

that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them. It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

**The word of the Lord.**  
**(R.) Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

Mt 24:42-44

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

**Alleluia!**

### Gospel

Lk 12:32-48

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.**

**See that you are prepared.**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom. 'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks.

Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.' Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful. 'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**(R) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Thursday 8 August was the feast day of St Mary of the Cross. Mary MacKillop Today has provided donation envelopes for those wishing to contribute to the continuation of the work of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. These will be available at the back and exits to the church for the next few weeks. Thank you for your support.



## Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C - 11 August 2019

*St Declan's parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live together on the land of the Bidjegal people of the Eora Nation.*

### First Reading

Wis 18:6-9

**A reading from the book of Wisdom.**

*Just as you struck our enemies, you made us glorious by calling us to you.*

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

**The word of the Lord.**

**(R.) Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:1, 12, 18-20, 22. R. v. 12

**(R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own.

2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

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3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

**(R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

### Second Reading

Heb 11:1-2, 8-19

**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.**  
*We will look for the city designed and built by God.*

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore. All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising

*Continued on Page 4.*

## ST DECLAN'S PARISH

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Web: [www.stdeclanspenshurst.org](http://www.stdeclanspenshurst.org)

### Parish Office hours:

**Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri:** 9am - 3pm

**Thursday:** Closed

**Parish Priest:** Fr Chris Ryan MGL

**Assistant Priests:** Fr. Adam Crouch MGL

Fr Tony Alex MGL

**Secretary :** Frances Watton

Email: [declans@tpg.com.au](mailto:declans@tpg.com.au)

**Operations & Accounts Manager:** Steve Thomas

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**Coordinator of Ministries to Sick and Elderly:** Nellie Doueiri

Email: [nellie.stdeclans@gmail.com](mailto:nellie.stdeclans@gmail.com)

**Music Coordinators:** Clare Brotherton & Benjamin Taylor

**Sacramental Coordinator:** Lynne Taylor

Email: [007sacraments@gmail.com](mailto:007sacraments@gmail.com)

**Youth Minister:** Doug Macdonald

Email: [igniteym.penshurst@gmail.com](mailto:igniteym.penshurst@gmail.com)

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**WHS Email:** [whs.stdeclans@gmail.com](mailto:whs.stdeclans@gmail.com)

## MASS TIMES

### Mass Times at St Declan's Parish

**Saturday :** 6pm

**Sunday:** 7am, 9am, 11am, 6pm

**Weekday:** Mon, Wed, Fri: 6.45am

Tues, Thurs: 9.15am

**Saturday:** 8.00am

**Public Holiday:** 9.15am

### Communion Services

Tues, Thurs: 6.45am

**Confession :** Saturday: 5.00pm-5.30pm

**Baptisms & Weddings:** by appointment

(Please contact the office or email [declans@tpg.com.au](mailto:declans@tpg.com.au))

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Thursday 9.45am-

10.45am and 7.00pm-8.00pm

**Mass Times at Our Lady of Fatima Peakhurst**

**Saturday:** 5.00pm

**Sunday:** 9.15am & 6.00pm

**Wed, Fri:** 9.30am

**St Declan's Primary:** 9580 4831

**Marist College Penshurst :** 9579 6188

## Welcome to St Declan's Parish

*If you are new to our parish we invite you to leave your name, email address and number on the sheet provided in the front foyer (Near the Crying Room). Thank you.*

## We Remember in our Masses:

### Recently Deceased

*Nicolina Montesin, Ernestina Aservi, Marica Vukelich, Kata Majnarich, Branko L. Bozica Rasic, Casna Setra Ankica Culjaki, Rudi Krcmar, Carmela Agostino, Samir Ryad, Mile Vodera.*

### Anniversaries

*Fr Boris D'Santos SJ, Brian McCarthy, Ivan Vukelich, Muriel L. Charles Cooney, Anthony Young, Josip Sajpert, Toni Zdumich, Sime L. Kristina Bacic, Mirjana Bradvica.*

### Also

*Andres L. Policarpa Mamale, Cecily Ryan, Noel Sheather, Stjepan Kranjec, Maria Vukobrat, Stjepan Obrovac, Stanko Prorokovic, Ignac Krfin, Ivan Kucinic, Mijo Trupkovic, Nikola Dragisic, Kevin L. Stephen L. Jim McElroy, Denis L. Ante Bacic, Betty L. Danny Dusek, Michael O'Sullivan, Betty L. Brian O'Sullivan, Frances Anne O'Sullivan, Teresa L. Joseph Macinante, Spiro L. Josephine Bajada, The Holy Souls in Purgatory and all the deceased members of our Parish.*

### Parish Sick List

*Franjo Ticac, Massimo Mascolo, Christopher March, Sr Alma Pollard, Alina Kizeweter, Tim March, Sonny Venal, Kathy Dennett, Mary Phillips, Mirna Mundiago, Peter Tabutoa, Una Canute, Brian Lloyd, Terence Lang, Ann Steele, Elias Francis, Geraldine Brenston.*

New music rosters are available for collection in the Sacristy.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

The professional photos taken at First Holy Communion weekend have arrived and are available from the parish office during the week. Please contact Lynne to make alternative arrangements to pick them up. Thank you for your patience with this matter.

## Ignite Youth Conference 2019

**Dates:** 3-6 of October (Thursday-Sunday)

**Location:** Freeman Catholic College (41 Mount St, Bonnyrigg Heights, Sydney)

<https://igniteyouth.com/conference/sydney#contact-syd-section>

Ignite conference is a 4 day experience of real-world formation, encouragement in faith, great people and powerful worship. We are super keen to get a group together of people in high school grades 7-12 to experience faith in a radical new way! For more details, contact Doug: [igniteym.penshurst@gmail.com](mailto:igniteym.penshurst@gmail.com) or 0410643818

## Declancraft

*Something creative and social for the over 40s...Jewellery Making*

Learn simple techniques in jewellery making, design & beading. Facilitated by Paulineke Nolan.

**WHEN:** Three Saturdays; 17, 24 & 31 August; 10am – 12.30pm.

**WHERE:** Meeting Room.

**COST:** \$20 (all supplies provided).

**BOOK BY:** Monday, 12 August.

**Limited numbers, bookings essential.**

Nimble fingers and good eyesight are required. Contact Paulineke on 0419426123; [wpnolan@internode.on.net](mailto:wpnolan@internode.on.net)

**The bill to make abortion legal in NSW up until birth, for any reason, has been passed through the NSW Legislative Assembly. Archbishop Anthony Fisher has asked all Catholics in NSW to continue to pray for the rejection of this bill, and to make your views known to the members of the Legislative Council, asking them to vote against this bill. By opposing this bill, the Church is not rejecting or condemning women who have had or will have an abortion. As a parish family we want all women who have had an abortion to know that they are loved and cared for by a God who is rich in mercy. Fr Chris.**

## Family Mass

The families of the kindy and year 1 children at St Declan's Primary School will be invited to attend the 9am Mass on Sunday 18 August. Please make any new people you see feel very much at home, included and welcome in our parish community at this Mass.

## Scripture Discipleship Groups

For St Declan's next Discipleship Groups five parishioners are opening their homes to host an 8 week video-based program called **Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible**. This program explores the "big picture" of the Bible to help readers understand what it is all about. The only cost of the program is the purchase of a participant's workbook. The groups will start during the week of Monday 19 August and each weekly session should take 1.5-2 hours. Sign-up sheets, including the host's name, suburb and chosen day and time are in the church lobby.

## The Feast of Our Lady's Assumption into Heaven - Thursday 15 August

This celebrates the belief that Our Lady, at the close of her earthly life, was taken up, body and soul, into the glory of heaven. The Church considers this day to be a 'holy day of obligation' - that is, it is such an important feast in the life of the Church that we should all attend Mass on this day.



## The Feast of the Assumption Mass Times St Declan's Penshurst:

- 6.45am
- 9.15am (Marist College Penshurst attending)
- 12.00pm (St Declan's Primary attending)
- 7.30pm

**OLF Peakhurst:** 9.30am, 7.30pm

## A notice from the Social Justice Group:

Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS) provide essential food to people seeking asylum and refugees living in Sydney. Government cuts have meant a huge increase in demand for JRS to further support those in need. Please help by bringing IN DATE food such as 1kg Basmati rice, 700ml cooking oil, tea, instant coffee, sugar, salt and pasta (spaghetti & penne) to Masses on the weekends of 17/18<sup>th</sup>, 24/25<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> August/1<sup>st</sup> September.

See posters at Church doors for a full list.