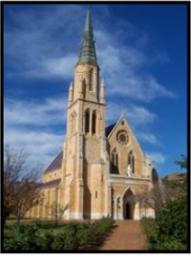


The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!

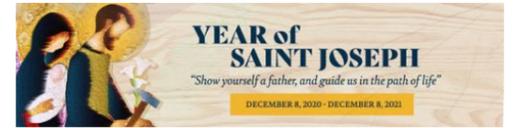


Welcome to the Catholic Parishes of St Mary's Mudgee, St John the Baptist Gulgong, St Dominic's Kandos/ St Malachy's Rylstone.

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 Easter - Year B 25th April 2021 Good Shepherd Sunday



GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY 2021



Dear Friends in Christ,

This year, Good Shepherd Sunday and Anzac Day fall on the same day. It would be wrong to stretch the comparisons too far, but it is true to say that the themes of service, sacrifice, commitment and gratitude are threaded through both.

Our priests, as the Gospel today reminds us, are not merely "hired hands." They have generously offered their lives to be ordained for the unique and irreplaceable service that brings us the Eucharist and all that flows from it. Every Christian has his or her part to play in the mission entrusted to the Church; and the dignity of each vocation is enhanced in appreciating more deeply the specific service of each one. Today, we give thanks for the gift of the ordained priesthood, which does not exist for itself, but to serve the pilgrim Church. It is both an awesome call and, properly understood, a humble office.

For Catholics, this is a day not only to pray and give thanks for the priests who generously serve us, but to recommit ourselves to supporting them. This means a willingness to be generous in our own service, working with them. It also means playing our part in ensuring that their modest material needs are cared for.



Diep Quang Nguyen (Candidate for Ordination) with Seminarians Kieu Van Le, Cong Van Hoang, Ha Van Tran, Duong Van Ha, Nam Dinh Le, and Thao Van Nguyen (Candidate for Ordination).
Absent: Dai Van Pham

Each year, we also make a collection on this day to help meet the expenses of training future priests. At the moment, our Diocese has six young men at various stages of formation and discernment, in addition to two candidates who will, please God, be ordained this year. You can contribute to their support either through your own parish, or directly on-line at bathurst.catholic.org.au

Please pray for the priests we have, for those who are preparing for ordination; and for those whom the Lord is calling to leave everything and follow him.

Yours in Christ,

**+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

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

DAY BY DAY

MONDAY - 26th April
St Mark, evangelist, Feast
NO SERVICE
 12 Noon Angelus

TUESDAY - 27th April
 9.30am Mass Mudgee
 12 Noon Angelus
 5.00pm SVdP Conference.

WEDNESDAY - 28th April
St Peter Chanel, priest, martyr
 9.30am Mass Mudgee
 9.30am St Mary's Craft and Friendship Group
 12 Noon Angelus
 3.30pm Parent/Carers Information Meeting (Gulgong)

THURSDAY - 29th April
St Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor
 9.30am Mass Mudgee
 12 Noon Angelus

FRIDAY - 30th April
 12 Noon Angelus and Rosary (Front of Church)
 12 Noon Reconciliation (Back of Church)
 12.30pm Mass Mudgee

SATURDAY - 1st May
 12 Noon Angelus
 5.15-5.40pm Reconciliation (Back of Church)
 6.00pm Vigil Mass Mudgee

SUNDAY - 2nd May
Fifth Sunday of Easter
ANZAC DAY
 7.30am Mass Mudgee
 9.00am Mass Mudgee
 10.00am Mass Gulgong
 11.00am Mass Rylstone
 12 Noon Angelus
 5.00pm 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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL
CONFERENCE meeting will be on Tuesday 27th April at 5pm.

St Vincents are asking for donations of blankets and doonas. With winter fast approaching, these items are much needed.

GULGONG NEWS

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

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 Parents / Carers Information Meeting
- Sunday 2nd May**
10.30am Confirmation Enrolment Mass
- Sunday 6th June**
10.30am Confirmation Mass

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

Do you wonder why Pope Francis dedicated this year to Saint Joseph?

You are invited to discover more about Saint Joseph

Venue: St. Joseph's Conference Room, Perthville
Time: Session 1: 10.30am – 12.30am
 Lunch: 12.30pm - 1.30pm
 Session 2: 1.30pm – 2.30pm

Date: Saturday 1st May 2021
Facilitator: Sr. Ann Morrison rsj
RSVP: Wednesday 28th April
Email: Perthville.Coodinator@sosj.org.au
Mob: 0429186564

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.

Masses and prayers requested for the following:

For the recently deceased especially
 Leo Egan, May Friery (Ireland), Robert Wakeling, Janelle Hartnett

We remember the anniversaries of
 John Fitzpatrick (Mudgee), Therese Billmon, Joseph Hope, Barry Rheinberger, Tom Hundy, Lorna Malone, Leo Tobin, Peter Byrnes

We also pray for Margaret 'Peg' Leonard, Jan Bailie, Barry, Ally & Esmá Woods, Agnes Robinson, Fairy & Ervine McDermott, Gael & Russell Hundy.

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

Helen Roberts, Mario Giusti, John Cross, Cherylanne Adamson, John Vros, Karen Freebody, 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 all those in our Nursing Homes.

It takes some of us a lifetime to learn that Christ, our Good Shepherd, knows exactly what He is doing with us. He understands us perfectly. W.Phillip Keller

RISE YOUTH FESTIVAL

THURSDAY TO FRIDAY 1-2 JULY
 EARLY BIRD PRICE \$110 BEFORE APRIL 30TH
 PRICE \$120 AFTER APRIL 30TH

The advertisement includes a QR code in the top right corner and a photograph at the bottom showing a group of young people, some wearing 'RISE' branded t-shirts, at an event.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Fourth Sunday of Easter - Year B

Acts 9:26-31 Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26 1 Jn 3:18-24 Jn 15:1-8

CHANGE OF MASS TIME

From Saturday, 1st May, the vigil mass will be at **5.00pm**.



St Mary's Parish Luncheon

Our next Parish luncheon will be after our 12.30pm Friday Mass on May 7th.

For catering purposes, if you would like to attend, please write your name on the sheet provided at the back of the church or contact the Parish Office on 6372 2122.

Word and *Faith* Group

St Mary's currently has a Word and Faith group on Sunday's at 5pm in the Parish Centre. If you would like to be part of the Group or would like to find out more information, please contact the Parish Office.

Monster ART EXHIBITION
 "Plein Air"
 Unframed Local Art Scenes for SALE
 by a wide range of local & visiting ARTISTS
Painter's @ MUDGE
 Opening Friday 7th May 4pm & Saturday 8th May, 2021
 9am till late afternoon at St Mary's Parish Centre, MUDGE



Companions of the Sisters of St Joseph
 (Formerly Josephite Associates)

Josephite Companions participate in the life and mission of the church by living out the Josephite charism through friendship, prayer and service enriching your life as well as the lives of others by "doing the ordinary with a Josephine heart".

Our first gathering will be at 1pm, Friday 21st May in the Parish Centre. If you are interested in joining the group or would like to know more, please contact **Patti 0418517330**.

Congratulations to



Giovanni Battista Rettura
 and
Alexandra Louise Bnetherton

who celebrated the sacrament of marriage this weekend.

Mudgee Roster
 Saturday 1st / Sunday 2nd May 2021

	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.00am
Commentator	K.Fitsimmons		L. Croake
First Reader	C. Furney	R. McKeown	M. Barrett
Second Reader	I. Byrne		M. Dunnachie
Special Ministers of Communion	G. Hennessy		R. Croake
Altar Servers	B. Holden		E. Littler
Counter	Mon 3rd	M. Walker	

Saturday 8th / Sunday 9th May 2021

	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.00am
Commentator	D. Cunningham		S. Abbey
First Reader	L. Nicholson	M. McLean	L. Croake
Second Reader	J. Newman		M. Matthews
Special Ministers of Communion	J Vros		M. Gilbert
Altar Servers	P. Fitzgerald		A. McFarlane
Counter	Mon 10th		

Gulgong Roster

Date	Commentator	Reader	Sacristan
2nd May	P. Leotta	S. Parnell	R. Saliba

SOCIAL DISTANCING REMINDERS...
 As we are still in a time of pandemic, we are still required to maintain our social distancing. Please be aware of this when sitting, kneeling or moving around the church.

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. 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 has been lifted
- 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.

First Reading:

Acts 4:8-12

This is the only name by which we can be saved.

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29. R. v.22

(R.) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men: it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. **(R.)**

I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. Give

thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. **(R.)**

Second Reading:

1 Jn 3:1-2

We shall see God as he is.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Jn 10:11-18

The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.



GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY COLLECT

"Good Shepherd Sunday is a day to give thanks for the gift of the ordained priesthood ... and support those who generously serve us".

Please give generously to the Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal with all proceeds going towards the education of priests.



The Ode

They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
And in the morning
We will remember them.

In Flanders Fields

BY JOHN MCCRAE

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

This Sunday is traditionally known as Good Shepherd Sunday. Two major themes emerge from the readings: an image of the one who saves; and the power of salvation itself. The one who saves is not a mighty warrior who comes in military array. In fact, he is the one who was rejected, who was hunted down, humiliated, tortured and hung naked on a tree, there to die in shame. The one who saves is the cornerstone of the building, holding it together, forming a firm foundation so that the structure will not collapse. The one who saves is a lowly shepherd, entrusted with sheep, not with the affairs of state. The one who saves is an unlikely saviour. This characterisation should give us pause. Is it possible that we have been looking for a saviour in the wrong places?

God's saving power flows from steadfast covenant love. It broke open the world in the death and resurrection of Jesus and it overflows as healing grace. The saving power in the name of Jesus, a name that itself means 'saviour' (cf. Matt 1:21), is for all people, even for those sheep who do not yet belong to this fold. Furthermore, it is for all time; God's mercy endures forever. Through our baptism we can bring the saving grace of God to a world in desperate need of healing. We can do this in our families, in our local communities, in the workplace, in so many situations of our lives.

Scriptural context – The Shepherd Messiah

The gospels go to great lengths to affirm the lineage of Jesus and associate him with the house of David, the first great Jewish king. David began life as a simple boy tending his father's flock of sheep. When the line of kings was instigated through David they were charged with being 'shepherds' of their people. However, down through the line of kings, this care for the people was lost and they ceased to be 'shepherds'. Jesus' claim to be the good shepherd is his claim to be in the line of the true kings of Israel – a shepherd of the people.

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