

SUNDAY READERS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH
 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 26th September 2021

Bulletin 19 September 2021

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Year B

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Rosemeadow

Father Christopher G. Sarkis, Parish Priest

Presbytery
 80 Demetrius Road
 Rosemeadow NSW 2560

Office Hours
 Tuesday – Thursday
 9.00am – 4.00pm (Closed 12.45 - 1.15pm)
 Friday 9.00am - 2.30pm

Parish Office Manager (Tuesday – Thursday) Mrs. Meshline Wolczak
Administrative Assistant (Friday) Mrs. Vicki Lo Cascio

Phone: 4628 1385

Fax: 4625 7213

Email: rosemeadow@dow.org.au

Website: www.olhcrosemeadow.org.au

Postal Address

PO Box 3010
 Rosemeadow NSW 2560

OLHC School

Principal: Mrs. Jane Webb
 Phone: 4626 5655 Fax: 4626 7227

	READERS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	PIOUS GOODS STALL	AUDIO VISUAL
DATE				
VIGIL 6PM				
8.30AM				
10.00AM				
CHOIR 10.00AM			READINGS	
		18/19 September Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 James 3:16-43 Mark 9:30-37	25/26 September Numbers 11:25-29 James 5:1-6 Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48	
OUR LADY'S STATUE NO 1 STATUE NO 2				
FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK		DONATIONS PARISH ACCOUNT DETAILS		
Tuesday - Thursday-	St Matthew St Pius of Pietrelcina	Parish (second Collection)	Clergy (first Collection)	
		BSB : 066 711 Acc No: 002395 Acc Name: Parish Church Reference: Family Name	BSB : 066 711 Acc No: 002026 Acc Name: Parish Presbytery Reference: Family Name	

SUNDAY MASS TIMES OLHC ROSEMEADOW	WEEKDAY MASS TIMES OLHC ROSEMEADOW
<u>MASS BOOKINGS STILL REQUIRED VIA PARISH WEBSITE</u> www.olhcrosemeadow.org.au	
Sat. Vigil: 6.00pm Sunday: 8.30am Sunday: 10.00am <u>VIETNAMESE MASS OLHC</u> Saturday: 4.00pm	Tuesday: 6.30pm Wednesday: 9.00am Thursday: 9.00am Friday: 8.20am 1 st Saturday of the Month: 10.30am
<u>DEVOTIONS – SUSPENDED except for: -</u>	
1 st Friday: Exposition & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament 11am – 12 noon;	
<u>CONFESSIONS OLHC CHURCH</u> Saturday: 5.15pm – 5.45pm Every 1st Saturday 11am – 12 noon	
MARRIAGES by appointment BAPTISMS (1 st and 3 rd Sunday of the month) – by appointment SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS please visit parish website for dates & enrolment forms in Sacraments Tab	
ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9.30am - 12.30pm at the Food Hub (Ambarvale Squash Courts), 65 Woodhouse Drive Ambarvale.	

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish will strive to be a Christ-centred community, led by the Holy Spirit to bear witness to the Gospel message, nourished and strengthened by the Eucharist and the Sacraments. Following the model of Mary our Mother, our parish will be a place of welcome and mutual encouragement to all who seek to love God and their neighbour, and to manifest this love in their daily lives. In this way we will build up the Kingdom of God in our local community.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL

(Promulgated by Pope Leo XIII)

St. Michael the Archangel defend us in battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into Hell, Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl through the world, seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

ENTRANCE I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

RESPONSE The Lord upholds my life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

COMMUNION You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY
 Currently **UNAVAILABLE**

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Jaime Espinoza; Janelle Muscat;

Anniversary: Sybil Dawson; Joseph Dawson; Janice Buchanan;

Deceased: Mary Brechney;

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED PRIESTHOOD? God's love for us has been revealed: "Love one another as I have loved you. The world is in need to see people who are striving to love others with all their hearts. What about you? Please contact the Vocations Team at priesthood@dow.org.au



THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL to support the care and health of retired clergy in our Diocese, and local parish ministries occurs this weekend. As happened last year because of covid restrictions and lockdown the appeal is being made online via the Diocese of Wollongong website. I encourage all who can, to please make a donation by going to www.dow.org.au/giving or phoning (02) 4222 2446. Thank you. Go online and watch the video.

COVID UPDATE Late last week the Premier announced that once we reach 70% of people with double vaccination, many of the current restrictions will be lifted or modified. We do not have all the details and must wait until we do before making any firm plans. However, it seems that we will reach this point about mid-October and if the information is correct, we will be able to have Mass according to the 4 square meter rule as previously, which means about 200 people for us at Rosemeadow church. As further details are released, I will keep you informed by email, the bulletin and the parish website.

MASSES I will continue to livestream the **SATURDAY 6 PM VIGIL MASS AND TUESDAY 6.30 PM weekday Mass**. The direct link to the parish YouTube channel is: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIQhkeubtYCBu_elfcglmaw or by accessing it from the Parish Website. Please pass this information on to any other parishioner you are in contact with.

ROSARY via Zoom from Fr. Sarkis' private chapel in the Presbytery each Thursday at 7pm. Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android at <https://dowcatholic.zoom.us/j/64552343492> or use the QR code at the right.



FUNERALS are still permitted but with a cap of 10 people attending, excluding the Priest and funeral directors.

WEDDINGS Small weddings are now possible with up to 5 guests. Contact Fr. Sarkis through the Parish Office for these.

BAPTISMS are all suspended until current restrictions are lifted.

Please remember the critical need for parish income via the Planned Giving to continue. Without this regular and ongoing income, the parish's ability to operate is severely impacted. This is why I have been encouraging parishioners to transition from envelopes to Direct Debit Giving. If you wish to do so, email the parish office, or ring and leave a message and we will contact you to arrange this. Otherwise, please drop your planned giving envelopes into the secure letter box at the parish office, or at the fence box if the gates are closed. *I want to thank all those parishioners who have continued to do this during this lockdown period and ask others to please do the same. I also thank those who have made donations to the Parish.* Please don't forget the first collection either- I still have to live even in the lockdown! *Thank you to all those who have kindly done so. God bless you all and your families.*

Please remember to let the parish office know if you have changed your email or phone details so we can keep our records up to date. And let other parishioners know if they have not registered their own email address with the parish office to please do so by email or phoning us. They will then receive emails and updates directly. Updates are also accessible in the parish bulletin which is uploaded every week to the Parish Website.

My brothers and sisters, let us continue to pray for each other to be strengthened in faith and hope during these testing times. I especially pray for you all in my daily Mass and prayers; please pray for me also. May our Good God look kindly and mercifully upon us that the viral situation will be brought rapidly under control, and the isolation and terrible consequences of the lockdown, especially upon individuals and families will soon end. May our Patroness, Our Lady Help of Christians, and great St. Joseph, pray for us.

PARISH OFFICE Unfortunately, the Parish Office must still remain closed during this time and Mrs. Meshline Wolczak will work from home and will come to the office when necessary. You may still contact the parish office by telephone or email, and we will attend to your requests as soon as we can. Please be understanding and patient during this difficult time.

CUPOLA REPAIRS I am happy to say that internal repairs to the ceiling and wall area of the Cupola and Sanctuary began this week. It is hoped that they will be completed within 2 to 3 weeks, meaning the church will be ready for re-opening, please God, in mid-October when hopefully restrictions are lifted.

PARISH APP I am also happy to announce that our new "Parish App" developed by Kirk Duncan, "The Mobile Apps Man", and which he has donated to the Parish is now available on the Android and Apple Stores. Simply search for "OLHC Parish APP" and download it for **FREE**. This is a wonderful addition to our Parish as we strive to continue to reach more and more people with the Gospel Message of Salvation of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, using modern technologies. It is directly linked to our main Parish Website and will automatically be updated as and when we update the website, which means that parishioners and anyone else can now keep in touch and up to date from wherever they are using their mobile phone or device.

Download and enjoy it!...and pass it on to other's too!

COVID VACCINATION I have been asked by many parishioners for advice, morally and ethically, about receiving covid vaccines. To this point, I have not said anything publicly other than I believe that citizens should be given the choice as to which vaccine they receive. I have counselled and advised people privately as they have asked advice of me. However, because of the amount of information (and misinformation) circulating about this issue and the confusion it is causing for many people who are genuinely and sincerely trying to decide the moral and ethical position of such vaccines, and whether or not to receive them, I have decided to write to you about this, which I hope you will find helpful. I would be happy for you to refer anyone to this information whom you may think would benefit from it. On 21 December 2020, the Catholic Church's Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, released a Note on the morality of using covid19 vaccines. There is much information (and misinformation) circulating about this. Below is a summary of the Church's position.

- It is morally licit (permissible) to be vaccinated against Covid-19.
- No one is morally compelled, for reasons of conscience, to be vaccinated and this must be respected. If, however, a person makes this decision then they are also morally and ethically bound to avoid any risk to the health of those who cannot be vaccinated for medical or other reasons, and who are the most vulnerable.
- Of the two vaccines currently available in Australia the Pfizer vaccine is preferred over AstraZeneca, ethically speaking.
- If AstraZeneca is the only available choice to a person, it is morally permissible to receive it.
- In making a decision about being vaccinated, persons should take into consideration the need not only to safeguard their own personal health, but (and especially in our current pandemic situation) the common good of others especially in terms of preventing the spread of disease to the vulnerable.
- In the absence of other means to stop or even prevent the epidemic, the common good may recommend vaccination, especially to protect the weakest and most exposed.

Summarising, two important points must be both fully respected and upheld.

No one, who for reasons of conscience (properly informed and educated) based on the Natural and Moral Law, can be compelled to be vaccinated against their will and this must be respected.

All persons are free, morally and ethically, to be vaccinated in good conscience in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. While Pfizer is to be preferred if that is possible, if it is not then it is permissible to receive the AstraZeneca vaccine. Indeed, if this is the only one available, then people are encouraged to receive it not only for their own personal good, but especially in the current pandemic situation where the common good of the community must be balanced against the personal good of the individual, they are recommended to do so.

Therefore, I would advise all who can be vaccinated to do so in the knowledge and confidence that, morally and ethically, you are acting for the good not only of yourself personally but for the common good of all. If any parishioner would like to discuss this with me personally, please ring the Parish Office and leave a message, and I will return your call as soon as possible.



Today's second reading warns that a heart consumed with avarice and envy leads to jealousy, strife, conflicts, and disputes. A giving heart, in contrast, can sing instead with the psalmist, "Freely will I offer you sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness."



SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021 This Sacrament will be celebrated on **Sunday 21st November, 2021**. It is available to all children in Year 3 or above who have been baptised and have received the sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). If you wish your child to make this Sacrament and have not already enrolled online, then you **MUST** attend the first lesson for this programme on **Saturday 23rd October, 2021 commencing at 4.15p.m. You must bring a copy of your child's Baptism and Birth certificate with you to attach to the enrolment form.**

Children will participate in lessons in the St. Joachim Parish Hall. There will be **no parent talks this year** due to covid restrictions on gatherings. This is the last opportunity for you to enrol for 2021. **NOTE:** If you will be enrolling at the first lesson, then please arrive at **3.45pm to the Parish Hall before the lesson** to complete the paperwork. The program fee of \$25 is also payable at the first lesson. Thank you. **PLEASE NOTE:** **These arrangements are conditional depending on the situation at the time and what restrictions may apply then.**

THE CHOSEN is a new 'free to view', television program that creatively presents the life of Christ and his followers. The shows are of the highest quality and is receiving acclaim around the world across denominations. Go to <https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen>. to watch or get the free app for use on your phone / laptop.

WOMEN'S RETREAT Women of all ages are invited to join the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia for an online retreat into silence, 24-26 September. The sisters will provide silent times and spaces over the course of the weekend, as well as times for Mass, communal and private prayer, and talks. For more information or to register: <https://www.trybooking.com/BTYGD>

EUTHANASIA BILL PETITION The architect of NSW's terrible abortion laws, Independent MP Alex Greenwich, has released a bill that would introduce euthanasia and assisted suicide in this state. The community is currently accepting significant restrictions on our personal autonomy to protect those most at risk. Many are unable to visit elderly parents, and many are suffering isolation; a pro-suicide message is not what they need to hear now or ever. To help stop this pro-death agenda, please do two things. First, please sign a petition to Premier Gladys Berejiklian, asking her to reject euthanasia and assisted suicide. **Please sign the petition at https://www.no euthanasia.org.au/petition_2107_nsw_cas** Second, **please email your NSW State Member of Parliament and ask them to oppose these dangerous state sanctioned murder laws.**

MEN'S KICKSTART PROGRAM *Monday Nights 13, 20, 27 September and 4 October.* Facilitated by menALIVE for the Diocese of Wollongong, these **ONLINE SESSIONS** will replace the planned hubs for the National Catholic Men's Gathering (NCMG). Held from 7.30pm to 8.30pm, sessions are short and sharp and a great way for men in lockdown to come together to engage with the theme '*Brothers What must we Do*'. Hosted by Robert Falzon and Jude Hennessy with some excellent keynotes including: *Man of God* (Tomasz Juszczak); *Man of Service* (Tim Davis); *Man of Character* (Shayne Bennett); *Missioning and Sending* (Archbishop Julian Porteous). To register go to <https://www.dow.org.au/events/ancmgkickstart>

ONLINE HOLY HOUR FOR YOUNG ADULTS CYMW & NET are hosting online Adoration every Thursday from 4-5pm. Join our Holy Hour through Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/cymdow/> or watch via Instagram @net.wollongong – everyone is welcome!

ONLINE YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY Hosted by CYMW for all young adults aged 17-35. Every Tuesday night. 7 to 8pm. Check out @cymdow on Instagram or Facebook for more information or email youth@dow.org.au.

ONLINE ALPHA Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong is holding an online youth alpha series for all young people aged 13 to 18 years old. Youth Alpha is a video series that tackles questions on faith, life, and God. From 7pm to 8pm each Friday starting soon. For more information and to register your interest, please visit <https://forms.gle/oXmRjx6QkNeydihs8>

*"Life is not so much a problem to be solved
as a mystery to be lived."*

Søren Kierkegaard