



# St Patrick's Parish Gosford

The Communities of St Patrick's East Gosford,  
St Francis of Assisi Somersby & Holy Trinity Spencer  
Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



## LOVE AND MARRIAGE

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love." Ephesians 4:2

### "COMMAND ME TO COME TO YOU"



"Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:12

"Great marriages don't happen by luck or by accident. They are the result of a consistent investment of time, thoughtfulness, forgiveness, affection, prayer, mutual respect, and a rock-solid commitment between a husband and a wife." Dave Willis

"Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her." Ephesians 5:25

"Place me like a seal over your heart, like a seal on your arm; for love is as strong as death...Many waters cannot quench love; rivers cannot wash it away." Song of Songs 8:6-7

"Marriage is sharing your life with your best friend, enjoying the journey along the way, and arriving at every destination together." Fawn Weaver

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins." 1 Peter 4:8

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends." 1 Corinthians 13:4-8



## FR FRANCIS JORDAN SDS

"Never lose heart, my child, I am your Father, your strong protector, the Almighty. Trust firmly in Me and unite yourself intimately with Me."

SD IV/28



**THE BOND OF LOVE IS MARRIAGE**

## POPE FRANCIS' AUGUST 2020 INTENTION



### THE MARITIME WORLD

We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.



## ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

### PASTORAL CARE

**Fr Grzegorz [Greg] Skulski SDS**

Parish Priest

Email: greg@sds.org.au

**Fr Paul Tran SDS**

Assistant Priest

email: paulduongsds@gmail.com

### SALVATORIANS

**Society of the Divine Saviour**

<http://www.sds.org.au>

### PARISH OFFICE

Secretary:

**Colleen Kirk** Mon – Thurs: 8:30am – 4:30pm

Friday: 8:30am – 1:00pm

Bursar: Darren Fitzgibbon

Sacramental Programme

Coordinator: Frances Mathey

Email: franceshanna@yahoo.com

Catechists' Coordinator: Alain Corne

Email: saintpatscdd@acs.net.au

Wed: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Thurs: 9:30am – 1:30pm

Youth Ministry: Jamie-Lea Andrews

Email: jaimilea.andrews@gmail.com

Media Coordinator: Tom Croll

Thursday: 9:00am – 2:00pm

Email: tcroll@photom.com.au

Phone: 0411-962 122.

### VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin:

**Denise Jay**

Friday: 9:00am – 3:30pm

AV Presentation: Peter McLean

Greg McBride

Ron Begg &

Tim Mara

Maisie Tenev

Ph: 0416 803 334

Caretakers:

Baptism Co-ordinator:

Trevor Byrne

Joyce Byrne

Victor Camilleri

Barbara McCarthy

Ph: 4322 0250

All bookings must be made through the parish office.

Gardeners:

Seniors' Ministry:

**Hilary Pope**

### SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

If you see any activities involving children or vulnerable adults that worries you, please email Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer at [hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au)

### School Principals

St Patrick's Primary: Mrs Cheryl Walsh 4325 1159

St Joseph's College: Mr Tony McCudden 4324 4022

St Edwards College: Mr Mark Bonnici 4321 6400

St Peter's College: Mr Tim Hilderbrandt 43512344



## CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM – 4:30PM.

### STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

#### GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

**Mon:** 9:00am **Wed:** 11:30am **Fri:** 12:00pm

**Tue:** 9:00am **Thu:** 9:00am **Sat:** 9:00am

Adoration and Confession 30 minutes before each weekday Mass.

### WEEKEND MASSES INCL CONFESSION 30 BEFORE EACH MASS

#### GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

**Sat Vigil:** 5:00pm **Sun:** 7:30am, 8:45am, 10:15am & 6:00pm

#### SOMERSBY, 30 LUTANA RD

Sat Vigil: 5:30pm

### ADORATION IN OUR CHURCH

#### Before the Blessed Sacrament

Mon 8:30 - 9:00am Wed 11:00 - 11:30am Fri 12:30 - 3:00pm

Tue 8:30 - 9:00am Thu 8:30 - 9:00am Sat 8:30 - 9:00am

### ROSARY

**Mon, & Thu** 8:05am to 9:00am

**Tuesday** 8:05am "Right to Life"

**Fridays** After Mass 12:30pm

**Saturday** 8:05am until 9:00am: 1st Priests & Religious  
2nd Mothers & Babies  
3rd Persecuted Christians

**Sunday** 7:05am

### BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL, AT THE ADMIN CENTRE, CHAPEL LANE

**Mon to Thu:** 8:30am to 3:30pm **Fri:** 9:00am to 3:30pm

### ST PATRICK'S GROUPS MEETINGS

**Cancer Prayer Group** After 9:00am Mass, 4th Tuesday of the Month, in the Jordan room.

**Craft Group** 9:30am to 12:00pm Every Friday of School Terms

**Grief & Loss Support** 2:00pm 1st Thursday of the month, in the Jordan room.

**MenAlive** 7:00pm 1st Tuesday of the month. Mass followed by meeting in the jordan room.

**Prayers for Christian Unity** 9:30am 3rd Monday of the Month

**Prayer Group DVDs** 9:30am 1st Monday of the Month

**Prayer Group & Bible Discussion** 9:30am 2nd, 4th and 5th Monday of the Month

**Bible Study - Monday night** 7:00pm to 9:00pm Monday, in the Jordan Room, all are welcome!

**Bible Study - Wednesday Morning** 10:00am, Wednesdays in the Jordan Room. **Will recommence in September.**

**Salvatorian Colaborators** After 9:00am Mass, 1st Thursday of the month, in the Jordan room.

**Womens Faith Circle** 2nd and 4th Thursday of the Month in the Jordan Room 9:00am to 11:00am

## NATIONAL CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP STANDARDS

### LEADERSHIP, MONITORING & IMPROVEMENT

#### STANDARD 1 – COMMITTED LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE & CULTURE

KEY ELEMENTS OF STANDARD 1:

- † A COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING
- † PROMOTING A SAFEGUARDING CULTURE
- † SAFEGUARDING POLICIES
- † CODE OF CONDUCT

## SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

### HILARY POPE

If you see any activities involving children or vulnerable adults that worries you, please email Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer at [hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au)

**PARISH VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT 2020.**

**YOUR LAST OPPORTUNITY**

**St Patrick's Parish Community Consultation**

One of the goals of the St Patrick's Parish Council for 2020 is to establish a Vision and Mission Statement for the Parish which articulates the values and beliefs of the contemporary Church in Australia. It is critical that this Vision and Mission Statement reflects the sentiments of the St Patrick's Parish Community as we seek to encounter the Living Christ.

The following survey is designed to provide members of St Patrick's Parish the opportunity to provide feedback to inform the development of the Vision and Mission Statement.

Father Greg and the Parish Council values your input and look forward to analysing your feedback in the development process.

The Survey can be filled in on line at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SX6GW5M>

**CATECHIST CORNER**

Special Religious Education (SRE or Scripture) is resuming over the next three weeks in the State schools in our Parish. Praise the Lord! Unfortunately, some of our dedicated catechists are unable to resume teaching due to the "COVID environment" and their health status. We are inviting parishioners to join the team to fill in during Term 3, or for the rest of the year. A Working with Children Check and some mandatory training (Child Protection in particular) would be required. Pre-prepared lessons that are age-appropriate and easy to use will be supplied. It's as simple as clicking through a PowerPoint. Classes are about 30mins duration each week. Grab a yellow catechist flyer at the Church doors and talk to a catechist after Mass. Or call Alain (0414273654) for more details.

**COVID UPDATE**

**ST PATRICK'S PARISH IS NOW A NSW GOVERNMENT REGISTERED 'COVID SAFE' PARISH**



We ask you to help us stay that way by:

Staying at home if you have any cold or flu symptoms

Sanitising your hands before entry into the church

Recording your name and contact details upon entering so that you may be contacted should we find we have to alert you to a COVID positive incident in the church.

Sitting in the spaces marked which indicate a safe 4m2 distance from those around you.

Staying 1.5m apart when queuing for communion or any other purpose.

To ensure we comply with the 1.5m distance rule, please do not congregate in the foyer before or after Mass.

When exiting the church, please maintain 1.5m social distancing rules.

Following the recommendation of our Premier, that masks should be worn in places of public worship, **a further direction from the bishop's office states that masks SHOULD now be worn in the church.**

We ask you to bring your masks due to the expense of supplying them free of charge.

A kind parishioner donated a limited quantity of masks, and we are offering these to those who don't have their masks. When the donated masks have run out, we ask you to supply your own.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Effective immediately, it will be necessary to wear a mask when distributing Holy Communion.

If you have a mask of your own you should bring that with you to Mass.

If you don't have a mask you can get one from the sacristy the first time and then keep that one as your own for future use.

**YOU'RE INVITED**



**ALPHA IS AN OPPORTUNITY**

to explore life, faith and God in a friendly, open and informal environment. St Patrick's is running the Alpha Series on-line this Spring and we're providing two options for you to participate in it, either;

- a) in your own home via Zoom, or
- b) if you are unable to access Zoom, joining a small group in a family home that does have Zoom access.

To register your interest in joining us, please follow this link and we'll send you more information about the first session at 7:30pm on Tuesday 25 August.

<https://forms.gle/VCVjYm9fJyVtpdpW6>

**PRAYER DURING THE CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC**

We thank you for your co-operation and know that you are equally interested in stopping the spread of this virus and a return to normal living.

Mary, Help of Christians, we fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of God's holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful. Wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Please help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother—health of the sick and cause of our joy. Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms. Help us always to know the love of your Son. Jesus. Amen.

Aid to the Church, in need, is arranging a spiritual bouquet of Masses for the needs of our world during this pandemic. [www.aidtochurch.org/coronavirus](http://www.aidtochurch.org/coronavirus)

Aid to the Church in Need is a Pontifical Foundation supporting the faithful wherever they are persecuted or oppressed.

## ST. JOSEPH'S WORKSHOP REOPENING

### 2/18 DIGNITY CLOSE WEST GOSFORD

We are reopening on Monday 17.08.20 from 7.00am until 12.00, as normal, under strict Covid-19 conditions already approved by WHS.

Come to the BBQ on 14.08.20 at 11.00 to go through all the new covid-19 procedures that are required to operate safely.

If you would like to volunteer your time, learn new skills and meet new people, why not come and join us at the workshop?

Contact Kevin O'Donnell on 0418 203 671 or

Mike Tabone on 0417 384 524

## FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

### VIGIL MASS 14/8 @ 7.30PM OFFERED.

Parishioners are reminded:

The Vigil Mass and the 9am 15/8 answer the obligation to attend Mass on the Feast of the Assumption. The Vigil Mass on Saturday is the Mass of the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

## A LITTLE CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING

*Fr Greg asks that his permission is sought before leaving papers, pamphlets or items in the church foyer in an effort to eliminate clutter which builds over time. Thank you.*

## IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYWAY...

### OR DOES IT?

#### Restoring hope in life long marriage

There's a curious thing that happens when a divorce touches a community. Where once parents, friends and siblings believed in the power of love and the permanency of marriage, confidence gives way to cynicism and uncertainty.

Instead of believing that children do best when living in the same home with both their parents, we find ourselves saying: "The most important thing is that they know they are loved by both their parents; it doesn't matter if they all live together or not."

Instead of upholding the vision of a couple devoting their lives to each other and growing gracefully into old age, we say: "People live so long these days it's unrealistic to expect them to be happy with one person for their whole lives."

Some people would say that such changes in attitude are a positive sign of growth and maturity: we are moving from an unrealistic, idealised notion to one grounded in reality; we are moving with the times. Those who refuse to abandon their ideals are seen to be 'trapped in the past' or 'out-of-touch with reality'.

While this response is understandable, it is not helpful. Nor is it a mature one.

#### Misdirected compassion

Divorce creates a problem for us. On the one hand, we love and celebrate the optimism of weddings; we are filled with hope and good vibes as we witness the fervor of the bride and groom committing their lives to one another.

And so it should. Something important and profoundly sacred is happening. The couple is reaching for the divine, seeking to imitate God's love in their own lives. God's love is vast and unrelenting in its fidelity. It's a beautiful thing and we join with all their family and friends in wanting to see them succeed.

On the other hand, a divorce contradicts this belief. Love is not permanent, vast, unrelenting, faithful. The hope we had is crushed by the reality of the disintegrating marriage.

This creates a cognitive dissonance for us; a mental contradiction that creates intense discomfort. It is a natural human reaction to

want to avoid pain and suffering. In the face of the discomfort of cognitive dissonance, we search for ways to reconcile the conflicting beliefs and alleviate our pain.

In our compassion for those divorcing, we don't want to add to their suffering or be judgmental. Nor do we want to stay in the uncomfortable space cognitive dissonance, of holding an ideal that is so hard for people to accomplish.

Redefining what is normal, or ideal, is one way of protecting ourselves from the discomfort of cognitive dissonance and from the fear of being perceived as judgmental.

Yet it is an immature and faulty reaction that ultimately leads to more divorce and more pain. It is immature because it denies the legitimacy of the pain we and our divorcing friends are experiencing.

Broken dreams hurt. There's a grieving that must take place. And it's painful, really painful. When we redefine the dream (or the ideal), we remove the legitimacy for our grief and bury the pain without allowing it to be processed.

In the short term, it feels like relief but this buried pain plays havoc with our subconscious and predisposes us to all sorts of hurt and self-harm in the longer term. We think we are being sensible and practical by moving on, but in reality, we are setting ourselves up for more pain down the track.

#### Restoring our Expectations for Success

If we don't expect marriage to last a life time, then we won't be disappointed when it doesn't. If we don't expect children to live with both parents, then we won't be disillusioned when they can't. These are self-protective strategies designed to deflect the pain of a divorce.

Unfortunately, this strategy usually delivers even more pain over the long term. Why? Because low aspirations lead to limited outcomes.

No successful athlete, artist, musician or business person has succeeded by aspiring to failure or mediocrity. If we don't expect our marriage to last, chances are it won't. If we don't aspire to providing children the stability of both parents in the one home, we can be almost certain that we won't.

The first step towards rebuilding marriage as a life-long commitment in our society is believing it is both possible and optimal. Pretending 'it doesn't really matter' is unhelpful, to everyone involved.

## ST MARY OF THE CROSS

### MARY MACKILLOP FEAST DAY; SAT, 8 AUGUST.

Mary Helen MacKillop RSJ was an Australian nun who has been declared a saint by the Catholic Church, as St Mary of the Cross. Of Scottish descent, she was born in Melbourne but is best known for her activities in South Australia. Wikipedia

Born: 15 January 1842, Fitzroy

**Died: 8 August 1909, North Sydney**

**Feast: 8 August**

Buried: 27 January 1914

Siblings: Alick MacKillop, Annie MacKillop, Alexandrina MacKillop, MORE

Parents: Flora MacDonald, Alexander MacKillop

### SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH OF THE SACRED HEART.

<https://www.sosj.org.au/our-foundress-mary-mackillop/marys-story/mary-story-beginnings/>

As a child growing up into early adulthood in Melbourne, Mary showed she had a love of God and commitment to the church, wanting to server those in need.

Mary's father Alexander MacKillop was a man who tried many times to be successful but never was able to fulfill his desires of success. This lead to the family going through many hardships. Mary was the eldest of seven children and so, the burden of providing for the family fell to her and her next eldest brother. Mary at the age of sixteen was employed as a clerk in a stationary suppliers in Melbourne and supported her family from her wages.

Mary moved to Penola to take on the paid role of governess to her Aunts children. This gave Mary a steady income which was given to her mother in Melbourne to provide for the family.

While in Penola Mary met Fr Julian Woods, who was in charge of the Penola mission. Mary became active in the community, making a contribution to the mission. The Bishop of Adelaide requested Fr Woods to create a Catholic school where ever there was a Priest and a congregation let you make a commencement of a Catholic School.

After some time dis-paring about how to proceed with the task in such a remote part of the country Fr Woods asked Mary MacKillop to help him, even though Mary had moved to western Victoria to help her immediate family.

Together they planned for the establishment of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart. In late 1865 Fr Woods asked Mary to join him in Penola to take over running the Penola school following the resignation of the first two teachers who left to get married. Mary felt she could not abandon her family but sent her seventeen year old sister to help Fr Woods in the school.

By early 1866 Mary, by now 24 years of age, felt free to leave her family and join Fr Woods in Penola to take charge of the school. On the 19th of March 1866 Mary accepted the request of Fr Woods to become the first sister of St Joseph.

Fr John Woods and Mary devises a "Rule of Life" by which the Josephite s should live by.

1. Live poorly, owning nothing in their own right
2. Depend on Divine Providence for their subsistence
3. Go wherever they were needed
4. Do all the good they could, and never see an evil without trying to remedy it.

Later that year in August Fr Woods went to Adelaide to attend the consecration of Adelaide 3rd Bishop, Laurence Sheil. Fr Woods told the new Bishop of his plans for the school at penola. Without hesitation Bishop Sheil appointed Woods as his secretary and director of Catholic Schools and Inspector of schools for South Australia.

The following is from [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary\\_MacKillop](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_MacKillop) MacKillop traveled to Rome in 1873 to seek papal approval for the religious congregation and was encouraged in her work by Pope Pius IX. The authorities in Rome made changes to the way Josephite sisters lived in regards to their commitment to poverty and declared that the superior general and her council were the authorities in charge of the congregation. They assured MacKillop that the congregation and their "Rule of Life" would receive final approval after a trial period. The resulting alterations to the "Rule of Life" regarding ownership of property caused a breach between MacKillop and Woods, who felt that the revised document compromised the ideal of vowed poverty and blamed MacKillop for not getting the document accepted in its original form. Before Woods' death on 7 October 1889, he and MacKillop were personally reconciled, but he did not renew his involvement with the congregation.

Until her death Mary worked tirelessly to grow the Josephite order and establish schools throughout Australia and New Zealand.

## CANONISATION AND COMMEMORATION

In 1925, the Mother Superior of the Sisters of St Joseph, Mother Laurence, began the process to have MacKillop declared a saint and Michael Kelly, Archbishop of Sydney, established a tribunal to carry the process forward. The process for MacKillop's beatification began in 1926, was interrupted in 1931 but began again in April 1951 and was closed in September of that year. After several years of

hearings, close examination of MacKillop's writings and a 23-year delay, the initial phase of investigations was completed in 1973. A longtime and prominent non-Catholic promoter of her cause was poet-bookseller Max Harris. After further investigations, MacKillop's "heroic virtue" was declared in 1992. That same year, the church endorsed the belief that Veronica Hopson, apparently dying of leukaemia in 1961, was cured by praying for MacKillop's intercession; MacKillop was beatified on 19 January 1995 by Pope John Paul II.

On 19 December 2009, the Congregation for the Causes of Saints issued a papal decree formally recognising a second miracle, the complete and permanent cure of Kathleen Evans of inoperable lung and secondary brain cancer in the 1990s. Kathleen Evans went on to publish in 2012 with Penguin Books, "The Story Behind Saint Mary MacKillop's second Miracle." Her canonisation was announced on 19 February 2010 and subsequently took place on 17 October 2010. This made her the first Australian to be recognised as a saint by the Catholic Church.

In the week leading up to her canonisation, the Australian federal government announced that it was protecting the use of MacKillop's name for commercial purposes. According to a statement from the office of the Prime Minister of Australia, Julia Gillard, the only other individual Australian whose name has similar protection is Australian cricket legend Sir Donald Bradman.[49] Australia Post issued an official postage stamp to recognise MacKillop's canonisation.[50]

MacKillop is remembered in numerous ways, particularly in Australia. Many things have been named for her, including the electoral district of MacKillop in South Australia and several MacKillop colleges. †

### DO YOU NEED TO TALK TO A PRIEST FR GREG OR FR PAUL WILL MAKE THEMSELVES AVAILABLE AFTER THE FOLLOWING MASSES.

- Week days, after each Mass in the Parish Office
- Weekends after Mass make contact with the serving priest in the foyer.

### AIR CONDITIONING OUR CHURCH

We know that air conditioning our hot in summer and freezing in winter church has been on our wish list for many years now, but now we would like to try and make it a reality and are looking for your support.

If you would like to donate towards this please either give your donation to Fr Greg or Fr Paul, or drop it in at the office, or pop it in an envelope duly marked and place it on the plate, or even direct deposit to the Church account with 'Air Con' as your reference!

60,000
55,000
50,000
45,000
40,000
35,000
30,000
25,000
20,000
15,000
10,000
7,860

**Account: Gosford Parish Church Account  
BSB 062 784**

**Account: 4238001**

**You can also place an envelope marked "Air Con", with your donation inside, into the boxes at the entry to the Church.**

Our investigations have revealed a target of about \$55-\$60,000 but anything you could contribute will help us all to eventually sit more comfortably in our church.

**\$7,860 raised as of Thursday, 6 August 2020.**

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

### CF. PS 73:20,19,22,23

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.

Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

## FIRST READING

### 1 KGS 19:9.11-13

**A reading from the first book of the Kings**

**Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.**

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

**The Word of The Lord**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

### PS 84:9-14. R. V.8

**(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land.

**(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.

**(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.**

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps.

## SECOND READING

### ROM 9:1-5

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the

covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

**The Word of The Lord**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### LK 19:38

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.

**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

### MT 14:22-33

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

**Command me to come to you over the water.**

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

### PS 147:12,14

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

## SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

### BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

Elijah's experience occurred on the mountain of God. Though in one tradition this mountain is Sinai (see Ex 19:1-6), this tradition identifies it as Horeb (see Dt 4:10-15a). Such a theophany was accompanied by spectacular phenomena. Perhaps the Israelites described it in this way to show that their God, not the god of the Canaanites, governed the powers of nature. Elijah witnessed the phenomena, but did not experience God within it. It was only when he heard a tiny whispering voice that he was gripped with the realisation of God's presence. No divine words were delivered. The voice itself was the experience. This suggests that the insignificant events of life can be the stage upon which God is revealed.

The psalm presumes a community waiting

for a prophetic oracle that will announce peace (v.9). The people's confidence in God rests in the conviction that they are God's own people. There is great expectancy here. The people have done what they can to get God's attention. The next move is God's. Lovingkindness, truth, justice and peace (v.11) are characteristics of the covenantal relationship. When they meet and embrace each other, salvation is complete, truth springs up from the earth, and justice comes down from heaven. All of creation, from earth to sky, shares in the benefits of the salvation by God.

Paul speaks of his ardent attachment to his Jewish compatriots. Though he devoted himself to the conversion of the Gentiles, he never ceased loving the people from whom he came. Distressed that they did not accept Jesus as messiah, he is willing to be considered cursed (anathema) and cut off from Christ for their sake. Paul was not the first leader to be willing to forfeit his future with God for the sake of his own people. Moses made the same offer (see Ex 32:32). Paul lists seven prerogatives that his people enjoy as the chosen people of God. Interestingly, the greatest boast is that the Christ, the anointed one of God, came from their line.

In the gospel account, Jesus addresses the terror that the disciples experienced in seeing him walking toward them on the water with a typical divine response: Do not be afraid! To this he adds the theophanic exclamation: It is I; I am (ego eimi)! By walking on water, Jesus assumes the role of the creator-god who alone governs chaotic waters. Peter's faith is not strong enough to overcome his fear of such waters, and so he sinks. Thus he is a model of both faith and lack of faith. Ultimately, it was faith that won out, for Peter is saved when he cries out to Jesus. Those in the boat then pay Jesus homage, identifying him as the Son of God. The entire event was a manifestation of the extraordinary power that resided in Jesus.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

Dianne Bergant CSA was a Professor of Biblical Studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where she taught from 1978 to 2014. She holds a BS in Elementary Education from Marian College, Fond du Lac, WI; an MA and PhD in Biblical Languages and Literature from St Louis University. Amongst other things, she served as President of Catholic Biblical Association of America (2000-2001) and has been awarded honorary doctorates from several other universities. She was an active member of the Chicago Catholic/Jewish Scholars Dialogue (1988-2017) and sat on the editorial boards of *The Bible Today* (1979-2005), *Biblical Theology Bulletin* (1990-2014), *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* (1992-2001), *New Theology Review* (1997-2003), *Teaching Theology and Religion* (2003-2005), and *Chicago Studies* (2003-2009). She has taught and lectured in many places in the United States and abroad and has written numerous books, articles and chapters in books.



YOUR ROSTER - AUGUST 16, 20TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME						
MASS	VIGIL 5:00	7:30am	8:45am	10:15pm	6:00pm	Somersby - 6:30
DATE	15.08.20	16.08.20	16.08.20	16.08.20	16.08.20	15.08.20
<b>Audio/Visual</b>	Robert Biviano	Michael Lynch	Greg McBride	Arthur Holland	Lee Sullivan	Melissa Monaghan
<b>Acolytes</b>	Anna Jung Bernie Pannell	Sheila Evans John Ryan	Gerard Nicholls Peter Cho	Peter Julius Alan Dillon	Angela Stitt Kevin O'Donnell	<b>Altar Society:</b> Vicki Muscat
<b>Lectors</b>	Jan Blanch Nicole Murphy	Eunice Dal Busco Ron Begg	John Miller Frances Mathey	Emily Rudd Keith Quinn	Youth Youth	Marissa Xuereb Marissa Xuereb
<b>Commentator</b>	Val Dibben	Peter O'Neill	Robyn McBride	Liz Malik	Anna Llidge	Cheryl Barany
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist</b>	Patricia Anderson	Anna Neale	Tom Croll	Molly Holland	Rick Llidge	Nina Lentini + Senior Server
<b>Altar Servers</b>						Dylan Xuereb Natalia Luci <b>Flowers:</b> Rita Galea
<b>COUNTERS</b> 10/08/20 Eunice Dal Busco Lyn Beglin Neryl Tyrrell 17/08/20 Eunice Dal Busco	<b>ALTAR LINEN</b> P/up Aug 10. Thea Dowsett Ret'n Aug 14.	<b>ALTAR SOCIETY</b> Sat, Aug 15 Maree Nolan Margaret Pratt Carmel Hinkley	<b>CHILDRENS LITURGY</b> Sunday Aug 16 Joanne Ford Katie Moss	<b>PARISH BUS</b> Aug 16 Driver: Brian Jay Helper Ellen McNally		<b>HOSPITAL VISITATION</b> Aug 9 Nora Koleszar Michael Lynch

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Jenny Schindler-Stuart, Brian Fitzgerald, Mary Powell, Pat Low, Bill Champley, Patrick Brennan, Peter Harrison, Fran Thompson, Leonie Barnes, Leanne McDonagh, Judy Ryan, Peter Gloss, Marie O'Donovan, Megan McGowan, Kellie Nevin, Charlie Sammut, Rachael Lees, Brian Graham, John Burg, Peter & Lena O'Donovan, Tina Learwood, Allan Francis, Bev Meehan, Michael Graham, Glenn Mills, Frank McGuinness, Angela Cunningham, Simon Low, Frances Cannon, Margaret Gunnison, Sonia Cummings, Helen Bligh.

## ANNIVERSARIES:

Ron Hinckman, Alma & Howard Delaney, Daniel Pace, Yvonne Keevers, Florence Watt, Peter White, Dionisio Gler, Thelma Tate, Phyllis McHatton.

## RECENTLY DECEASED:

Tran Van Phuc, Doreen Roots, Robert [Gary] Bell, Ena Mary Wing, Ewan [Sandy] McPherson, James Enright, Eliecer Caldas, Bob Milne.

## REMEMBRANCES:

John Toohey & Family, Molly & Dave Cody, Effie Fernandes, Neta & Doug Saunders, Annie Muir, Nena & Jack Sciberras, Michael Kokegei.

## PRAYERS & CONDOLENCES

This week we advise of the loss of long time parishioner, Doreen Roots who passed last Monday and her funeral will take place at St Patrick's this week. We offer our condolences to Doreen's family and keep them in our prayers.

We also advise of the sudden loss of Robert [Gary] Bell, husband to our parishioner Elaine, and ask you to keep Elaine and their children in your prayers. May God hold them in the palm of his hand.

## YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Date	Mass	Intention	Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 08/08	9:00am Gosford	Prayers for Birthdays VICTORIA TOLEDA & MANUEL DIZON	Thu 13/08	9:00am Gosford & On Line	40 Days after Death ENA MARY WING
Sat 08/08	4:00pm Spencer	+ Anniversary DIONISIO GLER	Fri 14/08	12:00pm On Line	+ Anniversaries NETA & DOUG SAUNDERS
Sat 08/08	5:00pm Gosford	+ Anniversary PETER WHITE	Fri 14/08	7:00pm Gosford	80th Birthday Blessing LESZEK DABSKI
Sat 08/08	5:30pm Somersby	+ Remembrances NENA & JACK SCIBERRAS	Sat 15/08	9:00am Gosford	Birthday Blessing RICCI
Sun 09/08	7:30 am Gosford	+ Anniversary DIONISIO GLER	Sat 15/08	5:00 pm Gosford	+ Remembrance ANNIE MUIR
Sun 09/08	8:45 am Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS	Sat 15/08	5:30 am Somersby	+ Prayers for ANGELA VELLA
Sun 09/08	10:15 am Gosford	+ Recently Deceased JAMES ENRIGHT	Sun 16/08	7:30 am Gosford	+ Birthday Remembrance MARIA DABSKI
Sun 09/08	6:00 pm Gosford	NFP	Sun 16/08	8:45 am Gosford	Birthday Blessing JOSEPH MATHEW
Mon 10/08	9:00am Gosford & On Line	+ Anniversaries ALMA & HOWARD DELANEY	Sun 16/08	10:15 am Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS
Tue 11/08	9:00am Gosford & On Line	+ Remembrance EFFIE FERNANDES	Sun 16/08	6:00 pm Gosford	+ Anniversary MARIA PORPIGLIA
Wed 12/08	11:30am On Line	+ Anniversary RON HINCKSMAN			

# BOUTIQUE



REAL ESTATE CENTRAL COAST

Has the keys to buying  
and selling with  
First class Services

Call Madeline

0410 654 494

## Photom Event Photography

- Church
- Corporate
- Family Parties
- Conferences

**Photom**  
Capturing the light

Free quotes with no obligation.

For Bookings,  
contact  
Tom Croll

5 Halling Close  
Karingong, NSW 2250  
Ph: 0411 962 122  
tomcroll@photom.com.au

# BRYAN J REID FUNERAL SERVICES

**100% Australian Owned & Family Operated**

Free call 1800 032 225

Head office: 4341 5000

Serving all the Central Coast,  
Sydney and Newcastle ares.

Sponsoring St Patrick's  
Planned Giving Envelope  
Programme

**RELAX**



**WE SERVE THE "NERVOUS"  
ERINA FAMILY DENTAL**

Ph: 4367 5066

**72 KARALTA RD ERINA**

[Before the turn off to Erina Fair]  
Parking available on site.

**Advertise on this  
page in a Space  
like this.**

## BRICK & BLOCK LAYER

**MARK BENNETT**

30 Years' Experience  
Residential Specialist  
Give me a call  
on 0410 057 197  
to discuss your job!

**Advertise on this  
page in a Space  
like this.**

**CARAVAN REPAIRS  
CENTRAL CARAVAN  
AND RV REPAIRS**

LIC NO MVRL55614

**1/45 AMSTERDAM CIRCUIT**

**WYONG**

**0400 330 089**

**Advertise on this  
page in a Space  
like this.**

*Residential & Commercial Flooring*  
Carpet, Floating Floors, Hybrid & Vinyl Flooring, Rugs,  
Outdoor/Marine, Acoustic Wall Coverings

**Flooring 4U**

*At Flooring 4U, everyone is a VIP!*  
Quality work Guaranteed.  
Ph: 0416 336 318

**Advertise on this  
page in a space  
like this.**

**Advertise on this  
page in a space  
like this.**

**Advertise on this  
page in a Space  
like this.**

**Advertise on this  
page in a Space  
like this.**

**Advertise on this  
page in a Space  
like this.**

**Advertise on this  
page in a Space  
like this.**

**Advertise on this  
page in a Space  
like this.**