

*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 EASTER—YEAR B 7TH APRIL 2024 OF DIVINE MERCY

**First Reading:** [Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35](#)  
*The whole group was united, heart and soul.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** [Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24. R. v.1](#)  
**(R.) Give thanks to the Lords for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.'  
Let the sons of Aaron say:  
'His love has no end.'  
Let those who fear the Lord say:  
'His love has no end.' **(R.)**

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds.  
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,  
but not doomed to die. **(R.)**

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.  
This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad. **(R.)**

**Second Reading:** [1 John 5:1-6](#)  
*Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.*

**Gospel Acclamation:**  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;  
happy are those who have not seen me, but still  
believe! Alleluia!

**Gospel:** [John 20:19-31](#)  
*After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.*

## Reflection

By Nick Brodie



'In reality,' Pope Francis points out, 'Thomas is not the only one who struggles to believe. In fact,' the Pope adds, 'he represents all of us a little bit.' But Thomas does not only represent us with his explicitly articulated doubt. Rather, Thomas highlights our tendency to walk away. Thomas had absented himself from the community. Returning, he seems a touch transactional: Show me the proof, then I'll commit!

As Pope Francis highlights, Jesus answers Thomas' doubt 'in front of everyone, in the community.' It was, the Pope suggests, as if Jesus was telling Thomas that 'if you want to meet me, do not search far away; remain in our community, with the others, and don't go away. Pray with them. Break bread with them.' Be open to encounter, not closed to possibilities.

This, evidently, is a lesson for us too. Every Christian generation is called to find the Risen Christ together. We belong with each other, with Christ forming a mystical unity out of our diversity.

In this, the story of Thomas has another lesson for the Church. We Christians are called to be a welcoming people. 'Let us ask ourselves,' the Pope suggests, 'if in the name of Jesus' wounds, we are willing to open our arms to those who are wounded by life, excluding no one from God's mercy but welcoming everyone.'

After all, despite his attitude Thomas was still included and welcomed by the community whose testimony he doubted. Even more pointedly, Our Lord opens his exchange with the doubter with some clearly welcoming words: 'Peace be with you.'

© Nick Brodie

**Parish Priest**  
Fr Owen Gibbons

**Parish Deacons**  
Rev Cong Va Hoang  
Rev 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:**  
Ph 02 6372 1742  
**Principal:** Mrs Angela Myles  
[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		
	14th April	21st April
Commentator	J. Thatcher	D. Kelly
Reader	B. Toole	C. Leotta
Sacristan	R. Saliba	M.&E. Carney
Leader		

Mudgee Roster		
Saturday 13th/ Sunday 14th April 2024		
Commentator	D. Cunningham	M. Matthews
First Reader	C. Furney	L. Croake
Second Reader	M. Dorney	J. Tiosecco
EMOC	A. Fergus	R. Croake
Altar Server	Maeve	Haddie
Music		
Welcomer	S. Walker	M. Dunnachie
Offertory	D. Bennett	A. White
Children's Liturgy		
Sacristan	L. Robinson	R. Gawthorne
Counter	8th April	E. Goodlet

Saturday 20th/ Sunday 21st April 2024		
Commentator	C. Furney	M. Dunnachie
First Reader	P. Cannon	M. Bodycote
Second Reader	Iris Bryne	W. Bodycote
EMOC	D. Cunningham	R. Gawthorne
Altar Server	Nicko and Han	Sebella
Music		
Welcomer	K. Isbester	S. Walker
Offertory	M. Dorney	M. Gilbert
Children's Liturgy		
Sacristan	K. Wall	R. Gawthorne
Counter	15th April	L. Nicholson
Bells	Mon—E. Goodlet Tue—R. Gawthorne Wed—J. Cooper Thu—I. Browne Fri— I. Browne Sat— I. Browne/Fr Owen Sun—R. Gawthorne	

**Project Compassion**  
 Please return all Project Compassion envelopes by Friday 5th April.  
 Envelopes can be placed on the collection plate or hand in at the office.

**MILITARY ITEMS** found recently in the grounds of St. Mary's. Please contact the Parish office for more information.

**Word & Faith**

The group meets on Sunday evenings at 5pm in the Parish Centre, Mudgee. All welcome.




**RISE Youth Festival** is for young people in Years 6 to 9 (anyone in Years 10-12 can be involved as a youth team member). The Diocesan Youth Ministers facilitate a festival full of fun, friendship, small group challenges, workshops, games, music and lots of opportunities to encounter Jesus.  
 Register: <https://forms.gle/YcotbpziseTt8ThY6>

**The Pope's Monthly Intentions 2024**  
**April—For the Role of Women**  
 We pray that the dignity and immense value of women by recognised in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in parts of the world.

DAY BY DAY	
<b>Mon, 8/4</b>	<b>The ANNUNCIATION of the LORD</b>
	Parish Office opens at 10am
12 noon	Regina Coeli
<b>Tue, 9/4</b>	<b>Second Week of Easter</b>
9.30am	Mass —Mudgee
12 noon	Regina Coeli
<b>Wed, 10/4</b>	<b>Second Week of Easter</b>
10.40am	Yr12 and Prayer Partner Mass SMCS Secondary Campus Chapel
12 noon	Regina Coeli
	<b>No MASS</b>
<b>Thu, 11/4</b>	<b>St Stanislaus, bishop, martyr</b>
9.30am	Communion Service - Mudgee
12 noon	Regina Coeli
<b>Fri, 12/4</b>	<b>Second Week of Easter</b>
12 noon	Regina Coeli
12.30pm	Communion Service - Mudgee
6.00pm	Ordinations—Cathedral of St Michael & St. John Baturst
<b>Sat, 13/4</b>	<b>Second Week of Easter</b>
11.00am	Baptisms
1.00pm	Wedding
5.30pm	Reconciliation
6.00pm	Mass—Mudgee
<b>Sun, 14/4</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>
9.00am	Mass—Mudgee
10.30am	Mass - Gulgong
10.30am	Communion Service - Kandos

**St Matthews "Bright Beginnings" Playgroup Sessions**



We invite all families with children who are commencing school in 2025 to attend our playgroup sessions. Our program will run for 4 weeks, on a Wednesday (29th May, 5th, 12th and 19th June).

Please book via:  
 Our school website <https://stmattsmudgee.catholic.edu.au/>  
 or on the post on our Facebook page.

Bookings now open on **Monday, 25th March 2024.**

**JOKE JUNCTION.....**  
 How do you know if there is an elephant under your bed?  
*Your nose is touching the ceiling.*

**KANDOS NEWS**

Prayer meeting will be postponed until 6 June.

Donations are being accepted for a new organ for St. Malachy's church, Rylstone. Donations will be acknowledged. Please contact Fr. Owen or the Parish Office.

**Save the Date**

St Vincent de Paul thanksgiving Mass on 4th August at 11am at Kandos. Celebrating over 90 years of Caring in our area.

**GULGONG NEWS**

Thank you to all the people who cleaned the church for Easter, God bless you for your generosity.

**SACRISTANS** - Due to ill health etc we are appealing for people to come forward and assist as Sacristans, to help prepare the church for Mass. Please consider helping with this ministry. Just give your name to Merilyn Carney or Carolyn Holland. Training will be provided.

**MUDGEE NEWS**

Due to Fr Owen attending a Inservice next week, there will be no Mass on Wednesday and a Communion Service on Thursday and Friday.

The Parish Office will close early on Friday 12th April for the Ordinations.

Saturday Night Mass will move to 5pm from 4th May.

**MASSES AND PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING.**

**For the recently deceased especially:**

Fr Jim Wilkins, Fr. Paul Jennings MSC, Luzviminda Vicedo, Monica Monds, Michael O'Shea, Belinda Holden.

**We remember the anniversaries of:**

Konrad Kebel, Vera Przegalinski, Isabella Boehm, Joan Gallagher, Patricia Morrison, Mavis Whale, Nene Arn, Thelma Power, William Stewart, Margaret Wilson, Bruce Rayner, Charles Blackert, Trevor Robinson, Charles Lee, Ivan Dinjes, Joan Mckerchar.

**For the deceased, especially:**

Marie & Norm Attrill, Jackie Johnston, Clem Robinson, David Kiddle, Boyd-Skinner family members, Michael Azar, Judy Keightley, Owen Milton, Mal Whiteley, Dave Doyle, Bradley Quinn, Pat O'Reilly, Maria Valentic, Nancy Comer, Michael Ellis, Rita Ottley, Stjepan (Steve) Knezevic, Maureen Hutchison, Maggie Swientek.

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

**Prayers requested for the sick:**

Carla Perrotto, Carmen Archer, Trish Buckley, Warwick Gleeson, Doreen Wurth, Horace Saliba, Joe Saliba, June Ritar, Paula Ryan (QLD), Tony Spina, Elizabeth Donelly, Tracy Donelly, Angela Marakovic, Zvonko Glavacevic, Trevor Roberts (England), Iris McBeath, Graham Hawkins, Josephine Debaksta, Tomislav Marakovic (Sydney), Lynne Daly, Tony Harris, Carmel Thompson, Kim Barry, Dennis Petersen, Rodrigo Jaboneta, and all those in our Nursing Homes.



**INVITATION**

The Catholic Diocese of Bathurst joyfully announces that **the Most Reverend Bishop Michael McKenna** will ordain

Deacon Cong Van Hoang and Deacon Duong *to the Order of the Priesthood*

Mass at 6 PM on **Friday 12 April 2024**  
In the **Cathedral of St. Michael and St. John**,  
William Street, Bathurst

You are invited for light refreshments in the Mother Ignatius Croke Centre (Cathedral Precinct) after Mass

The Thanksgiving Mass of the newly ordained priests will be celebrated

at 9AM on Saturday 13 April  
In the Cathedral of St. Michael and St. John

You are welcome to join Fr. Cong and Fr. Duong for refreshments afterward in the Mother Ignatius Croke Centre



**Art and Prayer Weekend at Shalom**

*"Welcoming the Source of Stillness Through Art Making"*

**12-14 APRIL 2024**

This retreat will give you a path throughout the weekend, to feel and see your world; Your outer world your inner world. You will be led over the weekend exploring the theme, "Welcoming the Source of Stillness Through Art Making". Your facilitator will be Kate Thornley, an experienced Spiritual Director and qualified Art Therapist.

Come along and be refreshed by your inner creative world and maybe, just maybe, be surprised by all the beauty your inner world can reveal to you.

*(No experience of art making is needed)*

**When:** Friday 12th April @ 6:00pm to Sunday 14 April @ 2:00 PM

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

**To Book:** Scan QR Code  
**Ph:** 02 63673058 or  
**email:** shalomcarcoar@gmail.com



## REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

### The Voice of Thomas

A major theme of the Scripture readings is 'Jesus in the flesh'.

The reading from Acts reflects the powerful effect the Resurrection had on individual believers and on the Christian community. It describes a Christian community in which everyone shares what they have with others. Bearing witness is much more important than collecting wealth. They act with one heart and one mind, and the Spirit is at work in their ministry.

The psalm is a prayer of thanksgiving for God's mercy. The first verse emphasises again and again that God's mercy endures forever. The psalmist finds courage in the Lord even when the psalmist feels he is falling. Again we hear, like last week, that the cornerstone that was once rejected is now the most essential of all.

The second reading shows us that faith and love are inseparable in the life of a Christian. Faith can overcome the evil in the world. The love of Christians for one another reflects the love of God. The water and blood mentioned here allude to the waters of baptism and the blood of the Crucifixion.

In last Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus' followers found an empty tomb, with no sign of Jesus. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus comes to them later that night and stands before them, even though the doors are locked. The first words Jesus says are, 'Peace be with you.' As additional evidence that it is really he who suffered and died, he shows them the wounds in his hands and side. Then Jesus sends them forth to forgive the sins of others. He promises them the gift of the Holy Spirit so that they will be the 'flesh' of Jesus to carry on his mission.

Thomas isn't there the first time Jesus appears, and he has trouble believing what he is told. A week later Jesus appears again with the same greeting, 'Peace be with you.' Jesus shows Thomas his wounds. At once, Thomas confesses his faith. Jesus blesses those who believe without seeing – Christians such as ourselves.



**Thomas had doubts about Jesus being alive. He wanted to see Jesus' hands and side before he would believe that Jesus had come back to life. Re-arrange the tiles to discover the important message Jesus gave to Thomas.**

me and yet

they believe.

those who h

Blessed are

ave not seen

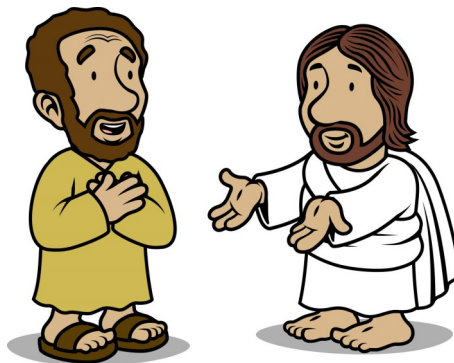





#### Scriptural context –

##### Not an ending?

The final two verses of today's gospel passage (Jn 20:30-31) read like the conclusion to the whole gospel. They are a statement of finality about the purpose for writing the gospel and something of a blessing for those who read it. Yet, surprisingly, there is another whole chapter that follows this passage that deals with still more post-resurrection appearances. Most scripture scholars believe that the end of Chapter 20 was the original ending of the gospel and that Chapter 21 is a later addition – possibly added by the community for whom the gospel was originally written.



#### Have you thought?

##### Those who have not seen

Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we – blessed are we – who have not seen and yet still believe!

Reading for next Sunday: **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15. 17-19

Ps 4:2. 4. 7. 9. R. v.7

1 John 2:1-5

Luke 24:35-48