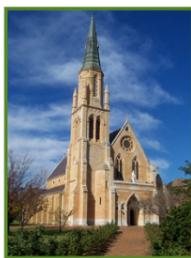


The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!



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 of Lent - Year A: 22nd March 2020

Parish Priest

Fr Owen Gibbons

Assistant Priest

Fr Dong Van Nguyen

Parish Deacon

Deacon Charles Applin

Parish Secretaries

Mrs Patti Kiddle

Mrs Kristie Newman

Pastoral Council: Mrs Julie Keipert
(President)

Postal Address: P.O Box 14 Mudgee
NSW 2850

Phone: 02 6372 2122

Fax: 02 6372 6700

Email: office.mudgee@cdob.org.au

Website:

www.mudgee.catholic.org.au

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: Mrs Angela Myles

Ph 02 63721742

stmattsmudgee@bth.catholic.edu.au

All Hallows Catholic School Gulgong:

Principal: Mr Bradley Toole

Ph 02 63741582

<https://ahcpsgulgong.schoolzine.com>

First Reading:

1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22 R. v.1

Response:

***The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.***

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading:

Ephesians 5:8-14

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory.

Gospel: John 9: 1-41

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

Memorial Acclamation:

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection You have set us free.

COVID-19 VIRUS

IF YOU ARE AWARE OF ANY ELDERLY PERSON, OR SOMEONE LIVING ALONE THAT MAY NEED SOME ASSISTANCE DURING THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES PLEASE CONTACT ST VINCENT DE PAUL 63722232 OR THE PARISH OFFICE 63722122.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Spittle and Mud



Our Lord, by the power of his word alone, could have healed the disease of this man, blind since birth. Yet, he made a paste with spittle and put it over the eyes of the blind man. Just as God would have moistened the dust of the earth to shape the first human being, for the blind man, it was as though he had been created anew.

God rarely works by telepathy but has a preferred way of working through the elements of creation, especially in the Sacraments. So, with the Anointing of the Sick, pressing olive oil onto the forehead and hands of the sick or dying symbolises the Holy Spirit entering the very pores of the sick person, relieving that person of undue anxiety and giving strength for the next stage of life.

This sacrament is a formal ritual of healing by the Church. But there are a million informal ways, such as putting one's arm around someone who is lonely or unwell, which are sacramental to the world.

We could pause for a moment that we might go into the world like the man healed by Jesus, eyes wide open to see where we might exercise the healing power of the Lord of the Gospel.

© Fr Michael Tate

DAY BY DAY

Monday 23rd March

No Service

Tuesday 24th March

9.00am Mass Mudgee

Wednesday 25th March

Feast of the Annunciation

4.00pm Holy Hour (In the Church)

5.00pm Mass Mudgee

Thursday 26th March

9.10am Mass Mudgee

Friday 27th March

12.15pm Reconciliation Mudgee

12.30pm Mass Mudgee

Saturday 28th March

5.15pm- 5.45pm Reconciliation Mudgee

6:00pm Vigil Mass Mudgee

Sunday 29th March

9.00am Mass Mudgee

10.30am Gulgong

Celebration of the Word with Communion

11.00am Mass Kandos



We welcome to the parish community **Hallie Constance Hundy** daughter of Clare and Luke who was baptised at Rylstone last Sunday.

Rhys Jimmy Martin Blackwell son of Paul and Iris who was baptised in Mudgee this weekend.

Pope Francis - Universal Prayer for March Catholics in China

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

Thought for the week....

**If everything around you seems dark,
look again, you may be the light.**

Mudgee Liturgy Roster 28th / 29th March 2020

Commentator	B.Petersen	M.McLean
Readers	L.Nicholson S.Abbey	J.Keipert M.Cassidy
Special Ministers of Communion	I.Byrne D.Cunningham A.Baker	E.Cahill C.Dawson R.Gawthorne
Offertory Procession	< NO OFFERTORY	PROCESSION >
Welcomers	< NO	WELCOMING >
Altar Servers	J.Williams	A & E Littler A.Freeman
Counters	23/3 D.Holden D.Donnely	30/3 E.Goodlet R.Gawthorne

THE ROSTERS MAY NOT BE AS PRINTED DUE TO THE CURRENT SITUATION. WE WILL JUST NEED TO HELP OUT WHERE POSSIBLE.

Gulgong Liturgy Roster	Sunday 29th March 2020	Rylstone Liturgy Roster	Sunday 29th March 2020
Commentator	P. Leotta		
Reader	S. Parnell	Readers	A.Krusvar P.O'Connor
Offertory		Intercessions	T.Ryan
Special Minister of Communion	R. Saliba J. Thatcher	Special Minister of Communion	Sr Kath. K.Morrissey
Sacristan	R. Saliba H. Seymour	Sacristan	H.Roberts

Masses and prayers requested for the following:

For the recently deceased especially Rick Tompsett.

We remember the anniversaries of David Lawson, Hazel Slater Pat Milton, Marie Thirtle, Brian Power.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are sick at this time: Betty Price, Jacki Smith, Maria Brec, Brian Constable (Sth Coast), Barbara McCann (Blacktown), Brian Kurtz, Sylvia O'Brien, Vicky Gaffney, Anthony Spina, Eliza Vasilis, Julie Collins, Marg Doble, Anna Swientek, Elizabeth Donnelly, Tony Gillham, Ursula Smieszek, Jasmine Prada, Jason Seis, Mary Cannon and all those in our nursing homes.

A Faith
Response to
the Covid-19

Don't be afraid,
I am with you

The coronavirus outbreak is stirring up anxiety, confusion, and major inconveniences. It is a situation in which we can easily over-react or under-react. How can our faith tradition guide and comfort us through this troubling time?

A good starting point is to remember that the most repeated phrase in scripture is "Do not be afraid!" or "Have no fear!"

God probably sends us this message so frequently because fear is such a big part of human nature. Fear can alert us to dangers in our lives to keep us safe, but fear can also lead us astray, toward selfish responses.

Used with permission GPBS

PROCEDURES DURING THE CURRENT COVID-19 VIRUS
MUDGE, GULGONG AND KANDOS PARISHES
20th March, 2020

On advise from the Australian Government Department of Health regarding COVID-19 and inline with Bishop Michael's letter (back page) the following arrangements are in place. This could change in the future as the situation unfolds. We will try to keep you informed via our Facebook and PARISH web page.

- # **Mass will continue as usual in our churches** - however, **if you are vulnerable, have a cough or cold PLEASE DO NOT COME** to minimise the risk. The elderly, if they wish are advised to come to weekday Mass where there are fewer people gathered or pray at home. Alternately it is also possible to pray and follow Mass online at <https://www.youtube.com/user/cathnews> or watch Songs of Praise on the ABC at 11.30am Sunday morning.
- # **All School Masses** and gatherings are **cancelled until further notice.**
- # The **Parish Sacramental Programs are suspended** at this time - further updates will be provided later in the year.
- # **All parish meetings** for our three parishes - **are suspended** until further notice - e.g. Catholic Women's Group, Craft Group, Children's Liturgy, Pastoral Council, Alpha, and hospitality after Masses.
- # **Palm Sunday Ecumenical Service - cancelled.** Further updates on Easter Services will be provided by Bishop Michael as they come to hand.
- # **Hymn Books will no longer be used** during Mass until further notice.
- # The usual two **collections at Mass will not be taken up** due to excessive handling. The **collections will be via one box available as you come into the church** and also made available after Mass where you can place your offerings. Alternately they can be dropped off at the Parish Office during the week or if you would like to move to Credit card/Direct Debit the staff can assist with this.
- # There will be **no welcomers or offertory processions** for the time being.
- # You are invited to take a bulletin from the holder with you for Mass and take it home with you. **PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE BULLETINS ON THE SEATS OR PUT BACK IN THE HOLDER** AS A PRECAUTION AND COURTESY TO FELLOW PARISHIONERS.
- # **All Nursing Home Masses and Visitation of Special Ministers of Communion are suspended** until further notice.

PLEASE NOTE: If you or a family member are unwell and would like Father to visit and administer the Sacrament of the Sick and Communion, please don't hesitate to contact the parish office. If unanswered please leave a message and we will get back to you.



A Letter from Bishop McKenna to the People of the Diocese - COVID-19

Dear Friends in Christ,

Slowing the spread of Covid-19 has required an unprecedented response from our public health authorities. We need to trust their expert judgment and cooperate together with their advice and directives. As Christians, we pray especially for the elderly and vulnerable and for healthcare workers and all who are on the front line in this emergency. I am just back from Vietnam, so have gone into self isolation at Matthew Quinn House for two weeks. Although I arrived home before the legal requirement came into effect, I have thought it prudent to observe the spirit of the public health directive.

As you know, our usual life has already been disrupted, including the routines of worshipping God together. I want to update you on the latest precautions we have had to take:

1. The latest directive from the public health authorities is that indoor gatherings of more than 100 persons are prohibited. This means that attendance at each Sunday Mass must be limited to that number, unless the Mass is celebrated outdoors.

In small communities this will not be a problem, but each larger parish is making its own plans to deal with the situation there. People should check with their parish website or office to find out how they will be affected.

At this time, it would be advisable for elderly parishioners to celebrate Mass on weekdays, rather than on Sunday.

It is also possible to pray and follow Mass online at <https://www.youtube.com/user/cathnews>

2. Special announcements regarding the celebration of Holy Week and Easter will be made according to the developing situation.
3. Attendance at funerals will need to be limited to close family and friends.
4. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will continue to be administered individually to those who need it, but Anointing Masses are suspended until further notice.

Check with your parish priest about arrangements for the other Sacraments during this time.

May I close with a prayer of St Patrick, the patron of our Diocese:

Lord, I praise and proclaim your name in all places, not only when things go well but also in times of stress. Whether I receive good or ill, I return thanks equally to God, who taught me always to trust him unreservedly.

Our Lady of the Central West, St Patrick and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.

Yours in Christ,

+Michael McKenna
Bishop of Bathurst

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Ps129. v 7

Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45