



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

Catholic Parish of Dulwich Hill, Archdiocese of Sydney, Established in 1907  
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**Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG (Bishop in Residence)**  
**Fr. Andrew James (Parish Priest), (Deacon) Rev Louis Azzopardi**



Ph.: 9558 5308

**Principal:**

Ms Frances Stewart  
**REC:** Ms Christine Brais  
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## With St Paul of the Cross we pray ...

### For the sick

Elmano Belo  
Patrick Crowley  
Sidney Luximon  
Allen Portell  
Leonor Delgado  
Patricia Stack  
Raul Cabrera  
Sr Julianne Murphy  
Ruth Wilson  
Raymond Hudson  
Fr Jim Duggan  
Pat Allport  
Cardo, Zennie, Ian, Pat  
Christina  
Francheska Bechara  
Bonifacio Su Ramo III

### Recently Deceased

John Drumond  
Natalina Gallace  
Elsa Duncan  
Emma Mudie

### Death Anniversary

Peter Doyle  
Joaquim Martins  
Naty San Miguel

### For the Souls

Isabelo Corpus  
Ched Morales  
Rolando Cruz, Sue Barnes  
Roque Rita, Cenen, Marian,  
Steve and Jan  
Raimondo & Raffaella Dolce  
Marisa Rulli  
All forgotten Souls and Holy  
Souls in Purgatory

### Special Intentions

João & Bruno Mendonca  
and all the family  
Henry & Tina and my Family  
Leah Tillam

## Enter by the narrow door

In today's Gospel "someone" puts this question to Jesus, "Will there be only a few saved?" At one level, this is a universal question answered in different ways by various faith traditions. Even people with no specific religious faith have a sense that evil actions, especially those involving children or innocent and vulnerable people should never go unpunished. The Reformed tradition, especially John Calvin, believed that humanity was so corrupted by original sin that we are incapable of doing anything to attain salvation and must rely completely on divine grace. At the other extreme are those who believe that God is so merciful and forgiving that everyone (except perhaps an unrepentant Hitler or Stalin) will be saved.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that "God predestines no one to go to Hell. For this, a wilful turning away from God (mortal sin) is necessary and persistence in it until the end" (#1036). It describes hell not as a place but "a state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God and the blessed. To die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God's merciful love means remaining separated from him for ever by our own free choice" (#1033) It also emphasises that this teaching, derived from Scripture, is "a call to responsibility on how we use our freedom ... and an urgent call to conversion" (#1037). The Catechism however doesn't name any individual as being in Hell although it does mention the names of individuals (Mary and the saints) who are in Heaven.

The question put to Jesus was also a 'leading question', not unlike the questions put to him about divorce and paying taxes to Caesar. Would it be only the Jews, God's chosen people, who would be saved? Would it be all Jews or only those who kept the Law in its entirety? Once again, the Gospel shows Jesus responding by turning the question back onto the enquirer. Jesus doesn't answer with an abstraction about being saved but challenges him directly with a one sentence parable. "Try your best to enter by the narrow door."

The context of this question and Jesus' response, is Jesus' journey to Jerusalem, his own 'way of the cross'. The "narrow door" he talks about is an image drawn from his own experience of effort and suffering 'along the way'. He would tell those who wished to follow him to take up their cross. Trying their best could well involve the same degree of humility and humiliation that he himself experienced. His assessment is therefore realistic: "Many are called but few are chosen."

Jesus also provides a parable that distinguishes between 'knowing Jesus' and 'knowing about Jesus'. Those who simply 'know about' Jesus are aware of him and the way of life that he offers them. They might even go to church sometimes. But they are only "in his company". They are like neighbours who know each other by name, may say hello to each other sometimes but have no interest in really getting to know each other. Then there are those who wish to 'know Jesus', to welcome him into their lives. They may come from anywhere, Jesus says. What they have in common is their desire to "try their best to enter by the narrow door."

This is a particularly challenging Gospel to reflect on in the context of our own lives. Jesus' invitation to all of us "to take their place at the feast in the kingdom of God" echoes and fulfils the prophecy of Isaiah in our First Reading that the Lord "is coming to gather the nations of every language." Accepting this invitation however requires a conscious effort on our part and may even involve suffering. It requires a conscious effort because we don't find it easy to show our love for God and our neighbour each day. It isn't an individual effort however but one that is undertaken as part of a community of faith, the Church, and in response to God "who is faithful forever." It involves "trying our best" to respond to God's love for us by the way we live.

"Our Christian calling is to live simple, humble and open Christian lives in imitation of Jesus Christ, aware that 'there are those now last who will be first and those now first who will be last'" (This is the Gospel of the Lord Francis J Maloney)

Deacon Louis

**A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:** ACN is the Pontifical Foundation dedicated to supporting the suffering and persecuted Church. In areas of crisis, churches are often destroyed by violence. Where the faith is growing new churches are needed. ACN supports the reconstruction in these areas because a church is the centre of the life of faith and even the smallest chapel provides people with hope and a spiritual home. Can you help build churches to support the faithful throughout the world? Visit: [www.aidtochurch.org/construction](http://www.aidtochurch.org/construction)



### A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

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 a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

## First Communion

**Our children's First Communion Mass will be on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> September at 10:00am**

There will be 4 preparation classes for the children either at 4:30pm Saturday or 9am Sunday in the parish hall  
Dates for these classes are: 20th/21<sup>st</sup> August; 27th/28<sup>th</sup> August; 3rd/4<sup>th</sup> September; 10th/11th September.

Please speak to Deacon Louis if you have any questions.

## Morning Tea - Third Sunday of each month

This Sunday is our morning tea Sunday after the 10:00am Mass at the front of the Church (outside).



Please join and bring a plate to share.

## Catholic Men's Fellowship

Catholic Men's Formation and Prayer Group currently meet Thursdays 8pm till 9pm, via online conference (zoom). We are a group of men who have met on a regular basis over the past ten years. We invite men to various formation programs, and to conclude with Prayer of the Church. Our chaplain is Deacon Louis Azzopardi. We are currently using Kapaun's Men, Virtue Series.  
For details on how to connect, contact Lee Caruana via email [leecaruana@hotmail.com](mailto:leecaruana@hotmail.com)

## Didaskō Online Adult Faith Formation

All are welcome to join our next Didaskō short course with Prof. Renée Köhler-Ryan as she presents on the topic: "How Catholics Can Quietly Transform the World: the Church's Unknown Treasure of Social Teaching." The course will be delivered online over three evenings, with time for question and answer.  
Dates and time: Wednesdays 7, 14 and 21 September | 7:30pm – 8:45pm  
Where: Online via Zoom  
Cost: \$25 (includes three sessions)  
Register at [www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/](http://www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/).

For more information, contact Helen Wagner at [parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org)

## Feast/Solemnity/Memorial/Saint of the Week (22 - 27 August 2022)

Mon	22/8	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tue	23/8	St Rose of Lima. Virgin
Wed	24/8	St Bartholomew, apostle
Thu	25/8	St Louis
		St Joseph Calasanz, priest
Fri	27/8	St Monica

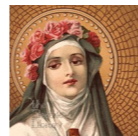


## The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The queen stands at your right hand arrayed in cloth of gold.

Mary's queenship has roots in Scripture. At the Annunciation, Gabriel announced that Mary's Son would receive the throne of David and rule forever. Mary being the Mother of Jesus is entitled by tradition to sit at the right hand of the Lord Jesus Christ as the Queen Mother.

**St Rose of Lima** (born Isabel Flores de Oliva; 20 April 1586 – 24 August 1617) was a member of the Third Order of Saint Dominic in Lima, Peru, who became known for both her life of severe penance and her care of the poverty stricken of the city through her own private efforts. A lay member of the Dominican Order, she was declared a saint by the Catholic Church, being the first person born in the Americas to be canonized as such.



## Support Caritas Ukraine Appeal

As millions of people are likely to be displaced due to Russia's invasion, your support is more important than ever for the people of Ukraine.

Donate generously to the Caritas Ukraine Appeal: <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine/>

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

## PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER 27 & 28 August 2022

Readers:	5:30pm	M Dos Santos P Allport
	8:00am	J Peters G Turnbull
	10:00am	P Marshall J Duru

## Choir Notice

The next rehearsal will be on Monday 22nd August 2022 at 7:00pm

## Parish Office

Maria - Mondays  
Cecilia - Wed-Friday  
9.30am - 2.30pm

## Parish & Hall enquiries

9558 3257

## Mass Times

Sat: 5:30pm (Vigil)

Sun: 8am & 10am

Mon to Fri: 9:00am

Sat: 9:30am

## Family Mass with Children's Liturgy

3rd Sunday of the Month 10am Mass

## Family Rosary & Morning Tea

2nd Sunday of the Month after 10am Mass in the Church Hall

## Filipino Mass

1st Sun 11:30am

## Sacraments

### Confession

Sat 8:30-9:20am, 4:45pm or any time by appointment

### Baptism

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month.

### Marriage

At least 6 months notice required

### Anointing of the Sick

Any time on call

### Devotions

#### Holy Hour & Rosary

Sunday - Friday before morning mass

#### Rosary & Benediction

Sat 8:30-9:30am

#### Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday 7pm

