

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 B 20th December 2020

Parish Priest

Fr Owen Gibbons

Assistant Priest

Fr Dong Van Nguyen

Parish Deacon

Deacon Charles Applin

Parish Secretaries

Mrs Kristie Newman

Mrs Krista O'Brien

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NSW 2850

Phone: 02 63722122

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Website: www.mudgee.catholic.org.au

Parish Office Hours

Mon, 10.00am - 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

www.stmattsmudgee.catholic.edu.au/

All Hallows Catholic School Gulgong:

Principal: Mr Bradley Toole

Ph 02 63741582

www.allhallowsgulgong.catholic.edu.au

ADVENT LITANY

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle



2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16/Luke 1:26-38

Behold! The Lord your God breathes new life into dead spaces. God's Messiah is coming into our world as God's final word — life will triumph over death. Do not be afraid.

We light the 4th Advent Candle as a sign of our hope in God's redeeming love. The Messiah is coming to establish a kingdom in the shape of that very love. And this kingdom will last for ever and ever.

Come, Lord Jesus.

All: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen.

First Reading: [2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16](#)

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29. R. see v.2](#)

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **(R.)**

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' **(R.)**

He will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
for him my covenant shall endure. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Rom 16:25-27](#)

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Gospel [Lk 1:26-38](#)

You will conceive and bear a son.



The Parishes of Mudgee, Gulgong and Kandos/Rylstone extend their thanks to Patti Kiddle for her 30+ years as Secretary in our parishes. We can still look forward to seeing Patti's smiling face as she will remain a valued member of our Parish communities.

MASS TIMETABLE

MONDAY - 21st December

NO SERVICE

12 Noon Angelus

2.00pm Funeral Prayers Joseph Tot - Macquarie Valley Funerals

7.30pm Advent Programme - St Mary's Parish Centre

TUESDAY - 22nd December

9.30am Mass Mudgee

12 Noon Angelus

7.00pm Second Rite of Reconciliation

WEDNESDAY - 23rd December

9.30am Mass Mudgee

10.00 to 10.30am Reconciliation - Mudgee

12 Noon Angelus

5.30 to 6.00pm Reconciliation - Mudgee

THURSDAY - 24th December

CHRISTMAS EVE

12 Noon Angelus

6.30pm Vigil Mass Mudgee - At St Matthews Catholic School

6.00pm Vigil Mass Kandos

8.30pm Vigil Mass Mudgee

FRIDAY - 25th December

CHRISTMAS DAY

7.30am Mass Mudgee

9.00am Mass Gulgong

9.00am Mass Mudgee

SATURDAY - 26th December

St Stephen, the first martyr

12 Noon Angelus

6.00pm Vigil Mass Mudgee

SUNDAY - 27th December

The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7.30am Mass Mudgee

9.00am Mass Mudgee

10.30am Gulgong

11.00am Mass Rylstone

12 Noon Angelus

Anointing/ Home Communion: Please ring and make an appointment, Fr Owen and Fr Dong are available, and we can visit you at home.

ANGELUS



Please join us each day at 12 noon for the Angelus, from your home, in the garden or wherever you may be as the Church bell calls us to prayer.



On Friday in the Church at 12 noon we invite you to *pray the Angelus* followed by the *Rosary*, and join us for *Mass* at 12.30pm.



Mudgee Roster - December

| Date | First Reading | Second Reading | Prayers of the Faithful | Eucharist Minister |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Christmas Vigil 6.30pm | C. Devitt | A. Myles | M. Kemp | 1. M.Devit 2. J. Keipert 3. |
| Christmas Vigil 8.30pm | C. Furney | | | |
| Christmas Day 7.30am | | | | 1. M. Gilbert |
| Christmas Day 9.00am | M. Dunnachie | M. McLean | | 1. K. Scott 2. J. Vros |

| Date | First & Second Reading | Prayers of the Faithful | Eucharistic Minister |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Sat 26th Dec | | C. Furney | D.Cunningham |
| Sun 27th Dec 7.30am | D. van de Bosch | Volunteer Needed | Volunteer Needed |
| Sun 27th Dec 9.00am | C. Devitt | M.Dunnachie | Volunteer Needed |

Volunteers Needed. Please let the Parish Office know if you are available during January to Read at Mass or to be a Eucharist Minister.

Gulgong Roster for December

| Date | Commentator | Reader | Sacristan |
|--------------|-------------|-----------|------------------------|
| 25th Dec | D.Kelly | K.O'Brien | E.Donnelly & G.Ausburn |
| 27th Dec | E. Donnelly | J. Ritar | C. Holland |
| 3rd Jan 2021 | R. Saliba | C. Gaudry | R. Saliba |
| 10 Jan 2021 | C. Gaudry | K. Ritar | M & E Carney |

Baptism: We welcome to the parish community



Indie Louise & Romy Helen Fitzgerald
daughter's of Brett & Paige.

Ruby Jane Bright daughter of Trent & Lindsay.

William Maxwell Rheinberger son of Brett & Kiera.

Gulgong News.

On behalf of the GCWG, we wish all our supporters a happy Christmas and a wonderful new year. Thank you for your support throughout the year.

Thank You for the fantastic turn out for the pre Christmas church clean at Gulgong. Everyone's help was much appreciated.

Christmas Mass

9.00am Christmas Day

Covid Restrictions

The State Government has announced that from Monday 7 December the number of people allowed to attend a place of worship for Mass services, funerals, weddings or private prayer is based on the **1 person per 2 square meter rule** with no upper limit.

Please be aware that we are still in a time of pandemic and social distancing and hygiene practices need to be maintained. The dispensation issued by Bishop Michael McKenna in relation to our Sunday obligation is still in effect.

Mudgee Combined Churches

Community Christmas Lunch Hampers

The Mudgee Combined Churches would normally host the Community Christmas Day Lunch, but sadly it has been cancelled this year due to COVID and the limits on church functions. As churches we are still keen to find ways to care for those in need at this special time, so for Christmas this year we would like to provide some free hampers to people in our community. To register for a hamper please see details on the poster situated on the church notice board. It is important that you register early as there is a limited number of hampers.

The Mudgee Combined Churches
wish you a very Happy Christmas.



Contactless Mass Sign

Given we will be required to sign in for a long period of time to come, the QR Code is a quicker and more efficient way in which to sign in when entering the church.

We are preparing individual cards for those who either don't have available a mobile phone or it is simply too difficult and a bit stressful. We strongly encourage you to place your name on the blue form at the back of the church to order your individual card, that a Welcomer will scan for you as you come into Mass each week. All information will be confidential. No information will be stored on any portable devices (eg. phones).

Kandos News.

Christmas Vigil Mass

6.00pm Christmas Eve

Pope's Universal prayer for December - For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



Tap and Go Credit Card Facility

We have installed a Tap and Go Credit Card facility. Many of us no longer carry cash and this is a very convenient way to donate to the parish. Donations are in \$5 lots - if you wish to donate more than \$5 just re tap your card for the amount you wish to donate. The machine is located at the back of the church during Mass times.

BANK DETAILS FOR DIRECT CREDIT PLANNED GIVING

| Gulgong Parish | Mudgee Parish | Kandos Parish |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| BSB - 066 781 | BSB - 066 781 | BSB - 066 781 |
| Acc No 100006612 | Acc No 100004583 | Acc No 100005344 |
| Ref: Your name | Ref: Your name. | Ref: Your name |



Masses and prayers Requested for the following:

For the recently deceased especially Joseph Tot, Fr Maurice Sullivan (Syd), Fr Patrick McKenna.

We remember the anniversaries of John Mahon, Janice Bryant, Bernie Stewart, Marie Robinson, Jeff O'Brien

We also prayer for Elias Deeb, Wife & family, Varga & Blazevic Families, Tony Blazevic, David Kiddle, Rita Ottley, Mervyn Costello and Holy Souls.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are sick at this time: Eleni Roberts, Karen Freebody, Peter Power, Rodrigo Jaboneta, Maria Leotta, Eliza and Elena Vasilis, Rebecca Fetcher, Enid Auld, Debbie Solti, Katherine Szulc (Poland), Anne McLean, Judith Grant, Vicky Gaffney, Anthony Spina, Julie Collins, Elizabeth Donnelly, Ursula Smieszek, Jasmine Prada, Mary Cannon and those in our Nursing Homes.

Those seeking Special Intentions and for all the Holy Souls.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

[Gen 15:1-6. 21:1-3](#)

[Ps 104:1-6. 8-9. R.vv.7.8](#)

[Heb 11:8. 11-12. 17-19](#)

[Lk 2:22-40](#)

Christmas Mass Times



Kandos

6.00pm Christmas Eve

Gulgong

9.00am Christmas Day

Mudgee

6.30pm Christmas Eve at St Matthews

8.30pm Christmas Eve

7.30am Christmas Day

9.00am Christmas Day



All Masses across all Parishes will comply with the current Covid-19 Social Distancing regulations of 1 person per 2 square meters. Everyone will be required to scan or sign in at each Mass and sanitise.

The 6.30pm Mass on Christmas Eve in Mudgee will be held on the grounds of St Matthews School. Entry will be via Lewis Street. Please bring a blanket or chair to sit on. If you would like to volunteer to help with this mass, please contact the Parish Office on 6372-2122.

Mudgee News

Preparing the Church for Christmas

In preparation for Christmas, we are calling for volunteers to help with cleaning the church. The cleaning will take place after Mass on Wednesday 23rd December.

Many hands make light work...

Reconciliation / Confession

Second Rite of Reconciliation will be on **22nd December at 7pm**. Reconciliation will also be available on the **23rd December between 10.00am - 10.30am and 5.30pm - 6pm**.



Christmas Dues Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Request for Christmas Mass: Please give all Mass requests for loved ones to the Parish Office.

Gospel Reflection

© Greg Sunter

We have reached the final Sunday in the season of Advent – a time of preparing ourselves to recognise and celebrate Christ's presence in the world, both historically and in an ongoing, timeless way. This week's gospel account of the Annunciation is an ideal culmination to this season as we recall Mary's emphatic 'Yes' to all that was being asked of her. At the end of the Advent season of reflection and preparation to recognise Christ's presence in the world and in our lives, what better response could there be than to simply say, 'Yes'? In a world that is driven by selfishness and the drive to push one's self ahead of others, Mary's selfless act stands as a challenge to our modern society. Even in her own time, Mary's decision must have been an enormously difficult one



CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF BATHURST

The Bishop's Special Christmas Mission Appeal 2020

Each year, the annual Bishop's Special Missionary Appeal is held at Christmas Masses across the Diocese, with the proceeds going to overseas mission projects.

This year, a relationship has been formed between the Diocese of Bathurst and the St Joseph's Parish and Primary School precinct, Bongaon, West Bengal, Archdiocese of Calcutta, India.

St Joseph's Parish, Bongaon, is situated on India's eastern border with Bangladesh. It is a populous region and the parish's pastoral outreach extends to distant faith communities. St Joseph's Primary School caters for children from Nursery and Kindergarten to Year 4, and is conducted by the Apostolic Carmel Sisters (AC). The current enrolment is just over 500, with a teaching staff of 15.

The AC Convent comprises three religious sisters, including the school principal. Education remains a tool for evangelisation throughout India and Catholic schools conducted by religious congregations are very highly regarded in a pluralist society.

The Bishop's Special Christmas Appeal will support the vision of St Joseph's, Bongaon to expand the current Catholic primary school at there, by staged developments, to a Year 6 facility by 2021 and then to Year 12 by 2028.

The plan involves the expansion of the primary school area and new secondary school buildings to provide 32 new classrooms. In addition, there will be the equivalent of a further 20 classroom areas for the purposes of administration, staff room, multi-purpose learning areas, computer rooms, interview room, library and stairwells.

You can share the spirit of Christmas and help bring this project to fruition at all Christmas Masses across the Diocese.

You can donate to the Bishop's Special Christmas Missionary Appeal at <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CATHOLICDIOCESEOFBATHURST?billercode=1700392>

or

In Person: At the Bathurst Chancery Office or any parish office

Post: PO Box 246, Bathurst NSW 2795

Phone: 02 6334 6400

– one that had the potential to bring great shame on herself and Joseph. Yet, her decision is made swiftly and in faith. She trusts God absolutely and gives her life over into God's hands. That is perhaps the supreme act of faith; to say 'Yes' to God so completely that you are prepared to hand over direction and control of your own life.

Few of us tend to be visited by angels who lay out God's plan for us as clearly as Gabriel did for Mary. For most of us, it is a challenge to discern God's desire for us; to realise what it is that we are called to do and then give ourselves fully to that call. In the hustle and bustle of life, it is difficult to hear anything that God may be trying to ask of us. Perhaps the example of Mary's 'Yes' is a reminder to be still enough to hear the question in the first place!