpot
Thea Bettridge
John Cammareri
Giuseppe Princi
Michael Koprivnjak
Teresa Benitez

Anniversaries:

Leo Moyneur
Lydia Fiorini
Peter Fiorini
Loretta Gioia
Michele Carbone
Angelina Salatino
David and Maureen Morrison
Giuseppe Grieco

For the Souls of the Faithful Departed:

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May all the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.



Parish Notices



Children's Christmas Eve Mass - Invitation to participate



All families are warmly invited to the Children's Christmas Eve Mass, taking place at 5:30pm, Friday 24 December at All Hallows' Catholic Primary School. (Note at the school and not the church) Carols will precede the mass at 5pm. All children are invited to participate in the celebration. There will be two x 30 minute practices for main roles - 3pm Thursday 9 December and 5pm Thursday 23 December. Please complete the registration form below if your child would like to participate. Registration Form: <https://forms.gle/EAXgcrWisEMgNMK86>

Please contact Frances Cordaro via the P&F with any questions - allhallowspandf@gmail.com

Catholic Care support for school leavers with a disability

Catholic Care is providing young people with an intellectual disability with the right skills for employment and their future.

Call CCareline to find out more
CCareline 131819
 CatholicCare.org
 connect@catholiccare.org
 8am - 6pm Monday - Friday

Book a tour and find out why our school leavers program is the next best step for young adults transitioning into the working world.



Supporting our Parish You can support our Parish financially by accessing the BPoint Secure Payment Service on the Parish website or you can use the QR Code printed here. For contributions to the First Collection, please select *Pastoral Revenue* from the drop down menu. For Planned Giving contributions, please select *Planned Giving* from the drop down menu and include your name and your Planned Giving Number (if known). You can also contribute using the Tap and Go devices in the Gathering Space at the entrance to the church.

Safeguarding our Parish

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 Office at 93905810 or

safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.



Become a Catechist or Helper in 2022

Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public primary and high schools.

Share the hope and joy that Jesus brings with them and become a catechist or helper, ready to start in Term 1, 2022.

Starting off as a helper, you'll receive easy step-by-step lessons and hand out activity books in primary schools.

Find out more about the work catechists do here, whether at primary or secondary level: <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/>



"Being a catechist is the most spiritually fulfilling thing I've done"- Rose.

Please speak with Fr Danny / Fr Richard or contact the parish office if you are interested in volunteering.

Baptisms



We welcome

Alessandro Siviero

who is being baptised into our parish
 Community of All Hallows' this weekend.

Communion to the Sick

The Communion to the Sick roster is starting again to bring Communion to the elderly and sick in our community.

If you are a Minister of the Eucharistic who has been fully vaccinated and would like to volunteer for this ministry, please contact the parish office.



Children's Corner

Make a straight path for the Lord

Z N V R M X S J Q N Z F G V D
 A O A U E P R O P H E T B M E
 U X X C C I D E M P E R O R S
 T N O H R M S Q T K Q O L B E
 E S F S H O U T I N G T J R R
 E M A N U M O U N T A I N E T
 J I G C Z G F Y N Q Y L S A G
 X R V A U N L C V I B N I D R
 X R O A D S H Q I N A O N Y B
 U H A V M Q O C W U Z O S Q G
 V D E J J O E M I P Z Z Y J F
 F F X T F W F O R G I V E N D
 Q Q J C R O O K E D K V P B L
 E H K Q V A E S U G W A X D Q
 X I V A L L E Y R O U G H J A

Try to find these words:

- crooked
- desert
- emperor
- forgiven
- mountain
- prophet
- ready
- road
- rough
- shouting
- sins
- valley

| First Reading | Responsorial Psalm | Second Reading |
|--|---|---|
| <p><u>Bar 5:1-9</u> A reading from the prophet Baruch <i>Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.</i> Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.</p>  | <p>(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.</p> <p>1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R.)</p> <p>2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)</p> <p>3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)</p> <p>4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)</p>  | <p><u>Phil 1:3-6. 8-11</u> A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians <i>Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.</i> Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.</p>  |
| Next Week's Readings | | Gospel Acclamation |
| <p>3rd Sunday of Advent 1st Reading: Zeph 3:14-18 2nd Reading: Phil 4:4-7 Gospel: Lk 3:10-18</p> | | <p>Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!</p> |

Gospel

[Lk 3:1-6](#)
 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
All people shall see the salvation of God.
 In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness; Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant

The advent of God's coming with its promise of fulfilment happens within world history. The first reading locates God's act of restoration in the city of Jerusalem. The gospel situates the ministry of John within a particular period of world history. They point us to historical experience as the place and the time of restoration, of incarnation, of redemption. They show us that God works within everyday life, in conventional places, during regular time. In fact, from a human point of view, the extraordinary events of salvation took place within what was quite ordinary. John proclaims the kind of transformation that results in a change of heart. Reversals characterise such transformation: the robe of mourning is replaced by the splendour of glory; tears are turned into rejoicing; those led away by enemies are brought back by God; valleys are filled, mountains are levelled, winding roads are made straight; even nature offers itself as shelter for the people of God. Those who are shamed and discarded are made glorious; those who suffer are comforted; the oppressed are freed; all of life's obstacles are removed; the way to God is made straight; the natural world enjoys peace and harmony. The transformation or repentance of heart takes place within human life, within relationships of justice between people and with the earth, in right living, in genuine unselfish love. It produces the fruits of righteousness of which Paul speaks. Advent is the time to prepare ourselves for this.



Sunday 5 December 2021
 Luke 3:1-6
 2nd Sunday of Advent

In the
GOSPEL TODAY

John the Baptist tells us to get ready to welcome Jesus by making his path straight.

Listen to John the Baptist

John the Baptist says it is our job to make Jesus' path straight and smooth. We need to get ready for Jesus. What is John saying to you? Put the words in one or more of the speech bubbles. Colour the bubbles you are going to do this week.

- Share my things
- say a prayer
 - care for others
 - speak kindly
 - help at home
 - try hard
 - smile



Put it right

These children are doing something wrong. Unscramble the letters to find out what they need to say.



Choose one of the children and draw how he/she will change to show that they really mean they are sorry?



Make his path straight

Jesus wants to get to the people. Can you help him choose the quickest, easiest way?

A PRAYER TO SAY

Please help me, Jesus, to make the way to my heart easy for you. Help me to say "sorry" when I need to and to change the way I behave if I am selfish. Amen.

Word shapes

Which word fits the shape?

- path
- road
- way
- track

