

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!



Welcome to the Catholic Parishes of St Mary's Mudgee, St John the Baptist Gulgong, St Dominic's Kandos/ St Malachy's Rylstone.



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we live, work and pray. We walk on Wiradjuri country. May we continue to love and respect the land as they have.



Third Sunday of Advent Year C - 16th December 2018

Parish Priest

Fr Owen Gibbons

Seminarian

Mr Nam Le

Deacon Charles Applin (Kandos)

Parish Secretaries

Mrs Patti Kiddle

Mrs Kristie Newman

Pastoral Council: Mrs Julie Keipert (President)

Email: centaur3@bigpond.com

Postal Address: P.O Box 14 Mudgee NSW 2850

Phone: 02 6372 2122 Fax: 02 6372 6700

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Website: www.mudgee.catholic.org.au

Parish Office Hours

Monday

10.00am - 1.00pm : 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri

9.00am - 1.00pm : 2.00pm - 4.00pm

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St Matthews Catholic School Mudgee:

Principal: Mr Jason Hanrahan Ph 02 63721742

stmattsmudgee@bth.catholic.edu.au

All Hallows Catholic School Gulgong:

Principal: Ms Katrina Isbester Ph 02 63741582

allhallowsgulgong@bth.catholic.org.au

www.allhallowsgulgong.catholic.edu.au

Advent Wreath - as we enter the third week of

Advent we
pray

Response:
**COME LORD
JESUS**



Lord Jesus, you are the light
of the world... **R.**

You are the light in our
darkness... **R.**

Son of God save us from our
sins... **R.**

Bring hope into the lives of all
people... **R.**

REFLECTION

We are at the midpoint of Advent. Today we celebrate *Gaudete* Sunday. The principal theme of the day is joy. According to Paul, joy is one of the fruits of the Spirit (cf. Gal 5:22). Such joy is a religious sentiment, not emotional happiness. Along with gratitude, it is the heart's response to God's goodness. Zion is told to shout for joy because it has been saved by God from its enemies and because God is in the midst of the people. The psalm response proclaims the same message; the reading from Philippians announces that the Lord is near. This is cause for joy.

Advent is a time for joy, not primarily because we are anticipating the anniversary of the birth of Christ, but

because God is already in our midst (Emmanuel). The readings for this Sunday assure us that God is with us, not as a judge but as a Saviour. We rejoice over the saving acts of God that make us confident of God's care and unafraid of whatever may cross our paths. We rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. Advent joy is like the delight that fills a woman who has just given birth, even if it occurred in the throes of birthpangs. Advent joy springs from the realisation that the presence of God in our midst can so transform our lives that the promises of peace and security will be fulfilled. Advent joy is the way we live in the tension between already and not yet.

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First Reading:

Zephaniah 3:14-18

*With gladness the Lord will
rejoice over you.*

Second Reading:

Philippians 4: 4-7

The Lord is near.

Responsorial

Psalm: *Isaiah 12:2-6 R. v3*

**All: Cry out with joy and
gladness: for among you
is the great and
Holy One of Israel.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is
upon me; he sent me to
bring Good News to the
poor.

Alleluia!

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear. For
the Lord is my strength,
my song, he became my
saviour. With joy you will
draw water from the wells
of salvation. **(R)**

Give thanks to the Lord,
give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds
known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of
his name. **(R)**

Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious
deeds, make them known
to all the earth! People of
Zion, sing and shout for
joy for great in your midst
is the Holy One of Israel.
(R)

Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18

What, then, must we do?

Memorial Acclamation:

We proclaim your Death,
O Lord, and profess your
Resurrection until you
come again.



DAY BY DAY

Monday, 17th December

No Service

10.00am AHCS End of Year School Mass

7.00pm Second Rite of Reconciliation Mudgee

Tuesday, 18th December

9.00am Mass

Wednesday, 19th December

9.30am St Mary's Craft & Friendship Group.

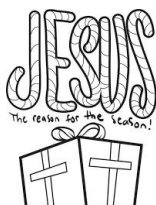
4.00pm Holy Hour

5.00pm Mass

Last day of School term.

Thursday, 20th December

9.10am Mass Mudgee



Friday, 21st December

11.00am Mass Kanandah Nursing Home

12 - 12.15pm Reconciliation

12.20pm Anointing Mass Mudgee for the Sick & Elderly

6.00pm Cudgegong Choir performance, St Mary's Mudgee

Saturday, 22nd December

5.15pm- 5.45pm Reconciliation Mudgee

6:00pm: Vigil Mass Mudgee

Sunday, 23rd December

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year C

9.00am Mass Mudgee

10.30am Mass Gulgong - **Remembrance & Anointing Mass**

10.30am Rosary Kandos

11.00am Kandos Sunday Service in the Absence of a Priest.

The Pope's Universal Prayer for December

Evangelization: In the Service of the Transmission of Faith

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

IN RECESS OVER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

Rosary Group Mudgee

The next meeting of the Rosary Group will be on Friday 18th January 2019.



Children's Liturgy

Returns after school holidays.



St Mary's Craft & Friendship Group

Last gathering for the year next Wednesday.

Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd December 2018

Commentator	A. McLean	S. Bennett
Readers	I. Byrnes L. Ryan	C. Berridge J. Keipt
Special Ministers of Communion	D. Cunningham J. Vros A. Baker	P. O'Brien K. Scott C. Dawson
Offertory Procession	K. Wall G. Roberts	Margot Dorney Liz Ford
Welcomers	Connor Family	June Potts Margaret Dunnachie
Altar Servers	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Counters	E. Goodlet 17/12	L.Nicholson 24/12

Gulgong Liturgy Roster	23rd Dec. 2018	Kandos Liturgy Roster	23rd Dec 2018
<i>Leader</i>			Rev Charles
<i>Commentator</i>	D.Kelly		
<i>Reader</i>	C.Leotta	<i>Readers</i>	A. Krusvar Sr Kath
<i>Offertory</i>	M.McGregor L.Hope	<i>Intercessions</i>	K. Morrissey
<i>Special Minister of Communion</i>	M.Carney C.Holland	<i>Special Minister of Communion</i>	H. Roberts
<i>Sacristan</i>	C & E Holland	<i>Sacristan</i>	Sr Kath

Masses and prayers requested for the following:

We pray for the recently deceased especially

Sr Monica Sparkes (Syd) and Fortun Micallef.

We remember the anniversaries of Norah and Jack Babbage, Alan Nicholson, Laurence Hensley, Jeffrey O'Brien, Kevin, James and Ronnie Gaffney Eva Knezevic.

We also pray for all those who have died during this year.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are sick at this time: Sr Mary Clement, Debbie Brown, Anton Blazavic,, Joe Saliba, Dr R. Dick (England), Mary Armstrong, Jennifer Ryan, June George, Tony Petchell, Anne Stayner, Danielle Wolfenden, Sue Melinz, Brendan Stanford, Roseanne Telfer, Anne Stayner, Ben Fleitmann, Kristi Smith, Anne Troy Whitcombe, Liam Potts, Ursula Smiezek, Jasmine Prada, Dennis Donnelly, Tony Gillham, Melinda Drew, Alma Ristau, Carissa Gleeson, Jason Seis, Mary Cannon, Margaret Tuxford Spicer, Julie Collins, and the residents of all the nursing homes. For those seeking Special Intentions.



Kandos News:

Thank You: The St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal \$424.10 was collected.

Sr Monica Sparks sgs. 11.12.2018

Loved and loving member of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. Loved daughter of William and Sabina (née Corlis) Sparks (both deceased).

Sister is the last of the Good Samaritan's who spent time in the Kandos Parish. Her Requiem Mass will take place in Sydney on Saturday.

Christmas Day Mass
9.00am
St Dominic's Kandos

Gulgong News:

Remembrance Mass for all who have died during the year & Anointing of the sick & Elderly, 10.30am, next Sunday 23rd December.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS
6.00PM

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST GULGONG

Gulgong Catholic Women's Group wish to thank everyone for their generous support over the past year. May you all be blessed with a very Happy and Holy Christmas Season with your family and friends. They wish one and all a very Happy New Year.

GCWG next meeting will be in 12th February 2019, 2.00pm.

**MUDGEES COMBINED CHURCHES
CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH.**

The Christmas Day Lunch is again being hosted by the Baptist Church. The lunch is intended to offer hospitality and friendship to those who would otherwise be on their own on Christmas Day.

If you wish to attend the lunch please contact the Parish Office and we will pass on your name.

PLEASE NOTE**REQUESTS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES.**

Please have all Mass requests for loved ones to the Parish Office no later than Thursday 20th December as we will not be printing a bulletin on Christmas Day.

Mudgee Parish News

This Monday
7.00pm

Second Rite of
Reconciliation

Friday 21st December at 12.20pm
Anointing Mass for the Sick and
Elderly next.

**Preparation of the Church
for Christmas**

We would be most grateful for some volunteers to put up the banners, prepare the Crib and Christmas Tree in time for the Christmas Masses. All help gratefully received.

The preparation will take place after
9.00am Mass next Sunday
23rd December.

Liturgy Roster for Christmas:

Please place your name on the whiteboard at the back of the church if you can assist.

Cudgegong Choir will be celebrating
A Merry Little Christmas in St Mary's
Church, Friday 21st December at
6.00pm.

Adults \$20/\$15 Children: Free

Tickets at the door.

Enquiries: Mary Mitchell 63720155 or
0431 991743

Miracles happen everyday, change
your perception of what a miracle is
and you'll see them all around you.

**BISHOP McKENNA'S
PASTORAL LETTER FOR 2018
'ONLY A PRIEST'**

Bishop Michael McKenna released his annual Pastoral Letter inviting you to reflect more deeply on the mystery of the Church to which we belong.

The letter can be read on the parish website at www.mudgee.catholic.org.au or the Diocese website www.bathurst.catholic.org.au

Christmas Edition of the **Catholic Observer** available this weekend. Please take home FREE copy for your family

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**Mon. 17th Dec**

10.00am AHCS Gulgong End of Year Mass.

7 : 0 0 p m M u d g e e
Reconciliation .



Wed. 19th Dec - End of school term.

Fri. 21st Dec - 12:20pm Mass
Mudgee - Anointing of the Sick and Elderly.

Sun. 23rd Dec.

10.30am Remembrance & Anointing
Mass Gulgong.

Mon. 24th Dec Christmas Eve

6.00pm Mass Mudgee (Children's Mass)

6.00pm Mass Gulgong

9.00pm Mass Mudgee

Tue. 25th Dec. Christmas Day

7.30am Mass Mudgee

9.00am Mass Mudgee

9.00am Mass Kandos

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

Micah 5:1-4 Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19.R.v.4 Hebrews 10: 5-10 Luke 1: 39: 44

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

MUDGE

Monday 17th December

7:00pm Mudgee Reconciliation

Friday 21st Dec - 12:20pm

Mass Mudgee - Anointing of the Sick and Elderly.

Christmas Eve

6.00pm Mass

(Children's Mass)

9.00pm Mass

Christmas Day

7.30am Mass

9.00am Mass

GULGONG

6.00pm Mass

Christmas Eve

KANDOS

9.00am Mass

Christmas Day



Available for sale at

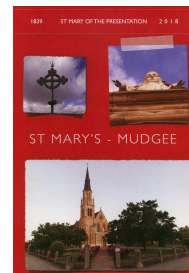
\$10 each.

Book on the

History

of

St Mary's Parish.



Illustrated and prepared by Jenny Maloney. Printed in full colour.

This would make a beautiful Christmas Gift or stocking filler for someone. The books will be available for sale after Mass this weekend and also available from the Parish Office.

Farewell to Nam Le



Nam will be leaving us on Christmas Day for a short holiday before returning to his studies at the Seminary next year.

There is a card available on the table at the back of the church to which we invite you to write your name and a short message to thank him and wish him well. The card and monetary gift will be presented to Nam at Mass next Sunday 23rd December.

The Jesse Tree -

On this Third Sunday of Advent we present

Mary: Matthew 1:18-25:

Symbols: lily, crown of stars, pierced heart.

Jesus is Lord:

Exodus :2; 20:1

Symbols: burning bush, stone tablets

John the Baptist:

Mark 1:1-8 *Symbols:* shell with water, river.

Jesus is Flower of Jesse:

Isaiah 11:1-3

Symbols: flower, plant with flower

Jesus is Wisdom: Sirach 24:2

Symbols: oil lamp, open book

Jesus is Key of David:

Isaiah 22:22

Symbols: key, broken chains



GOSPEL CONNECTIONS

What's On Your Christmas List?

I remember Christmastime as a kid and young adult. I spent a lot of time worrying about whether I'd get all the stuff I'd hoped for.

My attitude started changing as I grew closer to Jesus. One Christmas some friends took me someplace that changed my Christmas hopes completely – a soup kitchen.

These friends visited a soup kitchen each Christmas Day. While other volunteers served food, my friends sang carols. They sang about the Good News while hungry men, women, and children – many who were also homeless – lined up for their meal. During that first Christmas visit, I wondered how long it had been since anyone had given some of those hungry folks good news.

My Christmas hopes are different now. I hope people addicted to drugs find treatment. I hope young people I

know find good friends. I hope wars around the world end. I hope refugees and asylum seekers find a place to call home. I hope people living in violent neighbourhoods find safety and success in life.

ADVENT CHALLENGE

Set up a time to talk to someone about your need for accountability. Ask them to talk to you frankly and remind you of the importance of living as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

John the Baptist had similar hopes. He lived in a land full of poverty and violence. He called people to change their lives by sharing their wealth and treating others fairly and kindly. He told them Jesus was coming to baptise them with the Holy Spirit and fire; in other words Jesus would give them the courage and passion to hope and work for a better world.

John's words hold true today. Look around the world this Advent. Can your Christmas hopes focus on a better world? Can you ask Jesus for the courage and passion to go out to do your part?

What are the problems your community faces, and how can you start this Advent to make a difference?

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