



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.



THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A 12TH NOVEMBER 2023 PRISON SUNDAY

First Reading: [Wisdom 6:12-16](#)

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2](#)

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary.
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **(R.)**

Second Reading: [1 Thessalonians 4:13-18](#)

Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

Gospel: [Matthew 25:1-13](#)

*Look, the bridegroom comes.
Go out to meet him.*



Prison Ministry

The Diocese of Bathurst has many correctional facilities that house those who are vulnerable and need to see and feel the love of God. These facilities include Lithgow, Oberon, Kirkconnell, Bathurst, Wellington and Macquarie (also in Wellington).

Visiting prisoners is one of the Corporal Works of Mercy. The Diocese of Bathurst has a dedicated team of Prison Chaplains who minister within the walls of these facilities each and every day. They bring Jesus to those who have committed crimes and made mistakes. They fulfil the command of Jesus to help those who need it the most.

Catholic Chaplains work closely with Chaplains from other denominations and faiths and regularly make a substantial difference in the lives of more than 1,700 men and women who are imprisoned in our region.

This ministry extends beyond the gates of the Correctional facilities across the Diocese as there are always opportunities for those who wish to help in simple ways that can transform lives. If you would like to find out more about Prison Ministry, please contact Deacon Josh Clayton via email: mrd@bathurst.catholic.org.au

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Let's think of our incarcerated brothers and sisters, and let's think about the tenderness of God for them and pray for them so that they may find in that window of hope a way out toward a better life.

POPE FRANCIS

PRISON SUNDAY 2023
NOVEMBER 12

catholic.au/s/article/Prison-Sunday



Parish Priest
Fr Owen Gibbons

Parish Deacon
Deacon Charles Applin

Seminarian: Ha Tran

Parish Secretaries
Mrs Kristie Newman
Ms Krista O'Brien

Postal Address:
P.O Box 14 Mudgee NSW 2850
Phone: 02 6372 2122

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

Baptism

We welcome into our Mudgee Parish community:

Olive Margaret Munn

daughter of Todd and Alison
and

Sylvie Audrey Rose Maloney

daughter of Joshua and Bianca



Masses and prayers requested for the following.

For the recently deceased especially:

Margaret Jervis, Max Faucett, Joyce Doble, Ray Baskerville.

We remember the anniversaries of:

Ebony Sheehan, John Felton, Bridget Walker, Molly Woods, Harry Keightley, Gary Szymkarczuk, Margaret Robinson, Lawrence Cluff, Joseph Tutill, Michael Maloney, Joy Gilbey, Patrick Rily, Richard Kinsela, Helen Friend, Mark Kane, Joy McGrath, Kathleen Fuller, Marie Hundy.

For the deceased, especially:

Pat Cox, John Fergus, Gary Hill, Elias & Therese Sadaka, Maggie Swientek.

Masses for Special Intentions, In Thanksgiving and For All the Holy Souls.

Prayers requested for the sick:

Maureen Hutchinson, Eleni Roberts, Tomislav Marakovic (Sydney), Josephine Debattista, Margaret Doble, Tony Spina, Tracy Donnelly, Maureen Turner, Elizabeth Donnelly, Joe Saliba, Iris McBeath, Graham Hawkins, Lynne Daly, Tony Harris, Carmel Thompson, Dennis Petersen, Rodrigo Jaboneta, and all those in our Nursing Homes.

The Sign

Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections 2023
from the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong

Now available

Mudgee - from the Parish Office
Gulgong - see sacristan
Kandos - see sacristan

Cost

\$5.00 per book
\$1.00 for a Bookmark (Mudgee only)

Bell Ringers Required...

Every day at Noon, the bell of St Mary's, Mudgee is rung to call people to pray. This is an important ministry that we would like to continue however we are in need of more volunteers.

If you have a spare 15mins around Noon during the week or on weekends and would like to help ring the bell, please contact the Parish Office on 6372-2122. This ministry will be on a roster and training will be provided.



Positions Vacant

Cleaner needed in Dunedoo from beginning of January. Cleaning includes cleaning the Presbytery.

3 hours per week.

If interested, please contact the Mudgee Parish Office on 6372-2122.

Parish Secretary (Casual Maternity leave position, 3.5hrs per week) - Dunedoo parish.

The secretary assists the Parish Priest in providing efficient and effective communion and administration. The position requests the successful applicant to:

- Prepare weekly bulletins and prayers of the faithful.
- Maintain Parish records, written and computer records.
- Other administrative duties as required.

Follow more details and a Job description, please contact Mudgee Parish Office on 6372-2122.

**2023 Mudgee Churches Association
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH
12 MIDDAY CHRISTMAS DAY
AT ST JOHNS ANGLICAN CHURCH HALL MUDGEE**

6 Church St, Mudgee



All Welcome

*Join us for a Free Lunch & Fellowship
Please let us know if you're attending*

Places are limited

To Reserve a seat at the table, register online with the QR code of the poster
or Phone Graham - 0458 242 126 or Jorie - 0412 179 293
RSVP by 11/12/23

November - Book of Remembrance

During November the Mass requests for all the deceased will be written in the Book of Remembrance. The book will remain in the St Mary's Church for all Masses during the week and taken up at Offertory Procession during the weekend Masses.

If you would like names added to the book, please write them clearly on a November Mass envelope and either place them on the collection plate or take them to the Parish Office. The November Mass envelopes are available at all the churches.

Reading for next Sunday: THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- YEAR A

Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 31-31.

Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Matthew 25:14-30

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR

YOUTH MASS

DATE: Sunday 26th November 2023

WHERE: St Mary's Catholic Church

TIME: 9am Mass, followed by Morning Tea

WHAT TO BRING: A plate of food to share

Let's celebrate First Holy Communion and Confirmation and World Youth Day on the solemnity of CHRIST, THE KING.

All First Communion and Confirmation children, their families and the whole parish are warmly invited.

ST MARY'S ANNUAL PARISHIONER CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

6.00PM SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2023
IN THE CHURCH GROUNDS



Dear Parishioners.

We are having our annual Christmas function on Sunday evening, 3rd December. We would love to invite you to attend. This event is a great opportunity for us to say thanks to all those who have contributed to our parish, making it a beautiful and welcoming place. Everyone contributes in their own way. Even simple acts such as smiling or saying hello to others, welcoming visitors or new parishioners, plays a huge part in developing our parish. We welcome all to join us on the night.

This year, our evening will have a fun Multicultural theme to reflect the various nationalities and cultures that make up our parish. Just like in previous years, we invite you to bring a plate to share, that represents your culture. Please feel free to dress according to your cultural background. The parish will provide ham, rolls, tea, coffee for all, and drinks for the children. Other beverages BYO.

To assist with catering, please write your name, indicate the number of adults and children attending, and what plate you are bringing on the sign-up sheets on the Whiteboard at the back of the church.

We would be grateful for any assistance with setting up and cleaning up, 'Many hands make light work', and by doing this we all get to enjoy the night. If you can assist with setting chairs and tables, serving food, or helping with clean-up, please add your name and what you can help with on the Helpers sheet at the back of the Church.

Let us make our night great again.

YOUTH

 -by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep

A major theme of the Scripture readings is 'Be prepared'.

In the first reading, God's wisdom is described in human terms. Wisdom makes sure she is easily found, but we still need to search for her. She is knowledge of God and knowledge of all the good things God has made. Likewise, when we have wisdom, we have relationship with God. Like wisdom, God is always there for us. God calls us through the Scriptures and nature and other people, but we need to look, listen and respond.

The psalmist has a strong yearning for God, like someone who has been without water for a long time and is driven by thirst. The psalmist praises and glorifies God, who satisfies all our hungers and thirsts. Even at night the psalmist prays and meditates with God.

In the second reading, we hear how members of the Thessalonian church, eagerly waiting for Jesus to return, are saddened when their members begin to die before the Lord comes. Paul consoles them by telling them that God has raised Christ so they can be confident that God will raise all with him. The dead will rise again when Christ returns, and we will rejoin them in the heavens. Nothing can separate us from Jesus, not even death.



The parable of the ten bridesmaids is like the Scout motto, 'Be prepared'. In the Gospel reading, Jesus tells a story of ten women waiting to welcome the groom to the wedding celebration. All took torches, but only five brought extra oil. The groom did not arrive until midnight. While the five foolish bridesmaids went to buy more oil, the five sensible ones greeted the groom with bright torches. When the five foolish ones returned, the door was closed and the master refused to let them in. Jesus ends with the admonition, 'Keep your eyes open, for you know not the day or the hour.'

This story is about the expected return of Christ. It is not enough to just wait for his final return. We believe that Jesus can come and be present at any time. We have to be prepared at all times.

REFLECTION

 by Fr Michael Tate

The Hour and the Time

Israel was often portrayed as a bride in Jewish scriptures. So, the question was: 'When would the Bridegroom – the Anointed One of God, the Christ – appear?' Jesus' warning is to the attendants of the bride: 'Be alert, be vigilant, be prepared.' Some (the five foolish attendants) did miss the moment: the earthly ministry of Jesus of Nazareth.

But his warning is also for the Catholic Church which is the new Bride of Christ. We are the attendants to the Bride and the imperative applies to us also: Be alert, be vigilant. Be prepared for the eruption, the intervention of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom, into our history, into our moment of time.

For example, is Christ coming to meet us in the modern movements which demand to hold authority accountable, or which press for just recognition of women? We can foolishly remain in the dark or we can wisely try to throw light on these questions. Only then we will be able to discern whether indeed it is the Lord who is approaching.

We could pause to pray that we be ready when the Bridegroom responds to the ancient prayer: 'Come, Lord Jesus!'