

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 ADVENT—YEAR C 8TH DECEMBER 2024

First Reading: *Baruch 5:1-9*

Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 125. R. v.3*

(R.) *The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **(R.)**

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

Second Reading: *Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11*

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel: *Luke 3:1-6*

All people shall see the salvation of God

Advent Wreath



In today's readings we shall hear about
the mission of John the Baptist, who was
sent to prepare the way for the coming of
Jesus, the light of the world.

We too are sent to prepare the way. As we light the
second candle on the Advent Wreath, let us acknowledge
our weaknesses and pray that we may be worthy of our
mission to spread the light of Christ in the world, so that
all may acknowledge Jesus as Lord.

Response: COME LORD JESUS

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world...
You are the light in our darkness ...
Son of God save us from our sins ...
Bring hope into the lives of all people...

Response
Response
Response
Response

Prepare a way for the lord.

The season of Advent is a time in which we prepare for
the Lord's coming. We prepare for the feast of Christmas
which commemorates his first coming as a child in
Bethlehem. And we prepare also for his final coming in
glory. We do this by heeding John the Baptist's call to
repentance, and by striving for 'peace through integrity,
and honour through devotedness'.

© St Pauls Sunday Missal

REMINDER TO ALL CHILDREN'S LITURGY PARENTS AND CARERS:

Please scan the **Children's Liturgy QR code** at the front of the church or here to sign your child in
for Children's Liturgy.

ALL children attending Children's Liturgy must be signed in by their parents or carers.



Parish Priest

Fr Owen Gibbons
Fr Cong Hoang

Parish Deacon

Rev Charles Applin

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:

Ph 02 6372 1742

Principal: Mrs Angela Myles

www.stmattsmudgee.catholic.edu.au/

All Hallows Catholic School Gulgong:

Principal: Mr Bradley Toole

Ph 02 6374 1582

www.allhallowsgulgong.catholic.edu.au

Gulgong Roster		
	15th Dec	22nd Dec
Commentator	P. Leotta	J. Thatcher
Reader	B. Toole	K. Ritar
Sacristan	C. Holland	R. Saliba
Leader		
Mudgee Roster		
Saturday 14th December / Sunday 15th December		
Commentator	B. Petersen	A. McLean
First Reader	I. Byrne	W. Bodycote
Second Reader	P. Cannon	M. Cassidy
EMOC	A. Fergus	P. O'Brien
Altar Server		
Welcomer	F. Lupton	M. Gilbert
Offertory	K. Isbester	Children's Liturgy
Sacristan	L. Nicholson	
Counter	9th December	K. O'Brien
Saturday 21st December / Sunday 22nd December		
Commentator	D. Cunningham	A. Myles
First Reader	D. Delahunty	A. McLean
Second Reader	A. McLean	M. Matthews
EMOC	L. Nicholson	M. Gilbert
Altar Server		
Welcomer	C. Carberry	M. Dunnachie
Offertory	M. Dorney	O. O'Brien
Sacristan	L. Robinson	
Counter	16th December	L. Nicholson
Bells	<i>Mon - E. Goodlet Fri - I. Browne</i> <i>Tue - R. Gawthorne</i> <i>Wed - J. Cooper Sat - I. Browne</i> <i>Thu - I. Browne Sun - R. Gawthorne</i>	

GULGONG NEWS:

Church cleaning for Christmas will be on Wednesday 11th December at 9.30am. Men and women welcome to do the brass and dust .

MUDGEES NEWS

Christmas Church Decorating will take place on Sunday 22nd December at 2.30pm. Everyone is welcome to help in getting the church ready for Christmas. Please contact the Parish office if you are able to help. Parish Office number is 6372-2122.

Church cleaning for Christmas will take place on Monday 23rd December at 9.30am. Please let the Parish Office know if you are able to help. Parish Office number is 6372-2122.

Parishioners are welcome to open the windows in St. Mary's church for Mass, please be mindful then to close the windows when leaving. As it is "storm season" if windows are left open and there is a storm and rain is blown into the church, water damage could occur.

DAY BY DAY	
Mon, 9/12	The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY—Solemnity
9.30am	Mudgee Mass
	Parish Office Opens 10am
11.00am	Ha Van Tran—Candidacy for Holy Orders at Diocesan Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Carcoar.
12 noon	Angelus
6.30PM	All Hallows Presentation Night
Tue, 10/12	Second Week of Advent
9.30am	NO MASS
11.00am	Funeral—Fr Max Blumenthal—Orange
12 noon	Angelus
5.00pm	St Matthews Year 6 Graduation Mass
Wed, 11/12	Second Week of Advent
9.30am	Gulgong Church Cleaning
10.30am	St Matthews Primary Mass
10.40am	St Matthew Year 7 Mass
12 noon	Angelus
5.15pm	Reconciliation
5.45pm	Mass - Mudgee
Thu, 12/12	Second Week of Advent
9.30am	Mass - Mudgee
9.30am	St Matthews K to 6 Awards Day
12 noon	Angelus
6.00pm	St Matthews Secondary Awards Night
Fri, 13/12	St Lucy, virgin, martyr—Memorial
10.30am	Mass—Whiddon Nursing Home
11.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12noon	Angelus & Rosary
12.30pm	Anointing Mass - Mudgee
Sat, 14/12	St John of the Cross, priest, doctor Memorial
12 noon	Angelus
5.30pm	Reconciliation
6.00pm	Mass - Mudgee
6.00pm	Christmas Carols Concert, Blessing of the Nativity and Mass at St Malachy's Catholic Church Rylstone. Mass will start about 7.30pm
Sun, 15/12	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8.30am	Rosary - Mudgee
9.00am	Mass - Mudgee
10.30am	Mass - Gulgong
11.00am	Kandos No Mass
12 noon	Angelus

The Pope's Monthly Intentions 2024

DECEMBER - For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year of 2025 will strengthen us in our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.





Christmas Carols Concert
Blessing of the Nativity and Mass

At St Malachy's Catholic Church
 Louee St, Rylstone
 14th December from 6pm
 Mass will start at 7.30pm

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

We are John the Baptists

Do we have to be like John the Baptist, eccentrically dressed and scavenging for food, to prepare the way of the Lord? No. You and I are called to be a John or Joan the Baptist, preparing people's hearts in our own time and place.

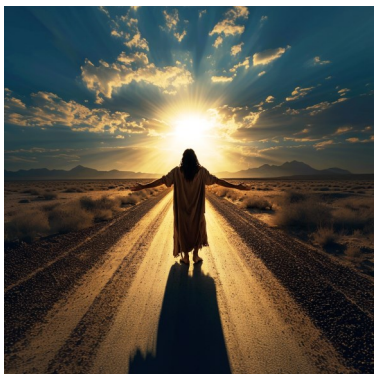
But we have to allow God to prepare our hearts for this role. John the Baptist challenges us to 'Repent', i.e. to turn around our own lives seeking God's forgiveness. John then challenges us to see the big picture which is that 'All who live shall see the salvation of God'.

Pope Francis is the exemplary universal pastor inspiring us to become 'les mercifuls sans frontieres'. And young people through social media are already saying 'We are one community of human beings on this fragile planet'.

The challenge for most of us is more immediate and apparently of smaller scope. The challenge this Advent is to identify the one person whose heart you can help prepare to celebrate the coming of the Lord Jesus in three weeks' time. The best method is to let that person see your faith and joy centred on that little Jewish baby lying in a manger.

Do that, and who knows what may happen because that little baby is in fact the Sovereign Lord of history and of the whole cosmos. With God's grace, you don't have to be as eccentric or bizarre as John the Baptist to play your part in changing the course of history!

We could take a moment to pray that, repenting of our own sins where necessary, we may prepare the heart of at least one person so that the Lord Jesus may enter in this Christmas, helping him fulfil his mission that all who live shall see the salvation of God.



Candidacy to Holy Orders

Bishop McKenna will admit seminarian Ha Van Tran to the Candidacy for the Holy Order at 11am Mass at the Diocesan Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Carcoar, on Monday 9th December, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

Candidacy is the last step toward the Diaconate Ordination. The period from the admittance to the Candidacy and Diaconate Ordination is often six months to one year.

Ha had his pastoral year in our parishes last year. Please keep him in your prayers as he embarks on the new milestone on his journey to the priesthood. You are also most welcome to attend the ceremony at Carcoar on the 9th to express your support for him.



MUDGEES COMBINED CHRISTIAN CHURCHES CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON INC 2024 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH & HAMPERS

At St Johns Anglican Church Hall
 6 Church St. Mudgee
 All Welcome

Join us for a free Lunch & Fellowship
Hampers and Seats are limited

To reserve a seat at the table or to order a hamper,
 register online with the QR code on the poster or
 call Graham—0458242126 or
 David—0410838089
RSVP 11/12/2024

MASSSES AND PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING.

For the recently deceased especially:

Blake Pool (Denman), Fr Max Blumenthal, Denis Flynn, Eleanor Bryant.

We remember the anniversaries of:

Ellen Lynch, Roslyn Musgrave, Paul Gaffney, Mary Abbott, Norah Babbage, Jozef Tot, Ana Oros, Joan Loughrey, Len Adams, Cecily Conroy, Gwendoline Wolfe, Douglas Richardson, Anna Perini.

For the deceased, especially:

Nauma Buchanan, Mick Batson, Denis Matthews, Ken Brown, Elleen Ellsmore

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

Prayers requested for the sick:

Mary Rheinberger, Fr Peter Dresser, Catrina McGhee, Cathy Ward, Donna Pilati, Kieran Micallef, Daniel Lee, Sigrid Germon, June Ritar, Ron Muscat, Tony Harris, Carla Perrotto, Joe Saliba, Paula Ryan, Carmen Archer, Trish Buckley, Horace Saliba, Tony Spina, Lynne Daly, Elizabeth Donnelly, Tracy Donnelly, Trevor Roberts (England), Iris McBeath, Kim Barry, Josephine Debaksta, Dennis Petersen, Carmel Thompson, Rodrigo Jaboneta, and all those in our

JOKE JUNCTION.....

Q: Why did the mushrooms get invited to all the best parties?

A: He was a fun-gi!





Each Christmas, Bishop McKenna highlights a grassroots project that transforms

lives in places of great need. This year, we are supporting the construction of classrooms on Santo Island, Vanuatu, where students are learning in makeshift tents after devastating volcanic eruptions and cyclones.

Help rebuild hope and create lasting change for these children and their communities. Your donation today can give them the safe, inspiring learning spaces they deserve.

Visit our website to learn more about this vital mission and give the gift of a brighter future this Christmas.

How can I make a difference?

- ⇒ **In Person:** At any parish office
- ⇒ **Post:** PO Box 246, Bathurst NSW 2795
- ⇒ **Phone:** 6334 6400
- ⇒ **Online:** <https://bathurst.catholic.org.au>

DATES FOR THE DIARY...

GULGONG

Sunday 15th December

10.30am— **Anointing Mass** St John the Baptist Church

Sunday 22nd December

10.30am— **Memorial Mass** St John the Baptist Church

Tuesday 24th December

6.30pm— **Christmas Eve Mass** St John the Baptist Church

KANDOS / RYLSTONE

Mass and Blessing of the Nativity Set Rylstone

Saturday 14th December

From 6.00pm The Vigil Mass will start at 7.30pm

No Mass at Kandos on Sunday 15th December

Sunday 22nd December

11.00am— **Memorial Mass** St Dominic's Kandos

Wednesday 25th December

9.30am— **Christmas Day Mass** St Malachy's Rylstone

MUDGE

Sunday 8th December

5.00pm— **Parish Picnic** St Mary's Church Grounds

Friday 13th December

12.30pm— **Anointing Mass** St Mary's Church

Sunday 22nd December

9.00am— **Memorial Mass** St Mary's Church

Tuesday 24th December

6.00pm— **Christmas Eve Mass** St Mary's Church

8.30pm— **Christmas Eve Mass** St Mary's Church

Wednesday 25th December

7.30am— **Christmas Day Mass** St Mary's Church

9.00am— **Christmas Day Mass** St Mary's Church

More details about these Masses and events will be in the bulletin over the next couple of weeks.

Find a way Forward

Every soul enters this world the same way,
Colour, creed or gender, we had no say.
Each soul has a talent, a God given gift,
If used as intended, it will raise and lift.

There is really no need to envy and hate,
Just treat all as equal, they are your mate.
Offer some form of help for those in need,
Don't let our lives be over powered by greed.

Welcome others with a friendly smile,
Stop and chat with them for a while.
Offer to help and show them the way,
You may need help yourself one day.

Accept that everyone is not the same,
A different culture, a foreign name,
They can offer us many a new skill,
To those who have patience and the will.

There is no substitute for love and peace,
Creates bonds and friendships that never cease.
Conflict only brings sorrow and pain,
There really is nothing to gain.

Resolve your differences there is a way,
To not do so is too high a price to pay.
Those who use power in a horrible way,
Will pay a high price on their last day.

The world and its leaders need to unite,
Stop all the hatred and reason to fight.
Join hands together all nations as one,
God's Gift to mankind can finally be won.

Let Christmas be a time to show love,
Our prayers send to the Almighty above.
Reach out with a smile and show care,
God never forgets those who share.

Kerry Morrissey



**St Mary's Church Grounds
Sunday, 8th December
5.00pm**

This year our Christmas function will be a little different. It will be a picnic style event. Bring your own rug or chair to sit on and food for yourselves or to share with your family or friends. BYO Drinks. The parish will provide Tea and Coffee and drinks for the kids.

For enquires, please call the Parish Office—6372 2122.

Reading for next Sunday: **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:10-18