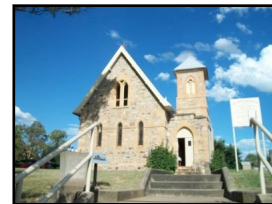


The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!

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.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER—YEAR B 28TH APRIL 2024

First Reading: [Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31](#)

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

Responsorial Psalm:

[Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26](#)

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! **(R.)**

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **(R.)**

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.' **(R.)**

Second Reading: [1 John 3:18+24](#)

*His commandments are these: that we believe
and that we love one another.*

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

Gospel: [John 15:1-8](#)

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

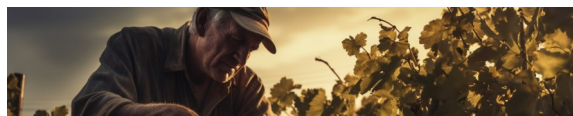
Gospel Reflection

By Greg Sunter

The Lectionary of this Easter season draws out some of the 'classic' gospel passages, particularly some of the discourses from the Gospel of John. Like many 'famous' or familiar passages, it can be true that familiarity breeds contempt – we think we are so familiar with the passage that we don't need to pay it much attention.

At first glance, it appears that there is a certain ruthlessness about the image of the vinedresser pruning the vine: perform or perish! However, the process of cutting away and pruning branches is an incredibly nurturing action; it is removing the unproductive portions of the plant so that the vine has an even better opportunity to produce fruit in the next season. It is an act of love; not an act of economic rationalism. Within our own lives we are called to make decisions about which of our thoughts and actions are life-giving (fruit-bearing) and which are unproductive; negative; crippling; life-diminishing. If we are able to 'prune' our life-diminishing thoughts and actions we allow ourselves the freedom and the ability to really flourish. Feelings of jealousy, greed, resentment, self-doubt and lack of confidence can limit our ability to be fully alive just as addictive and harmful behaviours can physically take away our ability to perform at our best.

I am reminded of the old Karate Kid movie when the boy, Daniel, is introduced to the art of bonsai. He is told to close his eyes, imagine the perfect tree and then start clipping and shaping the plant to make real the perfection that lies within it. It is only through a process of cutting away and pruning that we can nurture ourselves to realise the beauty of our potential.



Parish Priest
Fr Owen Gibbons

Parish Deacons
Rev Cong Va Hoang
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		
	5th May	12th May
Commentator	C. Gaudry	R. Saliba
Reader	M. McGregor	C. Golino
Sacristan	C. Holland	R. Saliba
Leader		
Mudgee Roster		
Saturday 4th / Sunday 5th May 2024		
Commentator	B. Petersen	M. Mclean
First Reader	D. Delahunty	M. Cassidy
Second Reader	A. McLean	O. O'Brien
EMOC	C. Furney	M. Gilbert
Altar Server	Violet & Willow F	Patrick C
Music		
Welcomer		M. Dunnachie
Offertory	J. Goodlet	Children's Liturgy
Children's Liturgy		
Sacristan	A. Baker	R. Gawthorne
Counter	29th April	L. Nicholson
Saturday 11th / Sunday 12th May 2024		
Commentator	D. Cunningham	A. Myles
First Reader	L. Nicholson	L. Croake
Second Reader	J. Thomet	M. Dunnachie
EMOC	I. Bryne	K. Cassidy
Altar Server	Nicko And Han W	Sabella W
Music		
Welcomer	S. Walker	O. O'Brien
Offertory	K. Isbester	Children's Liturgy
Children's Liturgy		
Sacristan	I. Browne	R. Gawthorne
Counter	6th May	R. Croake
Bells	Mon—E. Goodlet Tue—R. Gawthorne Wed—J. Cooper Thu—I. Browne Fri— I. Browne Sat— I. Browne/Fr Owen Sun—R. Gawthorne	

DAY BY DAY	
Mon, 29/4	St Catherine of Siena, Virgin, doctor
	Parish Office opens at 10am
12 noon	Regina Coeli
Tue, 30/4	Fifth Week of Easter
9.30am	Mass - Mudgee
12 noon	Regina Coeli
3.30pm	First Holy Communion Parent Meeting—Gulgong
Wed, 1/5	Fifth Week of Easter
10.40am	ANZAC Liturgy—SMCS Secondary Campus
12 noon	Regina Coeli
5.30pm	Reconciliation
5.45pm	Mass -Mudgee
Thu, 2/5	St Athanasius, bishop, doctor—Memorial
9.30am	Mass - Mudgee
12 noon	Regina Coeli
5.30pm	Extraordinary Finance Committee and Parish Council Meeting
Fri, 3/5	Sts Philip and James, apostle—Feast
10.30am	Mass—Opal Nursing Home
11.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12 noon	Regina Coeli
12.30pm	Mass - Mudgee
Sat, 4/5	Fifth Week of Easter
11.00am	Baptisms
4.30pm	Reconciliation
5.00pm	Mass - Mudgee
Sun, 5/5	Fifth Sunday of Easter
9.00am	Mass - Mudgee
10.30am	Mass - Gulgong - Commitment Mass for First Holy Communion
11.00am	Mass - Kandos

MUDGEE NEWS

Saturday Vigil Mass will move to 5pm from 4th May.

Mudgee Classic is on Sunday 5th May. Church Street will be closed from 4am. Please enter the church via the Market Street gate.

The Pope's Monthly Intentions 2024

April—For the Role of Women



We pray that the dignity and immense value of women by recognised in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in parts of the world.

JOKE JUNCTION.....

Why doesn't the elephant use the computer?
Because it is afraid of the mouse!

Baptism

We welcome into our Mudgee Parish:

Florence Shirley Warwick

daughter of Andrew and Dakota



Lily Samantha Baxter

Marley Francis Baxter

children of Kevin and Nicole

GULGONG NEWS

SACRISTANS - Due to ill health etc we are appealing for people to come forward and assist as Sacristans, to help prepare the church for Mass. Please consider helping with this ministry. Just give your name to Marilyn Carney or Carolyn Holland.

Training will be provided.

KANDOS NEWS

Prayer meeting will be held at 10am on 6th May at Rylstone followed by a cuppa.

Donations are being accepted for a new organ for St. Malachy's church, Rylstone. Donations will be acknowledged. Please contact Fr. Owen or the Parish Office.

Save the Date

St Vincent de Paul thanksgiving Mass on 4th August at 11am at Kandos.

Celebrating over 90 years of Caring in our area.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT – The 'True' vine

The image of the vine has its origins in Psalm 80 where the nation of Israel is likened to a vine: 'You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.' (Ps 80:8-9) However, the people of Israel have forgotten who they are and who it was that planted them in their country – it is like the rootstock of a grafted plant has taken over and gone wild. Jesus' presence as the 'true vine' reminds them of what they are called to be.



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CDF HELP
YOUR
PARISH!

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Interest is paid on maturity of Fixed Term Investment

Minimum Investment \$5,000.00

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6 months 3.75%

9 months 4.00%

12 months 5.00%

24 months Rate by Negotiation

When you invest with CDF, you receive your interest at maturity and the CDF will also donate based on 2.50% of your annual investment to Parish of your choice within the Catholic Diocese of Bathurst.

(eg \$100,000 12month Term deposit = a donation of \$2,500 from the CDF to your Parish)

For more information:
www.cdfbathurst.org.au

MASSSES AND PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING.

For the recently deceased especially:

Kelly Williams, Andrew Adams (Newcastle), Millicent Gourley (South Africa), Fr Jim Wilkins

We remember the anniversaries of:

Noel Dorney, Rose Roberts, Jean Lee, Thomas Rheinberger, Irene McEwen, Noelene Goodwin, John Denlay, Edmund Fitzgerald, Rae Hopkins, Leslie Wolfe, Maureen Consadine, Allan Dickie, Michael Rowlands, Christine Kilgour, Taidyn Roberts, Barry Simpson, Minnie Mealy, Elias & Terese Sadaka, Ross Lloyd, Therese Billmon, Siobhan Woods, Leslie Wolfe, Joyce Gallagher, Malcolm Jones, Eva & George Jozicic, Ana & Michael Glavacevic.

For the deceased, especially:

Warwick Gleeson, Fr. Paul Jennings MSC, Luzviminda Vicedo, Monica Monds, Michael O'Shea, Belinda Holden, Maggie Swientek, Michael Maloney.

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

Prayers requested for the sick:

Ron Muscat, Carla Perrotto, Carmen Archer, Trish Buckley, Joe Saliba, Doreen Wurth, Horace Saliba, June Ritar, Paula Ryan, Tony Spina, Elizabeth Donnelly, Tony Harris, Tracy Donnelly, Angela Marakovic, Zvonko Glavacevic, Trevor Roberts (England), Iris McBeath, Graham Hawkins, Josephine Debaksta, Tomislav Marakovic (Sydney), Lynne Daly, Carmel Thompson, Kim Barry, Dennis Petersen, Rodrigo Jaboneta, and all those in our Nursing Homes.

MILITARY ITEMS found recently in the grounds of St. Mary's. Please contact the Parish office for more information.



It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit,
and then you will be my disciples.

John 15:8

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please be aware if you have received an email from "Kristie Newman" that is not from the office.mudgee@cdob.org.au email address. This is a spam email **Do Not Open** it. Please delete it.

Watch out for scam emails (phishing)

Scam emails or phishing (pronounced 'fishing') are emails that are often made to appear as if they were sent from individuals or organisations you think you know, or you think you should trust. They are designed to trick individuals out of their money and information. Phishing communications often mimic professional phrasing, branding and logos of authentic businesses in order to appear genuine. They are designed to defraud individuals and businesses by: requesting or pretending to confirm personal information, passphrases or credit card numbers; demand payment for a fake account; or by tricking them into clicking a harmful link or attachment. Attachments may contain malware, which is software designed to harm your computer or to gain access to your computer without your knowledge.

Phishing is not just limited to email. These scams are delivered via SMS, instant messaging and social media. Phishing is becoming increasingly difficult to identify, as cybercriminals adapt their methods and find new ways to steal money and data.

For more information visit the ACSC website here: <https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/publications/covid-19-protecting-your-small-business>

General rules to follow:

- Never believe emails that have different names within the email body, email address or the sent from fields.
- Do not open messages or their attachments, or click on links from unfamiliar individuals or organisations.
- Remember that reputable organisations including banks, government departments, online shopping and social media companies will not call or email to verify or update your personal information. This includes companies such as Amazon, PayPal, Google, Apple and Facebook.
- Do not provide personal information to unverified sources and never provide someone with remote access to your computer.
- Keeping your devices up to date with their software updates (computers, phone, Tablets etc..)
- Never share passphrases with others.
- Use strong unique passphrases for every account.

REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart
Branching Out

A major theme of the Scripture readings is 'Jesus is our vine'.

In today's first reading, Saul (now Paul, after his conversion and baptism) tries to join the disciples of Jesus. Saul had previously made a habit of persecuting Christians, and the disciples are still afraid of him. However, Barnabas intercedes and says that Paul has seen and talked with the Lord and is now spreading the Gospel of Jesus. But speaking about Jesus is dangerous. There is an attempt on Paul's life. The disciples send him away for protection. The new church, despite its struggles, is growing and thriving.

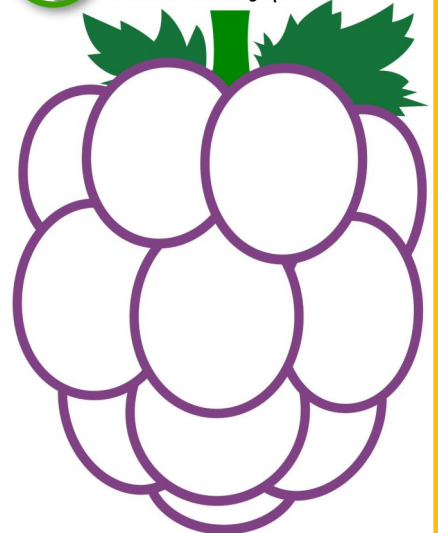
Psalm 21 is a praise and promise psalm. The psalmist calls on families, nations and all the earth to praise God. This psalm also reads as a public commitment to fulfill a promise of service and to pass on the message of salvation to future generations.

The second reading says that it is not enough just to talk about Jesus, faith must be expressed through action. We hear again God's great commandments – to have faith in Jesus and to love one another.



Jesus says that we must be fruitful disciples. What are some of the ways that you can be a disciple to Jesus? Write or draw your answers inside the grapes.

In the reading from John's Gospel, Jesus uses the image of the vine and branches to show how important it is to stay connected to him, to keep growing in faith. God is the vine grower. Jesus is the vine. We are the branches. The vine also represents the Christian community. The Christian community is fruitful if it proclaims and witnesses the Gospel to others. Those who hide their faith are like dead branches that need to be pruned.



LIVING THE GOSPEL

Bearing fruit

The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.



Reading for next Sunday: **SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Acts 9:26-31

Ps 21:26-28, 30-32 R. v.26

1 John 3:18-24

John 15:1-8