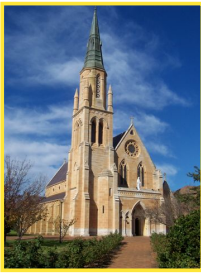


The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!



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 A 19th April 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

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>

Dear Parishioners,

Our Easter celebrations this year have been like no other as we have been unable to pray together in our churches or travel to visit our families and friends, except through social media. I hope, none the less, your Easter has been joyful and prayerful as each day we celebrate the great gift of our God's love for us in Jesus. Our faith celebrations of the Lords resurrection were not just for the Easter long weekend but is a season of celebration. We continue to reflect, pray and daily live out the good news of Jesus's resurrection spanning fifty days.

In our daily masses we are made aware through the scripture readings that the early disciples found it hard to believe that Jesus was alive. The four gospels which give us accounts of his resurrection from the writers various perspectives, like the sides of a beautiful diamond, enrich our own reflection on our faith. The first readings are from the Acts of the Apostles, which gives an account of the growth of the early church. All the scripture readings give us an insight into the growth in faith of Jesus's disciples and the spreading of the Good News.

The new Covid-19 way of living, has gifted us, I think, with time. Time to think of others, our families, to share family meals, to go at a slower pace and, maybe, to reflect on other important values and lessons as well, ie. learning patience, creativity, and resilience among others.

I hope we can find time also to read and reflect on the disciples faith and our own, in these unusual times, as we continue to pray and care for each other, our communities and all affected by Covid-19.

Take care, be safe and show your love.

Prayers and blessing,

Fr Owen

You will be happy to know that our Parish Office is open from Tuesday to Friday, 9am to 1pm and 2pm to 4pm every week as usual. If you have any enquires, please not hesitate to call us or drop in.

If you know of anyone who would like some blessed Easter water, a candle and a Bulletin, please let us know.

St Mary's will continue ring our church bell each day at 12 noon to call us to pray at this time as we journey through the coming months. Each and everyone is invited to join in the Angelus wherever you might be as we pray together for each other, our communities, our nation and our world.

THE ANGELUS

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary....

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary

And the Word was made flesh,

And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary....

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

That we may be worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an angel, may, by his passion and cross, be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Kids Corner...

THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Family Discussion

What are some things you believe because you have seen them?
What are some things you believe without having seen them?
Faith asks us to believe things we cannot see for ourselves.
Take turns to talk about the people who have helped build your faith in Jesus.

Mealtime Prayer



Family Activity

Write thank you letters to the people who have helped build your faith in Jesus
e.g. parents, grandparents, godparents, sponsors, priests, teachers, friends.

Remember these people in your family prayer this week.



We extend a very warm welcome to Fr Dong Van Nguyen to our three parishes of Gulgong, Mudgee and Kandos/Rylstone.



We look forward to Fr Dong ministering among us now as our priest.

We wish him every blessing in his ministry to us all.

We look forward to giving Fr Dong a formal welcome to each parish later in the year.

**THOMAS DIDN'T BELIEVE
THE OTHER APOSTLES
WHEN THEY TOLD HIM
THEY HAD SEEN JESUS.**

**BUT THEN, A WEEK
LATER, HE TOO SAW
JESUS AND THEN HE
BELIEVED!**

**HE SAID: YES, YOU ARE
MY LORD AND MY GOD!**



EASTER 2 – YEAR A
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EASTER 2020



Dear Friends in Christ,

Proclaiming the good news of Easter could not come at a better time.

Everyone is affected, some more severely than others, by the Covid19 pandemic. Even for most people, who will not get sick, the disruptions to our social and economic life are already here. There is fear of the unknown as we make our way through this emergency, unprecedented in our lifetimes.

I have written elsewhere about the practical cooperation we should give to our public health authorities, especially as it applies to the life of our parishes. In this message, I want to invite you sincerely to enter more deeply, through these events, into the good news of Easter: and into the reality of your faith in Christ and your relationship with him.

The Son of God entered a broken world, to save it from within. Our world is broken by the original sin that afflicts our relationships with God and one another, whether personal or social. Relations within creation are broken, too, as the outbreak of this virus and other natural calamities reveal again and again.

Our liturgical celebrations of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ will be restricted this year, but each person, each family can reflect on the story revealed in

the Scriptures and the liturgical prayers. It is the good news that humankind and creation are being redeemed from sin and death. That each person who turns to Jesus Christ for forgiveness will find it. That each person who opens his or her life to him will be given the peace that is the fruit of forgiveness and the pledge of eternal life.

At the Easter Vigil proclamation, in the *Exsultet*, the deacon sings:

*This is the night that even now, throughout the world,
sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices
and from the gloom of sin, leading them to grace
and joining them to his holy ones.*

*This is the night,
when Christ broke the prison-bars of death
and rose victorious from the underworld.*

*Our birth would have been no gain,
had we not been redeemed.*

*O wonder of your humble care for us!
O love, O charity beyond all telling,
to ransom a slave you gave away your Son!
O truly necessary sin of Adam,
destroyed completely by the Death of Christ!*

*O happy fault
that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!*

May this Easter be a celebration of this new life for you.

Yours in Christ,

+Michael McKenna

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER READINGS

First Reading: [Acts 2:42-47](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm:

[Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1](#)

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord 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.)**

I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. **(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 Pt 1:3-9](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been

prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation [Jn 20:29](#)

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

Gospel: [Jn 20:19-31](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.



If you would like to receive the sacrament of Confession/Reconciliation and/or Anointing of the Sick or Holy Communion please call the Parish Office on 63722122 - If unanswered please leave your number and we will call you back to arrange a suitable time.

CARELINE PROGRAM LAUNCHED FOR THOSE WHO NEED SUPPORT

As a community, we are facing an unprecedented challenge in the wake of COVID-19. The Diocese has launched a Careline program to help the elderly, vulnerable and those in need.

If you are in need of practical assistance or known of someone else who is in need please phone: **1800 231 118** or email care@centacarebathurst.com.au

For further information, please contact CARELINE on 1800 231 118, email care@centacarebathurst.com.au or visit www.bathurst.catholic.org.au

Prayer in a Time of Pandemic

*Dear Lord of Mercies,
grant us the gifts of your Spirit for our discernment,
right judgement and wisdom.
May we, who may be inconvenienced,
remember those whose lives are at stake.
May we, who have the option of working from home,
remember those who risk their lives every day,
on the frontlines of healthcare.
May we, who have the option of working from home,
remember the homeless.
May we who have had to cancel plans,
remember those who have no place to go.
May we, who are losing future dreams and investments,
remember those who have no future to dream of.
May we, in the works of Pope Francis,
'transmit the culture of life to the future generations
in an attitude of solidarity, care, and welcome'.
Lord, in this time of challenge around
our usual learning environment,
help us find ways to be the loving
embrace of God,
supporting our students and families,
until we are all resurrected to a new day.
Amen.*



Our thoughts and prayers are with all the recently deceased, all whose anniversaries occur around this time and the sick in our communities.



Daily Mass will be live streamed at 9.30am each day except Sunday which will be at 9am.

You can find us on Mudgee Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryscatholicmudgee>

or on our website at www.mudgee.catholic.org.au for all the updated information.

There are many resources to help at this time.

<https://www.bathurst.catholic.org.au/>

Sunday Mass is live streamed from the Cathedral of St Michael & St John Bathurst Sunday's at 10.00am on the address above.

Thank you!

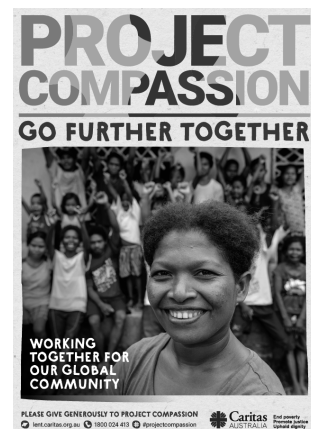
Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2020. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online.

Through your generosity you will be empowering the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

#projectcompassion

1800 024 413



There is a Staff member in the Parish Office Tuesday to Friday 9am to 4pm.

For those who are able and wish to continue to assist the parish financially you can Direct Debit to parishes and return to envelope when this terrible situation has passed.

Gulgong Parish

BSB - 066 781

Acc No 100006612

Reference: Your name.

Kandos Parish

BSB - 066 781

Acc No 100005344

Reference: Your name

Mudgee Parish

BSB - 066 781

Acc No 100004583

Reference:

Your name.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 2:14,22-33;

Ps 15:1-2,5,7-11;

1 Peter 1:17-21;

Luke 24: 13-35