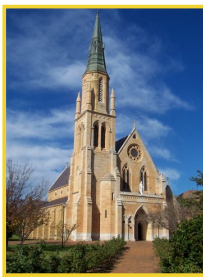


*The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!*



## 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.



## Third Sunday of Lent Year C - 24th March 2019

### Parish Priest

Fr Owen Gibbons

### Seminarian

Mr Karl Sinclair

**Deacon** Charles Applin (Kandos)

### Parish Secretaries

Mrs Patti Kiddle

Mrs Kristie Newman

**Pastoral Council:** Mrs Julie Keipert (President)

Email: [centaur3@bigpond.com](mailto:centaur3@bigpond.com)

**Postal Address:** P.O Box 14 Mudgee NSW 2850

**Phone:** 02 6372 2122 **Fax:** 02 6372 6700

**Email:** [office.mudgee@cdob.org.au](mailto:office.mudgee@cdob.org.au)

**Website:**

### Parish Office Hours

**Monday**

10.00am - 1.00pm : 2.00pm - 4.00pm

**Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri**

9.00am - 1.00pm : 2.00pm - 4.00pm

### OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

**St Matthews Catholic School Mudgee:**

**Principal:** Mr Jason Hanrahan Ph 02 63721742

[stmattsmudgee@bth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmattsmudgee@bth.catholic.edu.au)

**All Hallows Catholic School Gulgong:**

**Principal:** Ms Katrina Isbester Ph 02 63741582

[allhallowsgulgong@bth.catholic.org.au](mailto:allhallowsgulgong@bth.catholic.org.au)

[www.allhallowsgulgong.catholic.edu.au](http://www.allhallowsgulgong.catholic.edu.au)

### First Reading:

Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15

*This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.*

**Responsorial Psalm** 102: 1-4, 6-8, 11. R. v. 8

**All: The Lord is kind and merciful.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **(R)**

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R)**

The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons. **(R)**

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. **(R)**

### Second Reading:

Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12

*All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.*

### Gospel Acclamation:

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

### Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9

*Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.*

### Memorial Acclamation:

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

## REFLECTION Dianne Bergant CSA

One major theme emerges from today's readings: incomprehensibility of God. We see it in the mysterious divine name, which distinguishes the God of Israel from all others and yet leaves us in the dark as to its meaning. We see it as God communicates with us through inanimate objects and the people in our lives. Finally, we see that God both pardons iniquities and decides to root out unfruitful branches, and we are confused by such inconsistency.

In the midst of this ambiguity we have one sure source of stability – Christ. It is Christ who reveals the nature and meaning of the divine name; it is Christ who intercedes for us before God. Christ, the one who set his face toward Jerusalem, there to suffer and die, is the great messenger through whom God is revealed. He is the one who reveals majesty through the simplicity of a bush; he is the one who judges with the patience of a gardener. However, the limits of the experience and mercy of God in our lives are defined by our own openness. Despite the blessings that we receive in the wildernesses of our lives, it could happen that God is not pleased with us. We must not take God's goodness for granted.

These readings close on a note of caution. Take care! We might be able to rest secure in the knowledge of the love and mercy of God, but these readings tell us that we should not dare to rest passively or complacently.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

DAY BY DAY

Monday, 25th March

No Service

1.30pm Requiem Mass Mudgee - Pat Leonard

Tuesday, 26th March

9.00am Mass

11.00am Graveside Service Una Cunningham - Gulgong

5.00pm St Vincent Conference Meeting at the Centre

Wednesday, 27th March

9.30am St Mary's Craft Group

4.00 - 5.00pm Holy Hour

5.00pm Mass

Thursday, 28th March

9.10am Mass Mudgee

9.15am Conversions about Catholics

11.00am Funeral Service Mudgee - Michael Power

2.00pm Funeral Service Rylstone - Marie Thirtle

Friday, 29th March

10.00am Lenten Program Kandos

12 - 12.15pm Reconciliation

12.30pm Mass

Saturday, 30th March

5.15pm- 5.45pm Reconciliation Mudgee

6:00pm: Vigil Mass Mudgee

Sunday, 31st March

Fourth Sunday of Lent Yr C

9.00am Mass Mudgee - Children's Liturgy

10.30am Gulgong - Sunday Service in the Absence of the Priest.

10.30am Rosary Kandos

11.00am Kandos

Saturday 30th & Sunday 31th March 2019

Commentator	A. Mclean	M. Matthews
Readers	K. Fitzsimmons L. Nicholson	S. Bennett M. Dunnachie
Special Ministers of Communion	A. Baker J. Vros D. Cunningham	R. Gawthorne J. Keipert M. Devitt
Offertory Procession	J. Goodlet K. Isbester	M. Dunnachie
Welcomers	K. Isbester D. Bennett	G. Stokes M. Charlesworth
Altar Servers	E. English M. English B. Scotti	M. Halpin E. Halpin J. Iversen
Counters	1/4 E. Goodlet D. Bennett	8/4 D. Holden
Children's Liturgy		J. Van Digglen L. Rodgers

Gulgong Liturgy Roster	31st March 2019	Kandos/Rylstone Liturgy Roster	31st March 2019
Leader	D. Kelly		
Commentator	M. O'Brien		
Reader	P. Leotta	Readers	M. Turner Sr Kath
Offertory		Intercessions	C. D'Ilio
Special Minister of Communion	C. Holland M. Carney	Special Minister of Communion	L. McPherson A. Krusvar
Sacristan	E. Donnelly G. Ausburn	Sacristan	Sr Kath H. Roberts



Baptism

We welcome to the Parish Family **Parker John Statham** son of Lewis and Brooke baptised in our parish this weekend.

The Eucharist ... is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.

Evangelii Gaudium (2013) 47

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

**We pray for the recently deceased especially**

Pat Leonard, Byrant and Yvonne McGrath (Gymea), Michael Power (Syd), Una Cunningham, Kelvin Huitt (Camden), Mark O'Brien, Marie Thirtle.

**We remember the anniversaries of** David Lawson, Jean Price, Geoffrey Gleeson and Wyatt & Graham Harris

**We also pray for the soul of** Marta Smieszek, Joe Swintek, Marakovic Family and Ivan, Agneza Fero and Jack Barrett.

**Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are sick at this time:** Anna Swientek, Eliza Vasilis (Syd), Barbara Robertson (Newcastle), Sr Janet Heath (North Richmond), Anton Blazavic, Joe Saliba, Jennifer Ryan, Mia O'Dwyer, Tony Petchell, Anne Stayner, Sue Melinz, Roseanne Telfer, Ursula Smieszek, Jasmine Prada, Dennis Donnelly, Tony Gillham, Melinda Drew, Jason Seis, Mary Cannon, Margaret Tuxford Spicer, Julie Collins, Michael 'Tex' Gillham. All the residents in our Nursing Homes.



## Mudgee News: Annual General Meeting



St Mary's Parish Pastoral Council as been postponed, due to unexpected circumstances. The AGM will now held on Wednesday, 3rd April at 5.30pm

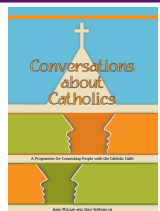
SMALL MONEY PURSE - LEFT IN MUDGEE CHURCH AFTER THE SATURDAY VIGIL MASS A FEW WEEKS AGO. PLEASE IDENTIFY AND COLLECT FROM THE PARISH OFFICE.

**Mudgee Josephite Associates** next meeting Friday 5th April after 12.30pm Mass.

Josephite meeting Wellington Saturday 6th April - meet at the presbytery carpark 8.00am Details contact Angela 0421354712

### GULGONG NEWS:

**GCWG STREET STALL**, Friday 12th April. All donations gratefully received. Contact Phyllis 0447741256.



## Conversations About Catholics It's not too late to join in.

The first of four sessions was held last Thursday.

The conversations are about many aspects of the Catholic faith, tradition and rituals. It is particularly helpful for families where parents have children who will participating in the sacramental program, where one parent is non Catholic and wishes to understand what is being taught at school.

**The sessions continue next Thursday 28th March, 9.15am in St Mary's Parish Centre.**

*Join us in these relaxed sessions.....*

**Please contact the Parish Office on 6372-2122 to RSVP.**



Like us on Facebook  
keep up with what is happening in the parish.

Find us .....

St Mary of the Presentation Catholic Church - Mudgee

## Living the Gospel

### Bad Things/Good People

*Today's gospel taps in to the vexing question: 'Why do bad things happen to good people?' The question implies that God is punishing good people. Surprisingly, this attitude continues and one only has to watch news coverage of a tragedy to hear someone ask, 'How could God let this happen?' The very question suggests a belief in a God who interferes in our lives and manipulates events. Jesus suggests that tragic events are not punishment from God, but the accidental, deliberate or natural event does provide a reminder to turn our lives around and live lives that matter.*



### Pope's Universal Prayer Intention for March

### Evangelization – Christian Communities

That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

### Dates for the Diary

#### 4th April

1.30pm & 7.00pm First Holy Communion Parent Session Mudgee

#### 6th April

Josephine Associates meeting in Wellington.

**6.00pm** First Holy Communion Enrolment - Mudgee

#### 7th April

9.00am First Holy Communion Enrolment - Mudgee

#### 13th April

6.00pm First Holy Communion Enrolment - Mudgee

#### 14th April

9.00am Palm Sunday - Procession from the Anglican Church - Mudgee  
First Holy Communion Enrolment - Mudgee

#### 18th April

Holy Thursday  
6.00pm Mass of the Last Supper - Mudgee

#### 19th April

Good Friday  
11.00am Stations of the Cross - Mudgee  
3.00pm Liturgy of the Passion with Holy Communion

#### 20th April

Holy Saturday  
6.00pm Easter Vigil Mass

#### 21st April

Easter Sunday  
Mass time to be confirmed

#### 25th April

Anzac Day  
9.00am Anzac Day Mass - Mudgee

#### 2nd May

3.30pm First Holy Communion Parent Session Gulgong

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

Joshua 5: 9-12

Ps 33: 2-7. R. v. 9

Corinthians 5: 17-21

Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

**THERE'S A WILDERNESS IN GOD'S MERCY**

There's a wideness in God's mercy  
like the wideness of the sea,  
and for forgiveness in his justice  
sealed for us on Calvary.

There is plentiful redemption through  
the blood that Christ has shed;  
there is joy for all the members  
in the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader  
than the measures of the mind;  
and the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.

But we make his love to narrow  
by false limits of our own,  
and we magnify his strictness  
with a zeal he will not own.

Restless souls, why do you scatter  
like a crowd of frightened sheep?  
Foolish hearts, why do you wander  
from a love so true and deep?  
If our love were but more simple  
we should take him at his word;  
and our lives would be illumined  
by the goodness of the Lord.

Frederick William Faber 1814-1863.alt  
IN BABILONE 87.87D; Oude En Nieuwe Hollanste Boerenlietesc. 1710.  
Used with permission One Licence A-728653

**Third Sunday of Lent**

Peter goes to a boarding school in the Solomon Islands which has experienced water shortages for 60 years. Previously, students would have to walk kilometres each day in search of clean water, which was particularly challenging for Peter who is living with a disability. With Caritas Australia's support, the school has created a new reliable water system. With more free time and fewer illnesses caused by dirty water, Peter can fulfil his hope of focusing on his studies, providing him with brighter future.



**Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help young people with disabilities gain access to clean water in the Solomon Islands, providing hope for a brighter future.**

**Lives change when we all give 100%.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

The Church evangelises and is herself evangelised through the beauty of the liturgy, which is both a celebration of the task of evangelisation and the source of her renewed self-giving.

Evangelii Gaudium (2013) 24

**GOSPEL CONNECTIONS**

I have a good priest friend who never gives up on people. He worked for some time in Melbourne's inner city and even let homeless gang members live with him while they put their lives back together. Those kids had lived tough lives and had done some bad things, but my friend was always able to see their potential and, regardless of the mistakes they had made, worked hard to help them develop it.



That's the point of Jesus' fig-tree parable. God is the patient gardener, advising the landowner against cutting down the tree. God promises to fertilise it. Give it time – it just needs a little help.

It's nice to know that's how God deals with us. Too often I give up on people. I think they can't change. Or, I look at how hard it is for me to change sinful habits and I want to

give up on myself. During those times Penance and Reconciliation can be good for me. The sacrament reminds me about God's patience with me and God's willingness to "fertilise" me so that I grow. God fertilises us through prayer, Mass, service, and friends with similar values. Penance and Reconciliation also remind me to show God's mercy to others.

Finally, it often reminds me that I can fertilise the lives of others by listening and caring about them without judgment, as well as by challenging their behaviour lovingly when they are on the wrong track.

Lent is a good time to add some fertiliser to your life. And celebrating Penance and Reconciliation can be a great gardening technique.

***How could an honest conversation about life with a respected adult help a young person grow?***