

The ANZAC Solemn Vigil Mass of Remembrance

at St. Mary's Cathedral will be held on
Sunday 24 April 2016 at 6.00pm



Anzac Day is one of Australia's most important national occasions. It marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War.

ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. The soldiers in those forces quickly became known as Anzacs, and the pride they took in that name endures to this day.

When war broke out in 1914 Australia had been a federated nation for only 13 years, and its government was eager to establish a reputation among the nations of the world. When Britain declared war in August 1914 Australia was automatically placed on the side of the Commonwealth. In 1915 Australian and New Zealand soldiers formed part of the expedition that set out to capture the Gallipoli peninsula in order to open the Dardanelles to the allied navies. The ultimate objective was to capture Constantinople (now Istanbul), the capital of the Ottoman Empire, an ally of Germany.

The Australian and New Zealand forces landed on Gallipoli on 25 April, meeting fierce resistance from the Ottoman Turkish defenders. What had been planned as a bold stroke to knock Turkey out of the war quickly became a stalemate, and the campaign dragged on for eight months. At the end of 1915 the allied forces were evacuated from the peninsula, with both sides having suffered heavy casualties and endured great hardships. More than 8,000 Australian soldiers had died in the campaign.

Gallipoli had a profound impact on Australians at home, and 25 April soon became the day on which Australians remembered the sacrifice of those who died in the war. Although the Gallipoli campaign failed in its military objectives, the actions of Australian and New Zealand forces during the campaign left a powerful legacy. What became known as the "Anzac legend" became an important part of the identity of both nations, shaping the ways in which they viewed both their past and their future.

-Australian War Memorial website...

St Michael's Catholic Church

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WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Sat. Vigil: 5pm
Sunday: 8am, 9:30am & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon, Tues & Thurs: 7:30am
Wed: 6pm
Fri: 9:15am
Sat: 9:15am (Sthn Cross Hostel)

HOLY HOUR: Wed: 5pm

RECONCILIATION:

Wed: 5:15-5:45pm: Sat: 4:15-4:45pm;

BAPTISMS:

Sundays 9:30am Mass

BAPTISMAL PROGRAMME &

WEDDINGS: By appointment

ANOINTING MASS:

Quarterly: 1st weekend

1ST SAT OF EACH MONTH:

11am Mass in honour of Our Lady.

MARIAN DEVOTIONS:

Saturdays 4pm

CHAPLETS OF DIVINE MERCY/ST

MICHAEL: Sundays 4pm

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME:

80% tax deductible. Please join by contacting parish office.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon, Wed & Fri 9am to 2:30pm

Monday 25th April

**ANZAC DAY
LEST WE FORGET**

24th April 2016 (C)

5th Sunday of Easter

1ST READING: Acts 14:21-27

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my god.

2ND READING: Revelation 21:1-5

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have love you. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 13:31-35

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

ENTER THE HOLY DOORS, CELEBRATE THE JUBILEE, AND RECEIVE JUBILEE PLENARY INDULGENCE!

THROUGH NOVEMBER 20, 2016



MASS INTENTION:

Sat Vigil: †Deceased members of the Dominga & Mallion Families

Sun 9:30am: †Deceased members of the McShane Family

Wed: †Deceased members of the Oscar & Mallion Families

Fri: Special Intention

OUR SICK: Archbishop **Anthony Fisher**, **Josephine Helback**, **Alan Sargeant**, **Richard Swords**, **Bob Campbell** and **Southern Cross residents...**

Welcome back all staff, catechists, children and their families from their holidays.
Term 2 begins on Tuesday 26th April.

Parish School News: Please support the parish school **SVdP Night Patrol initiative**. Non-perishable snacks and small food items can now be placed in the box provided in the church foyer at any time. *This is an ongoing programme....*

National Attendance Count 2016 (Mass Count): Starting next Sat. 30th April (for 4 weekends), there will be a count of attendance at all Masses celebrated in the Archdiocese .

The next **CFW Appeal** will be held next weekend (30th April / 1st May). Specially printed envelopes will be made available for your tax-deductible donations.

The Commission for Ecumenism & Inter-religious Relations, Archdiocese of Sydney invites you to an **Ecumenical Prayer Service** (followed by light refreshments) at the **Chapel of Our Lady, Polding Centre**, Level 6, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney on **Thur 12th May at 10am**. This gathering is convened to mark the worldwide Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. All welcome.

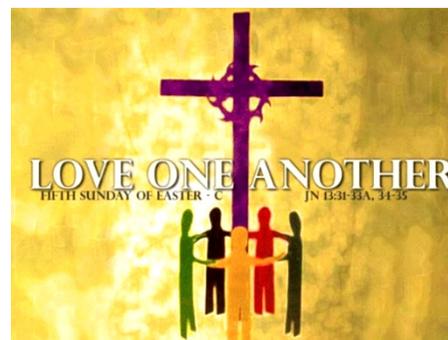


Happy 35th Anniversary of Ordination to Priesthood to our beloved former Parish Priest, **Fr. Jerzy**. (Father was ordained on 25th April 1981 in Krakow, Poland)
God bless Fr. Jerzy and may he have many more years of pastoral service at Como-Oyster Bay Parish before he “retires” to Brewarrina, NSW!!

This weekend: Vigil: J Haggar (A) B Purdon, T Bell (R) M Butler, L Paquin (C) Thomas W (M)
8:00am: G Diab (A) A Yap, M Trassari (R) A Burke, G Pullela (C) P Low (M)
9.30am: Anu V, Magdi Z (A) H Edge, P Ghazal (R) R Houghton, N Liman (C) T Chin (M)
5.00pm: J Haggar (A) Volunteers (R), Volunteers (C) **Counters:** J Haggar, M Wells (Wed 27thApr)

Next weekend: Vigil: J Haggar (A) M Butler, P Low (R) J Spora, P Tjuigito (C) Thomas W (M)
8:00am: G Diab, (A) V Meyer, R Wijaya (R) O Sarmient, L Hart (C) P Low (M)
9.30am: Anu V, Magdi Z (A) K Wong, B Wong (R) N Jenner, L Jenner (C) T Chin (M)
5.00pm: Volunteer (A) Volunteers (R), Volunteers (C) **Counter:** H Morris

In today’s gospel of John, Jesus tells us the defining characteristic of the Christian life is love. But what is the nature of that love? In the cartoon strip ‘Peanuts,’ Linus tells Lucy that he intends to become a doctor. Lucy tells him, ‘he can’t become a doctor because he doesn’t love mankind.’ Linus protests: ‘He *does* love mankind, its only *people* he can’t stand.’ In the English speaking world the word ‘love’ covers a variety of experiences. We speak of the love of country, love of our work, we speak of love of ice-cream and our pet dog. But the love which Jesus speaks about today in the gospel is the love we have for God and one another. The gospel of John was written in Greek, because that was the most commonly spoken language at the time of it’s writing in the year 90 A.D.



The word they use for love is called ‘*agape*’ which is only used to mean *people loving one another*. And so, the greatest act of love is: Jesus laying down his life for us on the cross. Of course the cross is about the suffering and death of Jesus, but in John’s gospel we are reminded that when Jesus speaks about the ‘*glory*’ of God in

today’s gospel, he is also speaking about the cross as the place of the fulfilment of his mission. The cross also signifies the moment of salvation and glory for us. Love is for us as Christians: a paradox. The word paradox means, that while to the world Jesus death is something final and terrifying, for us it means forgiveness and self-sacrifice as the greatest act of love in the world. And that its gives us the promise and hope of eternal life with God. Let us pray today that the glory of God may shine forth in our lives, so that the love which was in Jesus, may become truly present in us by our witness to the cross of Christ in this world.

Fr Kelvin

Abrahamic Perspectives on Mercy: The ACU will be running this short course on 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th May from 6:30pm to 8pm (refreshments from 6pm) at ACU Strathfield Campus. Registration: \$80pp. See flyer on noticeboard or visit www.acu.edu.au/theology/shortcourses.

Cleaner/Housekeeper-Marist Monastery, Daceyville. 1-day (approx. 4hrs)/wk. Details available on request (ring 92184000). Applications in writing including resumes to Anthony Micallef, Marist Centre Sydney, PO Box 1247, Mascot NSW 1460.