

RCIA beginnings in Early Church

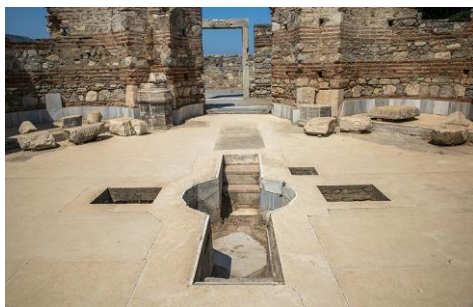
Christians faced the problems of living among a pagan majority and with it came the task of building a **Christian social life**. Amazingly, (and thanks to Roman Roads and communication net - works) Christianity spread widely and rapidly: By the end of the 2nd century there were well-established Church - communities in Gaul (France), North Africa, beginnings in Britain, Spain and South Germany in the West. To the east, Edessa (Türkiye), Mesopotamia, Persia and India. Armenia became the first Christian Nation at the beginning of the 4th century.

This was not done without opposition: First, “their stern moral standard and their fear of contamination by the idolatry woven into the texture of social life around them compelled many Christians to stand aloof from their neighbours. Second, the Roman state doubted their loyalty. Christians were burdened with a presumption that they were wicked and dangerous people.”

Sources for the RCIA: *Didache* (1st C. AD), **Justin Martyr** (100-165 AD), **Tertullian** (160-240AD)... The earliest most detailed post-apostolic picture of the catechumenate comes from *The Apostolic Tradition*, written by **Hippolytus** of Rome (d. 235 AD). It is difficult to provide a precise image of this practice in the Apostolic Period. In these early baptismal practices, often drawn from Sermons, the seeds of what later developed into the **Catechumenate** can be found.

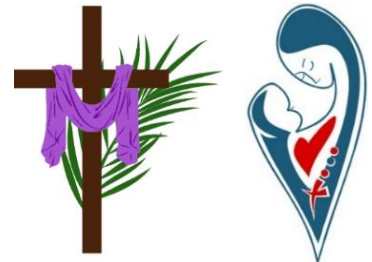
The Catechumenate – a necessity: *katēcheō* in the active meaning “to teach” or “instruct”, in the passive meaning “to listen”: **Cyril of Jerusalem** (313-386) wrote: “Christians considered themselves soldiers of Christ and fellow soldiers with other believers.” At their baptism they were “enlisted” in Christ’s army. Their baptism served as a *sacramentum*, or pledge, which would be the equivalent of a military oath in the Roman army.

1st Stage (preliminaries or entrance) “Let them be asked the reason why they have given their assent to the faith.” e.g. The **Didache** speaks of 2 paths: The Gospel or the path of death: it is evil, and full of cursing; there are found murders, adulteries, lusts, fornication, thefts, idolatries, soothsaying, sorceries, robberies, false witnessings, hypocrisies, double-mindedness, craft, pride, malice, self-will, covetousness, filthy talking, jealousy, audacity, pride, arrogance. (Continued middle page)

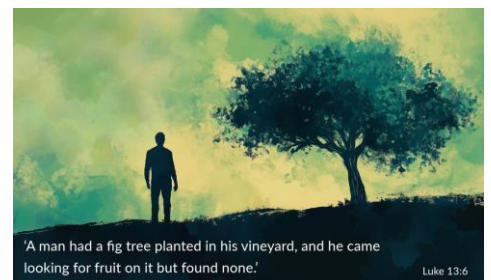


Walk-in total immersion font ancient Basilica of Mary in Ephesus, Türkiye

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



THIS WEEK



SATURDAY 22 MARCH 3RD LENT C

5:00pm - 6:00pm Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass RCIA Rite at Mass

SUNDAY 23 MARCH 3RD LENT C

9:30am Mass + KidsChurch, Morning Tea

10:30am ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

3:30pm Indonesian Community Mass

5:30pm - 6:00pm Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass

MONDAY 24 MARCH

9:00am Mass

6:00pm Adoration/Reconciliation

TUESDAY 25 MARCH

9:00am Mass Annunciation of the Lord

WEDNESDAY 26 MARCH

9:00am Mass

6:30pm CHARBEL RAISH - PARISH HALL

THURSDAY 27 MARCH

5:00pm Holy Hour/Adoration/Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass

FRIDAY 28 MARCH

9:00am Mass with OLR Year 6

SATURDAY 29 MARCH 4TH LENT C

5:00pm - 6:00pm Reconciliation

10:00am – FIRE SAFETY TRAINING - CHURCH

6:00pm Mass

SUNDAY 30 MARCH 4TH LENT C

9:30am Mass + KidsChurch, Morning Tea

3:30pm Indonesian Community Mass

5:30pm - 6:00pm Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass

We acknowledge the traditional owners the Gadigal Clans of the Eora Nation, who cared for this land for thousands of years and their descendants who have maintained these Spiritual connections and traditions.

PARISH DIRECTORY



4 Roma Ave
Kensington NSW 2033
T: 9663 1070

E: parishoffice@olrkensington.org.au
W: <http://olrkensington.org.au>

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Fr Peter Hearn msc

E: parishpriest@olrkensington.org.au

PARISH SECRETARY

Maria Caetano

Mon, Wed & Fri 9:30am-3:30pm

ADMIN ASSISTANT

Amanda Janturi

Tues & Thurs 9:30am-3:30pm

PARISH SAFEGUARDING

SUPPORT OFFICER

Lily Murcutt

E: safeguarding@olrkensington.org.au

SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR

Sarina Capo

E: evangelise@olrkensington.org.au

MASS TIMES

Sat 6:00pm (Vigil), Sun 9:30am, 6pm

Mon, Wed, Fri - 9am, Thurs 6pm

Indonesian Mass Sun 3:30pm

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

9:00am Mass First Friday

RECONCILIATION

Sat & Sun 5.30pm-6.00pm

Thurs 5:00pm-6pm

ROSARY

First Saturday before 6.00pm Mass

BAPTISMS | WEDDINGS | SACRAMENTS | RCIA

Contact Amanda - Parish Office

E: sacraments@olrkensington.org.au

INDONESIAN COMMUNITY

Fr Agustinus Handoko

M: 0420 347 002

OLR PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Principal: Jenny Chu - 9663 3346

<https://olrkensington.syd.catholic.edu.au>

OLSH COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Principal: Gilda Pussich - 9662 4088

<https://olshkensington.syd.catholic.edu.au>

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Roy Rigotti - 0400 467 809

John Hill - 0411 315 533

Sr Pauline Richards - 0419 482 408

Nani Widarto - 0411 850 350

ALTAR SERVERS CO-ORDINATOR

Caroline: carol_thung@yahoo.com

KIDSCHURCH CO-ORDINATORS

Lia: lia_tjoe@hotmail.com

Sherly: sherly.handjojo@gmail.com

YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR & YOUNG ADULTS CO-ORDINATOR

Edo: edo.setiaprasojo@gmail.com

RESPONSES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

FIRST READING

Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord is kind and merciful.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12

ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Luke 13: 1-9

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

OREMUS

Let us Pray

SICK

Almarinda Cruz, Lily Rose Parks, Bernard Fonti, Alice Gatt, Peter Haylen, Manuel Mouco

PARISHIONERS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE/HOMEBOUND

Tom Carlton, Sr Joan Pender, Frank Mifsud, Margaret Stocker, Jill Rees, John Dorahy, Brenda Longworth, Christine Moyle, Olga Nasser, Maria Pockaj, Lucienne Radzyminski, Nicole Chiaradia

BELOVED DECEASED

Astride Abeleda, Jeannie Chooi Hong Murcutt (*mother of Scott Murcutt*), Elisa Da Silva, Ena Delaney, Helena Adamek-Zychowicz (*mother of Anna Jordan*), Br Reg Pritchard msc

ANNIVERSARIES

Reina Calderon, Brigid Siely, Marilyn Dorahy, Maria Taranto, Carlo & Alfredo Pengue, Aurelio Coelho, Gracinda Rodrigues, Jack Papallo, Anthony Jahja

SACRAMENTAL DATES

Confirmation:

Sacrament Administered Wednesday 28 May 6.30pm

First Holy Communion:

Enrolment: 6 August, 6.30pm Church; Masses 9.30am Sunday 14 and 21 September

First Reconciliation:

Enrolment: 17 September; Sacrament conferred: 12 and 19 November 6.30pm

ROSTERS

22/23 MAR	SAT 6PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	John Ryan	Gus Alimhamzah	John Allen
Readers	Simona Wong Br Rory Higgins	Francine Pirola Byron Pirola	Alice Beavin Erin Beavin
E. Ministers	Vien Suhadi	Dewi Suryani Robyn Kildea	Geraldine Marcellino
KidsChurch	Caroline & Martha		
Counters	Robyn Kildea, Arief Suhadi		
Comm to Sick	Robyn Kildea		
29/30 MAR	SAT 6PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	Danny Tjahjadi	Yosep Rizal	John Allen
Readers	Sam Schubert Sr Helen Hearne	Michelle Alimhamzah Ana Corpuz	Ethan Lim Elsa Lim
E. Ministers	Sr Pauline Richards	Kayla Thumwanich Trish Veness	Patricia Reyes
KidsChurch	Patrick & ME		
Counters	Helen Liew, Jan Nicholas, Bob Brenac		
Comm to Sick	Trish Veness		

Continued from page 1

Then, the candidate was asked questions regarding **whether he/she was involved in trades or professions that must be abandoned** because they are not compatible with the Christian life. "Did these inquirers have mistresses? If slaves, did they serve their masters faithfully? Were they gladiators, charioteers, idol-sculptors, actors, brothel-keepers, theatre producers, city magistrates or employed in some other immoral trade?" If so, they would be required to make the costly choice to "cease or be rejected".

2nd Stage (catechesis period): the first stage being cleared, they were admitted to the first part of the Christians worship service to hear the lectures and oral instruction (*missa catechumenorum*). (Those familiar with the Latin Mass may remember the "Secret Prayer" - now the Prayer before the Preface of the Mass - non-baptised had to leave the Church and not be part of the Eucharist from there on. It was a "secret" only for the Christians/Catholics, the initiated. **The Apostolic Tradition:** The catechumens were asked very practical aspects of Christianity: "if they honoured the widows, and if they visited those who are sick, and if they fulfilled every good work..."

3rd Stage (election:) advanced study of Christian doctrine and tradition

4th Stage (baptismal period): the process of baptism. Week leading to Easter Sunday.

As time progressed more people joined the Christian religion and more children of believing parents were born. **Thus baptism, conversion and membership steadily started to follow a different route from the traditional conversion of heathens joining the Christian faith.**



Font, Ravenna, Italy

MAINTENANCE

In the pipe-line: stained glass refurbishment (\$13,000); more cupboards for Sacristy (old one to go to Rosary Room); Young Adults storage (Rosary Room); CIC Storage - Hall; Defibrillator for Church.

HOLY HOURS

Join us for Adoration **Monday 24th March 6pm-7pm** (call in for a few minutes or stay the whole hour) and Thursdays before 6:00pm Mass. **Reconciliation is available.**

Hosted by
Our Lady of The Rosary
Kensington

In the Parish Jubilee Hall
1B Kensington Rd

FOR 5 WEDNESDAYS FROM
WEDNESDAY 12TH MARCH 2025

EVENT STARTS 6.30PM WITH SUPPER
TALK AT 7PM SHARP

Follow us @easterndeanerysydney
Event is free but Registration essential
Donation for Parousia Media appreciated

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdZDdId6i6f0zA1aLpwvd6RwI0_ujk--Ui7IUdIBsUaigPjQ/viewform

FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS DEVOTION

Join us at OLR Church on the **first Saturday of each month** for the "5 first Saturdays Devotion" associated with Our Lady of Fatima. **5.30pm Rosary with confessions available followed by 6pm Mass.**

WEEKDAY MASSES

First Friday Masses with anointing of the Sick at 9am, also at the Thursday evening Mass the day before the First Friday. PHMSC

PARISH COLLECTIONS 15/16 MAR

First Collection	\$1,198
Second Collection	\$631
Envelope Collection	\$785

Project Compassion	\$120
Stained-Glass Window Repairs	\$1,300



Dear Parishioners,

We would appreciate your help to keep it egg-citing for OLR children to celebrate Easter, and welcome your chocolate eggs donation. Please place them in the baskets near the church entrance. Children will be given Easter eggs following OLR Easter Sunday mass. Thank you for your egg-ceptional support.

OLR Kids Church

PDKK Epiphany & Domus Cordis present

UNSHAKEABLE FAITH FINDING YOUR FOUNDATION

25 - 27 April 2025
Mt. Carmel Retreat Centre

For Year 10 to Uni students, under 18 yo
(Venture TM, Kenso Youth, and friends)
\$250 pp, inc. meals from Friday dinner to Sunday lunch
Drop off: Friday, 6pm
Pick up: Sunday, 12.30 (family mass at 1pm)

"Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see" - Hebrew 11:1

Join Now
Registration closes on the 16th March 2025
Contact Lydia B. at 0426 675 919 for more info

Photo: Members of Domus Cordis, Caritas's aid program

Sydney Catholic Schools Week

School Tours

Tuesday 1 April
9.00-10.30am

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL KENSINGTON

LEARN MORE

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime 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 safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or 9390 5810. 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.

JUBILEE OF HOPE CONCERT

The Parish of Sydney City South invite you to celebrate the Year of Jubilee with us at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Waterloo) on **Friday, April 4th, at 7:30PM**. Experience the enchanting Prima Luce Chamber Orchestra as they present an intimate performance of Vivaldi's Four Seasons. Led by James Doig on the harpsichord and featuring the exceptional Korean-born soloist Sunny Roh, this musical experience promises to resonate deeply within your spirit. The concert will explore themes of pilgrimage, life, and hope, offering a profound reflection perfect for this Jubilee Year. This evening is not only a cultural celebration but also an opportunity for a pilgrimage to a sacred site recognised for this special occasion. Refreshments to be provided after the performance. Tickets on sale now! Visit citysouthcatholic.org.au/jubilee-concert/ or call 9353 6300.



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 2025

Lam is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Through the I-SHINE program Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income.



Please donate today

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above. Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion Or by calling: 1800 024 413. Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty.

OLR SCHOOL NEWS – YEAR 1

As year 1 begin the Religious Education unit on Lent, students have embarked on a meaningful journey of reflection and compassion, displaying incredible enthusiasm for learning about this special season. A couple of weeks ago, we attended a beautiful Ash Wednesday Liturgy, where we received ashes on our foreheads. Students highlighted that these ashes remind us to live in closer alignment with God's teachings. Through thoughtful discussions, we explored the significance of this tradition, learning how it marks the beginning of the Lenten season—a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. In the spirit of almsgiving, we have also launched into Project Compassion. Through this initiative, students have learned about the important work that Project Compassion supports, including providing education, healthcare, and livelihood programs in countries where communities face hardships. Understanding how our contributions can make a difference has inspired us to work together with greater purpose. The students in 1M hope you enjoy the Lenten season and find moments of reflection and kindness throughout this special time.

Unit 1.2 Lent and Holy Week

Students will Understand that...

- Jesus taught about God's Kingdom
- Jesus shows us how to love God and others
- During Lent we prepare for Easter



BRIGIDINE COLLEGE RANDWICK ANNUAL REUNION AFTERNOON TEA

Sunday 4 May 2025 at 1.00pm

CULLEN HALL (Access via Wilson's Car Park, St Paul Street). If you would like further information please contact: **MARY MOTT** - mary_mott@bigpond.com | 0407 912 328