



CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

Catholic Parish of Dulwich Hill, Archdiocese of Sydney, Established in 1907

532 New Canterbury Road, Dulwich Hill NSW 2203

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secretary@dulwichhillparish.org.au



Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG

Fr. John Ssemaganda (Administrator), Deacon Rev Louis Azzopardi



Parish Office

Maria/Rian

Mon, Wed-Fri

9.30am - 2pm

Hall enquiries:

9558 3257

Mass Times

Sat: 5:30pm (Vigil)

Sun: 8am & 10am

Mon: 8 am

Tue - Fri: 9:00am

Sat: 9:30am

Family Mass with

Children's Liturgy:

3rd Sunday of the

Month 10am Mass

Filipino Mass:

1st Sun 11:30am

Il Gruppo di Rosario

Italiano:

Il gruppo di

preghiera Italiano, si

raduna ogni giovedì alle

ore 10 nella sala

parrocchiale.

Sacraments

Confession

Sat 8:30—9:20am,

4:45pm or any time by -

appointment

Baptism

Every 2nd, 3rd and 4th

Sunday 11.15am

Marriage

At least 6 months notice

required

Anointing of the Sick

By appointment

Devotions

Every Friday

Adoration

3-4pm

Rosary & Benediction

Sat 8:30-9:30am

Elsa George Rosary

Group Second

Saturday of every

month at 2.30pm

9716 6676 All welcome

Novena to Our Lady

of Perpetual Help

Wednesday 7pm

The Parish Morning Tea is on again after the 10am Mass this weekend. All are welcome

Stations of the Cross: Fridays through Lent at 7pm. Beginning on 16th of Feb, 2018.

YOUTH GROUP

The Year of Youth has begun!

Ages 10-15: 4pm-5:20pm before Mass

Ages 15-18: 6:30pm-8pm after Mass

Young Adults: Select days regularly

For more information or if you are interested

in becoming a leader, call **Rian** on 0402 135

637 Youth nights: Apr 14, May 12, Jun 16,

Jul 14, Aug 4, Sep 16, Oct 13, Nov 10, Dec

15.

CHOCOLATES FOR SALE after Mass on the 17/18th of March. P.A.T.H. (an anti slavery action group) will sell chocolates to support their campaign against human trafficking. These are produced fairly; with just wages for producers and workers with no forced labour. Please support their work and learn how modern slavery exists.

Project Compassion: envelopes are at the back of the Church for all who are interested in participating in this great cause.

Adoration with Bishop Richard Umbers:

Monthly adoration with Bishop Richard. On

the following Fridays at 7pm: April 6th, May

11th, June 8th, July 13th, August 10th,

September 14th, October 26th and November

16th. All are welcome.

Choir Practice will be on Mondays at **7pm** in the Church.

Mass for the Anointing of the sick: will be on the **first Saturdays** of June, Sep, and Dec. It will be during the regular Saturday Morning Mass.

Mass for the Solemnity of St. Joseph

will take place on Monday the 19th of March at 9am.

The Good Friday Holy Land Collection

envelopes will be out on Good Friday. This collection goes toward supporting Christians in the Holy Land.

SAINTS of the WEEK (19 – 25 Mar, 2018):

Mon 19th: St. Joseph, spouse of the Virgin Mary.

Fri, 23rd: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, bishop

St. Joseph

Remember, O most pure spouse of the Virgin Mary, my beloved Patron, that never it has been heard that anyone invoked your patronage and sought your aid without being comforted. Inspired by this confidence I come to you and fervently commend myself to you. Despise not my petition, O dearest foster father of our Redeemer, but accept it graciously. Amen.



A Life-Changing Study for the Whole Parish!

Bonus Episode — For Children: How to Make a Good Confession

It can feel scary to go to Confession, but really, we go to the Sacrament of Confession because God loves us so much that he wants to remove all the sins that keep us from Him! When we go to Confession, we say "I love you, Jesus, will you forgive me of my sins?" In Confession, God always forgives us and gives us grace to be better!

This week, login to formed.org and watch *A Lent to Remember*, For Children.

FORMED THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

Relationship and the Law

A reflection on Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

After a brief discussion with some friends, both Catholic and non-Catholic, it became very clear that a stumbling block to faith was the concept that “it is all about rules.” The view seemed to be that my faith was busy telling me what I can or can’t do. Like I had simply signed up for membership at the local GYM or RSL.

We are very familiar with the notion of signing up or registering for something. I seems like there is a membership for almost everything we do, offering discounts, services, or special offers. There is nothing new to providing our details so that we can be listed as “one of us”. Even a simple trip into the city requires the use of an Opal card. With all these memberships and registrations, you would think that we would struggle with all the rules and regulations.

The truth is, we do not because most of the rules make some sense: in order to receive the benefits of membership, you must fulfil the criteria of what it means to be a member. Most people never read the fine print, but those who do are able to know more about the product or service, and the expectations of membership. Thus they are also able to make the most of it. If we do as we are meant to, we find that we end up benefitting from the services, whereas if we do not, there’s struggle. Going against the rules might have a period of benefit, but then we face expulsion.

How similar this is to our faith. Similar, that is, yet vastly different. Today’s readings illustrate the salvific role of Christ in Salvation History. He is the new covenant, it is through Him that salvation was won, and He freely gives it to us. All we have to do is accept it. But how do we accept it?

While the Old Testament prescribed 613 laws, Christ both simplified and enriched the entire law with His teaching of love. The necessity of Humility, sacrifice, and service is highlighted by the words of Christ. Not just here but in the whole of the Gospels, like the idea of terms and conditions. However, unlike the terms and conditions we find today, the rules benefit us and those around us enormously, and God works with us in our daily lives, providing boundless mercy. It is only those who truly do not want what He offers that exclude themselves. The only time we aren’t forgiven is when we do not want it.

In the end it becomes too shallow to think of it all in a “do this and get this” mentality. It is a relationship. *We serve because we love.* In love, we desire the good of the other, we sacrifice for them. This is the very thing that Christ exemplified, not just with His crucifixion, but with His life and resurrection. When we accept what Christ is offering us, we accept a relationship with Him.

As we come ever closer to Easter, let us remember the grace that is available to us through Christ. The Practice of love reveals the Faith and Hope that we hold as members of His body. It leads us to the love of Christ through love of others. As He said Himself, “Where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honour whoever serves me.”

The love we have for Christ is not about rules, it never was, but there are still rules because there are proper ways in which to live a relationship. God Himself said “I will place the law within them, and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God and they will be my people.” It is the law of love because God is love. This is why it is about relationship, and why He is overflowing with mercy, compassion, and faithfulness.

Pope St. John Paul II wrote about this in *Veritatis Splendor*: “the "natural law" ... "is nothing other than the light of understanding infused in us by God, whereby we understand what must be done and what must be avoided. God gave this light and this law to man at creation". He also did so *in the history of Israel*, particularly in the "ten words", the *commandments of Sinai*, whereby he brought into existence the people of the Covenant (cf. *Ex* 24) and called them to be his "own possession among all peoples", "a holy nation" (*Ex* 19:5-6), which would radiate his holiness to all peoples (cf. *Wis* 18:4; *Ez* 20:41). The gift of the Decalogue was a promise and sign of the *New Covenant*, in which the law would be written in a new and definitive way upon the human heart (cf. *Jer* 31:31-34), replacing the law of sin which had disfigured that heart (cf. *Jer* 17:1). In those days, "a new heart" would be given, for in it would dwell "a new spirit", the Spirit of God (cf. *Ez* 36:24-28).”

“If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments" (*Mt* 19:17). In this way, a close connection is made *between eternal life and obedience to God's commandments*: God's commandments show man the path of life and they lead to it. From the very lips of Jesus, the new Moses, man is once again given the commandments of the Decalogue. Jesus himself definitively confirms them and proposes them to us as the way and condition of salvation.”

Love leads us to treat others in a particular way. When we love, according to what love actually is, we live the law and we live in relationship with God. God, who loves us very much.

With St Paul of the Cross

we pray ...

For the sick

Jaye Phoenix Guia, Teresita

Lasana, Luke, Victoria

Pacheco, Cathy Consentino,

Anne Keogh, Grace, Owen

Gallagher, Josieann, Eileen

Joyce, Lucia Nicotina, Anna

Pezzuto, Anne Keogh,

Alfonso Costantini, Sonia,

Rodolfo Estrada, Domenic

Capello, Marlowe, Jacutin,

Sonny Martinez, Annette

Rodriguez, Onofrio Ferraro,

Salvatore Ferraro, Lolita A

Japtan, Felisa C Hao, Nolene

Conn, Anna Pezzuto, Lucia

Ferraro, Frank Di Napoli

Recently Deceased

Frances, Narelle Ravaillion

Death Anniversary

William, Mary & Gerard

Allport, Antonio Dinapoli,

Pasquale Stillittano

For the Souls of

Ingrid, Gisela Alex Herbert,

and all forgotten Souls and

Holy Souls in Purgatory

Special Intentions

Maria de Silva, Rian Galliot

PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER 24-25 March 2018

Acolyte:	5:30pm	Ricardo
	8am	Andre
	10:00am	Philip
Readers:	5:30pm	R. Lazarus & J. Murphy
	8am	B. Devine & C. Phillips
	10am	R. Rita & T. Lasala
Music:	5:30pm	Beauti & Choir
	8am	Sri & Choir
	10am	Beauti & Choir
Cleaning:	Joseph & Chinne Duru	
Laundry:	D. Cremona	
Environment:	Gilda & Volunteers	
Counters:	C. Corpus & P. Tan	