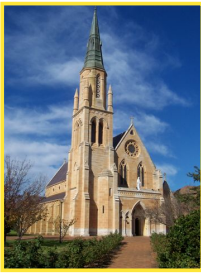


The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!



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.



Sixth Sunday of Easter - Year A 17th May 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

Mon, 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>

STAGE 1 REOPENING - EASING OF GATHERING RESTRICTIONS

As of Friday the 15th May, restrictions in NSW have been eased a little.

- Churches can now be opened for private devotions, providing there are no more than 10 people present at one time.
- 10 people can now gather for Mass at any one time.

As of MONDAY we **WILL NO LONGER BE LIVE STREAMING MASS EXCEPT FOR SATURDAY VIGIL MASS AT 6.00PM AND SUNDAY MASS AT 9.00AM.**

So as to conform with Government regulations from this Monday we will need to work on a roster system.

You are invited to either ring the Parish Office or email to request a particular day to attend Mass. This applies to Mudgee and Gulgong parishioners. Kandos/Rylstone are invited to ring Sr Kath Luchetti 63794679.

In the current crisis every Mass you attend fulfils the Sunday Obligation as stated by Bishop Michael previously. Until further restrictions are eased this may mean you can only attend Mass once every fortnight to allow all to have an opportunity to attend.

IF YOU HAVE ANY FLU LIKE SYMPTOMS OR ARE FEELING UNWELL PLEASE STAY AT HOME.

MASS TIMETABLE

MONDAY 18th May - NO MASS

TUESDAY 19th, WEDNESDAY 20th AND THURSDAY 21st May - MASS 9.30AM

FRIDAY 22nd May - MASS 12.30PM

SATURDAY 23rd May

MORNING MASS AT 9.30am

VIGIL MASS AT 6.00PM (Live Streamed)

SUNDAY 24th May

Mass at 9.00am (Live Streamed)

RYLSTONE/KANDOS (Phone Sr Kath)

Sunday 24th May - Rylstone Mass at 11.00am

Wednesday 27th May Mass Rylstone 11.00am

GULGONG (Register via Mudgee Parish Office/email)

Sunday 24th May - Mass at 10.30am

Wednesday 27th May - Mass - 11.00am

PLEASE REMEMBER IT IS ESSENTIAL TO BOOK IN AS WE MUST KEEP TO THE REGULATIONS OF ONLY 10 ATTENDEES.

CONFESSION/ANOINTING

Please ring and book, the priests are available.

READINGS FOR SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: [Acts 8:5-8. 14-17](#)

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. see v.1](#)

(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,

O sing to the glory of his name.

O render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! (R.)

'Before you all the earth shall bow;

shall sing to you, sing to your name!'

Come and see the works of God,

tremendous his deeds among men. (R.)

He turned the sea into dry land,

they passed through the river dry-shod.

Let our joy then be in him;

he rules for ever by his might. (R.)

Come and hear, all who fear God.

I will tell what he did for my soul:

Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer

nor withhold his love from me. (R.)

Second Reading: [1 Pt 3:15-18](#)

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if

it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

Gospel: [Jn 14:15-21](#)

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate

to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive

since it neither sees nor knows him;

but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;

I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me;

but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father

and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments

and keeps them will be one who loves me;

and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.'



MASS TIMETABLE

MUDGE

MONDAY - NO MASS

TUESDAY , WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY - MASS 9.30AM

FRIDAY - MASS 12.30PM

SATURDAY:

MORNING MASS AT 9.30am

VIGIL MASS AT 6.00PM (LIVE STREAMED)

SUNDAY:

Mass at 9.00am (Live Streamed)

RYLSTONE/KANDOS (Call Sr Kath)

Sunday: Mass at 11.00am

Wednesday: Mass 11.00am

GULGONG (Register via Mudgee Parish Office/email

Sunday - Mass at 10.30am

Wednesday - Mass - 11.00am

PLEASE REMEMBER IT IS ESSENTIAL TO BOOK IN AS WE MUST KEEP TO THE REGULATIONS OF ONLY 10 ATTENDEES.

Confession/Anointing

Please ring and book, the priests are available.

Masses and prayers Requested for the following:

For the recently deceased especially Dale Johnson (Melbourne), Deidre O'Keefe (Walgett), Jane Hurney, Daniel Salter, Peter Welhan, (Dubbo), Jacqueline Pithie (Syd) and Edward Begley (Newcastle).

We remember the anniversary of Norman McVicker.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are sick at this time: Anne McLean, Judith Grant, Betty Price, Jacki Smith, Maria Brec, Brian Kurtz, Sylvia O'Brien, Vicky Gaffney, Anthony Spina, Eliza Vasilis, Julie Collins, Anna Swientek, Elizabeth Donnelly, Tony Gillham, Ursula Smieszek, Jasmine Prada, Jason Seis, Mary Cannon and all those in our nursing homes.



The Pope's Universal Prayer for May For Deacons

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

PLEASE REMEMBER

If you or a member of your family are sick and in hospital and wish to be visited by a priest you must ask a family member to contact us or alternately ask a staff member to make the contact. Unless it is requested the priest cannot attend.

For those in the home who wish to receive Communion or Anointing of the Sick please contact the Parish Office.

PLANNED GIVING: GRATEFUL THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE CONTINUED TO SUPPORT OUR PARISHES DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME.



There is a staff member in the Mudgee Parish Office Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm.

For those who are able and wish to continue to assist our parishes financially you can Direct Debit to parishes and return to envelope when this terrible situation has passed or alternately drop into the office. See bank details below....

Gulgong Parish

BSB - 066 781

Acc No 100006612

Reference: Your name.

Mudgee Parish

BSB - 066 781

Acc No 100004583

Reference: Your name.

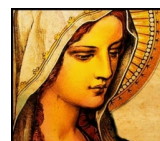
Kandos Parish

BSB - 066 781

Acc No 100005344

Reference: Your name

The Rosary



Pope Francis encourages faithful to pray Rosary at home

During the month of May, Pope Francis encourages everyone to pray the Rosary at home, to end the COVID-19 pandemic and for those most effected and also the frontline emergency workers.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this "family" aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.



Love and Evidence

When Jesus says, *“If you love me, you will keep my commandments”* one might think Jesus is giving the disciples some sort of ultimatum (*Jn 14: 15*). If you love me, you will keep my commands. We must remember, however, that Jesus does not force us to do anything. Rather, Jesus continually offers an invitation to follow him. With this, Jesus’ words sound much more like a simple statement of fact. The disciples will keep Jesus’ commandments because of their love for Jesus. Similarly, we will keep the commandments of Jesus because we love Jesus. There is no force or threat behind these words. That is not how God operates.

The love that Jesus describes is much more than an emotion. In Jesus, love requires self-gift. When we are called to love, we are called to offer ourselves. This love requires personal investment and sacrifice, things that are not always easy. We become vulnerable when we give of ourselves. We open our hearts to criticism and judgement. Sometimes we experience disappointment and hurt. But this is part of being disciples of the Risen Christ. This is how we participate in Christ’s life, death and Resurrection. This is how we live the Paschal Mystery.

Part of self-giving love is saying **yes** even when we would rather not. We are called to say **yes** dozens of times each day. How do we respond? What are some of the things God invites you to say **yes** to today? These **yeses** are not necessarily complicated, and can be as simple as spending time with a friend or helping a younger student with her homework. What can you say yes to today? Be courageous and grow in Christ with each **yes** you proclaim. © Used with permission GPBS

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

We live in hope because we have been blessed with the opportunity of participating in the exaltation of Jesus. This hope is based on promises: the promise that we will not be left orphaned when Jesus returns to his Father; the promise that we will be comforted by the Spirit whom Jesus will send. It is trust in God that enables us to live in this world as if the promises have already been fulfilled, for in fact, it is precisely such living that fulfils them.

We have not celebrated the Ascension, and yet all three readings speak of the Spirit. The same Spirit, who quickened the resurrected life of Jesus, enlivens us. This Spirit strengthens, comforts, guides and inspires us. Life in the Spirit requires that we conform our lives to the commandments of God, not in a legalistic or constraining way but out of love. The love that comes to us through the Spirit will then overflow into the lives of others, and we will be agents of God’s love in the world.

The Spirit given by Christ is mediated through the laying on of hands. This still happens in our day in the gentle touch of friends, in the loving touch of parents, in the healing touch of those who cure both the body and the spirit. The liturgical year is preparing us for the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, and Jesus is preparing us for life in the Spirit here on earth. This is the reason for our hope.

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Live every moment

Love beyond words

Laugh everyday

Family Prayer

**“I shall ask the Father
and he will give you another Advocate”**

Something to think about ...

Even though we cannot see Jesus, we can experience his presence in many different ways. The Spirit is at work in the world, bringing love, joy, kindness, patience and gentleness. The main message in today’s gospel is to love Jesus and to do as he commands.

What does love look alike ... feel like.... and sound like?

The Story

Jesus reminds the disciples that the way to show their love for him is to keep his commandments. However, the disciples are still fearful and anxious so Jesus promises them a comforter and helper - the Holy Spirit. They are not to feel alone or like orphans. The Holy spirit will help them to know Jesus as the one sent by the Father.



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

[Acts 1:1-11](#)

[Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6](#)

[Eph 1:17-23](#)

[Mt 28:19. 20](#)