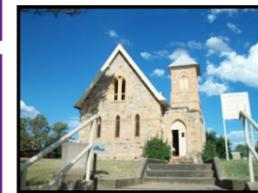
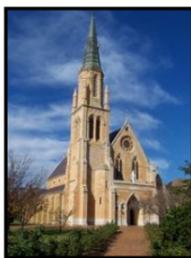


The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!



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.



Second Sunday of Lent - Year B 28th February 2021

First Reading:

Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 115:10, 15-19, R. 114:9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

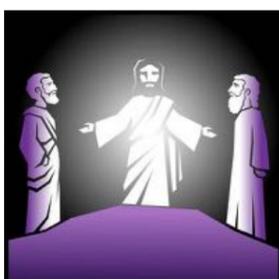
I trusted, even when I said:

'I am sorely afflicted.'

O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. **(R.)**

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name. **(R.)**

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. **(R.)**



Second Reading: **Rom 8:31-34**

God did not spare his own Son.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!

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

Gospel: **Mk 9:2-10**

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

LISTEN TO HIM. Jesus revealed his oneness with sinful humanity by his baptism in the river Jordan. On the mount of transfiguration he revealed his oneness with God who proclaims, "This is my son, the Beloved. Listen to him." It takes faith to listen to Jesus, who teaches that the path of life leads along the way of the cross. But, as Abraham learned, if we put our faith in God our reward will be great.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

We all have dreams for the future, dreams about success and well-being. We all want a better world for our children and grandchildren. Our religious tradition sets before us aspirations that call for personal transformation. However, sometimes when we follow the inspiration of our most devout aspirations, obstacles are thrown in our path preventing us from following our dreams. Still, God does not call us out of our dreams into a vacuum. If we are asked to relinquish a possible future, it is only to be offered God's future. Our aspirations may be noble, but the possibilities that God offers will outstrip them in excellence. Abraham was promised an heir; he relinquished his hold on his heir, and he was granted heirs beyond counting. Jesus came as a Rabbi; he allowed himself to be handed over to death, and he was revealed as the beloved Son of God.

Those preparing for Baptism might be asked to relinquish the dreams that they previously held in order to embrace the future God has in store for them. We who are already joined to Christ will be asked to recommit ourselves to this transformative experience. Do we have faith, or do we need a glimpse of Christ's transfiguration in order to believe in his resurrection? Do we have to see and touch Jesus, or are we able to believe because we have heard his message? God's future in Christ is open to us, but we must accept it in faith, even when we do not fully understand what it means.

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
Bruce Eastburn, Elisa Fajarda

We remember the anniversaries of

Rick Tompsett, Adriel Maloney,
John Babbage

We also pray for

Marta Smieszek, Charlie & Rita Saliba,
Carmelo Mifsud, Daphne Sampson,
Domonique Burgess (Brisbane)

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

John Carney (Rooty Hill), Mike O'Shea,
Jan Bailie, 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.

COVID-19 Update

The following NSW Government restrictions in relation to COVID-19 are still in place and must be adhered to:

- The number of people in a place of public worship is subject to the [one person per 2 square metres rule](#).
- People attending a religious service will be required to provide their name and contact details when they enter so that they can be used for contact tracing. It is strongly recommended that people attending services in places of worship [wear a mask](#).
- The number of performers singing indoors increased to 30 (currently 5) subject to physical distancing requirements (Please update the notice I sent yesterday with the changes to the number of people allowed to sing in the choir.)
- Singing by congregants allowed in places of worship **if masks are worn** and subject to **one person per 4sqm** (currently no congregant singing allowed, with one per 2sqm permitted in places of worship)

Please be aware that we are still in a time of pandemic and social distancing and hygiene practices need to be maintained. If you are feeling unwell, please stay at home.

GULGONG NEWS

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

Covid Rules Apply.

MUDGEE NEWS

St Mary's Finance Committee Meeting will be held this Tuesday 2nd March at 5.30pm.

KANDOS NEWS

Weekday Mass will be held on Wednesday 3rd March, 11am at Rylstone.

RISE Yes, **RISEN** is back for 2021! **13-14 March**
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).

LIFE IS LIKE A BOOK.....

*Some chapters are sad,
some happy, and some exciting.
But if you never turn the
page, you will never know
what the next chapter
holds.*



MASS TIMETABLE

MONDAY - 1st March

NO SERVICE

12 Noon Angelus

TUESDAY - 2nd March

9.30am Mass Mudgee - SMCS Yr12

12 Noon Angelus

2.00pm GCWG Meeting - Convent

5.30pm Parish Finance Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY - 3rd March

9.30am Mass Mudgee

9.30am St Mary's Craft and Friendship Group

11.00am Mass Rylstone

12 Noon Angelus

THURSDAY - 4th March

9.30am Mass Mudgee - SMCS Yr 3

12 Noon Angelus

10.30am Mass Gulgong - Yrs 3 & 4

FRIDAY - 5th March

10.30am Mass - Mudgee Grove Nursing Home

12 Noon Reconciliation (Back of Church)

12 Noon Angelus and Rosary (Front of Church)

12.30pm Mass Mudgee

SATURDAY - 6th March

12 Noon Angelus

5.15-5.40pm Reconciliation (Back of Church)

6.00pm Vigil Mass Mudgee

SUNDAY - 7th March

Third Sunday of Lent

7.30am Mass Mudgee

9.00am Mass Mudgee

10.30am Gulgong

11.00am Kandos

12 Noon Angelus

6.00pm Word & Faith Group

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 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

Saturday 13th / Sunday 14th March 2021

	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.00am
Commentator	St Matthews		St Matthews
First Reader	St Matthews	Marie McLean	St Matthews
Second Reader	St Matthews		St Matthews
Special Ministers of Communion	Gerry Hennessy		Maree Gilbert

Gulgong Roster

Date	Commentator	Reader	Sacristan
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
28th Mar	E. Donnelly	J. Ritar	C. Holland

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 is not listed on the form, please let us know. This is your parish, help us grow it.

Pope's Universal Prayer for Sacrament of Reconciliation

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.



Margret, 39, is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands. She was born deaf, so she knows the challenges it poses to education and employment.



The school faced water shortages that often left staff and students without safe water for drinking, cooking, washing and growing vegetables.

Then Tropical Cyclone Harold damaged the school and its vegetable garden as the threat of COVID-19 loomed. With Caritas Australia's support, the school installed water tanks, provided cyclone-proof building materials, and helped to implement COVID-19 prevention measures.

Margret's school now has enough water for its students and the capacity to cater for more, and is now planning to boost food security through increased agricultural production.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help people living with disabilities in the Solomon Islands gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to protect our common home.

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

REMI JANE JAMES

daughter of Bradley and Danielle



THE SEASON OF LENT is the most appropriate time for celebrating the **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**.

Already on Ash Wednesday the people of God has heard the solemn invitation, *Turn away from sin and believe the good news*. It is therefore fitting to have several penitential celebrations during Lent, so that all the faithful may have an opportunity to be reconciled with God and their neighbour and so be able to celebrate the paschal mystery in the Easter Triduum with renewed hearts.

RP13

The sacrament of Penance is better celebrated *before* rather than during the Easter Triduum.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: First Sunday of Lent
 Ex 20:1-17 Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68 1 Cor 1:22-25 Jn 2:13-25



The re-opening of the Cathedral of St Michael and St John

Bishop Michael McKenna will celebrate Mass for the first time in the Cathedral since its superb restoration on Tuesday 23rd March 2021 at 6:00 pm. Masses are scheduled each evening in the lead up to Holy Week and everyone is welcome to share in the celebrations as the Cathedral is reopened.

Tuesday 23rd March

Ecumenical Liturgy - 11:00am

Blessing of the Ambo

Mass - 6:00pm

Dedication of the new Altar

Thursday 25th March

Mass - 6:00pm

Solemnity of the Annunciation

Solemn Blessing of Our Lady of the Central West Icon

Wednesday 24th March

Mass - 6:00pm

Blessing of the new Confessional

Friday 26th March

Mass - 6:00pm

followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction

All in attendance will be required to follow COVID-19 guidelines and check-in when attending Mass or a Liturgy at the Cathedral.

Why it was necessary to restore the Cathedral

The completion of the restoration of the 160-year-old Cathedral is a momentous occasion in the history of the Catholic Diocese of Bathurst. This is the most significant restoration project in the lifetime of the building.

In 2011, Bishop McKenna initiated the Cathedral Restoration Project. Major structural issues requiring urgent repair included extensive salt and water damage caused by poor subfloor ventilation and moisture levels; deteriorating brick and stonework, including the intricate exterior carvings; deteriorating copper and slate roofing and stained glass windows.

In 2012, the scaffold was erected and the work began. The major phases of the project included the restoration of the bell tower; restoration of the Keppel and George Street façades; restoration of the school car park side and William Street façade; the restoration of the interior of the Cathedral and the re-design of the precinct landscape.

The repair of the fabric of the building has seen the removal and replacement of the original mortar between all brick and stonework, including the 23-meter bell tower, removal or worn and damaged stonework and replacement, carving and repair of the sandstone features of the Cathedral.

The newly designed Cathedral grounds and car park will increase the safety of the traffic flow through the precinct, without reducing the overall number of car parking spaces. Traffic islands installed in William and Keppel Streets will ensure smooth traffic flow entering and exiting the car park. The works included removing the concrete surrounding the building that has adversely impacted the Cathedral, preventing the original masonry from breathing and the building from being properly ventilated.

The Cathedral has stood at the heart of the Bathurst community and in the centre of religious life for the Catholic Diocese of Bathurst, in particular, the Cathedral Parish, for 160 years and is significant to the cultural heritage of NSW. Its history reflects that of the community; rich and layered. It's been a place of faith, hope, solace and love and witnessed generations of families pass through its doors. The newly restored Cathedral will now stand strong and proud for at least the next 100 years and our future generations.



St Matthews Secondary School - Building Update

At the end of last year, we received confirmation that the State Significant Development Application (SSDA) for our new secondary campus had been approved. This is wonderful news for our community and means that we are now very close to commencing construction.

I am pleased to be able to let you know that the construction of St Matthews Catholic School Secondary Campus is due to commence in mid-March this year and the aim is for the project to be completed for the beginning of the new school year in 2023. Once completed, the new secondary campus will cater for up to 680 students from Years 7 to 12.

The Catholic Diocese of Bathurst is fully funding the project and has partnered with North Construction and Building to build the new campus. Designed by Alleanza Architecture, the new spaces will provide a flexible and unique learning environment. Local contractors will be utilised throughout the building project wherever possible.

We will be providing you with regular updates throughout the construction process, so keep an eye on our newsletters, social media and school website for more information.

God bless

Angela Myles

Executive Principal

Seven Steps to Mystery facilitated by Dr Dan White An information session offered by Catholic Education Diocese of Bathurst

This presentation is designed to be totally counter-cultural to the norms that are currently shaping education in Australian society. Utilising the metaphor of the 'seven steps' or courtyards of the 'Second Jewish Temple', the presentation endeavours to immerse participants with a journey of reflection who are at different points along the journey of faith and life.

Aims

With this program participants will:

- reflect upon how a Catholic school/faith community needs to recognise and respect the diversity of beliefs and attitudes towards the Catholic faith tradition that exists in a contemporary secularised society
- come to a deeper appreciation of the importance of meeting children and parents where 'they are' in their journey of faith and to develop practical and life-giving opportunities to draw them gently into an encounter with the Mystery of God
- engage with a number of scriptural narratives that provide insights into how the ministry of Jesus of Nazareth can be modelled today
- be given the opportunity to reflect deeply upon their own spiritual journey and their personal ministry as members of the Catholic faith community.

Everyone is invited to attend the presentation, with two venues available in the Diocese:

DUBBO - Thursday 4 March

St Brigid's Parish Meeting Room
204 Brisbane St
Dubbo NSW 2830

BATHURST - Friday 5 March

St Joseph's House
Tenison Woods Ave
Perthville NSW 2795

There is no cost to attend and morning tea and lunch will be provided. To assist with planning and catering, please register by Wednesday 3 March by contacting Karen Burke or Angelo Belmonte at on 6338 3000 or email: k.burke@bth.catholic.edu.au a.belmonte@bth.catholic.edu.au