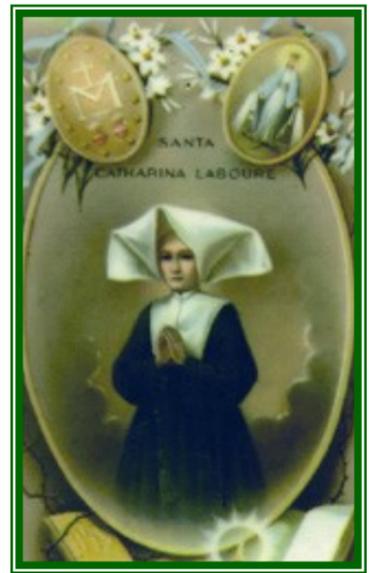


St Catherine Labouré Gymea Parish



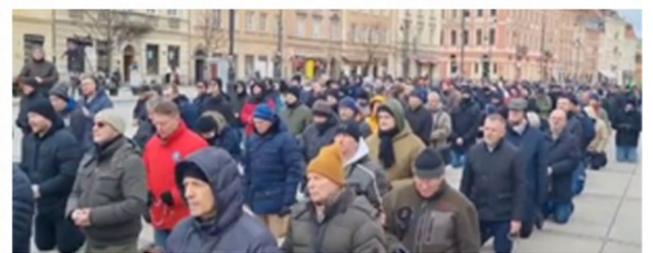
The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

3 / 4 September 2022



Year C

Dear Parishioners, Happy Father's Day! Some of you may have read in a previous Catholic Weekly (or, you may have even seen some photos/videos online) of the "Men's Rosary Crusade" that is spreading across the world. The practice is very simple. Men of all ages agree to meet each month at a particular place in public and pray the rosary for their family and to witness to their Catholic faith. Below you will see photos of men in Poland, England, Ukraine, and Sydney (bottom left corner) kneeling in prayer, irrespective of the weather! A short clip of the Sydney men praying in the rain went viral; clocking up millions of views! (It only goes to show what actually works. I've seen many clips produced by the Church which rarely get twenty views let alone a million!) Incidentally, a number of studies have been done that reveal the impact that a father who loves God and practices their faith has on the spiritual lives of their children. For instance: "According to data collected by Promise Keepers and Baptist Press, if a father does not go to church, even if his wife does, only 1 child in 50 will become a regular worshiper. If a father does go regularly, regardless of what the mother does, between two-thirds and three-quarters of their children will attend church as adults. If a father attends church irregularly, between half and two-thirds of their kids will attend church with some regularity as adults." What such statistics reflect is perhaps a matter for debate and reflection. Nevertheless, from a theological perspective, it makes sense since the vocation to fatherhood is, first and foremost, about bringing one's wife and children to heaven. Let's pray for all fathers (including priests) that they live up to this divine calling. God bless you! Fr Greg



In your charity, please pray for our recently deceased;

Gloria Klein (Mother of Laurence), Maria Callaghan, Father Gerrit Kraan (Salesian Father of Don Bosco), Waldraud Wiedemann, Verna Burrows, Jean Goodson, John Hart.

We remember those whose Anniversaries we commemorate at this time:

All Fathers and Grandfathers,

Ken Connolly, Tracy de Lyall, Roy & Mary Esplin, Ederina Fabian (68th Wedding Anniversary), Nicolo Franco, Bill Godfrey, Rod Halter, Lionel & Bev Hurst, Lean Family, Sid & Sylvia Mullen, Joe & Anna Natoli, Vincent Sidgreaves, Antonio Sorbara, Deceased Members of the Friendship Club, The Holy Souls.

We pray for all the sick of our Parish Community and their carers. Especially:

Catherine Bassiuni, Gerry Banister, Jean Bell, Helen Bridges, Pamela Buckley, Patricia Butler, Greg Byrne, Hugh Casey, JoAnne Shackleton (Daughter of Dorothy Fraser-Bell), Elaine Coughlan, Patricia Cutcliffe, Kath Dowd, Dorothy Fraser-Bell, Margaret Gardner, Jeff Greenaway, Patricia Gordon, Melina Grieco, Maree Hinton, Jim Klingberg, Evie Morgan, Anthony Morris, Ray O'Mara, Julia Quach, Marie Rayner, Tony Ryan, Evelyn Spiteri, Yin Kwan Tsang, Carole Venier, Doreen Vernon, John Weaver, Lindy Webb, Maree Whitaker, Gary Wood.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY: This weekend, we remember to give thanks for all the wonderful fathers. We pray especially that they will continue to live up to this special vocation in life; to be authentic witnesses to the love of God the Father and to do all in their power to bring their family to heaven. In the words of Pope Francis: "St Joseph is the model of the educator and the dad, the father. I, therefore, entrust to his protection those who are fathers. Best wishes to you on your day! I ask for you the grace to be ever closer to your children, allow them to grow, but be close, close! They need you, your presence, your closeness, your love. May you be for them as St Joseph was: guardians of their growth in age, wisdom and grace. May you guard them on their journey: be educators and walk with them. Thank you for all you do for your children: thank you. May St Joseph bless you and accompany you." God bless you, the fathers of our parish!

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL: This Sunday is Father's Day – a day to give thanks to our own dad's and to celebrate the gift of fatherhood. It is also the day designated by the Archdiocese to take up an extra collection to support our spiritual fathers – especially, the retired priests of our Archdiocese. As you probably know, you don't become a priest for the salary. (A priest in Sydney earns approx. \$1,800 a month). There are many priests who, after having spent their entire lives serving in parishes, retire with comparatively little to live on and so are dependent upon the Archdiocese for support in paying for accommodation, food, bills, and medical expenses. The retirement age for a priest in Sydney is 75! I thank you in advance for supporting this appeal to ensure these "good and faithful servants" are able to live out their years in relative dignity. There are envelopes at the back of the Church which you can place in either collection or you can give cash via the third collection, which will be taken up after Holy Communion.

ENVELOPES FOR PLANNED GIVING: There are a significant number of Planned Giving envelopes boxes on the table at the back of the Church close to the AV desk. If you have previously enrolled to give via the envelopes, please collect your box. If you would prefer to support our parish through Direct Debit, please contact the parish office.

FUNERAL NOTICE: A Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Gloria Klein (the mother of Laurence Klein, our outstanding Administrative Assistant and daily-Mass-goer) will be offered here at St Cath's this Monday 5th September at 10:30am.

ROSARY ONLINE: Did you know that our parish has an online Rosary every Saturday Morning at 10am? The Zoom link is as follows: <https://sydneycatholic.zoom.us/j/69475789620pwd=ZGhtUjJPd0lyOGR1Vnc1dTJLUVdmZz09> (Password: 1234)

UP-COMING EVENTS



> **INAUGURAL PARISH DINNER:** The inaugural Parish Dinner & Labouré Lecture will be held at Doltone House, Sylvania Water on **Friday, 18 November. Please mark your calendars now.** It gave me great pleasure to announce last week that Mr and Mrs Abdallah (Danny & Leila) have generously accepted the invitation to speak at our inaugural parish dinner. Danny and Leila captivated the nation when they forgave the drunk/drugged car driver who killed three of their children. In my own letter to them, I wrote: "You [Leila and Danny] are perhaps two of the greatest evangelists and witnesses to the beauty of the Catholic faith in our country. You are walking signs of the Cross – signs of love, hope, and mercy amidst incredible suffering." We are very fortunate indeed that they have agreed to be the guests of honour at what I am told is the first official "Parish Dinner" in this parish's history. We will also be joined on the night by Bishop Richard Umbers, our Regional Bishop. **Tickets will be available in the coming weeks. Please think about who you might invite!**

> **MEN'S BREAKFAST:** The next Men's Breakfast is **Saturday, 17 September (the third Saturday of each month).** It is a great opportunity for men to catch up over a hot breakfast before hearing an inspirational talk on a topic of our Catholic Faith! This Saturday, we heard a talk on **spiritual warfare.**

> **LEGION OF MARY CENTENARY CELEBRATION:** Legion of Mary members, past & present, along with their families & friends are invited to attend the Anniversary Mass at St Mary's Cathedral celebrated by Bishop Terry Brady. **Saturday 10 September 2022 10am-Opening Prayers,10:30am-Mass,12pm-Lunch,1pm-Programme.**

> **ROSARY CRUSADE:** Following on from the front page of the bulletin, I'm inclined to travel into the city next month and join the "Men's Rosary Crusade" on Saturday 1st October at 1pm. I (Fr Greg) would like to support the men who started this initiative. If any men from the parish would like to join me, I suggest we meet at the Church at 11:45am and catch the train together.

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE (GYMEA): I would like to warmly invite the members/potential members of the CWL in Gymea to a meeting at the Parish Office on Friday 30th September at 6:30pm. The evening will begin with prayer and conclude with refreshments in the Presbytery. An email will be sent out with further details shortly.

INVITE SOMEONE (BACK) TO MASS: At different Masses now, I have encouraged parishioners to take seriously their own personal call to help re-evangelise our parish and beyond. One simple way we can do this is by simply inviting someone back to Mass (I'm thinking particularly of those we might know who say they still aren't coming due to "Covid" but are happy to go out to shops and socialise). So, have a think, say a prayer for that person, and then invite them back to Mass. Of course, remember to introduce them to the priests!

CONFESSIONS: A reminder that confessions are available **before & after every weekday Mass** (including Saturdays) Please approach Fr Ronnie or Fr Greg if you wish to receive this Sacrament.

ADORATION: Remember, our parish has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available every day Tuesday - Saturday from 8:30 am - 9:10 am.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED: **Thank you to those who have already come forward to volunteer their time and services,** for Cleaning of the Church, pews and carpet, etc. and also to assist the Altar Society ladies in preparing the Sanctuary - both groups work to a monthly roster with 5th Sundays doubling up. **Please speak to Fr Greg or contact the Parish Office.**

STATE SCHOOL HELPERS NEEDED: If you have 30 minutes to spare on either a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday please consider assisting catechists in state school class rooms in bringing the Church to the state school children.

LEGION OF MARY: Our Parish is blessed to have a longstanding Legion of Mary group, which meets every Thursday morning after the 9.15 am Mass. We are always on the look out for new members. Please get involved (or just come and see!) and do pray for our Legion members too! They do such wonderful works in honour of Our Blessed Mother - email them (*address on back page*) for more information....

FRIENDSHIP CLUB: The Friendship Club Meet on the third Friday of the month at Gymea Bowling Club from 10 am. New members always welcome - email them (*address on back page*) for more information. **Details about forthcoming meetings will be advised in the parish bulletin.**

MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP: Did you know we have a wonderful group of faith-filled parishioners who gather each Thursday evening at 6 pm in our church, to say the Rosary & pray & reflect on Our Lady's messages to the world. Email them (*address on back page*) for more information or simply come to a Meeting. Why not join them, everyone is welcome!

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023: The next international WYD will take place in Lisbon, Portugal, from the 1st-6th August 2023. An obvious concern of mine since arriving at St Cath's is the absence of young people at Mass, particularly in the WYD age group of 16-35. This is something I am obviously keen to address in the coming years. However, from my previous experience in other parishes, if you can find and consolidate even a small group of ten to twelve young people who are well-formed in the faith, you are in a much stronger position then to reach out to other young people who are on the "peripheries". For this reason, I am wondering whether this coming WYD might be an opportunity to consolidate the young people that do come to one of the four Sunday Masses in Gymea. One of the reasons I re-introduced the 5pm Mass on Sundays was with a view in the medium-term to create a space for young people to meet. In fact, there have been two young people who attend that Mass who have expressed interest in forming a group for young adults. **So, this is all by way of saying that if you will be aged 18-35 by August next year, attend Mass here in Gymea, and would be interested in attending WYD with a view to developing your faith so as to reach out to other young people in the Shire, I would be very interested to hear from you.** Through fundraising and some support from the Parish, I would hope to make it as affordable as possible; seeing this as an investment for our future. **A very(!) generous donor, to whom I am most grateful, has already offered a significant sum of money to assist on this score.** The last time I did this as an Assistant Priest in Liverpool, we combined attending WYD in Rio with a service project in Mexico City (we helped paint an orphanage). This experience had a truly transformative effect on the twenty or so young people I accompanied. Perhaps something similar would be possible next year. Please approach Fr Ronnie or myself (Fr Greg) if you are remotely interested. (their faith).

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Don't forget to get your copy today! Still only \$2!

PARISH DIRECTORY:

Parish Priest: Father Gregory Morgan
Assistant Priest: Father Ronnie Maree
Presbytery: 123 Gynea Bay Road, Gynea
Secretary: Kerry Ginman
Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday being:
 8:30 am - 12 noon then 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm
 Friday: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm then closed.
Office & Presbytery telephone:
 9525.1138 or 9525.9993
Email: office@stcaths.org.au
Website: www.stcaths.org.au
Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/St-Catherine-Labour%C3%A9-Parish-Gynea-108678858244000/>
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiprf67dfGwEtt6hduzy7Og>
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Kerry
Email: safeguarding@stcaths.org.au
St Catherine Labouré Parish School
Principal: Jodie McKay
School Office: 9524.9706
Email: info@sclgynea.catholic.edu.au

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Email: catechists@stcaths.org.au
Gynea Music/Choirs Clare (Coordinator)
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Legion of Mary Mike (President)
Email: legionofmarygynea@stcaths.org.au
Medjugorje Prayer Group Barry
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St Catherine's Friendship Club:
Email: friendshipclub@stcaths.org.au
Gynea Conference St. Vincent de Paul Society:
 Frank (President)
Email: stvincentdepaul@stcaths.org.au

MASS TIMES

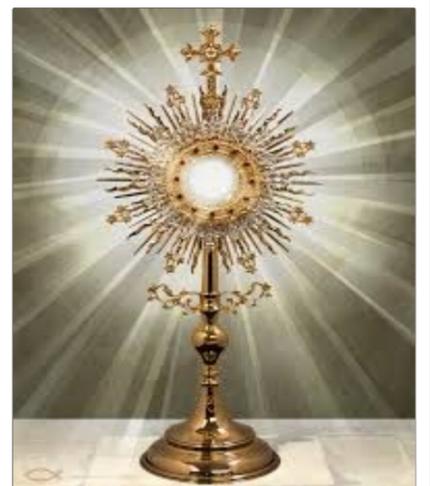
Monday - Saturday 9.15 am
Saturday 5 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 7:30 am, 9:30 am & 5 pm

CONFESSION TIMES

Mondays - Saturdays
Before and after every weekday Mass (including Saturdays)
On Saturdays 4:30 pm - 4:55 pm

ADORATION TIMES

Tuesdays - Saturdays
 8:30 am - 9:10 am
*(Fridays and Saturdays:
 9:00 am Benediction)*



10 / 11 September 2022

The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

	Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm	Sunday 7.30 am	Sunday 9.30 am	Sunday Evening 5.00 pm
Acolytes & Ministers of Holy Communion:	Jim Gothard Julie Banister Cathy Bonello	Jonathan Varga Sam Keir David Gormley	Mitch Worsley Andrew Monsiff Barbara Foster Peter Cobcroft	Laurence Klein Amelia Paras Margaret Reid
1st Reader & Psalm:	Natasha Metlege	Adele Greenaway	Michele Anthony	Ronald Paras
2nd Reader & Intercessions:	Maureen Pocock	James Clancy	Graham Ward	Joan Pinto

The Altar Society: Group 2:
 Ava T Mahne & Louise Butterfield.

In The Counting House:
Team :
NOT until further notice.

Altar Servers:

Audio-Visual Operators: Pauline / Mark Natalie Hugh Faye & James
 GPC NO SENIOR CHOIR Jenni & Dolly

The Clean Team: Group B: Paras Family.



May God and our Lady of Lourdes care for and protect us all.