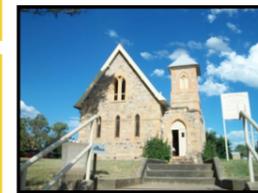
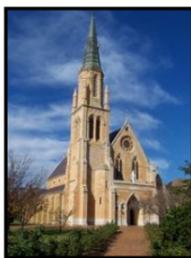


*The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!*



**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.**



**Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord - Year B  
4th April 2021**



## *Easter 2021*



As I write these words, we are joyfully expecting to celebrate Easter this year in our churches, side by side and in communion with our sisters and brothers in faith. After the experience of last year, when the churches were closed, this is a gift we do not take for granted.

There are special and beautiful liturgies reserved for Palm Sunday and what we call the Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. It will be wonderful to experience God once again communicating with us together: in word and symbol, in sacrament and community, in these solemn rites.

At Easter, we have always seen large numbers participating; more than usually come on Sundays during the year. I have often wondered about the reasons for this, because what we celebrate at Easter - Christ's Sacrifice, Death and Resurrection, which offers us forgiveness and life - is really renewed whenever and however simply we offer Mass together.

At Christmas time for many years and now at Easter, our Catholic schools in the Diocese hold an exhibition to which students contribute the fruit of their reflections, through their developing skills in the visual arts, on these two key events of our faith. The work I chose this year, by Annabelle Banks from MacKillop College, cleverly uses anachronism to make us think more perceptively about the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

The people surrounding the Lord on his donkey are depicted as paparazzi, keen to get a photograph of this celebrity, who had just raised Lazarus from the dead. There were big crowds gathering for the Passover festival already: among them were devoted followers of Jesus, but also more superficial fans, and others who were merely curious. As we see in media coverage of people and events today, this kind of attention has a short span.

Easter has a profound and mysterious significance for you and me, personally. It is available to be uncovered any week of the year.

*+Michael McKenna*  
**Bishop of Bathurst**

**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](mailto:office.mudgee@cdob.org.au)

**Website:** [www.mudgee.catholic.org.au](http://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/](http://www.stmattsmudgee.catholic.edu.au/)

**All Hallows Catholic School Gulgong:**

**Principal:** Mr Bradley Toole

Ph 02 6374 1582

[www.allhallowsgulgong.catholic.edu.au](http://www.allhallowsgulgong.catholic.edu.au)

**DAY BY DAY**

**MONDAY - 5th April**

**NO SERVICE**

12 Noon Angelus

**TUESDAY - 6th April**

9.30am Mass Mudgee

12 Noon Angelus

**WEDNESDAY - 7th April**

9.30am Mass Mudgee

9.30am St Mary's Craft and Friendship Group

11.00am Mass Kandos

12 Noon Angelus

**THURSDAY - 8th April**

9.30am Mass Mudgee

12 Noon Angelus

**FRIDAY - 9th April**

10.30am Mass Whiddon (Residents only)

12 Noon Angelus and Rosary (Front of Church)

12 Noon Reconciliation (Back of Church)

12.30pm Mass Mudgee

**SATURDAY - 10th April**

12 Noon Angelus

5.15-5.40pm Reconciliation (Back of Church)

6.00pm Vigil Mass Mudgee

**SUNDAY - 11th April**

7.30am Mass Mudgee

9.00am Mass Mudgee

10.30am Mass Gulgong

11.00am Mass 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.

**Easter Message**

**From Fr Owen and Fr Dong**

Thank you for your Easter greetings to us. We wish you all a very Holy, happy and safe Easter. May the Risen Lord fill our hearts with His new life and may we share that life with others during this Sacred season of fifty days of celebration.

*God Bless.*

**GULGONG NEWS**

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION (GULGONG ONLY)**

If your child is in Year 6 or above and has completed the sacraments of First Reconciliation and Communion, they are eligible to enrol for the Sacrament of Confirmation and the following dates will be important to you.

**Wednesday 28th April**

3.30pm Parent / Carers Information Meeting

**Sunday 2nd May**

10.30am Confirmation Enrolment Mass

**Sunday 6th June**

10.30am Confirmation Mass

**STREET STALL RESULTS**

The GCWG Street Stall raised \$590.60.

Raffle Winner - Coleen Pitt

'100' Club 1 Winners

1st - Rose Siliba

2nd - Kay McPhail

3rd - Rose Saliba

'100' Club 2 Winners

1st - Helen Richardson

2nd Phyllis Lenard

3rd Phyllis Lenard

**GCWG** - next meeting Tuesday 6th April, 2pm at the Convent.

**Masses and prayers requested**

**for the following:**

**For the recently deceased especially** Margaret 'Peg' Leonard, Jan Bailie

**We remember the anniversaries of**

James Milton, Olive Milton, Ivy Sproule, Mavis Whale, Ivan Dinjes, Joan Gallagher, Joseph Hawkins.

**We also pray for** Owen Milton, Malcom Whiteley, Bradley Quinn, Tom, Edna & Peter Power, Nikola Marakovic, Varga & Blazavic Families.

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

Karen Freebody, Bev Darby, Stasia Rozenblatt, Carmel Thompson, John Carney (Rooty Hill), Mike O'Shea, Rodrigo Jaboneta, Elizabeth Taylor (Newcastle), Allen Fenwick (Newcastle), Maria Leotta, Eliza and Elena Vasilis, Rebecca Fetcher, Enid Auld, Debbie Solti, 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.

**We Are Witnesses**

Mary runs from the tomb, heart racing at the sight of a stone rolled away. She imagines Jesus has been taken by enemies, and the thought propels her through the darkness. Next, it's Peter and another disciple who are running, on fire with the idea that the tomb has been defiled. All of the characters in this story anticipate the worst, their hearts set on bad news. But what they find, when they lift their eyes, is the best news ever.

John presents one of the main characters in this event in a peculiar way: "*the other disciple*". Why would this person remain nameless and indistinct, if he were one of only three people privileged to stand at the tomb on Easter morning? Scholars suggest John invites us to put ourselves in the silhouette of "*the other disciple*," for we too stand at the tomb and declare what we see from here. Is the empty tomb bad news, the work of an enemy, a sad end to a tragic story? Or do we "*see and believe*," finding the good news that even in the cemetery, death loses? What we see in the dark, we must speak with our whole lives. Happy Easter.

**What brings life out of death in your experience?**

Become an Easter witness. Carry light into the darkness of someone you know, with a word of hope, a warm meal, an answer to prayer.

**Pope's Universal Prayer for April ....**

**Fundamental Rights**

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.



**Baptisms:** We welcome to the Parish community

*Charlie James Anderson*

*son of James and Jodie*

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Second Sunday of Easter - Year B**

Acts 4:32-35

Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24. R. v.1

1 Jn 5:1-6

Jn 20:19-31

**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](mailto:office.mudgee@cdob.org.au) or Ph 63722122.**

**Mudgee Roster**  
**Saturday 10th / Sunday 11th April 2021**

	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.00am
<b>Commentator</b>	D. Cunningham		S. Abbey
<b>First Reader</b>	L. Nicholson	M. McLean	L. Croake
<b>Second Reader</b>	J. Newman		H. Rodgers
<b>Special Ministers of Communion</b>	J. Vros		L. Rogders
<b>Altar Servers</b>	F. Swift		S. Keaton

**Saturday 17th / Sunday 18th April 2021**

	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.00am
<b>Commentator</b>	C. Furney		M. Matthews
<b>First Reader</b>	D. Cunningham	P. Robinson	A. Myles
<b>Second Reader</b>	I. Byrne		M. Dunnachie
<b>Special Ministers of Communion</b>	A. Baker		K. Scott
<b>Altar Servers</b>	M. English		S. Hannigan

**Gulgong Roster**

Date	Commentator	Reader	Sacristan
11th Apr	C. Gaudry	K. Ritar	M.&E. Carney
18th Apr	S. Parnell	R. Saliba	E. Donnelly R. Saliba
25th Apr	D. Kelly	D. Hudson	C. Holland
2nd May	P. Leotta	S. Parnell	R. Saliba

**COVID restrictions from Monday 29 March:**

- The number of people allowed in a place of worship is still limited to 1 person per 2 square metres. The current number of people allowed in churches will not change from Monday.
- While there is no upper limit on the number of people attending a funeral or wedding, if the service is held within a place of worship (a building), the number of people able to attend is still restricted by the 1 person per 2 square metre rule.
- Restrictions on singing in places of worship will be lifted as of this Saturday.
- All organisations must continue to ensure they keep accurate records of all attendances, including through [QR Codes](#), to enable fast contact tracing in the event of any community transmission.
- It is critical everyone continues to practise COVID-safe behaviours, practising social distancing, staying home if unwell and getting tested if suffering from the mildest of symptoms.



**Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!**

Thank you for supporting us this year as we demonstrate how love and compassion for our global community can transform lives. You have responded to St. Oscar Romero’s invitation to “Be More,” putting your compassion into action to support some of the world’s most vulnerable communities. By aspiring to be more, you have helped change lives

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to help continue empowering vulnerable communities around the world lift themselves and their communities out of poverty.**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.



**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 **6 3 3 4 6 4 0 9** or email [tribunal@bathurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:tribunal@bathurst.catholic.org.au)



**First Reading:**

**Acts 10:34. 37-43**

*We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.*

**Responsorial Psalm:**

**Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24**

**(R.) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. Let the sons of Israel say:

‘His love has no end.’ **(R.)**

The Lord’s right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. **(R.)**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: Col 3:1-4**

*Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

**Gospel: In 20:1-9**

*The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.*

**EASTER TIME:** The fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast day, indeed as one “great Sunday”. These are the days above all others in which the *Alleluia* is sung. The Sundays of this time of year are considered to be Sundays of Easter...  
*GNLYC 22-24*

**REFLECTION** by Fr Michael Tate

***Dawn has Broken – The Son is Risen***

Women go to the tomb as dawn is breaking. The Power of Darkness which had Jesus unjustly sentenced, cruelly tortured and buried in the pitch blackness of the tomb, is conquered by the Son-Rise of all sun rises flooding our world and the whole of human history with Divine Light and Energy.

This is the heart of our faith as Catholic Christians, which we celebrate with bon-fire (good fire) in darkness at the Easter Vigil. From that earthly element we light the Easter candle and the Exultet is sung: ‘Be glad, let earth be glad as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King.’

The resurrection itself is nowhere described in the gospels, but we do have appearances of the Risen Lord Jesus. The first appearance was to a woman, Mary of Magdala. A title given to her by the early church was ‘Apostle to the Apostles’ because she was the bearer of the message which the male disciples initially did not believe. But eventually they too believed that Death had been done to death because the Son had risen.

Christ’s body was transfigured by the energy of Divine Love and we can, by grace, participate in that resurrection life of Our Lord. A glorious destiny awaits us, as indeed it awaits the whole cosmos as it is to be transformed by that resurrection life recreating the whole of creation.

We could take a moment to pray that we, along with all that matters, are graced with the life-giving energy of the Risen Son and that we may join Mary of Magdala in spreading the Good News of Christ’s victory over death. Alleluia!

**Message from the Custos of the Holy Land Regarding the Good Friday Collection 2021**

Throughout 2020, in the Holy Land as in the rest of the world, we have been severely tested by the pandemic which has paralysed a large part of economic activities, blocked the movement of people and therefore also of pilgrims. It has brought suffering to many and to most families a state of poverty which has plunged many people into loneliness and isolation.

Despite or perhaps precisely because of this situation, as friars of the Custody of the Holy Land we have tried to intensify our commitment to live our mission, the Mission that St. Francis wanted us to undertake in 1217, to be present as the leaven of the gospel in a context majority of other religions, and the mission that the Church has entrusted to us, officially starting in 1342, to take care of the Holy Places of our redemption and to take care of the small Christian community that still exists and resists here, despite the adverse conditions of history and the globalization of indifference.

We have not closed the sanctuaries, but we have tried to enhance them, intensifying our invocations in the name of all humanity and our intercession for all humanity in these special places of faith. We have tried to make these places accessible even in a virtual way, by broadcasting the various celebrations throughout the year, to keep alive the bond with the faithful and the pilgrims.

We have not stopped taking care of our parishes, with their faithful, whether they be Arabic, Hebrew or Greek speaking locals, be they migrant workers, foreign workers or refugees. The celebrations – albeit with many restrictions – have continued. The Sacraments continued to nourish the lives of our faithful. The commitment to catechesis has continued. The care of the sick has also continued, including those with Covid-19, and the accompaniment of the dying has continued too, so as not to abandon them to a death without human and Christian dignity.

Our charitable commitment has continued to meet the needs of a population tried not only by the pandemic, but also by the disasters of war and by the cynical and cruel “Laws of the Markets”, by the absence of social assistance, by having to resort to begging in order to be able to care of themselves, to satisfy the needs of every day or to send their children to school. We have not closed the schools and have continued to take care of the education of infants, children, and young people.

All this, of course, has a cost and a large part of this cost is covered annually by the Good Friday Collection and by the generosity of the faithful from all over the world. The year 2020, was a year, for us too, in which the expenses necessary to carry out our mission remained substantial, while the income was minimal, because the Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land was not taken in many parts of the world. This year, therefore, even more than in previous years, we friars of the Custody of the Holy Land make ourselves beggars and appeal to the generosity of your hearts.

As Pope Francis reminds us in his latest encyclical, reflecting on the parable of the Good Samaritan: “To-day, and in ever increasing numbers, there are wounded people. The inclusion or exclusion of those lying wounded along the roadside can serve as a criterion for judging every economic, political, social and religious project. Each day we have to decide whether to be Good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders” (*Fratelli Tutti*, 69). Shortly after this observation turns into a question: “It is the hour of truth: Will we bend down to touch and heal the wounds of others? Will we bend down and help another to get up?” (*Fratelli Tutti*, 70).

Please help us according to your means and possibilities, help us according to the generosity of your heart, help us to help others.

Fr. Francesco Patton OFM  
Custos of the Holy Land

