

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.



First Sunday of Lent - Year B 21st February 2021

First Reading: Gen 9:8-15

I will recall the covenant between myself and you... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10

(R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**

Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**

The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Pt 3:18-22

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Gospel Acclamation

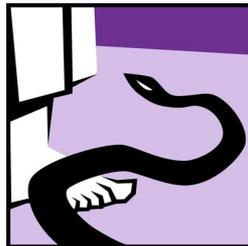
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Mk 1:40-45

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.



DRIVEN INTO THE WILDERNESS.

The Spirit of God, who descended on Jesus at his Baptism, drove him into the wilderness. In the Jewish Scriptures the wilderness in both the place where Israel meets God and the place where it is tempted to worship idols made of stone. The season of Lent is a good time to examine whether we are responding to the Spirit of God in our lives or succumbing to the allurements of false idols.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

The Rainbow

The Rainbow is God's signature to a treaty with humankind. On God's part, material forces will never be sent to annihilate human beings as a punishment for wrongdoing. On our part, as humans made in the likeness of God, we are to image God's rainbow relationship to nature.

This is the Divine Treaty basis of our responsibility for the environment. We undertake not to engage in practices or support policies which could severely damage the fragile ecology which supports life on our planet. The deforestation of the slopes of the Himalayas, leading to floods which kill thousands, is a catastrophic example.

And, gazing at the rainbow, we can pray for our planet, for the human beings and all other creatures who inhabit it, and quite often for ourselves at a deep personal level. For we know that, just as after a storm and dark clouds, light penetrates the misty sky and the beautiful bow of colour appears, the same phenomenon can occur in our own lives.

We could take a moment to pray that the rainbow will appear, perhaps for ourselves, perhaps for others we know who are going through a stormy time.



Parish Priest

Fr Owen Gibbons

Assistant Priest

Fr Dong Van Nguyen

Parish Deacon

Deacon Charles Applin

Parish Secretaries

Mrs Kristie Newman

Mrs Krista O'Brien

Postal Address: P.O Box 14 Mudgee
NSW 2850

Phone: 02 6372 2122

Fax: 02 6372 6700

Email: office.mudgee@cdob.org.au

Website: www.mudgee.catholic.org.au

Parish Office Hours

Mon 10.00am - 4.00pm

Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri 9.00am - 4.00pm

Closed for Lunch 1.00pm - 2.00pm

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St Matthews Catholic School Mudgee:

Principal: Mrs Angela Myles

Ph 02 6372 1742

www.stmattsmudgee.catholic.edu.au/

All Hallows Catholic School Gulgong:

Principal: Mr Bradley Toole

Ph 02 6374 1582

www.allhallowsgulgong.catholic.edu.au

Masses and prayers requested for the following:

For the recently deceased especially Daphne Sampson, Domonique Burgess (Brisbane)

We pray for the Souls of

Marta Smieszek

We remember the anniversaries of

Sr Mary Clement, Michael Gibbons, Isabel Waterton, Nancy Caughey, John Robinson, Amanda Flynn, Norma Blackburn.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are sick at this time:

John Carney (Rooty Hill), Mike O'Shea, Jan Bailie, Bruce Eastburn, Rodrigo Jaboneta, Elizabeth Taylor (Newcastle), Allen Fenwick (Newcastle), Maria Leotta, Eliza and Elena Vasilis, Rebecca Fetcher, Enid Auld, Debbie Solti, Katherine Szulc (Poland), Judith Grant, Vicky Gaffney, Anthony Spina, Julie Collins, Elizabeth Donnelly, Ursula Smieszek, Jasmine Prada, Mary Cannon and those in our Nursing Homes.

Those seeking Special Intentions and for all the Holy Souls.

GULGONG NEWS

GCWG Meeting will be held on Tuesday 2nd March, 2pm in the Convent. No afternoon tea required. New members are welcome. Covid Rules Apply.

MUDGE.E NEWS

St Marys Pastoral Council AGM will be held on Wednesday 24th February at 6pm in the Parish Centre. All Parishioners welcome.

St Marys Finance Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday 2nd March at 5.30pm.

MASS TIMETABLE

MONDAY - 22nd February
The Chair of St Peter, apostle, Feast
NO SERVICE
 12 Noon Angelus

TUESDAY - 23rd February
 9.30am Mass Mudgee
 12 Noon Angelus

WEDNESDAY - 24th February
9.30am Mass Mudgee
9.30am St Mary's Craft and Friendship Group
12 Noon Angelus

THURSDAY - 25th February
 9.30am Mass Mudgee
 12 Noon Angelus

FRIDAY - 26th February
 12 Noon Reconciliation (Back of Church)
 12 Noon Angelus and Rosary (Front of Church)
 12.30pm Mass Mudgee

SATURDAY - 27th February
 12 Noon Angelus
 5.15-5.40pm Reconciliation (Back of Church)
 6.00pm Vigil Mass Mudgee

SUNDAY - 28th February
Second Sunday of Lent
 7.30am Mass Mudgee
 9.00am Mass Mudgee
 10.30am Gulgong
 11.00am Rylstone
 12 Noon Angelus
 6.00pm Word & Faith Group

Anointing/ Home Communion:
 Please ring and make an appointment, Fr Owen and Fr Dong are available, and we can visit you at home.

WE NEED YOU...



Pastoral Council is a small group of people from the parish of St Mary's church community who meet monthly to plan for the future of our local parish. It gives each of us an opportunity to share the gifts and talents God has given us, to combine our creative ideas in developing initiatives and new directions to ensure the future growth of St Mary's. The pandemic has certainly changed how we do things and we need to begin this year with a strong team to support our Parish priest, to build on the good work we were doing and I would encourage anyone who might feel they have something to offer to nominate in our upcoming AGM. I have found my time on Pastoral council stimulating and rewarding, a chance to give a little and to receive a lot more back,
 Julie Keipert, President

If you would like to know more about the Pastoral Council or would like to Nominate, please contact the Parish office.

Pastoral Council AGM will be on Wednesday 24th February, 6.00pm in the Parish Centre.

Congratulations

Fr Dong

for his first year in Priesthood on 21st February. A year like no other.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
Faith Learning Community
22nd - 28th February

There are a number of events happening at our Catholic Schools this coming week. Due to Covid, not all events will be open to the public. Please check with the Schools.

All Hallows - Gulgong

Mon 22nd - Enrichment Day

Tues 23rd - Liturgy 10.30am followed by morning tea.

Wed 24th - Tabloids Afternoon

Welcome Family BBQ & Children's Disco 6pm - 7pm

Thurs 25th - Northern Region Swimming Carnival

Fri 26th - Family Picnic Lunch on the front lawn 1pm

St Matthews - Mudgee

Mon 22nd - Whole School Assembly
 Staff vs Students Touch Football

Tue 23rd - Buddy Friendship Activity

Wed 24th - Staff vs Students Netball

Fri 26th - Spelling Bee

Sun 28th - St Mary's Parish Mass

Word and *Faith* Group

St Mary's currently has a Word and Faith group on Sunday's at 6pm in the Parish Centre. If you would like to be a part of the Group or would like to find out more information, please contact the Parish Office.

Mudgee Roster
Saturday 27th / Sunday 28th February 2021

	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.00am
Commentator	D. Cunningham		S.Abbey
First Reader	L.Nicholson	P. Wilkinson	M.Dunnachie
Second Reader	J.Newman		R.Disher
Special Ministers of Communion	I. Bryne		M.Dunnachie

Saturday 6th / Sunday 7th March 2021

	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.00am
Commentator	K.Fitzsimmons		L. Croake
First Reader	C. Furney	R. McKeown	M. Barrett
Second Reader	A. Fergus		M.Dunnachie
Special Ministers of Communion	D. Cunningham		R. Croake

Gulgong Roster

Date	Commentator	Reader	Sacristan
28th Feb	P. Leotta	E. Donnelly	C. Holland
7th Mar	C. Gaudry	O. O'Brien	R. Saliba
14th Mar	S.Parnell	C. Leotta	M&E Carney
21st Mar	D. Kelly	K.O'Brien	E. Donnelly G. Ausburn

Ministries in our Parish

It's not too late to register for a Ministry in our Parish of St Mary's. Forms are available at the back of the Church or from the Parish Office. If there is a Ministry you would like to do and not listed on the form, please let us know. This is your parish, help us grow it.

Pope's Universal Prayer for February

Violence Against Women

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.



Jamila is a Rohingya refugee living in a camp in Bangladesh with her elderly mother and baby daughter. With the support of Caritas Australia, and through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila has been able to access to emergency food, shelter, counselling, and vocational training that will help to support her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to help mothers like Jamila be more for her family and her community.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Baptism: We welcome to the parish community



Hudson Noah Fergus
son of Mark and Samantha

Leo Fox Kelly
son of Mitchell and Amy

Cooper Walter Cookson
son of Grant and Laura

Lent

Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping other. In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised. Other celebrations in Lent (eg. marriage) must take account of the spirit of penance: musical instruments are only used to sustain singing and floral decorations are very simple.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteen year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year. (CCL 97, 1251-52)

In Lent, the Alleluia is omitted at Mass and at the Hours, even in celebrations of solemnities and feast. Catholic's are obliged to receive holy communion at least once a year, in Australia and New Zealand between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: First Sunday of Lent
[Gen 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18](#) [Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9](#) [Rom 8:31-34](#) [Mk 9:2-10](#)



LENT 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

At the beginning of Lent last year, we had no idea what the year ahead would bring. By the end of that penitential season, our churches were closed: and we had to find new ways of proclaiming the Resurrection. As always, we did the best we could with what we had available: and the power of the Spirit enabled us to celebrate Easter in different ways. For many people, it was just as deep and, in the midst of deprivation, for some even deeper.

For Christians, the disruption of routines is an opportunity to renew our vocation of discerning between what is passing and what is enduring in our walk of faith. This renewal is at the heart of the observance of Lent, under whatever circumstances we must do it.

A few years ago, the first word of advice that Pope Francis gave to a group of new bishops was: "Become holy!" It echoed the words of his predecessor, St John Paul II, to all Catholics at the beginning of the third millennium: "Since Baptism is a true entry into the holiness of God through incorporation into Christ and the indwelling of his Spirit, it would be a contradiction to settle for a life of mediocrity, marked by a minimalist ethic and a shallow religiosity. To ask catechumens 'do you wish to receive Baptism?' means at the same time to ask them 'do you wish to become holy?'"

It is a journey of 'becoming' which will not be achieved fully until we see God face to face. It is not mere superficial piety, but a willingness to let the Lord into the 'private room' of my heart, to begin freeing me to go out from there and discover his presence in practising love, forgiveness and service for and with everyone he brings into my life.

Yours in Christ,

+Michael McKenna
Bishop of Bathurst

RISE Yes, **RISEN** is back for 2021!
ENGAGE IGNITE SEND 13-14 March
DIOCESE OF BATHURST YOUTH 10am Saturday

until after lunch on Sunday

Yes, it's in person! - **St Joseph's House Perthville**

Yes, there will be more music than last year!

Are you or do you know someone in Year 10 to Year 12 who might like to come?

We will be:

- Welcoming you into times of meditation and prayer throughout the weekend.
- Give you the opportunity to give back to the community through a practical service activity.
- Linking into Laudato Si through practical activity of decorating and potting a plant.
- Participating in a Mass and Reconciliation evening.
- Embarking on a pilgrimage up the Mount Panorama walking track.

The cost for the time is \$110 and if this is an issue, as usual, please speak to your school or parish.

Subscribe to our email list via this link <http://eepurl.com/hpJGbf> and that will send you an email with a link to the registration page.

(If you're under 18 your parents also need to subscribe to the email list).



Tribunal of the Catholic Church

Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Bathurst Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process.

For further information please phone the Bathurst Office of the Interdiocesan Tribunal on **6334 6409** or email tribunal@bathurst.catholic.org.au

THE RE-OPENING OF THE CATHEDRAL OF ST MICHAEL AND ST JOHN

Tuesday 23 March 2021

It is with joy and gratitude that we can announce that the restoration of the Cathedral of St Michael and St John will be complete in time for Easter.

A Mass and dedication of the Altar will be celebrated on Tuesday 23 March at 6pm.

Other Masses and liturgies will be held throughout the week to mark this special occasion, and details of these events will be shared in the coming weeks.

NATIONAL DAY OF
PRAYER & FASTING
27 FEBRUARY 2021



Date: Saturday 27th February 2021.

Where: One Life Church, 17 Lewis Street, Mudgee

Cost: FREE.

Registration: A sign in sheet will be provided on the day.

Time: 2:00pm – 3:00pm.

Some Key themes

- To see individuals, our churches and our nation experience an outpouring of the Holy Spirit
- Revival & Transformation
- Personal prayer