



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.



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A 16TH JULY 2023

First Reading: [Is 55:10-11](#)

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8](#)

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.

Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain. **(R.)**

And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth. **(R.)**

You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **(R.)**

The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **(R.)**

Second Reading: [Rom 8:18-23](#)

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.
Alleluia!

Gospel: [Mt 13:1-23](#)

A sower went out to sow.



Reflection

by Dianne Bergant

The readings for this Sunday call us to self-examination. The gospel describes various levels of receptivity, the willingness to allow ourselves to receive from another, to be influenced by another, perhaps even to be transformed. The more independent we are, the less likely we will be open to others and, consequently, less receptive to their ideas. By definition disciples are receptive to the one they follow. To be a disciple of Jesus requires receptivity, so it is important that we scrutinise ourselves to discover the extent to which we are open. To what should we be receptive? To the words of Scripture, the words of the liturgy, the words of the sacraments, the living tradition of the community. God's word is sown in many forms and under many guises. It makes little difference who sows the seed. How will we receive it?

Besides the word of God, the readings speak of the world of God. The people of biblical times were aware of the revelation of God in and through the natural world. Isaiah teaches about the effectiveness of the word of God through the metaphor of rain. The psalmist uses the natural world to describe God's work of salvation. Paul claims that eschatological fulfilment will include all of creation. Finally, Jesus' parables are rooted in stories about nature. We cannot afford to close our eyes to the needs of the natural world, or stop our ears to the cries of the earth, or harden our hearts to the world of which we are a part, for the word of God will accomplish the end for which God sent it.

Parish Priest

Fr Owen Gibbons

Parish Deacon

Deacon Charles Applin

Seminarian: Ha Tran

Parish Secretaries

Mrs Kristie Newman

Ms Krista O'Brien

Postal Address:

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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



PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Planned Giving envelopes will be available at all Parishes this weekend.

Please collect your envelopes from the back of the church.

GULGONG ROSTER

	23 July	30 July
Commentator	D. Kelly	C. Gaudry
Reader	J. Thatcher	C. Golino
Sacristan	E. Donnelly G. Ausburn	C. Holland
Leader		S. Parnell

MUDGEES ROSTER

Saturday 22nd/ Sunday 23rd July 2023

	Saturday	Sunday
Commentator	A. Mclean	M. Mclean
First Reader	D. Cunningham	M. Dunnachie
Second Reader	D. Cunningham	E. de Vries
EMOC	G. Hennessy	A. Mort
Altar Server	Michael W	Alyra K
Music	Rue & Barry	
Welcomer	D. Delahunty	S. Walker
Offertory	D. Bennett	M. Gilbert
Counter	Mon 17th Jul	K. O'Brien

Saturday 29th/ Sunday 30th July 2023

	Saturday	Sunday
Commentator	D. Cunningham	L. Croake
First Reader	D. Delahunty	K. Cassidy
Second Reader	C. Furney	A. McLean
EMOC	I. Byrne	N. Whitmore
Altar Server	Wetheriff's	Haddie L
Music	Rachel	Rachel
Welcomer	S. Walker	M. Gilbert
Offertory	C. Carberry	M. Dunnachie
Counter	Mon 24th Jul	P. O'Brien

DAY BY DAY

Mon, 17/07	Week 15 of Ordinary Time
	School Returns - Term 3
	Office opens at 10am
12 Noon	Angelus
Tues, 18/07	Week 15 of Ordinary Time
9.30am	Mass - Mudgee
12 Noon	Angelus
Wed, 19/07	Week 15 of Ordinary Time
12 Noon	Angelus
5.20pm	Reconciliation
5.45pm	Mass - Mudgee
Thu, 20/07	Week 15 of Ordinary Time
9.30am	Mass - Mudgee
12 Noon	Angelus
Fri, 21/07	Week 15 of Ordinary Time
11.00am	Mass - Kanandah Nursing Home
11.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	Reconciliation available on request
12 Noon	Angelus, Rosary, short reflection
12.30pm	Mass - Mudgee
1.00pm	Soup and Slice Lunch
Sat, 22/07	St Mary Magdalene, Feast
11.00am	Baptism
4.15pm	Reconciliation
5.00pm	Vigil Mass - Mudgee
Sun, 23/07	SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR A WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY BIBLE SUNDAY
9.00am	Mass - Mudgee
10.30am	Mass - Gulgong
11.00am	Communion Service - Rylstone

Pope's Intentions for June...

For a Eucharistic life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

Baptism

We welcome into our Mudgee Parish community:



Charlie William Burke

and

Conor Riley Burke

children of Sean and Naomi

Masses and prayers requested for the following.

For the recently deceased especially:

Barry Stuart (Niagra Park), Daniel Berke, Loretta Amos

We remember the anniversaries of

Hugh Lenard, Margaret Farrell, Kevin Salter, Noel Costello, Christine Gibson, Paul Flynn,

Valerie Rheinberger, James Winter, Catherine O'Meara, Robert Kidd, Brian Duffy, Lorna Milton, Una Day, Lorna Gaffney, Alice Chapman, Pamela Sweeney, Alexander Vajc, David Malone, Laurence Consadine, Teres Smith, Olive James, Brian Bennett, Hester Morgan, Mary Miles, Michael Price, Ellen Lucas, Liliana Diaz, Kathleen Windle, Ronald Phillips, Anna Salomoni.

For the deceased, especially:

Kevin Hogan, Michael Quilty, Valerie Love.

Prayers requested for:

Elizabeth Donnelly, Iris McBeath, Graham Hawkins, Lynne Daly, John & Nola Clark, Frances Saliba, Joe Saliba, Ruth Hyde, Tony Spina, Tony Harris, Jackie Cummins, Charles Micallef, Ian Johnson, Roland Barros, Vikki Treves, Eleni Roberts, Dennis Petersen, Dianne Brown, Rodrigo Jaboneta, Carmel Thompson and all those in our Nursing Homes.

Masses for Special Intentions, In Thanksgiving and For All the Holy Souls.

We say a sad farewell to **Ken & Dianne Brown**, who are moving to Sydney to be closer to family. We thank them for their presence and involvement in our parish family.

We wish them every blessing for their new beginning. Their postal address is available at the Parish Office.

Ken & Dianne express their thanks and appreciation to the parishioners of St Mary's Parish for their love and support.



St Matthews Out of Hours School Care

The St Matthew School Community and the Parish of St Mary's are excited to announce the opening Out of Hours School Care (OHSC) at St Matthews Primary Campus, starting on Monday 17th July.



For more information of this service, please go to: <https://centacarebathurst.com.au/services/oshc/>

St Ignatius and The Rosary Retreat 21-23 JULY

The Rosary was dear to St Ignatius and his spirituality as he found it a way to God that helped him understand what it was that God wanted him to do in his world. This retreat offers a contemporary experience of this ancient prayer tool through the heart of Ignatius.

Venue: Shalom House of Prayer, 7 Collins Street, Carcoar

Cost: \$300 (includes all meals and accommodation)

To Book: Scan QR Code or Ph: 02 6367 3058



LUNCH



Soup & bread roll, slice/cake and tea/coffee



\$5 per person

When: Next Friday 21st July 2023, after the 12.30pm Mass.

Where: St. Mary's Parish Centre

RSVP: Parish Office office.mudgee@cdob.org.au or call 6372 2122

Helping Hands Needed for St Mary's Parish social/community activities

St Mary's Parish Council and Hospitality Ministry have a number of social/community activities planned for this year.

We have a small group engaged in the Hospitality Ministry, however perhaps you might prefer to commit to help with just one of the events.

Currently looking for parishioners interested in helping organise a Fun Trivia Night for September. A meeting will be held in June – Date to be set.

If you would like to help with this please contact Annette Fergus 0402 934 218

Other events are:

- Soup and Slice lunch (July, August)
- Father's Day Breakfast (Early September)
- Parish Christmas Picnic

If you would like to share your gifts and build up our parish community helping with one or more of these events, please contact Parish Office 63722122

Living the Gospel – Scatter that seed!

The teaching of the parable of the sower is as true for us today as it was in its original context. The word of the kingdom continues to fall on people who are at various stages of readiness to receive it. What Jesus suggests to his disciples – and to us – is that the 'good soil' can't always be predicted. Jesus doesn't tell his disciples to only sow the word in people who are receptive. Rather, he wants them – and us – to scatter the word everywhere and to rejoice when it does find good soil and yields a rich harvest.

Reading for Next Sunday: **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- YEAR A**

Wis 12:13.16-19

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

Rom 8:26-27

Mt 13:24-43



TO BE A PILGRIM

Going on pilgrimage is a common human desire and activity. It may be found across many cultures and religions. It symbolises our search for God, with hearts that are restless until they rest in him.

Our pilgrimage to join Pope Francis at Lisbon this year takes its theme from Luke's Gospel: "Mary arose and went in haste." Carrying our Saviour in her womb, Mary went to see Elizabeth, her cousin, also unexpectedly pregnant. Whatever she expected when she set out, Mary received deep affirmation of the message of the angel, which she was still pondering in her heart.

Whatever you may expect from this pilgrimage, be ready for God to show you new things and speak to your heart. Your fellow pilgrims will be messengers of God's presence and Word for you, as you could be for them.

+Michael McKenna
Bishop of Bathurst
 30th June 2023

The Pilgrims from our Diocese leave on Tuesday 18th July to start their pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Lisbon. The Pilgrims from our Parish are Ellen Day, Henry McNamara and Jack Newman. Please keep these young Men and Women from across our Diocese in your prayers.

Journey to First Eucharist

What happens during Eucharist?

The Eucharist (Eucharist is a Greek word that means "thanksgiving") is the whole ritual that has come to be known as the Mass. The Eucharist is therefore a holy moment which includes the consecration of the body and blood of Jesus.



The Eucharist includes:

- the sharing of the Word from scripture
- offering of prayers
- doing what Jesus did at the Last supper taking, blessing, breaking and sharing his body and blood
- being sent forth to live and proclaim the Good News

<https://flameoffaith.org.au/eucharist/>

Home Prayer

Parent: We bless and thank you Lord, for the food we are about to eat, and the time we are going to share together. We remember Jesus praying with his disciples; help us to come to know Jesus more deeply so that we can be true disciples.
 Lord Hear us.

Family: Lord hear our prayer

Parent: Loving God, Jesus called us to be of service to one another. Help us to grow in our understanding of how we can be true followers of Jesus in this way.
 Lord hear us.

Family: Lord hear our prayer

Parent: Loving God, for all the good things of earth we enjoy, for family and friends, for happy memories, we bless and give you thanks. Through Christ our Lord.

Family: Amen

REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

This farmer who is sowing doesn't seem to have much of a plan. There isn't an organised effort to prepare all the soil so that none of the seed is wasted. It's just thrown all over the place, with the hope that some of it will fall on good soil and grow.

Do you think that is a good strategy for a farmer whose life depends upon successfully growing things? Why or why not?

Why do you think God throws out seed to bad soil as well as to good soil?

If our job is to spread the message of God, should we have a plan that is more dependable than this farmer's plan? Why or why not? What might such a plan look like?

Even if we are very deliberate about where we 'sow the seeds' of God's message, we can't always control how people will receive it.

Do you think it is better to aim for just the good soil, so that we mainly bring the message to people who are ready to listen to it? Why or why not?

Do you think it is better to spend some time working the soil, so that dry, rocky or thorny areas might become more fertile and ready to accept the seed? Why or why not?

Not only are we asked to bring the seed of God's word to others, we are also asked to receive the seed of God's word from others.

When do you feel like the good soil, fertile and waiting for God's word to come to you and bring you new life?

When do you feel like dry, rocky or thorny soil, not ready for God's word to grow within you?