

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 Advent - Year C 5th December 2021

First Reading: [Bar 5:1-9](#)

Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 125. R. v.3](#)

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **(R.)**

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**



Second Reading: [Phil 1:3-6. 8-11](#)

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation: [Lk 3:4. 6](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel: [Lk 3:1-6](#)

All people shall see the salvation of God.

Blessing of the Advent Wreath.



In today's readings we shall hear about the mission of John the Baptist, who was sent to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus, the light of the world.

We too are sent to prepare the way. As we light the second candle on the Advent Wreath, let us acknowledge our weaknesses and pray that we may be worthy of our mission to spread the light of Christ in the world, so that all may acknowledge Jesus as Lord.

ADVENT LITANY

Response: Come Lord Jesus

Give your peace to all nations...	R
Be the joy of all who love you ...	R
Bless us as we gather here in your name...	R
Lord Jesus, stay with us ...	R

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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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

Clergy Moves

Bishop Michael has announce the following Clergy moves
Fr Dong is being moved to Dubbo and Deacon Thao, currently at Lithgow, who is to be ordained a Priest on the 28th January, is being moved to Mudgee.. Both moves will take place in February.
Details of Fr Dong's farewell will follow.

GULGONG NEWS

GCWG CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA

When: Monday 6th December 10.30am

Where: Mayne Street Cafe (\$20 each)



Phyllis Lenard 6374 1441 or 0447 741 256

Masses and prayers requested for the following:

For the recently deceased: Joy Gilbey, Michael Maloney and Bishop Bill Wright

We remember the anniversaries of: Maria Brec, Allan Graham, Warren Carberry, Kathleen Miller, Lorna Smith, Luciano Pagani, Len Adams, Cecily Conroy

We also pray for: Robert Simpson, Ted Dermody, Zvonko Glavacevic and family, Mijo & Ana Glavacevic, Marija Domitrovic, Ljubica Muretic, Katica Ivancic, Tony Petchell, Norma Lynch, John Sullivan, Annie Meahan, Urszula Smieszek (Poland) and Amy Simpson (Muswellbrook)

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are sick at this time: Alicia Knights, Eleni Roberts, Dyanna Thomeny, Marie Trounson, Howard Brady, Sue Kearins, John Cross, Carmel Thompson, Elizabeth Donnelly, Rodrigo Jaboneta, Molly Jenkins and all those in our Nursing Homes.

Baptism: We welcome to the Parish community



Ivy Rose Byrne

Congratulations to:



*Elizabeth Merhi
Grace Riley*

who will receive the Blessed Eucharist for the first time.

Congratulations to:



*Lily Clift
Oscar Diprose
Tahlia Flynn*

who will be Confirmed this weekend

Dates for the Diary

17th December

12.30pm Anointing Mass - Mudgee

19th December

9.00am Remembrance Mass - Mudgee
10.30am Remembrance and Anointing Mass - Gulgong
11.00am Remembrance and Anointing Mass - Kandos

21st December

7.00pm Second Rite of Reconciliation - Mudgee

Friday 24th December Christmas Eve

6.30pm Vigil - on the St Matthews School Green - Mudgee
6.30pm Vigil - Gulgong
8.30pm Vigil - Mudgee

Saturday 25th December Christmas Day

7.30am Mass - Mudgee
9.00am Mass - Mudgee
9.00am Mass - Kandos

Sunday 26th December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7.30am Mass - Mudgee
9.00am Mass - Mudgee
10.30am Mass - Gulgong
11.00am Mass - Rylstone



YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH

"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"

*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.*

Church Cleaning

Thank you to everyone who helped with the St Mary's Church Cleaning. Your work is appreciated.

We will be cleaning St Mary's church before Christmas, on Monday, 20th December, at 10am. Once again, we are asking for volunteers.

Please let the Parish Office.

Many hands make light work.



Mudgee Roster Saturday 11th / Sunday 12th December 2021			
	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.00am
Commentator	D. Cunningham	P. Tracey	M. Matthews
First Reader	A. Fergus	M. McLean	M. Barrett
Second Reader	K. Fitzsimmons		L. Croake
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	A. Baker		R. Croake
Altar Servers			
Welcomers			
Counter	13th Dec	D. Donnelly	

Saturday 18th / Sunday 19th December 2021			
	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.00am
Commentator	C. Furney	M. McLean	L. Croake
First Reader	L. Nicholson	P. Tracey	C. Devitt
Second Reader	D. Cunningham		A. Myles
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	I. Byrne		M. Devitt
Altar Servers			
Welcomers			
Counters	20th Dec	M. Walker	

Gulgong Roster			
Date	Commentator	Reader	Sacristan
12th Dec	S. Parnell	C. Leotta	M. & E. Carney
19th Dec	E. Donnelly	J. Ritar	E. Donnelly G. Ausburn
25th Dec	D. Kelly	O. O'Brien	C. Holland
26th Dec	R. Saliba	C. Gaudry	R. Saliba

Pope's Universal Prayer for December
Catechists
 Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

DAY BY DAY

MONDAY - 6th December
 12.00 Noon Angelus

TUESDAY - 7th December
 9.15am Whole School Mass St Matthews
 9.30am Mass Mudgee
 12 Noon Angelus

WEDNESDAY - 8th December
 12.00 Noon Angelus
5.15pm Mass Mudgee (This week only)
6.00pm First Reconciliation Mudgee
7.00pm First Reconciliation Mudgee

THURSDAY - 9th December
 9.30am Mass Mudgee
 12.00 Noon Angelus
 5.00pm St Matthews Year 6 Graduation Mass

FRIDAY - 10th December
 11.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St. Mary's Mudgee
 12.00 Noon Angelus and Rosary (Front of Church)
 12 Noon Reconciliation (Back of Church)
 12.30pm Mass Mudgee

SATURDAY - 11th December
 11.00am Baptism
 12.00 Noon Angelus
 5.15-5.40pm Reconciliation (Back of Church)
 6.00pm Vigil Mass Mudgee

SUNDAY - 12th December
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C
 7.30am Mass Mudgee
 9.00am Mass Mudgee
 10.30am Mass Gulgong
 11.00am Mass Kandos
 12.00 Noon Angelus
 6.00pm Word and Faith Group

Anointing/ Home Communion:
 If you know of anyone who would like Anointing/ Home Communion, please ring the office.
 Fr Owen and Fr Dong are available, and can visit at home or in hospital.

With restrictions lifting, you no longer need to register to attend Mass on the weekends.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C
Zep 3:14-18 Is 12:2-6 R. v.6 Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18

Kandos News

We farewell Sr Kath Luchetti from the Kandos/ Rylstone Parish Community. Sr Kath has been part of that community for ten years and is well know to many people in the district. We thank Sr Kath for her pastoral care, her concern, support and ministry to so many people during that time. Sr Kath will be very sadly missed and we wish her every blessing for this next phase in her life.

**St Mary's Craft & Friendship Group
Christmas & Homemade Crafts Stall**

Saturday, 11th December
9.00am to 1.00pm
in the church grounds or if raining in
the Parish Hall.
Lots of Craft goods for sale.



Neighbours Without Borders

Culturally Competent Wisdom Thinking based in Cultural Humility

Culture forms the basis of almost everything we do. It determines how we act in almost every situation. It's what we might sometimes call common sense; and it's easy to take for granted. Neighbours Without Borders delivers tailored intercultural training to develop the awareness, knowledge and skills needed to interact appropriately and effectively within culturally diverse communities. The sessions extrapolate beyond the differences between ethnic cultures to provide a framework that can be applied to improve our understanding of work cultures, religious cultures, the cultures of different generations, or any sub-culture one needs to understand.

If you would like to more, please contact the Parish Office.



Living the Gospel – Make way!

Today's gospel is a reminder to us that Advent is a season of preparation. In this case, the preparation is all about making way for the love of God in our lives. The love of God surrounds us all the time. It's like a rapidly flowing stream and sometimes we have placed boulders in the stream that send the water flowing around us. The call to make a way for the Lord is a call to clear the rocks out of the stream; to remove the obstacles that are directing the love of God around us and allow it instead to flow directly through us.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

This year, we will be selling Christmas Cards with images from St Mary's Church. Photographed and design by Fr Dong.

The Cards will be on sale at the Parish Office for \$3 each.

All proceeds will go to the parishes.



REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

I want you to be happy

Some people have an image of God who must be obeyed out of fear. Rules of behaviour are kept as part of a deal to avoid punishment. But St Paul was imitating God when he told the Philippians that all he wanted was their 'happiness'. God's deepest desire is that we share divine bliss. St Thomas Aquinas tells us that the goal of human life is this beatific happiness.

Of course, there is a way of life which responds to the Divine Lover. John the Baptist insists on rules of social justice, particularly those which forbid taking advantage of the vulnerable. But these are the minimum. He envisages a response of extravagant generosity. It will take Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Fire to make this possible.

This was effected by the One foretold by John. He doesn't name him, but we know it was Jesus of Nazareth who had the power to unleash such over-the-top generosity. Jesus sent his Holy Spirit at Pentecost as if in wind and fire. This created a new community which, the Acts of Apostles tells us, responded with acts of unrestrained generosity to the vulnerable and needy.

We might pause for a moment to pray for a generous spirit responding in gratitude to the Divine Lover who, as Risen Lord, has the power and will to enable us to be filled with Divine Bliss.

Covid Restrictions

THE FOLLOWING RESTRICTIONS APPLY...

- All people may attend a place of worship, regardless of vaccination status.
- Masks must continue to be worn inside.
- The **1 person per 2sqm** density limit must continue to be observed.
- QR code or manual register must continue to be used.
- Congregational singing is still not permitted.

Our Parishes and Diocese are guided by NSW Health. These restrictions can changes at any time.

Current Mass capacity:

Mudgee	160 people
Gulgong	96 people
Kandos	100 people
Rylstone	80 people

With the new restrictions, there is no need to book in for mass

Year of St Joseph

"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"

