



# "We have found the Messiah."

John 1:41

*Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
14 January 2024*

People often ask me why I am a priest? And is your family religious? My response is that I grew up in a family where faith was important, and my parents and grandparents gave good example of prayer and concern for the poor, who were always welcome in our home. The priests were vibrant and lovely people, so I had a very positive example of priesthood. I was involved in the Junior Legion of Mary which prayed each week at the meeting, and we were given apostolic work to do, visiting the sick or lonely, helping in the parish or community. When I came to leave school, I wanted to do something for God and people, so applied to begin formation as a priest.

Today's scriptures John the Baptist points to Jesus as the Lamb of God, his followers become followers of Jesus and they invite others to join them in discipleship. They 'come', 'see' and 'hear' and stayed with Jesus. We often need to have someone show us the way to Jesus, to invite us to come to him and introduce us to him and his teaching. Human interaction and witness are very powerful. In the first reading Samuel has Eli with wisdom who realizes it is the Lord calling him.

Today let us reflect on who brought us to the Lord and give thanks for their example and faith. Let us also consider who we might bring to Jesus and consider how our lives are a witness to our Christian faith. As a priest people often, even in social situations, they want to have a faith or belief conversation and probe me with questions about the church or Christian life. Let us all be open to the opportunities God gives us to speak words of encouragement and faith.

Yours, in the Lord Jesus,  
Fr Michael McLean, Parish Priest



**Australia Day 2024 Friday 26 January**

Mass at 8:00am.

following Mass bring your breakfast and join Fr Michael upstairs in the Parish Centre.

All Welcome

## *~ Volunteer to become a Catechist ~*

Our parish is looking for volunteer catechists for 2024 school terms.

The most common question people ask about being a Catechist is whether you need experience in teaching.

The answer is simple and it's NO.

All you need is a love for God and the passion to share the truth and the Gospel.

The (CCD) Confraternity of Christian Doctrine Sydney will provide you with the training, support and resources to be equipped to teach effectively in the classroom.

You are required for one hour on Friday morning's during school terms. If interested please speak with

Fr Michael or contact the Parish office.



**WELCOME TO ST MARK'S CHURCH**

May the New Year bring you blessings for a prosperous life

*United in Baptism, Nourished by the Eucharist,  
Guided by the Holy Spirit,  
We Form a Vibrant and Caring Community,  
Living and Proclaiming the Gospel,  
Reaching Out to Those in Need,  
Journeying Together, Growing in Faith.*

A decade has passed since Fr Michael became St Mark's Parish Priest. In his enriching journey he gives thanks to God and the Blessed parishioners of St Mark's who are always with him.

Congratulations on 10 years at our Parish.



## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 65:4

**(All)** All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

### The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### First Reading

1 Samuel 3.3b-10, 19

*A reading from the first book of Samuel.*

*Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.*

Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" Samuel ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 40.1+3a, 6, 7-8, 9 (R.7-8)

**(R.) Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

1. I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. **(R.)**

2. Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required. **(R.)**

3. Then I said, "Here I am; In the scroll of the book it is written of me. I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." **(R.)**

4. I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord. **(R.)**



### Second Reading

1 Corinthians 6.13c-15a, 17-20

*A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.*

*Your bodies are members of Christ.*

The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

### Gospel Acclamation

John 1.41, 17

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace. *Alleluia.*

### Gospel

John 1.35-42

*A reading from the holy gospel according to John.*

*The disciples of John came and saw where Jesus was staying, and they remained with him.*

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi", "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah". He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

### Gospel Reflection:

Jesus' invitation to 'Come and See' is a powerful image in this week's gospel. It is not a simple reply to the question of where Jesus is living; in some ways it is a summary of his whole ministry – come and see what I am on about and become part of it. It is typical of the invitational nature of Jesus' ministry. Throughout the gospels, Jesus offers and invites, he does not force his ministry onto anyone. When he invites us to 'Come and See' it is an invitation to 'give it a go'; take a chance; let go of what we know.

To 'Come and See' is exactly what Jesus invited the apostles to do. In this week's reading, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, takes up the invitation and becomes a follower of Jesus. He is so impressed with what he sees in Jesus that he finds his brother and tells him that they've found the Messiah and that Simon should come and join them. Jesus immediately gives Simon a new nickname: the Rock (Peter). There are many instances throughout the Bible of people taking or being given new names. Abram became Abraham; Jacob became Israel; Saul became Paul. This change of name is used as a sign that they have encountered God in a special way and have taken on a new life – a new commitment to God. In this instance, Simon is becoming a disciple of Jesus, a trusted and influential one at that.

Unlike the call of Samuel in today's first reading, in which the call to discipleship is heard as a booming voice, Andrew and Simon experience the call through personal encounter with Jesus. A booming voice from the sky might be helpful, but for most of us the call comes in much more subtle ways through our prayer and reflection on interaction with others. © Greg Sunter

### Questions

- Q. What role do the disciples play throughout the gospels?
- Q. In what ways is it harder/easier to be a disciple today?
- Q. How can you also invite others to 'Come and See'?



## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

### The Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through  
him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from  
heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin  
Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he  
suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third  
day in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of  
the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who  
proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the  
Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has  
spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look  
forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the  
world to come. Amen.

### Prayers of the Faithful

**Leader:** With confidence in the Father's generous love for us,  
let us turn to him in prayer.

**Reader:** Let us pray for the Church, that we, who have  
received life and love from God, may be active instruments  
of unity and reconciliation amongst all Christians. *(pause).*

*Lord hear us:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Let us pray for our world, that the peoples of every  
land, culture and faith may enjoy secure and lasting peace.  
*(pause).*

*Lord hear us:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Let us pray for Christians who face persecution for  
their faith, that they may be strengthened by God's Holy  
Spirit. *(pause).*

*Lord hear us:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Let us pray for our own parish community, that we  
may always be generous and welcoming to those in need.  
*(pause).*

*Lord hear us:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Let us pray for all who have gone before us in the  
light of faith, that they may know the peace of God's  
Kingdom. *(pause).*

*Lord hear us:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Heavenly Father, we ask you to hear our prayers  
and grant us all that is in accord with your will for us.  
We ask this in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All: Amen.**

### Communion Antiphon

*Cf Psalm 22:5*

**(All)** You have prepared a table  
before me, and how  
precious is the chalice  
that quenches my thirst.



## St Mark's Parish Diary



### † Wednesday 17 January - Saint Antony

St Antony is the originator of the monastic life. He went out  
into the wilderness to begin a life of penitence, living in  
absolute poverty. He lived to be over a hundred years old.

### † Wednesday 24 January - Saint Francis de Sales

He was born near Annecy, in Savoy, studied the law, and  
was ordained to the priesthood despite the opposition of his  
father. St Francis is the patron saint of writers and  
journalists.

### † Thursday 25 January - The Conversation of St Paul

Today's feast celebrates the day that Christ appeared to him  
Saul in a vision as he was on the way to Damascus,  
reproached him for his persecutions and converted him to  
the true faith.

### † Friday 26 January - Australia Day

Grant, we pray, O lord our God, that as the Cross shines in  
our southern skies, so may Christ bring light to our nation.  
Bring a light breakfast and join Fr Michael following Mass  
upstairs in the Parish Centre.

### † Wednesday 31 January - Saint John Bosco

He became a priest, and devoted himself to the care of the  
young, to ensure the continuation of his work, he founded  
a congregation, which he named after St Francis de Sales  
(a saint for whom he had great admiration), and today the  
Salesians continue his work all over the world.

### † Friday 2 February - The Presentation of the Lord

We humbly implore your majesty that, just as your Only  
Begotten Son was presented on this day in the Temple in  
the substance of our flesh, so, by your grace, we may be  
presented to you with minds made pure.

### † Friday 2 February - Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

The Holy See World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life  
is celebrated on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord  
The Feast Day was chosen by Pope John Paul II.

### † Sat 3 | Sun 4 February - Word of God Sunday

Celebrated in Australia in February the Pope has chosen the  
motto taken from the Gospel of St John: "Remain in my  
Word" (John 8:31). This is also Catechist Sunday.

### † Monday 5 February - Saint Agatha

She was martyred at Catania in Sicily, probably during the  
persecution of Decius (250-253). Devotion to her was  
widespread in the Church in the earliest times and she is  
mentioned in the Roman Canon of the Mass.

### † Tuesday 6 February - Saint Paul Miki and Companions

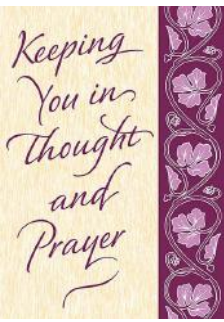
A Jesuit Brother and native of Japan, Saint Paul Miki was  
crucified, along with 25 other Catholics, for preaching his  
belief in Jesus.

### † Saturday 10 February - Saint Scholastica

The twin sister of St Benedict. She was dedicated to God  
from an early age and followed her brother to Cassino,  
where she died in about 547.

### † Sat 10 | Sun 11 February - Lunar New Year

Beginning the Year of the Dragon - the wood Dragon  
to be precise!



**In your love and concern, please pray for all the sick and vulnerable members of our St Mark's community:**

Egidio Ettorre, Looi Im Heek, Christiane Biady, Anne Johnson, Lucie Betteto, Isobel Boccalatte, Pat Crowe, Fay O'Halloran, Santa Iacono, Bishop Peter Ingham, Wendy Madden, Pat Kenna, Lina Giannandrea, Patricia Ryan, Patricia Ficarra, Immaculata Di Palma, Giuseppina Pinto, Milly Di Blasio and Rocco Zoccali.

God of all goodness, Look with mercy on all who suffer any kind of infirmity, sickness or injury, that they may be comforted. Let your hand of healing and protection be upon them. When they are afraid, give them strength and courage. ~Amen~

**Remembering those who have gone before us.**

His Eminence George Cardinal Pell, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Charlie Camilleri, Monica Rincon De Florez, Eddie Conaghan, Jimmy Conaghan, Vera Craig, Margaret Laurence, Frederick Laurence, Antonio Ziino, Ida Tripodi, Norma Cornford, Chris Grady, Dr James Stackpool, Brian Harnett, Fr John De Luca, Roslyn Iris Poppen, Maureen Cleur, Dorie Levy, Eileen O'Neill, Larry O'Neill, Assunta Sanzari, Monica Fernon, Geoff and Nancy Rice, Valda Picone and Maureen D'Adam.

**Recently Deceased.** Graeme Cooper, Henry Paoloni, Liam Askin, Gerard Bradley, Giovanni Iacono, Rev Mgr Michael Berbari and Rev Dr William Aliprandi. *May all the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.*



**In memory during the Holidays**

During the holidays, we remember the loved ones who will not be with us this year, our parishioners and family members who have passed. They are in our hearts as we come together to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Even though they are not with us physically, we know that they are held in the loving mercy of God. Because of our faith we know they are celebrating with all the angels and saints in heaven.

The liturgy of the word is a decisive element in the celebration of each one of the sacraments of the Church; in pastoral practice, however, the faithful are not always conscious of this connection, nor do they appreciate the unity between gesture and word. The relationship between **word and sacramental gesture** is the liturgical expression of God's activity in the history of salvation through the *performative character* of the word itself. In salvation history there is no separation between what God says and what he does. His word appears as alive and active (Heb 4:12), as the Hebrew term *dabar* itself makes clear. In the liturgical action too, we encounter his word which accomplishes what it says. By educating the People of God to discover the performative character of God's word in liturgy, we will help them to recognise his activity in salvation history and in their individual lives. *Verbum Domini 2010 53*



**St Mark's Drummoyne Masses**

Monday & Friday 8:00am  
Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am  
Wednesday 7:30am



Saturday 12 noon  
Saturday Reconciliation 11:30am - 11:55am  
Saturday Vigil 5:30pm  
Sunday 9:00am & 6:00pm

Scan the QR code to donate to support the Ministry and Mission of our Parish.

**WEEKDAY MASS NEXT WEEK:**

Fr Michael will be away on Archdiocese business next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for morning Mass, please welcome Fr Brian Egan to St Mark's to celebrate these Masses. Fr Denis is away on annual leave.



St Mark's over the last few months has welcomed new parishioner volunteers as Altar Servers, music ministry members, hospitality members and ministers of the Word.

It is fabulous to see you come forward to share your gifts in ministry. You are very much appreciated. Thank you

**You can support YOUR PARISH of St Mark's financially through...**

- † Tap and Pray machines at the Church entrance.
  - † Direct Debit monthly. *Contact the Parish Office to arrange*
  - † Online donation through the Parish Website.
  - † Weekly Planned Giving envelopes. *Contact the Parish Office*
  - † 2nd Collection at Sunday Masses. *After Prayers of the Faithful*
  - † Leaving a Bequest in your will
- Parishes in the Archdiocese are required to be self sustaining and depend upon the generosity of parishioners for their sustainability.  
**No financial assistance is given directly from the Archdiocese to support parishes.**

**Caring for the spiritual needs of the sick and housebound**



An important ministry of St Mark's is visitation of the sick and housebound. This is especially important at holiday time. **Do you know someone in the parish who is unwell or housebound?** If so please contact the parish office.

**St Mark's Catholic Parish**

33 Tranmere Street, Drummoyne NSW 2047  
Tel: (02) 9181 1795

Email: [admin@stmarksdrummoyne.org.au](mailto:admin@stmarksdrummoyne.org.au)  
Parish Website: [www.stmarksdrummoyne.org.au](http://www.stmarksdrummoyne.org.au)



**St Mark's Church Hearing Loop installed**

**Parish Bulletin:** we ask that you take home your bulletin, do not put it back for others or leave it on the pew for others to pick up.

**Parish Priest:** Fr Michael McLean PP EV  
**Priest in Residence:** Fr Denis Minns OP  
**Pastoral Associate:** Sr Antonia Nedu ISR  
**Chair Parish Pastoral Council:** Ms Celine Cheng  
**School Principal:** Mrs Melissa Lentini

Masks are recommended, thank you for social distancing, please respect the sacredness of our church and remember to turn off your phone during the Mass.

St Mark's Parish, Drummoyne acknowledges the Wangal people, one of 29 tribes of the Eora nation and the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them and for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.



**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** [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. **Website:** Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding and Child Protection