

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.

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B 5th September 2021



CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF BATHURST

BISHOP'S HOUSE
PO Box 246
BATHURST NSW

1st September 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

May I encourage everyone, unless they have a medical condition which would preclude it, to take up the opportunity to be vaccinated against Covid-19: both to protect their own health and the health of others.

These were my own reasons for receiving vaccination many weeks ago. I relied on reputable medical advice about the efficacy and safety of the vaccines; and on the teaching of the Catholic Church that it was morally lawful.

Indeed, Catholic doctrine guides me to understand this as an act of solidarity and care for the common good.

Everyone is responsible for his or her own conscience, before God. That entails a responsibility to make it well-informed.

While some people who are Catholics may, for personal reasons, decide not to be vaccinated, that would be their own choice, not one directed by Church teaching.

In the meantime, please join me in praying for one another, especially those who are suffering the most in this pandemic. May this experience lead us to turn closer to Christ and find in him the way to compassion and service for our sisters and brothers.

+Michael McKenna
Bishop of Bathurst

Fathers Day Message

Happy Fathers Day to all our dads, grandfathers, uncles and carers and all those men who are role models for us.

Thank you for your goodness and care for your families. May you continue to live and model, to your families, all that will help them in their journey to be the best they can be.

In this year dedicated to St Joseph, who loved and cared for Mary and Jesus, may he inspire you to be the best you can be and so be the great blessing for your family and community that God call you to be.

God bless you all and enjoy your day.

Father Owen and Father Dong



Being a great father is like shaving.
No matter how good you shaved today, you have to do it again tomorrow.

One night a father heard his son's prayer:

"Dear God, please make me the kind of man that my daddy is."

Later that night the father prayed:

*"Heavenly Father, please make me into the man who my son thinks I am.
May I be a reflection of you.
Amen."*



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

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Phone: 02 6372 2122

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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

**UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
THE FOLLOWING RESTRICTIONS APPLY...**

To minimise movement and protect regional communities ALL of Regional NSW is in lockdown.

Unfortunately, this means that our Churches and Parish Office are closed. Fr Owen, Fr Dong and staff are still working. We will Livestream the Mass on Sunday at 10am via Facebook and Word and Faith Groups are now online. If you are isolating and need help to get groceries or medication, or you just need someone to talk to, please give us a call at the Parish Office.

**BANK DETAILS FOR DIRECT CREDIT
FOR 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.

Word&Faith@home

Do you want to connect with people from all over the diocese? Do you want to know what the first reading has to do with the Gospel? Do you want to hear the Sunday readings before Mass and hear from Bishop Michael?

You are invited to join in Word&Faith@home sessions for the next four weeks.

Pick a time that suits you, grab your device and join in.

Tuesday 7:30pm or Thursday 12 Noon or Friday 9:00am <https://bthcatholic.zoom.us/j/4582615130>

Sunday 9:00am Blayney parish
<https://bthcatholic.zoom.us/j/4582615130>

Sunday 5:00pm Contact Mudgee parish
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/77994088826>

Masses and prayers requested for the following:

For the recently deceased... Susan Loneragan, Athol "Ack" Ryan

We remember the anniversaries of: Maria Boltersten, Vonnie Gilders, Anne Young, Nell Goodman, Meg Cumberland, Tony Blazevic, Kevin Robinson, Margaret Neville, Anthony Innes and Bob Prowse.

We also pray for:

Harry Lamerton, Burt Dalmay, Alan Isbester, Fr Petar Mak OFM, Phyllis Neubeck (Portland), Neil Brodie, Roberto Oracoy (Philippines), Eileen Horan nee Milton (Bathurst)

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

Robert Simpson, Dyanna Thommeny, Jennifer Ryan (Bathurst), Fr Vincent Doherty CSsR, Ivan Brec, Peter Morris (Lapstone), Anna Blazevic, Sue Kearins, Suzana Marakovic, John Graham, John Cross, John Vros, Enid Auld, Julie Collins, Tomislav Glavacevic, Mike O'Shea, Maria Leotta, Debbie Solti, Carmel Thompson, John Carney (Rooty Hill), Vicky Gaffney, Cherylanne Adamson, Rodrigo Jaboneta, Rebecca Fletcher, Eliza and Elena Vasilis, Anthony Spina, Elizabeth Donnelly, Ursula Smieszek, Jasmine Prada, Mary Cannon and all those in our Nursing Homes.

Those seeking Special Intentions and for all the Holy Souls.



**Celebrating
100 years of
Catholic
Education!**

**Celebrating our Josephite
tradition**

Join us on the weekend of
9th & 10th October 2021

We're Sorry,
**THE EVENT IS
POSTPONED**

Until 5th & 6th March, 2022

For more information please contact St Michael's School 02 63 751387
or stmichaelsdunedoo@bth.catholic.edu.au

A prayer in lockdown

The doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked (John 20:19)

Even present God,
be with us in our isolation,
be close to us in our distancing,
be healing in our sickness,
be joy in our sadness,
be light in our darkness,
be wisdom in our confusion,
be all that is familiar when all is unfamiliar,
that when the doors reopen
we may with the zeal of Pentecost
inhabit our communities
and speak of your goodness
to an emerging world.
Amen

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is 50:5-9

Ps 114:1-6. 8-9. R. v.9

Jas 2:14-18

Mk 8:27-35



A Blessing Prayer for Father's Day

by Greg Sunter

God of Kindness and Compassion,
 we are your children and you are Father to us all.
 We give honour and thanks to those who reflect your
 fatherly example:
 those who are dads and granddads;
 step-dads, foster dads, godfathers and fathers-in-law;
 those who are coaches, leaders and mentors;
 and those who are elders and wisdom-men of our
 communities.
 We look to these men for strength of body and strength of
 character.
 We look to them to pass on skills and pass on stories.
 We look to them to protect and provide.
 We look to them for care and compassion.
 We look to them to be co-creators and stewards of the
 world.
 For all those who embrace their role as father, we give
 thanks.
 For those who struggle with being fathers, give them
 strength.
 For those who are distanced from their children, give them
 comfort.
 For those who have passed from this world, give them
 peace.
 Bless these men that we call father.
 Bless them in their strength and in their weakness.
 Bless them in their joy and in their sorrow.
 Bless them in their work and in their play.
 And bless them, Father, for being fathers.
 We make this prayer through the one who taught us to call
 you Our Father:
 Your Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ.
 Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name;
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread,
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 Amen.



Pope's Universal Prayer for September An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle

We pray that we all will make courageous
 choices for a simple and environmentally
 sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young
 people who are resolutely committed to this.

FATHERS DAY APPEAL 2021



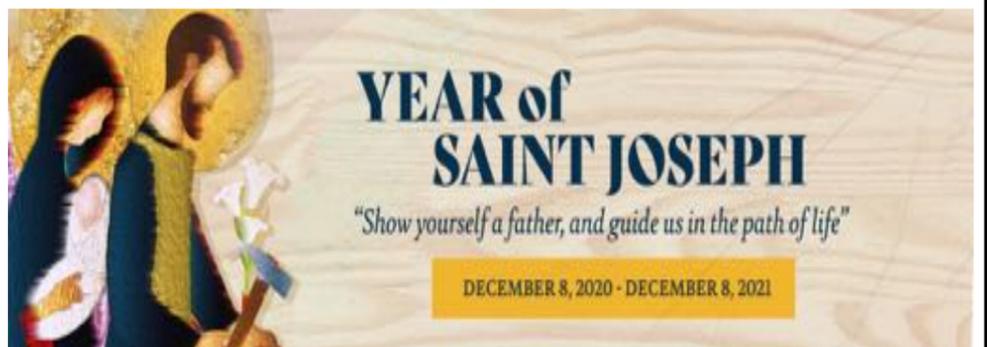
The Diocese will hold its annual Fathers' Day Appeal this
 Sunday, 5th September, *online* this year as sadly, it is not
 possible for us to gather in person for Mass.

This important appeal is for the ongoing support of our retired
 priests. While we celebrate and remember all our fathers,
 grandfathers and father-figures have done for us, it is a good
 time to stop and think of these priests who have been there
 year in and year out for each of us and our families, providing
 pastoral and spiritual support.

"Provision for aged and infirm priests is the privileged
 responsibility of the faithful, to whom these men have given
 their lives. Having borne the heat of the day in pastoral
 service, their modest needs should now be addressed with
 dignity and respect", said Bishop Michael McKenna.
 "Acknowledging that these men have journeyed with
 parishioners and their loved ones in joy and in sorrow,
 financial support for them can be an expression of gratitude
 by all those whose lives they have touched."

Given that our churches remain closed due to Covid
 restrictions, and the usual collection cannot be taken up this
 weekend, please consider supporting the ONLINE appeal.
 Donations can be made using the following link:

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CATHOLICDIOCESEOFBATHURST?billercode=1700384>



*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
 Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
 To you God entrusted his only Son;
 in you Mary placed her trust;
 with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
 show yourself a father
 and guide us in the path of life.
 Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
 and defend us from every evil.
 Amen.*

**Readings for Twenty Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

First Reading: [Is 35:4-7](#)

*Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened
and the tongues of the dumb speak.*

Say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;
for water gushes in the desert,
streams in the wasteland,
the scorched earth becomes a lake,
the parched land springs of water.

Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1](#)

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bound down,
the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger. (R.)
3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age.

Second Reading: [Jas 2:1-5](#)

*Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the
kingdom?*

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.



Gospel Acclamation: [cf. Mt 4:23](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel: [Mk 7:31-37](#)

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Jesus opens our eyes to the reality of God's presence in our midst, in the goodness of people and in the tenderness of life, even in its vulnerability. He opens our ears to hear the word of God spoken to us by others, revealed to us through the created world.

There is an eschatological dimension to being open to the word of God, because we are opened to hear something from the future. The prophets always speak about this future in the present tense. They see it happening already. Isaiah proclaims, 'Here is your God!' and the world is transformed. Jesus says 'Be open.' The good news always opens us to future possibilities, to personal and communal transformation, to a new creation. With the word of God, the future invades our present.

Although the eschatological future is already present to us, it is only unfolding, it has not yet opened completely. We still judge each other by appearances. We still miss the presence of God in the poor and the dispossessed, in those who suffer from disease or war or loneliness. We still shun those of another race, or those who have been shaped by another culture, or those who worship God in a different way. Although the eschatological future is already present, we have not yet put aside all of the biases of the past, we have not yet been fully transformed. But God has spoken, God has come to save us. God is trustworthy; God keeps faith forever.