



*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.

### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR C 1ST DECEMBER 2024

#### ADVENT 2024

#### *What are we waiting for?*

Dear Friends in Christ,

“Advent” means “coming.”

In the four weeks leading up to Christmas, we can prepare to celebrate properly the wonderful feast of Christmas: the first coming of the Son of God into our broken world to begin to change our sorrows into joy.

It is also a time to look forward to the day when he will come again, with just and merciful judgment, to fulfil his promise of a new creation.

And yet, he is already among us, already building his Kingdom, even though he is unrecognised by many. We can look for him now in the community that bears his name, his Church. He is among us in the poor and afflicted and accompanies us in our works for peace and justice.

What are we waiting for? Let's look for him today: pray; read the Bible; come to Confession and Mass; and go out to do good for others.

The better we celebrate Advent, the more deeply we'll celebrate Christmas.

+Michael McKenna

**Bishop of Bathurst**



Lord God,

Your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Saviour, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendour of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

**Response: COME LORD JESUS (SUNG)**

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**



#### THE SEASON OF ADVENT

The time of Advent is the four-week period of preparation for the season of Christmas. Advent begins the cycle of the Liturgical Year and focuses on the coming of the Lord. The first weeks offer a vision of the future, looking to the end of time when Christ will come again. The final weeks point more specifically to the birth of Christ. Christ, the promised one, is awaited with joyful expectation.

The First Sunday of Advent follows the final Sunday of Ordinary Time and the season concludes on Christmas Eve.

This Sunday we welcome back Fr Owen from his long service leave. We hope he is well rested. Thank you to Fr Cong for your herculean effort for the last three months in keeping our parishes running and in check.  
Thank you to Fr Garry for stepping in when needed.

#### **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](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)

Gulgong Roster		
	8th Dec	15th Dec
Commentator	D. Kelly	P. Leotta
Reader	J. Thatcher	B. Toole
Sacristan	TBA	C. Holland
Leader		
Mudgee Roster		
Saturday 7th December / Sunday 8th December		
Commentator	A. McLean	L. Croake
First Reader	C. Furney	A. Myles
Second Reader	K. Barker	M. Dunnachie
EMOC	D. Cunningham	R. Gawthorne
Altar Server		
Welcomer	K. Isbester	A. Blazeovic
Offertory	D. Bennett	Children's Liturgy
Sacristan	I. Browne	
Counter	2nd December	K. O'Brien
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. Robinson	
Counter	9th December	E. Goodlet
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>	

DAY BY DAY	
Mon, 2/12	First Week of Advent
	Parish Office Opens 10am
12 noon	Angelus
Tue, 3/12	St Francis Xavier, priest—Memorial
9.30am	Mass —Mudgee
12 noon	Angelus
Wed, 4/12	First Week of Advent
12 noon	Angelus
5.15pm	Reconciliation
5.45pm	Mass - Mudgee
Thu, 5/12	First Week of Advent
9.30am	Mass - Mudgee - SMCS Year 6
12 noon	Angelus
5.30pm	RCIA
6.30pm	All Hallows Year 6 Farewell Dinner
Fri, 6/12	First Week of Advent
10.30am	Mass—Opal Nursing Home
11.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12noon	Angelus & Rosary
12.30pm	Mass - Mudgee
Sat, 7/12	St Ambrose, bishop, doctor
12 noon	Angelus
5.30pm	Reconciliation
6.00pm	Mass - Mudgee
Sun, 8/12	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8.30am	Rosary - Mudgee
9.00am	Mass - Mudgee
10.30am	Mass - Gulgong
11.00am	Mass - Kandos
12 noon	Angelus
5.00pm	Mudgee Parish Picnic

### REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings of the First Sunday of Advent set the stages for our reflections on the entire season. They contain a number of promises, all pointing to peace and fulfilment. Each reading depicts a dimension of suffering that was often brought on by the people themselves. The promises are assurances that the end of their suffering was in sight. The promises reveal a loving and provident, a merciful and forgiving God. These are promises full of hope.

The coming of the Lord is clearly a time of expectation, not of fear and trembling. Although the earlier tradition about the Day of the Lord included punishment of the wicked, the focus here is on redemption. The time of expectation may be preceded by apocalyptic signs in the heavens and dismay on earth, but this cosmic shift will bring fulfilment, not destruction. The love and providence, the mercy and forgiveness of God will be made manifest.

What is expected of those who receive the promise? An Advent way of life exhorts us to 'wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ'. This way of life is both simple and profound. It does not necessarily require unusual behaviour on our part, but it calls us to live the usual unusually well. It affects the everyday events of life; it directs the way we interact with people; it informs the attitudes that colour our judgments and motivations. It is as ordinary as the birth of a child; it is as extraordinary as the revelation of God.



## WEDDING



Congratulations to:

*Jack Thomas Rudd*  
and  
*Elizabeth Minnie Combes*

who celebrate the sacrament of marriage this week.



## BAPTISM:

We welcome to our Parish:

*Oliver Thomas Flynn*  
son of *Thomas and Georgia*  
and

*Alfie Ricky Flynn and Oscar Paul Flynn*  
sons of *Simon and Tara*

## 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

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.



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>

## 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.



## 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**

## MASSES AND PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING.

### For the recently deceased especially:

Denis Flynn, Eleanor Bryant, Nauma Buchanan.

### We remember the anniversaries of:

Michael Maloney, Hugh Carroll, Dean Williams, Margaret Sampson, Angela Colaiacomo, Lorna Smith, John Quinlan, Allan Graham, Doreen Hyland, Alice, Hundy, Miriam Halpin, Denis Donnelly, Kathleen Miller, Luciano Pagani, Warren Carberry.

### For the deceased, especially:

Mick Batson, Denis Matthews, Ken Brown, Bernard O'Reilly, Ken Henriques.

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

### Prayers requested for the sick:

Mary Rheinberger, Fr Peter Dresser, Catrina McGhee, 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 Nursing Homes.



## JOKE JUNCTION.....

**Q: Why are frogs so happy?**

**A: They eat what bugs them!**

## THIS WEEKS READINGS

**First Reading:** *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

*I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14. R. v.1*

*(R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.*

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:

for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**

The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,

he guides the humble in the right path;

he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

His ways are faithfulness and love

for those who keep his covenant and will.

The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;

to them he reveals his covenant. **(R.)**

**Second Reading:** *1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2*

*When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,

and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** *Luke 21:25-28. 34-36*

*Your redemption is near at hand.*



**St Mary's Church Grounds**

**Sunday, 8th December**

**5.00pm**

We would love to invite you to attend our annual Christmas function. 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.

In previous years, we have asked people to bring a plate to share and we provided ham and bread rolls. This has always been organised by our wonderful hospitality volunteers. These volunteers have worked hard this year at many functions and we are very grateful for the work that they do.

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.

*"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart?*

*Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern."*

– Mother Teresa

## 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*

6.00pm start

7.30pm Vigil Mass

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.

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

**Baruch 5:1-9**

**Ps 125. R. v.3**

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

**Luke 3:1-6**