



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.



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A 16TH APRIL 2023

First Reading: [Acts 2:42-47](#)

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1](#)

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.' **(R.)**

I was thrust, thrust down and falling but the Lord was my helper.

The Lord is my strength and my song; he was my saviour.

There are shouts of joy and victory in the tents of the just. **(R.)**

The stone which the builders rejected

has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **(R.)**

Second Reading: [1 Pt 1:3-9](#)

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;

happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel: [Jn 20:19-31](#)

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant

The themes for the second Sunday of Easter set the tone for the entire Easter season. They are all directed toward mystagogical instruction, primarily of the neophytes who were baptised during the Easter Vigil, but also of the whole Christian community. The readings for this season provide us an extended meditation on the resurrection and on our own incorporation into it through the mysteries of initiation.

Most of us are like Thomas who looked for some tangible evidence of the resurrection. We do not find it any easier to live by faith than he did. However, when we do live by faith, we actually discover tangible proof. This proof can be seen in the way the community reaches out in care and support to others. Jesus extends his wounded hands to us as he did to Thomas, and the community is invited to touch his wounds as we touch the wounds of our world. We find a similar situation in the reading from Acts where the fledgling Christian community grew in number as a result of the teaching of the apostles. So it has always been. Those who are not eye witnesses of the actual events are called, through the teaching of others, to witness to the power of the resurrection.

Although the blessings that we derive from the resurrection are clearly gifts from God, they are nonetheless costly gifts. They have been won through the blood of Christ, and we too may have to pay dearly for having received them.

© Dianne Bergant

Parish Priest

Fr Owen Gibbons

Parish Deacon

Deacon Charles Applin

Seminarian: Ha Tran

Parish Secretaries

Mrs Kristie Newman

Ms Krista O'Brien

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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



IMPORTANT...

Saturday Mass Time

The Saturday night Vigil Mass will remain at 6pm until the end of April.

We need more people to take on ministries in our Parish. Please complete a Ministry Volunteer Form and return ASAP.

Gulgong Roster			
	23rd Apr	30th Apr	7 May
Commentator	D. Kelly	R. Saliba	P. Leotta
Reader	E. Donelly	C. Gaudry	K. Ritar
Sacristan	C. Holland	R. Saliba	M. & E. Carney
Leader		S. Parnell	

Mudgee Roster Saturday 22nd/ Sunday 23rd April 2023		
	Saturday	Sunday
Commentator	D. Cunningham	A. Myles
First Reader	C. Furney	K. Cassidy
Second Reader	C. Furney	E. de Vries
EMOC	G. Brymora	M. Dunnachie
Altar Server	Patrick C Lincoln C	Steph R
Music	Rue & Choir	Jerry & Choir
Welcomer	Mrs S. Walker	M. Dunnachie
Offertory	K. Isbester	M. Gilbert
Counter	Mon 17th Apr	L. Nicholson

Mudgee Roster Saturday 29th/ Sunday 30th April 2023		
	Saturday	Sunday
Commentator	C. Furney	M. Matthews
First Reader	D. Cunningham	L. Croake
Second Reader	D. Cunningham	M. Dunnachie
EMOC	L. Nicholson	R. McKeown
Altar Server	Violet F Willow F	Portelli Family
Music	Rue & Choir	Jerry & Choir
Welcomer	K. Isbester	S. Walker
Offertory	Williams Family	A. White
Counter	Mon 24th Apr	R. Croake

GULGONG NEWS

The Gulgong Catholic Women's Group will be having a meeting on Tuesday, 2nd May at 2pm. All welcome to attend.

DAY BY DAY

MONDAY - 17th April

Parish Office opens at 10am.

12.00 Noon Regina Coeli

TUESDAY - 18th April

9.30am Mass - Mudgee

12.00 Noon Regina Coeli

WEDNESDAY - 19th April

12.00 Noon Regina Coeli

5.20pm Reconciliation

5.45pm Mass - Mudgee

THURSDAY - 20th April

9.30am Communion Service - Mudgee

12.00 Noon Regina Coeli

FRIDAY - 21st April

11.00am Mass - Kanandah Nursing Home

11.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Reconciliation available on request.

12.00 Noon Regina Coeli and Rosary

12.30pm Mass - Mudgee

SATURDAY - 22nd April

10.00am Conversations about Dying, Death and Bereavement

11.00am Baptism

5.15pm Reconciliation

6.00pm Vigil Mass - Mudgee

SUNDAY - 23rd April

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

9.00am Mass - Mudgee

10.30am Mass - Gulgong

11.00am Communion Service - Rylstone

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 call the office. Fr Owen is available, and will happily visit them at home or in hospital.

Please note, reconciliation is available anytime on request.



The group meets on Sunday evenings at 5pm in the Parish Centre, Mudgee.

All welcome.

Masses and prayers requested for the following.

For the recently deceased especially: Debra O'Louglin, James Winter, Patrick Power,

We remember the anniversaries of: Peter McDonnell, Peter Rayner, Caroline Rayner, Lynette Wakeling, Clarice Williamson, Colin Sampson, Ethel Ottley, Elizabeth Gleeson, Leonora Bond, Joyce Power, Kevin Byrnes, Lilian Munro, Jason Chapman, John Fitzpatrick, James Bulinski.

For the deceased, especially: Lon Schreck, Anne Mead.

Prayers requested for: Nancy Gallagher, Lynne Daly, Frances Saliba, Joe Saliba, Jackie Cummins, Charles Micallef, Ian Johnson, Tony Spina, Tony Harris, Ruth Hyde, Roland Barros, Vikki Treves, John Carney, Eleni Roberts, Dennis Petersen, Geoffrey Munn, Dianne Brown, Rodrigo Jaboneta, Carmel Thompson and all those in our Nursing Homes.



Good Shepherd Sunday will be celebrated on 30 April this year. It's an opportunity to thank God for our priests, who lead the mission of our local church in the parishes. Their ministry is unique and indispensable. On Good Shepherd Sunday, we look to those who will serve our Diocese as priests in the future: our five seminarians. Some are nearing the end of the long journey of formation and discernment; others are just beginning. We must never give up on our earnest prayer that more young men will hear and answer God's call to leave everything and follow him. Every year, we have a special collection to cover the cost of the investment in our seminarians' training. This year, the annual bill will be more than \$250,000. We ask for ongoing support with your prayers, your participation in the work of our church and your financial contributions.

The Regina Coeli

Queen of Heaven rejoice, alleluia:

For He Whom you did merit to bear, alleluia,

Has risen as He said, alleluia.

Pray for us to God, alleluia.

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, Who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Fr Michel Remery Seminar

**HOW TO GROW IN FAITH:
A life changing course to explore faith and how to share it**

Are you a parish worker, school teacher, SRE teacher, youth minister or youth group leader? Are you looking for more engaging resources? Then this 'train the trainer' seminar is for you. *Entry is free.*

Registration:
admin@bathurst.catholic.org.au
Date: 8 May 2023,
Time: 9.30am to 2.30pm
Venue:
Conference room, The Chancery,
118 Keppel St Bathurst.

**Pope's Intentions for April...
For a culture of peace and non-violence**

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.



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Have you arrived
in St. Mary's
Parish in the past
year?
OR
Do you know
someone new to
our Parish?
.....

If so, we invite you to provide your name and contact details to the Parish Office

Phone St. Mary's Parish office on 6372 2122

Or email office.mudgee@cdob.org.au as

St. Mary's Parish is planning a Welcome Function for New Parishioners.

Project Compassion

Thank You!

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2023. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion and donate online.

Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

PLEASE NOTE: All envelopes and money boxes need to be returned to the Parish Office by the end of April.



Historical Context
My Lord and my God

This extraordinarily clear statement of belief about the divinity of Jesus appears nowhere else in any of the four gospels. Why does the Gospel of John make this statement and not any of the other gospels? It must be remembered that the Gospel of John was the last of the four gospels to be written – at least 20 years after the Gospel of Mark and some 60 to 70 years after the death of Jesus. The early Christians had been cast out of the Jewish tradition and were making sense of how their own beliefs could stand apart from Jewish tradition. With the break from Judaism, Christians felt able to express their developing belief that Jesus was God.

Have you thought?
Those who have not seen

Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we – blessed are we – who have not seen and yet still believe!

Scriptural context
Not an ending?

The final two verses of today's gospel passage (Jn 20:30-31) read like the conclusion to the whole gospel. They are a statement of finality about the purpose for writing the gospel and something of a blessing for those who read it. Yet, surprisingly, there is another whole chapter that follows this passage that deals with still more post-resurrection appearances. Most scripture scholars believe that the end of Chapter 20 was the original ending of the gospel and that Chapter 21 is a later addition – possibly added by the community for whom the gospel was originally written.

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Reading for Next Sunday: THIRD Sunday of Easter- YEAR A

Acts 2:14, 22-33

Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. v.11

1 Pt 1:17-21

Lk 24:13-35



Conversations about Dying, Death and Bereavement

All of us experience in our lives moments of loss and grief; times when we are reminded of the reality of death and how we respond.

Our Parish has been selected to be part of a pilot group program run in conjunction with Centacare, where, over a cuppa, in a relaxed environment, guided and gentle conversations can flow to inform and share about experiences of the death of someone we love and the bereavement and grief that follows.

These conversations will last about an hour once a month for 4 months, starting on **Saturday 22nd April at 10am in the Parish Centre**. If you would like to discuss the program more or express your interest in being part of these conversations, please give Kristie a ring at the Parish office.

The Easter Season

You won't find Easter candy or decorations for sale at the supermarket much past Easter Sunday.

While the secular world moves on from bunnies and chocolate, the Church continues to celebrate Easter long after the final ham leftovers are eaten.

The Easter season is the second-longest liturgical season. Only ordinary time is longer.

The Church celebrates the Easter season (also known as "Eastertide") for 50 days, culminating with the feast of Pentecost, where Scripture (Acts 2:1-31) tells us that the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles.

Divine Mercy Sunday and the Ascension, a holy day of obligation, take place during the Easter season.

© <https://hallow.com/easter/#season>



Thank you to everyone who helped from Palm Sunday, through Holy week and the Easter Triduum. Whether you were a welcomer, Minister of the Word, Extra Ordinary Minister of the Eucharistic, part of the music ministry, brought down the Offertory, were an Altar server, decorated the church, donated the flowers or fully participate in the Masses, your presence did not go unnoticed. We thank you.

Congratulations to

Jessica Salter
and
Barry Petersen



who were received into full communion with the Catholic Church.

Let the Holy Spirit uphold them always as they take up their new responsibility among the people of this parish.

Hymns for Sunday Mass Mudgee

Entrance Hymn - By Your Kingly Power, O risen Lord

Refrain

By your kingly power O risen Lord.
All that Adam lost is now restored:
In your resurrection be adored.

Sing the joyful Easter cry,
Sound it to the souls in prison,
Shout our triumph to the sky:
Sing Christ risen, sing Christ risen. Refrain

Sing the joyful Easter cry,
Let all times and peoples listen:
Death has no more victory,
Sing Christ risen, sing Christ risen. Refrain

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Offertory Hymn - A New Commandment

A New Commandment
I give unto you,
That you love one another
As I have loved you,
That you love one another
As I have loved you.

By this shall all know
That you are My disciples,
If you have love one for another.
By this shall all know
That you are My disciples,
If you have love one for another.

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