

St Joseph's Como-Oyster Bay Catholic Church Fr. Jerzy Chrzczonowicz PP e-mail:jerzy1junior@hotmail.com, mobile: 0411 125 357 210 Oyster Bay Road, Como, Ph: 9528 0205.

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Office Mon. 12:00 – 3:00pm Thur. 8:00am – 3:00pm .School Principal: Mr Allan Fagerstrom PO Box 447, Jannali 2226. Phone: 9528 8716 info@stjcomo.catholic.edu.au

Sat. 9 am: For the Holy Souls **Vigil 5 pm:**+Saviour George Zerafa (10th ann.); Sunday **8am:** +Holy Souls; **9.30am** + Sladjo Micic **Mon:** + For the deceased parishioners. **Tues:** +Souls in Purgatory; **Wed:** +Souls in needs; **Thurs:** + Narelle Madden (43); **Fri:** + John De Freitas & Manuel Geraldo Alves

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 8am, 9.30am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon 6.45am Tues 7.30pm Wed 9am

Thurs 6.45am Fri 9.00am Sat 9.00am

HOLY HOUR: Saturday 8.00-9.00am

RECONCILIATION: 10 mins before Mass and Saturdays 8.00 – 8.55am

BAPTISMS: at 9.30am Mass

BAPTISM Prep Thurs. 1st Feb 2018

7pm meeting room

WEDDINGS: By appointment.

ANOINTING MASS: next:

7th and 8th April 2018

NOVENA OUR LADY

DIVINE MERCY Tues. 6.30pm

www.vocationcentre.org.au

EWTN-Kids (internet catechism)

CatholicNewsService

Dear Catechists, please be advised that the first meeting is scheduled for 11.00am Thursday 1st February. Denise Humphreys will be in attendance as well. Please advise Parish Office if you are attending and, if possible, bring a plate to share after the meeting. Candidates to this ministry are most welcome.

2nd Feb. Presentation of the Lord 'What's happening at the Presentation of the Lord?' Later this week the Church celebrates the Presentation of the Lord. It's a feast that happens every year on February 2nd. We read about the presentation of the Lord in Luke 2, but the text can be a little mysterious. What is actually *happening* there? Some claim that Luke himself didn't know . . . Here is what Luke actually says about the event . . . And when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." He then records the encounters with Simeon and Anna the prophetess, but at the moment our focus is what Luke refers to as "their purification." What is he talking about? The first thing to note is that Luke is not talking about the time of Jesus' circumcision. That occurred on the eighth day after his birth. Luke has already talked about that and is now referring to a later time. Specifically, he's talking about the fortieth day after Christ's birth. We know that because of he quotes from Leviticus 12:8 ("a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons"), which refers to the purification ritual that a Jewish mother needed to perform to become ritually clean again after childbirth.

Audio-visual resource for readers: <http://catholicreadings.org>

Have you ever considered that what you buy may actually be contributing to modern slavery? From what we wear to what we eat, many of our commonplace purchases are tainted by modern slavery, including forced labour and human trafficking. Pope Francis has called on all of us to eliminate all forms of modern slavery. So please join us to commemorate St Bakhita's Day (8 February 2018), the international Catholic day for victims of modern slavery and human trafficking, in prayer for the eradication of slavery and human trafficking (prayer card at the info table) by shopping ethically (check out the ethical shopping guide).

On Wednesday, 31st January, the day of the Jewish New Year of Trees (Tu biShvat) all are invited to plant 24 trees in our church garden from 4pm. Tu biShvat relates to the cycles of the seasons in Israel and is also known as "the birthday of the trees". In Israel on this day people take shovels and hoes, and go singing happily to plant trees. Afterwards they have parties singing songs, eating fruit and dancing around the trees. In the Diaspora (countries outside of Israel) Jewish people plant seeds or trees where they live, or send money to Israel to have trees planted on their behalf. This custom of Tu biShvat developed in ancient Israel. While going into exile they carried on these customs as a remembrance of their homeland whilst wandering in faraway lands.....Australia.

Mary Immaculate College Sutherland Ex-Students 1965-1970 Reunion to be held at Cronulla, Saturday March 3rd 2018, Noon till 5pm \$60 buffet lunch. For further details or to book a ticket contact: Tricia or Janette a MICReunion1968@gmail.com

Thank you's to Brian for giving to the hall kitchen his washing mashing in excellent condition so we can start to wash our liturgical vestments

"First of all, be free persons! Perhaps there is thought that liberty is to do whatever one wishes. This isn't liberty! Liberty means to be able to reflect on what we do, to know how to appreciate what is good and what is bad, behavior that makes one grow means to choose always the good. We are free for the good. To be free always choose the good, it will make you persons who have a backbone, who are able to face life; persons with courage and patience." Pope Francis

Children are invited under parents' supervision to join their liturgy at the new location in the crying room during the 9.30 Mass. Some coordinators are expected. This liturgy we will try to conduct every Sunday at 9.30am.

Welcome back from your holidays. Share your joy and experience of being away from home.

The Veneration of St Blaise (d. c. 316) In many places on 3rd February – his feast day – people gather in churches for the blessing of throats. The blessing is a sign of the people's faith in God's protection and love for the sick. Using two crossed and unlighted candles, the priest (or other minister) touches the throat of each person, saying: *Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil: + in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.* The most significant detail tells that when Blaise had been captured and was on his way to prison, a boy was brought to him in danger of choking from a fishbone stuck in his throat. Blaise prayed over him and he was cured. Perhaps to fill out his healing credentials, it is also reported that before he was chosen as bishop, Blaise had practised as a physician.

Our sick:

Grace Di Matteo, Josefa Dabu, Terry Qualey, Rita Webb, Josie Lay, Christine Woodard, Marko Radmil, Maria Suszycka, Urszula Kaminska, Andre and Thea Van Gastel and friends from the Chesalon Home & housebound.

Family is one of the most important things in our life. Through all the hard times, family has always been there for us. You might have an *amazing* family, but sadly there are others who don't have one like yours. Let us just say that no matter what has happened in the past, everyone should spend time with their family.