

*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.

### TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR B 22ND SEPTEMBER 2024

**First Reading:** *Wisdom 2:12, 17-20*

*Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6*  
*(R.) The Lord upholds my life.*

O God, save me by your name;  
by your power, uphold my cause.  
O God, hear my prayers;  
listen to the words of my mouth. *(R.)*

For proud men have risen against me,  
ruthless men seek my life.  
They have no regard for God. *(R.)*

But I have God for my help.  
The Lord upholds my life.  
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart  
and praise your name for it is good. *(R.)*

**Second Reading:** *James 3:16 – 4:3*  
*Justice is the harvest of peacemakers  
from seeds sown in a spirit of peace.*

**Gospel Acclamation:**  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
God has called us with the gospel,  
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel:** *Mark 9:30-37*  
*The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of  
humanity ... All who wish to be first must make  
themselves the servants of all.*

**REFLECTION** by Fr Michael Tate  
*Marginal People*

Jesus was well aware of the constant temptation for the leaders amongst his followers to be conditioned by the surrounding social and political structures. So, when he became aware that his disciples were disputing 'who is the greatest', he decided to teach them a lesson by engaging in some counter-cultural street theatre.

Jesus saw a young boy on the edge of the crowd and beckoned him into the middle of his group of disciples. This was not because of some sentimental idea that all kids are little innocents, but because in his society, children were absolutely at the bottom of the social scale. Jesus moved an utter nobody from the margins of society to the centre, challenging his disciples to change their perspective.

This challenge is made to all of us. We must identify those on the margins, some of whom we have quite literally dis-located like indigenous communities or asylum seekers, and bring them into the centre of our concern. There may be pain, personal and social, in changing perspective.

We might pause for a moment to pray for a new way of seeing, for perseverance in re-locating someone in the centre of our concerns, for the graceful insight that in welcoming that person we have welcomed Christ.

#### 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.***



***NOTE: Sacramental Program sign in, please use the QR code near the Piety Store.***

**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](mailto:office.mudgee@cdob.org.au)  
**Website:** [www.mudgee.catholic.org.au](http://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/](http://www.stmattsmudgee.catholic.edu.au/)

**All Hallows Catholic School Gulgong:**  
**Principal:** Mr Bradley Toole  
Ph 02 6374 1582  
[www.allhallowsgulgong.catholic.edu.au](http://www.allhallowsgulgong.catholic.edu.au)

**NOTICE:**

**WINDEYER CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Due to the fact that our Windeyer Church has not been used for many years and we have had a very substantial increase in insurance cost for all our church properties, the Finance Committee and the Pastoral Council are discussing the selling of the Church.

*The safeguarding of the cemetery for visitation and future use is part of the discussion.*

**Gulgong Roster**

	29th Sept	6th Oct
<b>Commentator</b>	D. Kelly	S. Parnell
<b>Reader</b>	M. Golino	C. Gaudry
<b>Sacristan</b>	TBA	C. Holland
<b>Leader</b>	D. Kelly	R. Saliba

**Mudgee Roster**

**Saturday 28th Sept/Sunday 29th September 2024**

<b>Commentator</b>	D. Cunningham	A. Myles
<b>First Reader</b>	D. Delahunty	M. Bodycote
<b>Second Reader</b>	D. Delahunty	W. Bodycote
<b>EMOC</b>	A. Fergus	P. O'Brien
<b>Altar Server</b>		
<b>Welcomer</b>	F. Lupton	A. Blazevic
<b>Offertory</b>	D. Bennett	
<b>Sacristan</b>	L. Robinson	R. Gawthorne
<b>Counter</b>	23rd Sept	M. Walker

**Saturday 5th Sept/Sunday 6th October 2024**

<b>Commentator</b>	C. Furney	M. Matthews
<b>First Reader</b>	A. McLean	E. de Vries
<b>Second Reader</b>	M. Dorney	L. Croake
<b>EMOC</b>	D. Cunningham	K. Cassidy
<b>Altar Server</b>		
<b>Welcomer</b>	C. Carberry	R. Perevia
<b>Offertory</b>	K. Isbester	M. Gilbert
<b>Sacristan</b>	L. Robinson	R. Gawthorne
<b>Counter</b>	30th Sept	L. Nicholson

<b>Bells</b>	Mon - E. Goodlet Tue - R. Gawthorne Wed - J. Cooper Thu - I. Browne	Fri - I. Browne Sat - I. Browne Sun - R. Gawthorne
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*"The best way to find yourself  
is to lose yourself in the service  
of others."*

*Mahatma Gandhi*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

In our parishes to take the Eucharistic to the sick and housebound, this requires training which will be provided.

If you are interested in this rewarding Ministry, please contact the parish office on 63722122.

**MUDGEES COMBINED CHRISTIAN CHURCHES CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

Management Committee are looking to fill the voluntary position of a publicity person to promote their Christmas luncheon.

For more information please contact our parish office and we will pass on your details.

**MUDGEES NEWS**

Parking information as per Mass, Saturday 28th September. Parking in Market and Church Streets will not be available for the Vigil Mass for that date due to street closures from 12pm for Flavours of Mudgee. These street closures also mean that it will not be possible to use the parish car park, access to the church will be on foot.

Sincere thanks to Geoff Hawes for cleaning the church last week. It was a pleasant surprise to return from the parish secretaries conference last week, when Geoff in the words of Saint Mary MacKillop "Never see a need without doing something about it" was vacuuming the church.

**GULGONG NEWS**

**READERS & SACRISTANS -**

We are looking for people to come forward and assist as Sacristans, to help prepare the church for Mass or Readers at Mass. Please consider helping with these ministries. Just give your name to Marilyn Carney or Carolyn Holland.

Training will be provided.

**RISE REUNION**

Last Friday, 13th September, Fr Cong along with Missionaries for the Bathurst Diocese, Natalia Pucheu and Rosario Carrillo, held a reunion at the parish centre for students in our parish who attended RISE in Bathurst for 2024.

Those attending enjoyed a fun filled evening with games, conversations learning from each other and sharing thoughts about faith and shared a shared meal together.

Many thanks to Patti Kiddle for her generous help with catering for the event.



**ST MARY'S YOUTH GROUP  
FAITH, FUN & FOOD**

Thank you to Fr Cong and our Youth Minister Jade for your efforts this term with our Youth Group.

The first date for Youth Group next term will be Friday, 18th October and will be monthly in Term 4.

**KANDOS NEWS**

Roof repair for St Dominic's, Kandos will start in October. While these works are taking place the church will be closed and services will be at St Malachy's, Rylstone. As per logistics, Mass for 29th September will be at Rylstone.

Prayer meeting weekly on Mondays, will be held at 10am at Rylstone followed by a cuppa.

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

**WEDDING**

Congratulations to:

*Amy Lee Oxley*

and

*Joshua Domenico Rereku Baker*

who celebrate the sacrament of marriage this weekend.

**FINAL PRAYER PARTNER MASS FOR 2024****TUESDAY 24 TH SEPTEMBER 9.30AM, IN ST MARY'S CHURCH**

Prayer Partners are invited to join the students at **9.30am Mass, Tuesday 24th September**. Please note the Mass will be celebrated in St Mary's Church.

This is our last opportunity to meet with the students before they leave school for extension study leave in preparation for the HSC Exams.

After the Mass morning tea will be provided by us, the Prayer Partners, in the Parish Centre. We ask that everyone provides a plate of food for sharing with the students please.

**CAN WE ALSO ENCOURAGE YOU TO WRITE A LETTER OR PURCHASE A CARD WISHING THE STUDENTS THE VERY BEST FOR THE HSC EXAMS. IN THE PAST THIS HAS BEEN VERY MUCH APPRECIATED BY THE STUDENTS. SOME CHOOSE TO BUY A SMALL GIFT; HOWEVER THIS IS OPTIONAL AND A PERSONAL CHOICE.**

To those Prayer Partners who have been unable to meet up with their allocated student/s thus far, please try and make an extra effort to come to the Mass as this is the last opportunity to meet with the 2024 cohort.

**DAY BY DAY****Mon, 23/09 Memorial—St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest**

Parish office will open at 10am

10.30am **Funeral** - Mudgee - John Bloxham

12 noon Angelus

**Tue, 24/09 25th Week in Ordinary Time**9.30am **Mass** — Mudgee – Yr 12 & Prayer Partners

12 noon Angelus

**Wed, 25/09 24th Week in Ordinary Time**

12 noon Angelus

5.30pm SMCS Yr 12 Graduation Mass—Secondary Campus

5.30pm Reconciliation

5.45pm **Mass** - Mudgee**Thu, 26/09 25th Week in Ordinary Time**9.30am **Mass** - Mudgee

12 noon Angelus

5.30pm RCIA Session

**Fri, 27/09 Memorial—St Vincent de Paul, priest**

SMCS LAST DAY TERM THREE

11.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

12noon Rosary

12.30pm **Mass** - Mudgee**Sat, 28/09 25th Week in Ordinary Time**

12 noon Angelus

4.30pm Reconciliation

5.00pm **Mass** - Mudgee**Sun, 29/09 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8.30am Rosary - Mudgee

9.00am **Mass** - Mudgee10.30am **Mass** - Gulgong11.00am **Mass** - Rylstone

12 noon Angelus

5.00pm Word &amp; Faith Group

**The Pope's Monthly Intentions 2024****September — For the cry of the Earth**

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climate change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

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

John Bloxham, John Mealy, Moira Hennessy, Susan Hansen, Kathleen Austin, Margaret McGuinness.

**We remember the anniversaries of:**

Robby de Vries, Una Harris, Jenny Williamson, Daryl Baker, Rosemary Douglas.

**For the deceased, especially:**

Carmel Petrie, Jay McCarthy, Greg Birchall, Gwen Morgan, John Muller, Theresa May, Jeff Thurlow, Carol Cook, Norma Craft, Ted Carragher, Richard Orth.

**Masses for Special Intentions, In Thanksgiving and For All the Holy Souls.****Prayers requested for the sick:**

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

**JOKE JUNCTION.....**

A little child in church watched as the offertory plate was passed around. When it neared the pew where he sat, the youngster piped up "You don't have to pay for me Daddy. I'm under five."





*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

## TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

**“Future generations will never forgive us if we miss the opportunity to protect our common home. We have inherited a garden; we must not leave a desert for our children.”**

*Joint statement from Pope Francis, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury.*

### SEASON OF CREATION REFLECTION

**by Nick Brodie**

Today's Gospel reveals a fearfulness in the disciples' response to Jesus. Afraid of asking too many questions, they almost seem to prefer being ignorant rather than admit the limits of their own understanding. Strangely, this self-imposed ignorance does not prevent them from posturing for position. What a warning for the Church this episode seems to offer!

While this excerpt of Mark's Gospel is often interpreted in terms of the virtue of humility, the other aspect of Jesus' point is easily overlooked. Every Christian is called to be 'last of all and servant of all'. Ours is a faith of humble service.

The scriptures repeatedly make the point that faith is always embedded in creation. A mountain, a road, a town, and a house all frame the action in this episode. Because the Church exists wherever its members go our beliefs and prayers are not restricted to church buildings. We take our faith on roads, into our homes and towns, and even up mountains.

Given this, our faith compels us to have a special care for all of creation. As Jesus clearly intimates, by humbly serving created things we express our love of the Creator who made them all.

#### Have you thought? Last of all?

Jesus tells his disciples that if anyone wants to be first, they must make themselves last of all and servant of all. This is as challenging to us today as it was to the disciples and early Christians. Our world seems to revolve around position, status and power – whoever has the most toys wins! But what Jesus advocated was a leadership based on being of service to others. Being powerful simply means you are in a position to help even more people. Putting yourself last, instead of first, gives respect, dignity and power to others rather than to yourself.

## REFLECTION - FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

*by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart*

You often see them at football or cricket or basketball games – the giant hands with the index finger pointing up, and the rest of the fingers curled together. They usually say 'number one'.

Jesus says if we focus on being number one, then we certainly are not number one. If we try to say we are the best, or the most important, or the greatest, then we truly are not. If we do our best to not brag but to serve everyone else's needs and to build up everyone else's confidence, that is the way to true stardom. How hard is it to be that way when the culture urges us to be number one? How would Jesus handle it if he were a teenager at your school this year? Can you follow his example? How? Why or why not?

Many teenagers report that they have more fun being members of social sporting teams than they do on a school or college team. They play more often, receive less criticism, and are under less pressure that way.

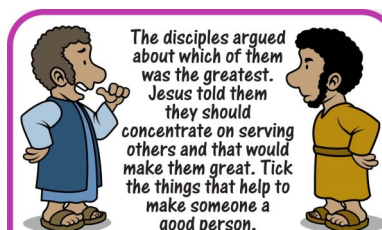
How is that preference related to the message of this Gospel?

If the goal is to always win and be the number one team, then most players fail, because there can only be one number one team in whatever sport, league or district you participate in; only one team can win. Everyone else loses. But if your goal is to learn, to put in the best possible effort, to improve and to have fun, then everyone can succeed; everyone wins. The score doesn't matter. No one loses.

How is this philosophy of sports related to the Gospel message?

Could this philosophy of sports ever work in the professional area? Why or why not? In the high school area? Why or why not? In the college area? Why or why?

Where does money enter into the picture? How is money connected to the current philosophy of sports? What would Jesus say about this connection? Jesus' message similar to James' message?



The disciples argued about which of them was the greatest. Jesus told them they should concentrate on serving others and that would make them great. Tick the things that help to make someone a good person.

- ☒ **SHARING**
- ☐ **TELLING LIES**
- ☐ **BEING NASTY**
- ☐ **BEING KIND**
- ☐ **TRYING YOUR BEST**
- ☐ **LAUGHING AT OTHERS**
- ☐ **HELPING OTHERS**
- ☐ **BEING HONEST**
- ☐ **BEING SELFISH**

Reading for next Sunday: **TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Numbers 11:25-29

Ps 18:8. 10. 12-14. R. v.9

James 5:1-6

Mark 9:38-43. 45. 47-48