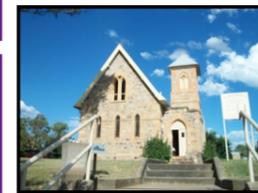
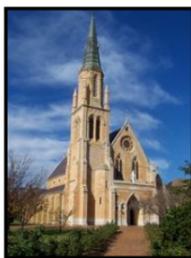


The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!



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.



Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year B 14th March 2021

First Reading:

2 Chr 36:14-16. 19-23

The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 136. R. v.6

(R.) Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion; on the poplars that grew there we hung our harps. **(R.)**

For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy. 'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.' **(R.)**

O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil? If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! **(R.)**

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys! **(R.)**

Second Reading: **Eph 2:4-10**

When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: **In 3:14-21**

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.



GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO MUCH. During the season of Lent we humbly acknowledge the ways in which we have failed to respond to our Christian vocation. We do this before a God who is infinitely rich in mercy and grace, who sent the son into the world not to condemn it but to be its saviour. Acknowledging our failings and accepting healing and forgiveness from Christ prepares us to celebrate the feast of Easter with great joy.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Each reading provides us with an example of divine mercy. God's use of Cyrus to deliver the Israelites, even though he was not a believer, shows that every circumstance and any person can demonstrate the scope of God's love. In fact, it is often the situation or the individual that we least expect that has been chosen to manifest God's mercy to us. This same mercy is seen as God brings us to life with Christ even when we were dead in sin.

Mercy means that strict justice is set aside in favour of compassion. Dispossessed people are raised out of defeat and given another chance. Sinners condemned to severe punishment are raised out of despair and offered a reprieve. The whole world is raised up out of darkness when God's own Son is sent into that world as saviour rather than as judge. God's mercy raises us out of loss and hopelessness, out of darkness and sin, so that we might enjoy the blessings of life.

We too have been raised up so that we might live in truth and might become the visible sign of God's mercy in the world. We have been made a new people, free from the restraints of the past. Joined with Christ we become God's handiwork, creations that bear the seal of the great creator. We are the very sacrament of God's mercy. The forgiveness that we have experienced and the new life within us shine forth as witness to the mercy of God.

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

For Readers and Eucharistic Ministers.

Reflection & Information Evenings

These evenings are for both new and current Readers (Lectors) and Eucharistic Minister.



Readers (Lectors)

Tuesday 16th March 6pm to 7pm at St Mary's Church.

Eucharistic Ministers

Wednesday 17th March 6pm to 7pm at St Mary's Church.



Please let us know if you will be unable to attend.

Masses and prayers requested for the following:

For the recently deceased especially Madge Roughan, Elisa Fajarda and Bruce Eastburn.

We remember the anniversaries of Patricia Leonard, Brian Power, William Campbell

We also pray for George and Eva Jozicic, Tony Blazavic, Varga & Blazavic Families.

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

Carmel Thompson, 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.

Anointing Mass and Parish Luncheon - Friday 26th March

Anointing Mass for the Sick and elderly will be on Friday 26th March at 12.30pm, followed by a light Parish Luncheon at 1.00pm in the Parish Centre. If you would like to come, please contact the Parish Office to assist with catering numbers by Tuesday 22nd March. Thank you.

Liturgy Meeting to prepare for Easter will be held on Thursday 18th March at 3.30pm in the Parish Centre.

Pope's Universal Prayer for March Sacrament of Reconciliation

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



Congratulations to **Eileen Csuba** who is celebrating her **90th Birthday** this week. and to **Margaret Doble** who will celebrate her **80th Birthday** next week.

DAY BY DAY

MONDAY - 15th March

NO SERVICE

12 Noon Angelus

TUESDAY - 16th March

9.30am Mass Mudgee

12 Noon Angelus

6.00pm Readers/ Lector's Reflection & Information Evening

WEDNESDAY - 17th March

Feast of St Patrick

9.30am Mass Mudgee

9.30am St Mary's Craft and Friendship Group - Community Morning Tea.

11.00am Mass Rylstone

12 Noon Angelus

6.00pm Eucharistic Minister's Reflection & Information Evening

THURSDAY - 18th March

9.30am Mass Mudgee - SMCS Yr 1

12 Noon Angelus

3.30pm Liturgy Meeting - Parish Centre

FRIDAY - 19th March

Feast of St Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10.00am Mass Gulgong

11.00am Kanandah Mass (Residents only)

12 Noon Reconciliation (Back of Church)

12 Noon Angelus and Rosary (Front of Church)

12.30pm Mass Mudgee

SATURDAY - 20th March

12 Noon Angelus

5.15-5.40pm Reconciliation (Back of Church)

6.00pm Vigil Mass Mudgee

SUNDAY - 21st March

Fifth 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

Anointing/ Home Communion:

Please ring and make an appointment, Fr Owen and Fr Dong are available, and we can visit you at home.

COVID-19 Update

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.

'Shalom' House of Prayer, Carcoar

Renewal is at the heart of the observance of Lent.

Why not begin your journey of Renewal on a weekend retreat at Shalom.

26th-28th March

'Gone Fishin' - Men's Weekend Retreat Shalom

This weekend is for blokes only to get away and take some MEN time to reflect on the values in your life and who you aspire to be.

It is about having the time to stop and reflect through some simple meditation exercises on what you need most in your life right now.

There will also be walks and talks about the values that different blokes use to cope with life's many challenges.

It is not about being particularly holy, religious or prayerful.....just come as you are.

So come fishing..... with some good company, a bit of fun and maybe a few beers over the BBQ in the beautiful surrounds at Shalom and historic Carcoar.

Limited Places due to COVID Safe Protocols

When: March Friday 26th. 6pm to Sunday 28th, 2pm

Where: Shalom 7 Collins St, Carcoar

Cost: \$260

For Bookings: Phone 02 63673058 email: shalomcarcoar@gmail.com or book online: shalomcarcoar.com

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2021

“Parish Based, Family Centred and School Supported”.

We will again be offering our parish families the opportunity to celebrate the sacraments of First Holy Communion, Confirmation and First Reconciliation.

It is the wish of Bishop Michael that parishes celebrate the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation within the weekend Parish Masses.

One parent information session is planned for each of the sacraments - Confirmation, First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation.

*The first of the sacraments to be celebrated this year will be **First Holy Communion**. The parent session is to take place shortly, two sessions are offered on this day either the day session from 1.30 -2.30pm or evening session 7.00pm - 8.00pm. The session is for parents/carers only, candidates do not attend.*

*Families of students in Year 3 are invited to register their **intention** to have their child **receive the sacrament** via **an online form** provided by the parish staff and available on the parish website. The enrolment form will follow at a later date, once the information session has taken place.*

St Matthews students will be prepared by their teachers during RE lessons and supported by the Parish Sacramental Team. Children in the State schools will attend after school lessons in the Parish Centre - dates to be confirmed.

PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR FURTHER DETAILS VIA OUR EMAIL: office.mudgee@cdob.org.au or Ph 63722122.

Christian Initiation

The sacraments of Christian Initiation comprise Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. These three sacraments bring a person to full stature in Christ and membership of the Church community, enabling them to carry out their mission in the world.

First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion (Eucharist) is unique among the sacraments as it is at the heart of our faith. For Catholics, the Eucharist, or Mass, is the most powerful way we encounter the real presence of Jesus Christ.

Confirmation

Confirmation completes Baptism, by which in the laying on of hands and the anointing with Chrism Oil, which first happened at Baptism, we are confirmed with the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

St Mary’s Parish Pastoral Council

Who, me?

At the beginning of 2018 requests to join our Church Ministries was happening.

I had been quietly approached by a member of our Parish to join the Pastoral Council. Why me, I asked myself, what do I have to offer, do I have the enthusiasm, is this the right time in my life? Will it make my life too busy? The easy path would have been to say NO, however these questions and the idea of joining kept pecking away at me, and after much reflection and consideration I said Yes.

So why did I say YES?

I enjoy being a part of St. Mary’s Parish community, and felt that being a member of the Pastoral Council was an opportunity to support, serve and grow our community.

I felt it was good to take myself out of my comfort zone, to meet new people, to stimulate my thought processes, share ideas and work within a supportive team to strengthen our Parish community.

I knew that the Pastoral Council has members from St Matthews School and the Parish and this appealed to my history with both, as for many years it has been important to me that we continue to engage between Parish and school and nurture the connectiveness between the two.

I liked the idea of being helpful to our Priests (Father Owen and now also Father Dong). They have such busy roles over and above their ministry, and I felt that being part of the Pastoral Council was one way of assisting them.

Ultimately joining the Pastoral Council was an answer for a call to Ministry, an opportunity to find my gifts and talents and grow them personally for the benefit of our community.

Was I nervous and unsure going to my first few meetings? Definitely, however after now being a member for one full active year and one covid 19 year (not so active) I have to say I am so grateful that in 2018 I said YES.

I have seen the positive work the Pastoral Council does. I’ve been involved in discussion teams which quietly work towards improving areas of St Mary’s Pastoral work. I have been part of a wonderful group of people who are all working in such a positive, caring way to nurture, support and build our Parish of St Mary’s.

I encourage you to say YES and add your name to a nomination for the Pastoral Council.

You will be welcomed. Annette Fergus (Current member)

Mudgee Roster
Saturday 20th / Sunday 21st March 2021

	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.00am
Commentator	D. Cunningham		M. Matthews
First Reader	L. Nicholson	P. Wilkinson	A. Myles
Second Reader	I. Byrne		L. Finter
Special Ministers of Communion	A. Baker		R. Gawthorne
Altar Servers	A. Portelli H. Portelli		E. Littler

Saturday 27th / Sunday 28th March 2021

	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.00am
Commentator	C. Furney		S. Abbey
First Reader	L. Ryan	R. McKeown	R. Disher
Second Reader	J. Newman		J. O'Brien
Special Ministers of Communion	J. Vros		P. O'Brien
Altar Servers	P. Fitzgerald D. Fitzgerald		R. George

Gulgong Roster

Date	Commentator	Reader	Sacristan
21st Mar	D. Kelly	K.O'Brien	E. Donnelly G. Ausburn
28th Mar	E. Donnelly	J. Ritar	C. Holland
4 Apr	R. Saliba	C. Gaudry	R. Saliba
11 Apr	C. Gaudry	K. Ritar	M.&E. Carney



Parish Tap & Go

Two New Tap and Go screens have been placed in the church (situated on either side of the centre aisle). This will help to alleviate some of the problems we had with the past facility. Boxes for the First and Second collection are also situated on the tables at the back of the church for cash donations.

BANK DETAILS FOR DIRECT CREDIT PLANNED GIVING

Gulgong Parish	Kandos Parish	Mudgee Parish
BSB - 066 781	BSB - 066 781	BSB - 066 781
Acc No 100006612	Acc No 100005344	Acc No 100004583
Ref: Your name	Ref: Your name	Ref: Your name.



Baptisms:

We welcome to the Parish community
Digby Mannix Knight and
Patrick Clyde Knight
children of Samuel and Camilla.
Rocky Christopher Angwin
son of Hayden and Emma.



Arsad, an Indonesian farmer, had no toilet, so he and his family always had to walk into the forest to an open defecation area.

His family was often sick and open defecation caused many neighbourhood disputes.



With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner, Laz Harfa, Arsad took part in hygiene, sanitation and financial management training. He then funded the building of a toilet in his house and helped other community members to save for toilets.

Now Arsad's family is healthier. Their community no longer practices open defecation and is more harmonious. Arsad inspired his community to 'Be More.'

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.

Interpreting the Scriptures

As a community of love, grounded in the love of the Trinity, we are immersed in the scriptures. Our task here is guided by the question of:

1. How are the scriptures to be read?
2. How are we to interpret them?

Catholic Education Diocese of Bathurst is facilitating an information session addressing these questions. Presented by Professor Gerard Moore, the day will explore a range of contemporary approaches, opening up various ways that scholars and believers have found allow the scriptures to speak into the reality of our world.

BATHURST - Friday 26 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 24 March by contacting Karen Burke or Angelo Belmonte at on 6338 3000 or email: k.burke@bth.catholic.edu.au or a.belmonte@bth.catholic.edu.au.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jer 31:31-34 Ps 50:3-4, 12-15. R. v.12 Heb 5:7-9 Jn 12:20-33