

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.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR C 15TH DECEMBER 2024

First Reading: *Zephaniah 3:14-18*

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Responsorial Psalm: *Is 12:2-6 R. v.6*

**(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great
and Holy One of Israel.**

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. **(R.)**

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. **(R.)**

Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **(R.)**

Second Reading: *Philippians 4:4-7*

The Lord is near.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

Gospel: *Luke 3:10-18*

What, then, must we do?



Advent Wreath



Today we rejoice as we reach the
halfway stage of our Advent season and
give thanks for John the Baptist who
bore witness to Jesus, the light of the
world. As we light the third candle of the Advent wreath,
let us pray that we too will spread the light of Christ in the
darkness of our world so that all may know Jesus as the
Way, the Truth and the Life.

Response: COME LORD JESUS

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world...

Response

You are the light in our darkness ...

Response

Son of God save us from our sins ...

Response

Bring hope into the lives of all people...

Response

Rejoice in the Lord!

A theme of joy always runs through the liturgy of the
Third Sunday of Advent. The joy of this day springs from
our anticipation and excitement that the Lord is coming is
very near. We ask the Lord to remove any sadness from
our hearts that may hinder us from embracing the peace
and hope which his presence will bestow on us this
Christmas.

© 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		
	22nd Dec	24th Dec
Commentator	J. Thatcher	D. Kelly
Reader	K. Ritar	P. Leotta
Sacristan	R. Saliba	M & E Carney
Leader		
Mudgee Roster		
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
Tuesday 24th / Wednesday 25th December		
Commentator	<p>Please see the roster at the back of the church.</p> <p>If you are available to help with the Christmas Masses, please add your name to the roster at the back of the church.</p>	
First Reader		
Second Reader		
EMOC		
Altar Server		
Welcomer		
Offertory		
Sacristan		
Counter		
Bells	<i>Mon - E. Goodlet</i> <i>Fri - I. Browne</i> <i>Tue - R. Gawthorne</i> <i>Wed - J. Cooper</i> <i>Sat - I. Browne</i> <i>Thu - I. Browne</i> <i>Sun - R. Gawthorne</i>	

MUDGEES NEWS

Second Rite of Reconciliation—Mudgee

Wednesday 18th December at 6.30pm (following the 5.45pm Mass).

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Memorial Mass—Mudgee

Sunday 22nd December at 9.00am. Followed by a Cuppa.

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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.

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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.

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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.

Catholic Parishes of Mudgee, Gulgong and Kandos

DAY BY DAY	
Mon, 16/12	Third Week of Advent
	Parish Office Opens 10am
10.00am	All Hallows—End of Year Mass
11.00am	Funeral—Mudgee—Carmen Archer
12 noon	Angelus
12.40pm	St Matthews Secondary School End of Year Mass
Tue, 17/12	Third Week of Advent
9.30am	Mass—Mudgee
12 noon	Angelus
Wed, 18/12	Third Week of Advent
	Last Day of School
12 noon	Angelus
5.15pm	Reconciliation
5.45pm	Mass - Mudgee
6.30pm	Second Rite of reconciliation
Thu, 19/12	Third Week of Advent
9.30am	Mass - Mudgee
12 noon	Angelus
Fri, 20/12	Third Week of Advent
10.30am	Mass—Kandandah Nursing Home
11.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12noon	Angelus & Rosary
12.30pm	Mass - Mudgee
Sat, 21/12	Third Week of Advent
11.00am	Baptism
12 noon	Angelus
5.30pm	Reconciliation
6.00pm	Mass - Mudgee
Sun, 22/12	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8.30am	Rosary - Mudgee
9.00am	Memorial Mass - Mudgee
10.30am	Memorial Mass - Gulgong
11.00am	Memorial Mass—Kandos
12 noon	Angelus

Mudgee Parish Picnic

Thank you to everyone who attended the Parish Picnic last Sunday evening. We were fortunate to have good weather and we thank Matthew Cooper for the last minute lawn mowing.

It was a relaxing and enjoyable night.

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.



REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

We are at the midpoint of Advent. Today we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. The principal theme of the day is joy. According to Paul, joy is one of the fruits of the Spirit (cf. Gal 5:22). Such joy is a religious sentiment, not emotional happiness. Along with gratitude, it is the heart's response to God's



goodness. Zion is told to shout for joy because it has been saved by God from its enemies and because God is in the midst of the people. The psalm response proclaims the same message; the reading from Philippians announces that the Lord is near. This is cause for joy.

Advent is a time for joy, not primarily because we are anticipating the anniversary of the birth of Christ, but because God is already in our midst (Immanuel). The readings for this Sunday assure us that God is with us, not as a judge but as a Saviour. We rejoice over the saving acts of God that make us confident of God's care and unafraid of whatever may cross our paths. We rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. Advent joy is like the delight that fills a woman who has just given birth, even if it occurred in the throes of birthpangs. Advent joy springs from the realisation that the presence of God in our midst can so transform our lives that the promises of peace and security will be fulfilled. Advent joy is the way we live in the tension between already and not yet.

Gaudete Sunday

The third Sunday in Advent is called Gaudete Sunday; the Sunday of Joy! Draw a picture of something you can do to bring joy into the lives of others during this week of Advent.

JOKE JUNCTION.....

Q: What type of photos do elves take?

A: Elf-ies!



**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

PLEASE NOTE REQUESTS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES.

Please have all Mass requests for loved ones to the Parish Office no later than Thursday 19th December.

Important Notice

During this busy time of year, when parking is hard to find, this is a reminder that parking in the church grounds is only for attending Mass, Church or Parish business. This includes parking in the church yard in the front of the church and in the parish car park. Through out the year, parking out the front of the church is only for those who have mobility issue who are attending the church.

Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated.

Have a Holy and safe Christmas.

MASSSES AND PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING.**For the recently deceased especially:**

Eileen Csuba, Carmen Archer, Clare Van Oploo, Blake Pool (Denman), Fr Max Blumenthal, Denis Flynn, Eleanor Bryant.

We remember the anniversaries of:

Fortunato Micallef, Eva Knezervic, Anne Jones, Neil Reagan, Lawrence Hensley, Patricia Graham, Pearl Walsh, Florence McLean, Colin Gorrie, Pauline Rutar, Harry Roberts, Vincent Whale, Joyce Jones, Clarice Hyde, Benjamin Rayner, Melba Roberts.

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:**

Glennie McGrath, 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, 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 Nursing Homes.



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 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

Sunday 22nd December

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

Wednesday 25th December

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

MUDGE

Wednesday 18th December

6.30pm— Second Rite of Reconciliation (Following the 5.45pm Mass).

Sunday 22nd December

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

Tuesday 24th December

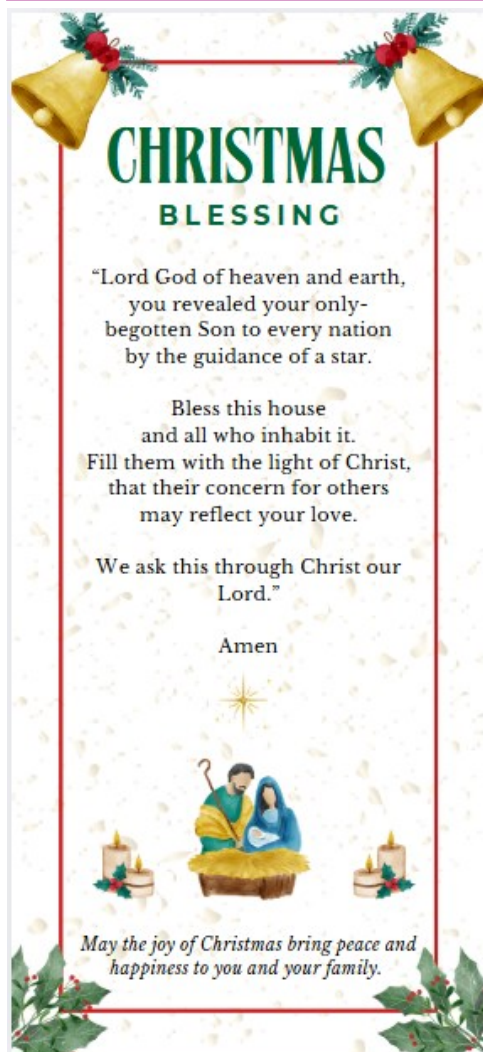
6.00pm— **Christmas Eve Mass** St Mary's Church

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



HELP BUILD A FUTURE: SUPPORT THE BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Meet Verongo, a dedicated teacher on the island of Espiritu Santo in Vanuatu. Each day, Verongo works tirelessly in a simple UNICEF tent with a dirt floor, teaching children whose lives were uprooted after volcanic eruptions forced their families to flee from neighbouring islands. Her students learn in overcrowded, makeshift shelters, yet their dreams for a brighter future remain alive.

For the past six years, the Diocese of Bathurst has fostered a strong partnership with the Diocese of Port Vila, supporting initiatives that strengthen both educational and community foundations. This relationship has led to meaningful projects, from improved financial stewardship to providing young people from Port Vila the opportunity to attend World Youth Day.

Now, Bishop Michael McKenna, in collaboration with Bishop John Bosco Baremes SM of Port Vila, has pledged to focus the Bishop's Christmas Appeal on constructing cyclone-resistant classrooms.

Bishop Bosco is eager to offer these children and their families a safe, stable place to learn – a crucial step towards restoring a sense of normalcy and hope.

By supporting the Bishop's Christmas Appeal, you can help make Bishop Bosco's vision a reality for Verongo's students. This Christmas, please consider a donation. Together, we can provide children with a place to learn and build a future they deserve.



The makeshift classroom on the Island of Espiritu Santo where Verongo teaches.

All donations to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal are Tax Deductible

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SUPPORT THE BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL >>>



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

Micah 5:1-4

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R.v.4

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:38