

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 18TH DECEMBER 2022

First Reading: [Is 7:10-14](#)

The virgin will conceive.

Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10](#)

(R.) 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: [Rom 1:1-7](#)

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

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

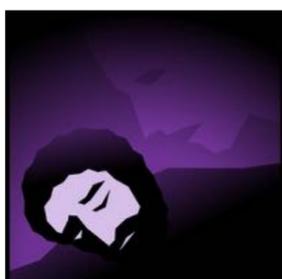
A virgin will give birth to a son;

his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

Alleluia!

Gospel: [Mt 1:18-24](#)

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



ADVENT PRAYER



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.

During this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love
that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his
Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us
from the angel Gabriel.

ALL: Amen

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Just Man Dreaming

Joseph could not ignore Mary's pregnancy, but he had an exceptional
large-heartedness, so that he preserved a future for Mary even
though she had apparently wronged him.

If he had gone to sleep in a frame of mind to avenge his honour, he
would not have been ready to have the deepest levels of his
consciousness stirred in the way God wanted. In the deep sleep of a
just and good man, Joseph was enlightened as to the divine
dimension of Mary's pregnancy. The old cycle of human history,
literally generation after generation, was being broken. Something
utterly new had happened.

You and I are just as likely to receive an intuition as to God's plan for
us in the depths of sleep: who we really are, who we are destined to
be, where we fit in to God's plan for transforming the whole of
creation. When we get these instructive moments in our sleep, what
can we do when we wake up? We can do what Joseph did: get up
and do what is needed to fulfil the message.

We could pause for a moment to thank Joseph for showing what
dreams can be made of. Tonight might be the night!

Parish Priest

Fr Owen Gibbons

Assistant Priest

Fr Thao Van Nguyen

Parish Deacon

Deacon Charles Applin

Parish Secretaries

Mrs Kristie Newman

Ms Krista O'Brien



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 10.00am - 4.00pm

Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri 9.00am - 4.00pm

Closed for Lunch 1.00pm - 2.00pm

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St Matthews Catholic School Mudgee:

Principal: Mrs Angela Myles

Ph 02 6372 1742

www.stmattsmudgee.catholic.edu.au

All Hallows Catholic School Gulgong:

Principal: Mr Bradley Toole

Ph 02 6374 1582

www.allhallowsgulgong.catholic.edu.au

Mudgee Roster Saturday 24th/ Sunday 25th December 2022		
	Saturday	Sunday
Commentator	<p>Christmas Eve Masses 6pm at St Matthews School 9pm St Mary's Church</p> <p>Christmas Day Masses 7.30am 9am</p> <p>To volunteer to help, please see the roster on the sheet at the back of the Church.</p>	
First Reader		
Second Reader		
Extraordinary Minister of Communion		
Altar Server		
Music		
Welcomer		
Offertory		
Counter		

Mudgee Roster Saturday 31st December/ Sunday 1st January 2023		
	Saturday	Sunday
Commentator	<p>As many people are away on Holidays at this time of year, we require volunteers to help with the Masses.</p> <p>Please contact the Office and let us know if you are available on this weekend or through January.</p>	
First Reader		
Second Reader		
Extraordinary Minister of Communion		
Altar Server		
Music		
Welcomer		
Offertory		
Counter		

Gulgong Roster			
Date	Commentator	Reader	Sacristan
25th Dec	P. Leotta	D. Kelly	M.&E. Carney
1st Jan	S. Parnell	J. Ritar	E. Donnelly
8th Jan	C. Gaudry	D. Hudson	C. Holland

Pope's Intentions for December...

Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



DAY BY DAY

MONDAY - 19th December 2022

12.00 Noon Angelus

TUESDAY - 20th December

9.30am Mass Mudgee

12.00 Noon Angelus

7.00pm Second Rite of Reconciliation - Mudgee

WEDNESDAY - 21st December

9.30am Christmas Church Cleaning

10.00am St Mary's Craft & Friendship Group

12.00 Noon Angelus

5.15pm Reconciliation - change of date and time.

5.45pm Mass Mudgee

THURSDAY - 22nd December

9.30am Mass Mudgee - Followed by decorating the Church

12.00 Noon Angelus

FRIDAY - 23rd December

11.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Reconciliation available on request.

12.00 Noon Angelus and Rosary

12.30pm Mass Mudgee

SATURDAY - 24th December

CHRISTMAS EVE

10.30am - 11.00am pm Reconciliation

6.00pm Vigil Mass - St Matthews Catholic School - Lewis St

6.30pm Vigil Mass - St John the Baptist Church - Gulgong

9.00pm Vigil Mass - St Mary's Catholic Church

SUNDAY - 25th December

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - YEAR A

CHRISTMAS DAY

7.30am Mass - Mudgee

9.00am Mass - Mudgee

9.30am Mass - Kandos



Hospital visitation Anointing/ Home Communion:

If you know of anyone who is in hospital or at home and would like the Anointing of the sick and Holy Communion, please ring the office. Fr Owen and Fr Thao are available, and will happily visit them at home or in hospital.

Please note, reconciliation is available anytime on request

Ministry Corner...

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

The Eucharist is the privileged way of experiencing the presence of Jesus Christ and sharing in His work of redeeming the world. Fed by the Body and Blood of Christ we, though many, are made one in the Lord. Eucharist allows us to participate more deeply in the Paschal Mystery, the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, inviting us to conform our lives to Christ's.

The Extraordinary Minister of Communion works with the Parish Priest, other Extraordinary Ministers of Communion and Sacristans of the parish to distribute Holy Communion to parishioners at Mass.

GULGONG NEWS

Unfortunately, we only had a four hour street stall and many of our supporters could not buy raffle tickets. The basket will be on display on Sunday with a variety of linen as well as many delicious Christmas goodies.

Buy your tickets on Sunday and be the lucky winner.

We wish Fr Thao a successful transfer to Coonamble from the Gulgong Parish. We will remember him in our prayers.

MUDGE NEWS

URGENT - Volunteers Needed...

If you are available and would like to help with the Christmas Masses in Mudgee, please put your name on the Mass Volunteer sheet at the back of the church.

Christmas Church Cleaning will be at 9.30am on Wednesday 21st December. Please let the Parish Office know if you are available to help, even for a short time as many hands make short work.

Help needed with Church decorating after Mass on Thursday 22nd December.

Important Notice

As you may be aware, there will be a significant change in our Parishes next year. With Fr Thao leaving, Fr Owen will be our only Priest for the parishes of Gulgong, Kandos / Rylstone and Mudgee. This means that some of the Masses will be change. The changes are:

1st Sunday in the Month

10.30am Communion Service Gulgong
11.00am Mass Kandos

2nd Sunday in the Month

10.30am Mass Gulgong
11.00am Communion Service Kandos

3rd Sunday in the Month

10.30am Communion Service Gulgong
11.00am Mass Rylstone

4th Sunday in the Month

10.30am Mass Gulgong
11.00am Communion Service Rylstone

5th Sunday in Month

10.30am Communion Service Gulgong
11.00am Mass Kandos

The Mass times for Mudgee will remain the same, for now.

SACRAMENTS 2023

ST MARY'S MUDGE

IMPORTANT DATES

If you are considering the Sacrament of Confirmation or the Sacrament of First Holy Communion for your child in 2023, we would like to extend a warm invitation to you to come along to a Parent/Carer Information Session as part of our preparation required for the sacramental journey of your child.

SAVE THESE DATES



From Year 6 onwards

School Term 1

Tuesday 21st March 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm or
Thursday 23rd March 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm



First Holy Communion

From Year 3 onwards

School Term 2

Tuesday 20TH June 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm or
Thursday 22ND June 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

** Please note that the journey for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be for Year 3 students onwards from 2023 **

Further Information will be available on the Parish website (mudgee.catholic.org.au) from Tuesday 20th December including registration to attend a Parent/Carer Information session. All enquiries to sacraments.mudgee@cdob.org.au Please pass this message on to anyone you feel would be interested.

2023 Calendars

Selling Fast...

Beautifully illustrated 2023 calendars with some amazing recipes available for sale at \$15 each. We have some still available so please support our parish by purchasing one. They would be a great Christmas gifts for family and friends. They can be purchased after Mass at the back of the church or from the Parish Office during the week.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS NOW AVAILABLE
DON'T MISS OUT!**

Masses and prayers requested for the following.

For the recently deceased especially:

Joan Loughrey, John McNicol,
Denis Donnelly, Jason McAuliffe,
Max McBeath, Douglas Kenney.

We remember the anniversaries of:

Tom Roughan, John Mahon, Janice Bryant,
Jeff O'Brien, Joyce Jone, Peter Cruz,
Mary Woodhouse, Thelma Swords,
Pauline Rutar, Amy Thomet,
Florence McLean, Cecily Loneragan,
Colin Gorrie, Wayne Morton,
Melba Roberts, William Staff.

For the deceased, especially:

June O'Neill, Keeghan Munn, Una Harris,
Fr James Kane, Philip Rhodes, Steven Carberry, Audrey Kelly, Michael Azar,
Tom Roughan.

Prayers requested for:

Maria Knezevic, Ava Marakovic (Syd),
Anne Mead, Vikki Treves, John Carney,
Molly Jenkins, Debra O'Loughlin,
Eleni Roberts, Tony Spina, Joe Saliba,
Dennis Petersen, Geoffrey Munn,
Gwen Ausburn, Tony Harris, John Cross,
Dianne Brown, Cherylanne Adamson,
Molly Jenkins, Howard Brady,
Rodrigo Jaboneta, Carmel Thompson and
all those in our Nursing Homes.

Exciting Announcement!

The new-look Catholic Observer magazine will be delivered to Diocesan schools and parishes this week. Make sure to receive your copy!

Contents include Bishop Michael's Christmas Message and Pastoral Letter for 2022, a message from Christina Trimble Executive Director CEDB, Diocesan school and parish news and much more.

You can also read the Catholic Observer magazine online here:

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/59481f8e-4761-4092-b52c-79a7545daa8c>



Reading for Next Sunday: The Nativity of the Lord - YEAR A

Is 52:7-10 Ps 97:1-6. R. v.3 Heb 1:1-6 Lk 2:1-14



Christmas Mass Times

Gulgong

Christmas Eve - Saturday 24th December
6.30pm

Kandos / Rylstone

Christmas Day - Sunday 25th December
9.30am Kandos

Mudgee

Reconciliation

Tuesday 20th December

7.00pm Second Rite of Reconciliation - Mudgee

Friday 23rd December

11.30am - 12.00 noon - Reconciliation

Saturday 24th December

10.30am - 11.00am - Reconciliation

Masses

Christmas Eve - Saturday 24th December

6.00pm Mass - in the St Matthews School Grounds
9.00pm Mass - St Marys Church

Christmas Day - 25th December

7.30am Mass

9.00am Mass



A special thank you to Louise Nicholson, Patti Kiddle and Louise Trehet who organised and coordinated our Annual Parish Dinner and Farewell to Fr Thao and to their many helpers who enabled the night to flow beautifully ensuring everyone had a great night and thanks for Fr Thao's beautiful speech.

This Christmas, give the gift of education to the children of Bongaon, India.

The proceeds of Bishop McKenna's Special Christmas Missionary Appeal for 2022 will go to the completion of St Joseph's Primary School in Bongaon, St Joseph's Parish, Diocese of Calcutta, West Bengal. This is the third year that God's people in the Diocese of Bathurst have the opportunity to support this vital mission, giving much needed funds to complete the multi-staged school development, providing education for the children of the Diocese of Calcutta. In addition to supporting the Appeal at all Christmas Masses in the Diocese, donations can also be made via:

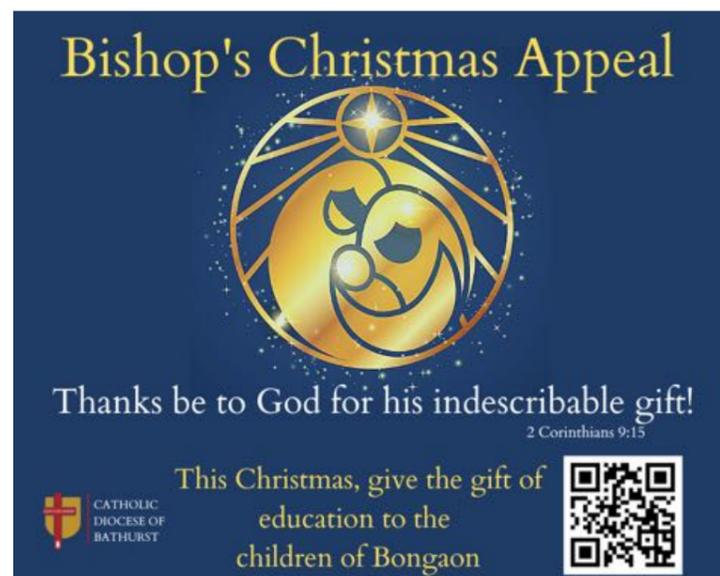
Online: www.bathurst.catholic.org.au

In Person: At the Bathurst Chancery Office

Post: PO Box 246, Bathurst NSW 2795

or any parish office

QR Code: scan the code on the flier to donate



REFLECTION by Dianne 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.