

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.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A 19th July 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)

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NSW 2850

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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>

COVID - 19 REMINDERS

- ◆ Please place your name and contact number on the sheets provided at the entrance of the church.
- ◆ Please seat 1.5 metre apart unless you are from the same household.
- ◆ Please sanitise your hands as you enter the church and when you leave the church.
- ◆ If you have flu like symptoms please stay at home and be tested.
- ◆ If you are a vulnerable person the advice is to stay home.
- ◆ Church capacity St Mary's Church, Mudgee - 80
St John the Baptist Gulgong - 47
St Malachy's, Rylstone - 40
St Dominic's, Kandos - 50
- ◆ **PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU** - otherwise place in the bin as you leave the Church.

Our thoughts and prayers remain with our brothers and sisters in Victoria and throughout the nation who have gone into lock down and are unable to attend Mass due to outbreaks of Covid 19.

We remember especially the elderly, who are frightened and unable to see their families in these difficult days.

We remember them all in our prayers, and pray that in these difficult times their faith will endure the anguish and frustration they are feeling. We pray especially for those who have died are all who are seriously ill, may they have a



GOSPEL REFLECTION - Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us, helping us in our weakness. The first disciples had Jesus to explain the parables; we have the Spirit to enlighten us. It is the Spirit who helps us to interpret the teaching of Jesus and to be receptive to the challenges that they pose.

The presence of sinners in the kingdom of God is often a stumbling block to good people. There will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means that the righteous will have to live with the sinner and, even more challengingly, show them the same kind of concern that they show to others. The presence of sinners does not necessarily erode the quality of the kingdom. Rather, it provides disciples an opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness.

There are two images of judgment in the readings. The one in the gospel is terrifying and decisive. The wicked are bound together into bundles and readied for burning. We must remember that this is a parable. In the first reading and in the psalm response the justice of God is said to be lenient, clement and kind. The power of God is demonstrated not in retribution but in mercy. God is said to be 'merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in kindness and fidelity', and repentance is a very real possibility. This is the image that gives us hope.

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Sunday Mass can be found here

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/stmaryscatholicmudgee/videos/>

First Reading: Wis 12:13.16-19

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)

All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. (R.)

But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. (R.)

Second Reading: Rom 8:26-27

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:24-43

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

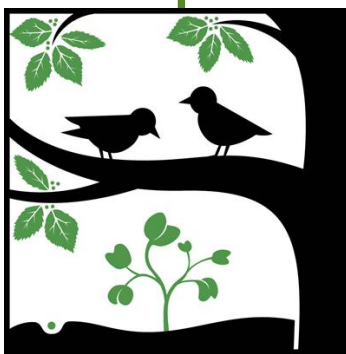
He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parable and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'



Sincere Sympathy: We extend our sincere sympathy to Bishop Michael McKenna and the extended McKenna family on the death this week of the beloved mother, Marie. Our prayers and thoughts are with them at this sad time.



Bishop McKenna appointed member of Pontifical Council for Inter-religious Dialogue.

The Holy Father has appointed Bathurst's Bishop Michael McKenna as a member of the Pontifical Council for Inter-religious Dialogue.

The Council is the central office of the Church for the promotion of inter-religious dialogue in accordance with the spirit of the Second Vatican Council, in particular the declaration *Nostra aetate*. It is responsible for promoting mutual understanding, respect, and collaboration between Catholics and followers of other religious traditions; encouraging the study of religions; and promoting the formation of persons dedicated to dialogue.

Bishop McKenna is currently the Chair of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's Commission for Christian Unity and Inter-religious Dialogue.

Of his appointment to the Pontifical Council, Bishop McKenna said *"I was honoured to be asked to serve the Apostolic See in this work that I know is close to the heart of Pope Francis. The appointment acknowledges the importance of the Australian experience in building bridges between followers of the many faiths in our country"*.

Bishop McKenna joins cardinals, archbishops and bishops from all parts of the world who were named as members of the Council. With the current Covid-19 situation, it is unknown at this stage when the new Council will be able to meet together. More details of the Council can be found at the Vatican News site - vaticannews.va

THE GOSPEL CONNECTION

Might and Mercy

Just as power is used for good or harm, not all seeds are created equal. Jesus tells a story of good seed and bad, and how they grow together in the harvest of the world. We experience this reality in the contents of our own hearts. We have wonderful, generous impulses; and also, cruel, petty thoughts. We may be heroic in our love one day, and selfish the next. We forgive and withhold forgiveness. Our fields are waist-high in grain and weeds.

No wonder that good and bad grow together in families; parishes and schools are a mixture of charity and snobbery; politics is full of high-minded ideals and crude scandal. If we are surprised when nice people do things that are not nice, we have to look no further than this parable for the reason. Reasons are not excuses, of course. Jesus says even a tiny seed of good can create immense goodness. A bit of yeast makes the whole dough rise. The existence of evil is no reason to view it as inevitable. If I find within myself both good and evil, I have a responsibility to grow the grain and invite the Spirit to uproot the thistle in me.

Make a list of some "grain" and "weeds" growing in your heart.

How do you cultivate one and defeat the other?

Try "preventative" and "punitive" justice. Give people a break: forgive and show mercy before it is deserved. Be kind when kindness is not returned. Try patience instead of irritation. Plant a good seed in every encounter.

Masses and prayers Requested for the following:

For the recently deceased especially

Marie McKenna (Mother of Bishop Michael), Norm Leonard, Edith Power, Timothy Rayner, Leslee Cruickshank, Noeleen Smith (Syd) and Anne Minogue (nee Kearins).



We remember the anniversary of Hugh Lenard, Doris Carroll, Alex Lynch, Kathleen Windle and Liliana Diaz.

We also pray for Charlie and Rita Saliba, Carmela Mifsud.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are sick at this time: Michael Abbot (Castle Hill), Anne McLean, Judith Grant, Maria Brec, Brian Kurtz, Sylvia O'Brien, Vicky Gaffney, Anthony Spina, Eliza Vasilis, Julie Collins, Anna Swientek, Elizabeth Donelly, Ursula Smieszek, Jasmine Prada, Jason Seis, Mary Cannon and those in our Nursing Homes.

Those seeking Special Intentions and all the Holy Souls.

Family Prayer

Something to Think About

Sometimes we are quick to judge people. We might think it is easy to recognise a 'good' person or a 'bad' person. It is important to remember that every person is capable of both bad and good deeds. We don't always know the full story behind someone's actions. For example, we might condemn a child who takes other children's lunches. Yet, how would we think differently if we knew that child came to school hungry each day without any lunch? Jesus tells us to accept everyone, because only God truly knows a person's heart.

The Story

Today's gospel from Matthew is another parable with an agricultural context. A man sows seed in his field but during the night an enemy comes and sows weeds. They both grow together, the good and the bad. The servants want to pull up the weeds immediately but the wise farmer says, leave them grow together until harvest time it will become apparent which is weed and which is wheat!

"Let them grow together until the harvest."



Family Discussion

Talk together about what makes a plant a weed. When you are weeding the garden, how do you tell which plants you want to keep and which plants are weeds? In last week's Gospel when Jesus was talking about seeds, he was really thinking about us. What does Jesus mean in this reading when he is talking about good seed and weed seed? Why didn't the farmer want the weeds pulled up as they were growing? What would happen to the wheat?

MASS TIMETABLE

MONDAY - 20th July

No Mass
12 Noon Angelus

TUESDAY - 21st July

9.30am Mass Mudgee
12 Noon Angelus

WEDNESDAY - 22nd July

Feast of St Mary Magdalene

9.30am Mass Mudgee
9.30am St Mary's Craft & Friendship Group
12 Noon Angelus

THURSDAY - 23rd July

9.30am Mass Mudgee
12 Noon Angelus

FRIDAY - 24th July

12 Noon Angelus
12.30pm Mass Mudgee

SATURDAY - 25th July

Feast of St James, apostle
12 Noon Angelus
5.00pm Vigil Mass Mudgee

SUNDAY: 26th July

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass Mudgee (Live Streamed)
10.30am Mass Gulgong
11.00am Mass Kandos
12 Noon Angelus

Confession/Anointing/ Home Communion

Please ring and make an appointment, the priests are available,
and we can visit you at home.

**THE CHURCH IS OPEN
FOR MASS AND
VISITATION
TUES-THURS
9.15 -10.30AM
FRIDAY
11.30AM - 1.00PM**

POPE FRANCIS'S UNIVERSAL PRAYER FOR JULY:

Our Families

We pray that today's families may be accompanied with
love, respect and guidance.

.... a healthy relationship with creation is one dimension
of overall personal conversion, which entails the
recognition of our errors, sins, faults and failures, and
leads to heartfelt repentance and desire to change
" we must examine our lives and acknowledge the ways
in which we have harmed God's creation through our
actions and our failure to act. We need to experience a
conversion, or change of heart."

Laudato Si (2015)218

Mudgee Roster for July/August

Date	First Reading	Second Reading	Prayers of the Faithful
Sat 25th July	L.Nicholson	A. Fergus	I. Byrne
Sun 26th July	R. McKeown	C.Devitt	M. Cassidy
Sat 1st Aug	R.Petersen	I.Byrne	B.Petersen
Sun 2nd Aug	R.Disher	J.O'Brien	S.Abbey
Sat 8th Aug	L.Nicholson	J.Newman	S.Walker
Sun 9th Aug	M.McLean	L.Littler	A.Myles

Gulgong Roster for July

Date	Commentator	Reader
26th July	R. Saliba	B. Toole

URGENT APPEAL FOR SRE TEACHERS (CATECHISTS)

There is a shortage of volunteers for the Ministry of
Catechist - to teach in the public schools in our area.
Catechists and Assistants are needed at all State primary
schools.



Please give consideration to assisting in
this vital work of the church.

If you would like to Volunteer to be a
Catechist or an Assistant at the Public
Schools please contact the Parish Office.

Please ring the Parish Office if you would
like to know more about the role of Catechists in your
Parish.

Lessons will resume next week.

Can you help make a difference?

**Thank you for supporting our parish. To donate to the
Parish go online or call at the Parish Office.**

BANK DETAILS FOR DIRECT DEBIT PLANNED GIVING

Kandos Parish

BSB - 066 781

Acc No 100005344

Reference: Your name

Mudgee Parish

BSB - 066 781

Acc No 100004583

Reference: Your name.

Gulgong Parish

BSB - 066 781

Acc No 100006612

Reference: Your name



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

[1 Kgs 3:5.7-12](#)

[Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97](#)

[Rom 8:28-30](#)

[Mt 13:44-52](#)