



*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 IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B 28TH JANUARY 2024

### First Reading: [Deuteronomy 18:15-20](#)

*I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.*

### Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.9](#)

*(R.) If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;  
hail the rock who saves us.  
Let us come before him, giving thanks,  
with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R.)**

Come in, let us kneel and bend low;  
let us kneel before the God who made us  
for he is our God and we  
the people who belong to his pasture,  
the flock that is led by his hand. **(R.)**

O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **(R.)**

### Second Reading: [1 Corinthians 7:32-35](#)

*The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord, that she might be holy.*

### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light:  
a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel: [Mark 1:21-28](#)

*This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.*



## REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Discipleship requires a change in us. We want to change because in so many ways we are being strangled to death by demons. We are caught in dysfunction and sin; we live in the midst of the battle between good and evil, the struggle of human finitude and failure. We are plunged into the throes of human suffering and pain, and there seems to be no escape.

The demonic seduces us in more ways than we can count and we are often caught in its web before we recognise what has happened. There have always been many and varied voices that claim to have the remedy for our ills. Preachers and politicians have stirred up crowds and ignited their emotions.

Promises have been made and predictions advanced, yet the conflict goes on, the demons continue to hold sway. The demon recognised the authority in the voice of Jesus. Do we recognise it?

When we are released by Jesus from the demons that possess us, we are freed from the stranglehold of evil and liberated to live far less encumbered and divided lives. No Earthly reality will possess us, neither relationships nor obligations nor even religious practices. Rather, we will be possessed by Christ who liberates us for the reign of God. Therefore, whether married or unmarried, whether in the midst of the community or at its margins, we will be able to heed the voice of God in our hearts and to recognise Jesus in our midst.



**Parish Priest**  
Fr Owen Gibbons

**Parish Deacons**  
Deacon Cong Va Hoang  
Deacon Charles Applin

**Parish Secretaries**  
Mrs Kristie Newman  
Ms Krista O'Brien

**Postal Address:**  
P.O Box 14 Mudgee NSW 2850  
**Phone:** 02 6372 2122

**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)

GULGONG ROSTER		
	4th February	11th February
Commentator	E. Donnelly	D.Kelly
Reader	C. Gaudry	C. Leotta
Sacristan	R. Saliba	R. Saliba
Leader	J. Thatcher	

**MUDGE ROSTER**  
Saturday 3rd Jan / Sunday 4th February 2024

Commentator	B. Petersen	A. Myles
First Reader	D. Cunningham	W. Bodycote
Second Reader	D. Cunningham	M. Bodycote
EMOC	C. Furney	M. Gilbert
Altar Server	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Music	Rachel	Jerry & Choir
Welcomer	C. Carberry	S. Walker
Offertory	D. Bennett	A. White
Sacristan	D. Cunningham	R. Gawthorne
Counter	Mon 29th	L. Nicholson

**Saturday 10th / Sunday 11th February 2024**

Commentator	C. Furney	G. Myles
First Reader	I. Byrne	E. de Vries
Second Reader	I. Byrne	B. Redden
EMOC	HELP NEEDED	R. Gawthorne
Altar Server	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Music	Rue & Barry	Jerry & Marianne
Welcomer	S. Walker	HELP NEEDED
Offertory	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Sacristan	A. Baker	R. Gawthorne
Counter	5th Feb	D. Donnelly
Bells	Mon - E. Goodlet Tue - R. Gawthorne Wed- J. Cooper Thu- I. Brown Fri - I. Brown Sat - I. Brown / Fr Owen Sun - R. Gawthorne	

**The Pope's Monthly Intentions for 2024**

**January - For the Gift of Diversity in the Church...**

We pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

**MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY**  
**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS... WE NEED YOUR HELP**

We are inviting you to volunteer to help with one or more ministries in our parish. Below, is some information about the some of the different Ministries. There is something for everyone.



We thank everyone who has volunteered in the past and urge you to re-commit for another year. We also encourage anyone who is volunteering for the first time or looking at a different ministry, there will be training provided for some of the ministries and plenty of support from the Parish Office. Commitment is for one year.



To recommitment for another year or volunteer for any ministry, please fill in a Ministries form which can be found at the back of the church.

**Scriptural context – The Messianic Secret**

A feature of the Gospel of Mark is an element of secrecy and confusion that surrounds Jesus' identity. He silences demons who would announce his identity and warns those he heals to be quiet about what has occurred. There is a real lack of understanding displayed by the disciples about who Jesus is. At one point, Jesus asks the disciples, 'who do you think I am?' They identify him as the Messiah but immediately demonstrate that they don't really understand what that means. The theme that runs through the gospel is a developing understanding of what it means that Jesus is the Messiah.

**Masses and prayers requested for the following.**

**For the recently deceased especially:**

David Allan, June Potts, Kathleen Meers.

**We remember the anniversaries of:**

Bill & Ruby Tandy, Richard Roberts, Carmel McDonald, Olga Bremer, Euriol Hill, Tammy Bull, Patrick O'Hare, Harold Clift, Floris Rearden, Michael Sgroi, Carlo Colaiacomo, Barry Fittler, Rosie Thomson.

**For the deceased, especially:**

Ante Poplasen, Sara Roche (Giligandra), Richard Loneragan, Joe Turner, Jackie Johnson, Fr Pat Ruane, Ted Jordan, Mons Peter Shannon, Maggie Swientek.

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

**Prayers requested for the sick:**

Paula Ryan (QLD), Angela Marakovic, Zvonko Glavacevic, Trevor Roberts (England), Maureen Hutchinson, Eleni Roberts, Tomislav Marakovic (Sydney), Iris McBeath, Tony Spina, Josephine Debattista, Margaret Doble, Tracy Donnelly, Elizabeth Donnelly, Joe Saliba, Graham Hawkins, Lynne Daly, Tony Harris, Carmel Thompson, Dennis Petersen, Rodrigo Jaboneta, and all those in our Nursing Homes.

DAY BY DAY	
<b>Mon, 29/1</b>	<b>Week 4 in Ordinary Time</b>
	Parish Office opens at 10am
<b>Tues, 30/1</b>	<b>Week 4 in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Mass</b> - Mudgee - Commissioning Mass for all involved in Youth education in our parish. All welcome
11.30am	Funeral - Mudgee - June Potts
12 Noon	Angelus
<b>Wed, 31/1</b>	<b>St John Bosco, priest - Memorial</b>
12 Noon	Angelus
5.20pm	Reconciliation
5.45pm	<b>Mass</b> - Mudgee
<b>Thu, 1/2</b>	<b>Week 4 in Ordinary Time</b>
9.30am	<b>Mass</b> - Mudgee
12 Noon	Angelus
2.00pm	Funeral - Mudgee - Kathleen Meers
5.30pm	Pastoral Council Meeting
<b>Fri, 2/2</b>	<b>The Presentation of the Lord</b>
10.30am	<b>Mass</b> - Opal Nursing Home
11.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12 noon	Angelus and the Rosary
12.30pm	<b>Mass</b> - Mudgee
<b>Sat, 27/1</b>	<b>Week 4 in Ordinary Time</b>
11.00am	Baptism
2.00pm	Wedding
5.15pm	Reconciliation
6.00pm	<b>Vigil Mass</b> - Mudgee
<b>Sun, 28/1</b>	<b>5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
9.00am	<b>Mass</b> - Mudgee
10.30am	<b>Communion Service</b> - Gulgong
11.00am	<b>Mass</b> - Kandos

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

There is a change of Mass time on Tuesday 30th January.

Mass will be at 9.00am.

All welcome.

**Expression of Interest  
Membership of Diocesan Finance Council**



The Diocesan Finance Council is an advisory council established by the Bishop in accordance with the code of canon law of the Catholic Church to advise him in the stewardship and administration of the temporal goods of the Diocese, in accordance with sound principles of financial administration and legal compliance.

The Council is made up of people of good character and judgement, committed to the Church and with experience in finance, law, banking, property development and administration.

Meetings are usually held four times a year, for a duration of 2-3 hours, with detailed papers prepared and circulated a week before the meeting.

Council Members also are allocated membership of the Standing Committees of the Council, being the Catholic Development Fund Investment & Audit Committee and the Property Committee.

The Bishop is seeking nominations of people to be considered for membership of the Council. You may nominate yourself or, with their consent, another person you think may be suitable.

A covering letter and curriculum vitae outlining the relevant skills and experiences of the nominee, including a reference from their Parish Priest, should be sent to the Diocesan Financial Administrator by email to [dfa@bathurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:dfa@bathurst.catholic.org.au). For further information, please call Patrick Cooper on 0419 460 404.

**Year 12 Prayer Partner Program**

As school returns this week and Year 12 enter their final terms of their schooling, we call on parishioners to become Prayer Partners for these students.

Prayer Partners journey with the Students from the beginning of the year through to HSC exam time. This program will give opportunities to not only pray for them but to also meet with them and get to know them over the year.

If you would like to be a part of this program, please fill in a Prayer Partner form at the back of the church.

*'When you take the time to pray for others,  
God finds the time to bless you.'*



## REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

### Profiting from Prophets

A major theme of the Scripture readings is 'Listen to the prophets'.

The passage from Deuteronomy is the basis of the Jewish belief that the Messiah, a saviour, would be a prophet like Moses. Christians see this belief fulfilled in Jesus.

The psalm calls us to greet the voice of the Lord and to listen with an open heart.

Paul serves as a pastor to the Christian community at Corinth. He calls them to look at their lives and at those things that get in the way of their relationship with Jesus. In effect, Paul is a prophet to that community and likewise serves as a prophet to us. The reading challenges us to promote good in our community and to promote that which will help us devote ourselves to the Lord.

In the passage from Mark's Gospel, Jesus expels a demon from a man. Jesus shows he has the authority to speak and act as a prophet sent by God. His exorcism of the demon demonstrates that good triumphs over evil. This miracle is the first of many Mark records to show both the authority and the compassion of Jesus. This passage also reveals the main work of Jesus – the work of forgiving, healing and teaching in the name of God.

### The prophet will speak in God's name

Z A V I R B Y Q M R C U M L E Y J  
 G B L Z R K G C A P E R N A U M B  
 D V G U W Z X C G S L L P W L J J  
 M E B G T O B E Y M A Y F U W G J  
 W V S A E D D E C O W I J G P Q U  
 C I A Y H W E V B H J Z P L B A M  
 V L B S P M O S L U F R E W O P L  
 T Q B R O B O M T Y U V J P X C H  
 B D A O R W W S E R C H O O S E Q  
 R A T W P S C A E S O G L M S K B  
 H N H J N R U C W S S Y S P N J F  
 A A U Z F A Z W F D W A E J G E V  
 D K V V D G Z G Y C E A G K P I I  
 A Q N T P D O Y E N K B L E N L I  
 N M Z E U Z Q B R Q D N V Y J N H  
 I E P O V I Y N H A I Z N J X J Z  
 X I Q A N S W E R H A I U A A H W

Try to find these words:

- |           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| answer    | Moses    |
| Capernaum | obey     |
| choose    | powerful |
| destroy   | prophet  |
| evil      | Sabbath  |
| message   | speak    |

## Sacraments 2024 Important Dates Mudgee

If you are considering the Sacrament of Confirmation or the Sacrament of First Holy Communion for your child in 2024, we

would like to extend a warm invitation to you to come along to a Parent/Carer Information Session as part of our preparation required for the sacramental journey of your child.

### SAVE THESE DATES

#### Confirmation

From Year 6 onwards  
 Thursday 7th March 12:30pm or  
 Tuesday 12th March 6.30pm

#### First Holy Communion

From Year 3 onwards  
 Thursday 25th July 12:30pm or  
 Tuesday 30th July 6.30pm

\*\* Please note that the journey for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be for Year 3 students onwards from 2023 \*\*

Further Information will be available on the Parish website ([mudgee.catholic.org.au](http://mudgee.catholic.org.au)) including registration, which is open now.

All enquiries to [sacraments.mudgee@cdob.org.au](mailto:sacraments.mudgee@cdob.org.au)

### Kandos

Please contact the Parish office on 6372-2122 or via email [office.mudgee@cdob.org.au](mailto:office.mudgee@cdob.org.au)

### Gulgong

If your child is at All Hallows, information regarding sacraments will be available via the school. If your child is not at All Hallows, please contact the Parish office on 6372-2122.

## Word & Faith

Come join the Word and Faith Group every Sunday from 5 pm to 6 pm in the Parish centre, where we delve into the Sunday scripture readings with great care.

Discover the meaning behind technical words, explore reflections, and uncover historical backgrounds to deepen your understanding of God's word.

*All are welcome to join and learn together!*

### St Mary's Craft and Friendship Group

The St Mary's Craft and Friendship Group meet every Wednesday from 10am in the Parish Centre. If you would like more information, coming and join them for some craft, a cup of tea and a chat. All welcome.

Reading for next Sunday: FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

Job 7:1-4. 6-7

Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3

1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23

Mark 1:29-39