

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 Advent Year A: 22nd December 2019

Parish Priest

Fr Owen Gibbons

Parish Deacons

Deacon Karl Sinclair

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: Mr Jason Hanrahan

Ph 02 63721742

stmattsmudgee@bth.catholic.edu.au

All Hallows Catholic School Gulgong:

Principal: Ms Katrina Isbester

Ph 02 63741582

<https://ahcpsgulgong.schoolzine.com>

Entrance Hymn : Prepare the way of the Lord. (Repeat)

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

The virgin will conceive.

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10

Response:

**Let the Lord enter;
he is king of glory.**

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. (R.)

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. (R.)

He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. (R.)

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

Memorial Acclamation:

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

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

PRIEST: May the light of this last Advent candle, warm our hopeful hearts in these our final days of waiting for the glory of God to be revealed.

ALL: *We wait and long for Jesus, the light of the world.*

REFLECTION by Diane Bergant CSA

Despite all of the excitement associated with eschatological fulfilment, despite all of the assurance we have that it will be an experience of peace and abundant life, the mystery for which we long requires the risk of faith. Despite all of the times that we have celebrated the Nativity, we still do not have full comprehension and understanding. Still we are invited to enter deeply into the event that is before us. Will we step into a life of deeper faith and commitment, or will we merely participate in the external celebration of the feast? Only we can decide, and only we will really know the decision that we make.

The circumstances of our lives influence the way we live out our faith. As Christians, we are called to devote ourselves to the service of Christ. Our primary commitment must be to Christ and to the way of being human that he has shown us. We must be committed to what enriches life and not to what diminishes it. We must be committed to the good of people and not to the hoarding of things. We may not be official heralds of the gospel, but we proclaim our faith in the way we live our lives, in the kindness with which we treat others, in honesty of our business transactions. We proclaim the gospel when we stand for justice, when we forgive those who have offended us, when we show compassion to those who suffer. As we step into the eschatological age, we are called to recommit ourselves to genuine Christian living.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

**DAY BY DAY
DURING JANUARY**

*** DAILY MASS EXCEPT FOR FRIDAY WILL BE
CELEBRATED
IN THE PRESBYTERY CHAPEL.
* NO HOLY HOUR DURING JANUARY.**

Monday 23rd December
NO SERVICE MUDGE

Tuesday 24th December - Christmas Eve

6.00pm Mass Kandos
6.30pm Mass Mudgee (Children & families)
9.00pm Mass Mudgee

Wednesday 25th December - Christmas Day

7.30am Mass Mudgee
9.00am Mass Mudgee
9.00am Mass Gulgong

Thursday 26th December
NO SERVICE MUDGE

Friday 27th December
12.00 noon Reconciliation
12.30pm Mass - Mudgee

Saturday 28th December
5.15pm- 5.45pm Reconciliation Mudgee
6:00pm Vigil Mass Mudgee

Sunday 29th December
9.00am Mass Mudgee
10.30am Mass Gulgong
Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion
10.30am Rosary RYLSTONE
11.00am MASS RYLSTONE (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE)



Liturgy Roster 28th/29th December 2019

Commentator	A.McLean	M.Matthews
Readers	L.Nicholson I.Byrne	J.Keipert M.Dunnachie
Special Ministers of Communion	A.Baker HELPERS NEEDED	Kevin Scott M.Devitt
Offertory Procession	HELP NEEDED	M.Dunnachie
Welcomers	K.Isbester HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Altar Servers	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS
Counters	23/12 D.Holden J.Potts	30/12 E.Goodlet L.Nicholson

Gulgong Liturgy Roster	Sunday 29th December 2019	Rylstone Liturgy Roster	Sunday 29th December 2019
Leader	P.Leotta		
Commentator	E.Donelly		
Reader	E.Donelly	Readers	M.Turner C.Morrissey
Offertory		Intercessions	T.Ryan
Special Minister of Communion	R.Saliba J.Thatcher	Special Minister of Communion	L.McPherson
Sacristan	M & e Carney	Sacristan	I.McPherson

Congratulations

To all our Yr 12 students on their excellent HSC results. Well done and our very best wishes for your future endeavours.

Kandos Christmas Mass
Mass Christmas Eve
at 6.00pm.



Mudgee Christmas Masses
Christmas Eve:
6.30pm Children's Mass
9.00pm Mass

Christmas Day
7.30am & 9.00am



Gulgong Christmas Mass
Mass Christmas Day 9.00am



Office Hours During January

The Parish Office will operate on limited hours during the holiday break:

Thursday 2nd Jan. 9.00am to 1.00pm

Friday 3rd Jan. 9.00am to 1.00pm

Monday 6th Jan. 10.00am to 1.00pm

Friday 10th Jan. 9.00am to 1.00pm

Monday 13th Jan. 10.00am to 1.00pm

Friday 17th Jan. 9.00am to 1.00pm

Monday 20th Jan. - Return to normal hours 9.00am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

If you need assistance during the shortened office hours please leave a message on the phone 0263722122 and we will get back to you. Staff are on call to assist if required.

Clergy Appointments for 2020

Following consultations with the Clergy Appointments Board and the priests involved, Bishop Michael McKenna has made the following appointments, which will take effect on the third Sunday of Lent 2020:-

Reverend Karl Sinclair - Assistant Priest, Orange; (to be ordained 21st February 2020)

Reverend Dong Van Nguyen - Assistant Priest, Mudgee; (to be ordained 21st February 2020)

Reverend Pius Khaoya - Priest in Charge, Coonamble; (Reverend Reynold Jaboneta PP will continue as Administrator of Coonamble);

Reverend Antony V attakkunnel, cmi - Assistant Priest, Dubbo;

Reverend Owen Gibbons PP - Administrator of Dunedoo; (Reverend Augustine Matthew, cmi will continue as Priest in Charge of Dunedoo).

MUDGEE NEWS

Christmas Liturgy Roster:

If you are able to assist with the Christmas liturgies please write your name on the whiteboard at the back of the church.

Ordination of Deacon Karl Sinclair -

There have been some interest in organising a bus to the Ordination on 21st February in Bathurst. The Ordination will be in the evening and we are seeking interest

1. To travel by bus over and back on Friday evening.

or

2. Travel by bus, staying overnight and attending Karl's first Mass on Saturday morning before returning to Mudgee. If we are to organise accommodation we would need to do in advance. If you are interested please contact the Parish Office.

GULGONG NEWS:

9.00am Mass Christmas Day

10.30am, Sunday 29th Dec -

Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion.

KANDOS NEWS

6.00pm Mass Christmas Eve

NO MASS CHRISTMAS DAY

Please Note Mass Sunday 29th Dec. at Rylstone.

Baptism:

We welcome to the parish family
Remy Kaye Gaffney
daughter of Sarah,
Lachlan William Miller
son of Graham and Emma,
Jack William Callander
son of Richard and Sally.



Masses and prayers requested for the following:

We pray for all those who died during this past year:

MUDGEE PARISH

Margaret Melinz, Mick Cooper, Dorothy Carey, Janet Millard, Tony Newman, Nate Darcy, Ronald Wellsmore, Patricia Cruz, Rosemary Douglas, Vena Robinson, Anton Blazevic, Lorna Wakeling, Penelope Hoyer, Patrick Woods, Liliana Diaz, Kathleen Windle, Alex Lynch, Phyllis Archer, Don Price, Joyce Riley, Wallace Chapman, Noel Hodges, Joan Mc Kerchar, Michael Power, Patricia Leonard, Gloria Windle, Barry Fittler and Janice Bryant.

KANDOS PARISH

Ed Ristau, Lucia Zaccaria, Warren Carberry, Arthur Tatham, Cliff Miller, Jean Doorey, Marie Thirtle, Fay Shepherd, Dennis McGrath, Jill Baskerville, Anne McDonald. We also pray for Mario Zaccaria.

GULGONG PARISH

Barbara Lennon, Col Gardiner, Maree Gruppetta, John Camilleri, Sharon Frost, Una Cunningham, Veronica Butler and Agnes Turczak.

We remember the anniversaries of

Kim Pilley, Ben Rayner, Victor and Marie Robison, Jeffrey O'Brien, Bernie Stewart, Ervine McDermott, Francis McDermott, Ron Barry, Brian Condon, Ashley Knight and Brian Condon.

We also pray for Genevieve Newman, Marian O'Hare, Sr Mary Clement, Sr Maria Mahon, Sr Lucia Carroll, Mgr John Frawley, Max Pilley, Stanton Pilley, Val and Ivan Croake, Eileen McGuinness, Dianne Yeo, Arthur, Anne, John, Bonnie and Ron Lynch, Russ, Dulcie and Ron Smith, Olive Ryan, Hugh, Isabel and Keith Cluff, Mai Robinson, Meg Gleeson, Adriel Maloney, Jim and Dorothy Betts, Jack, Norah and John Babbage, Phil Darby, Miriam Halpin, Betty Gibbons, Val Rheinberger, Bill and Pat Milton, Miriam Byres, Joan Nangle, Adrian Ryan, deceased members Varga, Blazevic, Gibbons, Heaslip and Archer family.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are sick at this time:

Barbara McCann (Blacktown), Brian Kurtz, Sylvia O'Brien, Eliza Vasilis, Julie Collins, Marg Doble, Anna Swientek, Elizabeth Donnelly, Tony Gillham, Ursula Smieszek, Jasmine Prada, Jason Seis and all those in our nursing homes.

ALPHA BEGINS AT ST MARY'S ON MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2020

From 6PM to 8PM at the Parish Centre (cnr Market St and Church St Mudgee)

Come and have a meal, watch a video and discuss some of life's biggest questions, including "Is there more to life than this?"

No cost! Just come and #TryAlpha



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

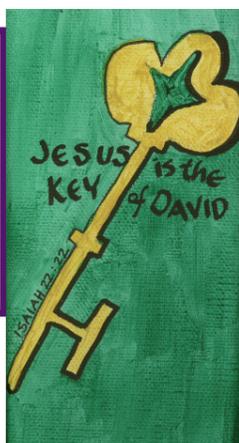
Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14

Psalm 127: 1-5.R. cf. v. 1

Colossians 3: 12-21

Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23

Jesus Christ was, "according to the human nature he took", a descendant of King David.

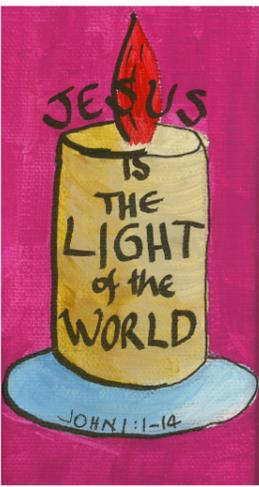


The Jesse Tree



Jesus loved and cared for Joseph and Mary. "That good and just man; a man of honour."

Mary said yes to God. "The maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son".



Jesus is the light of the world. "The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light".



Christmas 2019

A Message from Bishop Michael McKenna

As I write these words of Christmas greetings, we are still in a time of drought, waiting for rain.

We know all too well the human cost of this, for farmers, families, local enterprises and communities. Faced with this situation, as people of faith we turn to God in honest and sorrowful lamentation.

Turning to God, we remember that Jesus has told us to pray for what we want, and to persevere in that prayer. We do want rain, and plenty of it, so we should keep praying for that. We also need to pray for one another: and in that prayer seek the wisdom to know how best to be of service to those who are suffering the most from this adversity. And, in the midst of our affliction, rejoice in the love of neighbour that is already God's gift.

The long wait for a Messiah ended when Jesus was born in Bethlehem. But, "he was in the world that had come into being through him and the world did not recognise him". (John 1:10)

Am I still waiting for Jesus, or is he still waiting for me to recognise him? I hope you meet him soon and have a truly Happy Christmas.

+Michael McKenna
Bishop of Bathurst



Bishop's Special Christmas Missionary Appeal

Once again this year, the proceeds of the Bishop's annual Christmas Missionary Appeal will go towards expenses incurred in building St Paul's School, Sanis in the Diocese of Kohima, Nagaland, North-Eastern India.

Bishop McKenna committed to building the much-needed school in 2015 and each year since then the funds from the Bishop's annual appeal has been directed to its construction. This year's collection will allow that project to now to be finalised.

At every Christmas Mass in the Diocese, there will be the opportunity to support the St Paul's School project by giving to the Bishop's special Christmas Missionary Appeal collection. Donations can also be made on-line at: bathurst.catholic.org.au, left at any Parish Office or sent directly to the Bishop at: PO Box 246, Bathurst NSW 2795

+Michael McKenna
Bishop of Bathurst

Diocesan Drought Support

Most of the region covered by the Bathurst Diocese is severely affected by the ongoing drought. While our communities are strong, they need our support during this difficult time.



Knowing that it will take years for farmers and communities to recover; and that droughts are becoming more common, we need to provide both immediate and long-term help to ensure communities build a level of resilience to ongoing drought conditions. To this end, the Diocese has set up an appeal, which will be managed by Centacare Bathurst. In the immediate future, donations to this appeal will be forwarded to Rural Aid, a well-known charity which already has several drought-relief initiatives underway, including the 'Buy a Bale' project.

Centacare Bathurst has also earmarked \$100,000 of its reserve funds to assist families and communities in their journey to recovery. Centacare will provide ongoing psychosocial assistance and will be with the community for the long haul.

Centacare offices in Dubbo and Bathurst will offer counselling services to those affected by drought, free of cost, and hope to establish a telephone counselling service, considering the costs associated with travel. Centacare can be contacted on **1800 231 118**.

Like us on Facebook
Keep up with what is happening in the parish. Find us at
St Mary of the Presentation

Pope's for December  **Universal Prayer Intention**

The Future of the Very Young
That every country take the measures necessary to prioritise the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

St Vincent De Paul Mudgee

SVdP Christmas Appeal

The SVdP Store will close for a short break over Christmas from **Saturday 21st December until Monday 13th January**. If you have donations of clothes etc., the staff would be most grateful if you could please leave deliveries until after the 13th January.



NOTE FOR ALL

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO THE SICK

Due to renewed Diocesan policy all Ministers to the Sick to the nursing homes and private homes must be registered with the Parish Office. We are updating our files so please contact the Parish Office.

We also require the names of all parishioners to whom you are taking Communion.

PLEASE NOTE: You must sign the book available in the Reconciliation room before you leave to go to the Nursing Home/private homes. This is a Diocesan regulation.

Thank you for your cooperation.

**“If there is light in the soul there will be
beauty in the person.”**

Chinese Proverb





WHOSE JOB?

This is a story about four people named *Everybody*, *Somebody*, *Anybody* and *Nobody*.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job.

Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done!

So if you are Everybody, Somebody, Anybody or Nobody we need your help!



Liturgical & Parish Ministry Mudgee

'There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different people, it is working in all of them.' 1 Cor 12:3-7. 12-13

This weekend we are inviting you to commit to one of the ministries within the parish i.e.

- # Special Minister of the Eucharist at Mass.
- # Reader (Lector)
- # Welcomers
- # Offertory Gifts
- # Altar Serving
- # Children's Liturgy
- # Musicians
- # Hospitality
- # Pastoral Council
- # Liturgy Group

Position Vacant: Co-ordinator of Mission and Renewal - Catholic Diocese of Bathurst

The Co-ordinator of Mission and Renewal will support parishes in the task of mission and renewal. The co-ordinator will collaborate with parish and Diocesan leaders to assist parishes and individuals to live the mission of the Church and encourage lifelong discipleship.

The Co-ordinator of Mission and Renewal reports to

There is a particular need for extra Special Ministers of Communion as we now have Communion under both kinds (the Sacred Host & Precious Blood) also new readers. If you

THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea, and forgiveness in his justice sealed for us on Calvary. There is plentiful redemption through the blood that Christ has shed; there is a joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind; and the heart of the Eternal is the most wonderfully kind. But we make his love too narrow by false limits of our own, and we magnify his strictness with the 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.

Holy Week Liturgies

Monday 15th April

Clergy Seminar Bathurst
5.45pm Chrism Mass Bathurst

Tuesday 16th April

9.00am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

7.00pm Communal Reconciliation Mudgee