



GOSFORD PARISH

*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.*



POPE FRANCIS -

FORMALLY ADDS THREE WAYS TO CALL UPON MARY

Among the many titles under which Catholics invoke Mary, Pope Francis has asked them to add 'Mother of Mercy', 'Mother of Hope' and 'Comfort of Migrants'.

Cardinal Robert Sarah, prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, sent a letter to the presidents of bishops' conferences around the world asking that the titles be inserted into the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, more commonly known as the Litany of Loreto.

The litany, which begins by invoking God's mercy, then turns to Mary, asking for her prayers.

The Litany of Loreto traces its origins back to the 16th century and already had close to 50 titles for Mary with verses like "Holy Mother of God, pray for us" and "Queen of All Saints, pray for us."

Cardinal Sarah's letter, released on 20 June by the Vatican, said, "The church, which walks along the pathways of history as a pilgrim toward the heavenly Jerusalem and enjoys inseparable communion with Christ her spouse and saviour," entrusts itself to the intercession of Mary, "who believed in the word of the Lord".

"We know from the Gospel that the disciples of Jesus had, in fact, learned from the very beginning to praise her as 'blessed amongst women' and to count on her maternal intercession," he said.

The titles for referring to and seeking assistance from Mary are "innumerable," the cardinal said, but the pope wanted formally to recognise more of them.

'Mother of Mercy', he said, should follow 'Mother of the Church' in the litany, then comes 'Mother of Divine Grace' and the insertion of 'Mother of Hope'.

Further down, after invoking Mary as 'Health of the Sick' and as 'Refuge of Sinners', he said, Catholics should add 'Comfort of Migrants'.

<https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/mother-of-hope-amid-new-titles-for-mary/>

MARY, OUR HOPE

BY ANTONIO CARDINAL BACCI

In the beautiful prayer, known as the Salve Regina or Hail, Holy Queen, the Church salutes Mary as "our life, our sweetness and our hope." Mary is our hope, because, she gave us our Saviour, Jesus and, because, she prays to Him continually for the graces which we need. Following the example of Luther, modern Protestants raise the objection that Mary cannot be regarded as a source of hope, because, all our trust should be placed in God.

Anyone who places his trust in creatures, draws down God's curse upon himself, they say and, they go on to quote from Jeremiah: "Cursed be the man that trusteth in man" (Jer 17:5). But this is true only, when we trust in creatures independently of God, as if we can derive any good from them, without recourse to God.



We invoke Mary, however, as the Mother of God and our mediatrix with Him. She is our hope, insofar as she obtains for us from God, the graces and favours which we require. St Bernard assures us, that God has placed in Mary's hands, all the riches which He wishes to bestow on us (Serm de aquaed).

"He will never experience eternal ruin," says St Anselm, "for whom Mary has once prayed." St Bernard calls upon Mary as the foundation of all his hope (Ibid).


Let us remember, that Mary is our loving Mother who wishes us to pray to her, because, she knows that if she intercedes on our behalf, she will certainly be heard.

It should be most consoling to us to have such a good and powerful Mother in whom, we can safely trust in every peril and in every necessity. Let us pray to her with love and faith, in the certainty that, we shall be answered in the way that is best for us.

Let us say along with St John Damascene: "O Mother of God, if I place my trust in you, I shall be saved. If I am under your protection, I have nothing to fear, because to be devoted to you, is to possess a weapon of salvation which God grants only to those, whom He desires to redeem" (Serm de Nat, cap 4). <https://anastpaul.com/about/anastpaul-com/>

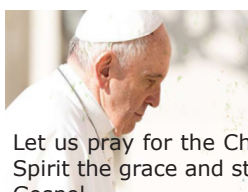
Put your *Hope* in God! 
Psalm 42 : 5

BLESSED FRANCIS JORDAN SDS



"Do everything as if you really saw God before you This is a sure way to make great progress in virtue."

SD I/15



POPE FRANCIS' AUGUST 2021 INTENTION
The Church

Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

BB35
CELEBRATING 35 YEARS
DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY



THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH & THE FAMILY 2021



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 – Thur:

8:30am – 4:30pm

Friday

8:30am – 1:00pm

Bursar:

Darren Fitzgibbon

Sacramental Programme

Coordinator:

Frances Mathey

Email: franceshanna@yahoo.com

Catechists' Coordinator: **Raelene O'Connor**

Email: saintpatsccd@acs.net.au

Wed:

9:00am – 1:00pm

Thur:

9:30am – 1:30pm

Youth Ministry:

Jaimi-Lea Andrews

Ph: 0452 480 112 Email: jaimilea.andrews@gmail.com

Media Coordinator:

Tom Croll

Thursday:

9:00am – 2:00pm

Email: tomcroll@photom.com.au

Phone:

0411- 962 122.

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin:

Denise Jay

Friday:

9:00am – 3:30pm

AV Presentation:

Peter McLean

Caretakers:

Greg McBride
Ron Begg, Chris Galea

Baptism Co-ordinator:

Tim Mara

All bookings must be made

through the parish office.

Gardeners:

Trevor Byrne

Joyce Byrne

Victor Camilleri

Barbara McCarthy

Ph: 4322 0250

Seniors' Ministry:

Barbara McCarthy

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Hilary Pope

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

MASSES LIVE STREAMED

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC44NSRmeB1mg_EKIJUFJpvg/live

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

Mon:	9:00am	Wed:	11:30am	Fri:	12:00pm
Tue:	9:00am	Thu:	9:00am	Sat:	9:00am

WEEKEND MASSES

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

Sun: 9:30 am



YEAR OF THANKSGIVING FOR
BLESSED FRANCIS JORDAN

21st July 2021 - 21st July 2022

SALVATORIANS AUSTRALIA

ROSARY EVERY NIGHT AT 9:00 PM

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC44NSRmeB1mg_EKIJUFJpvg/live

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL, IS CLOSED DUE TO COVID LOCKDOWN

ST PATRICK'S GROUPS MEETINGS

Cancer Prayer Group

Craft Group

Grief & Loss Support

MenAlive

Prayers for Christian
Unity

Prayer Group DVDs

Prayer Group & Bible
Discussion

Bible Study - Monday
night

Youth Group

Salvatorian
Collaborators

Women's Faith Circle

Children, Yrs 5 & 6

Family Group



NOTE:

**ALL ADVERTISED ACTIVITIES ARE
SUBJECT TO ANY GOVERNMENT
COVID RULINGS AND THEREFORE
WILL BE POSTPONED OR
CANCELLED
IF "STAY AT HOME"
OR
"LOCKDOWN" RULES ARE IN
PLACE.**

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 CONCERNS YOU, PLEASE
EMAIL HILARY POPE, OUR SAFEGUARDING OFFICER AT
HILARY.P1@OPTUSNET.COM.AU.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW OR DOWNLOAD](#)

[OUR DIOCESAN COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING](#)



FR GREG AND LADIES, TALK ABOUT THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AND HER IMPACT ON THEIR LIVES.



Click here TO VIEW THE VIDEO

AN INVITATION TO YOU

Our Parish Catechist team, invite parishioners to join our Ministry, in a teaching capacity to replace a team member who has left the Parish area.

For Year 6 @12.10 pm Wednesday at Point Clare.

I look forward to hearing from Parishioners available for this commitment.

All inquiries please call Raelene 0499 995 292.



August 6 2021 was National Principal's Day.

So a belated Happy Principal's Day to all School Principals.

HELP FROM CATHOLIC CARE

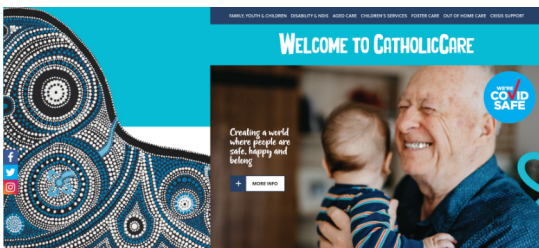
CatholicCare can help with Coles or Woolworths vouchers.

Times are tough. You might have lost work due to the lockdown, or you might be finding it hard to pay the bills or to put food on the table. Please call CatholicCare on (02) 9481 2600 or email them at info@catholiccaredbb.org.au.

They are here to help our parish families.



If you, or you know someone who is struggling please contact the Parish Office



FREE COUNSELLING SERVICES AT ST PATRICK'S.

NEXT AVAILABLE – AUGUST, 2021

Professional Counsellors offer a caring approach to a range of issues, including:

- Depression and or anxiety
- Grief and loses
- Parenting Support
- Relationship – couple and family issues

Provided with a faith-based perspective in mind.

Extensive experience from clinically trained professionals.

Free, fully confidential and available to parishioners.

- Adolescents
- Adults
- Couples and families

To register please contact the Parish Office.



Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the pastoral charity of the Catholic community in Broken Bay.

Previously known as the Charitable Works Fund (CWF), it was renamed in July 2021 to better reflect the authentic, life-giving pastoral work you are helping to support, and provide a name that uniquely connects it to our Diocese.

Thank you for helping to renew and rebuild lives. Every gift makes a difference to someone in hospital, school, a parish or wider community. **All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible and allocated to your Parish contribution for Pastoral Works Broken Bay.**

DONATE



Donate to help families and parish communities in Broken Bay.

"My prayer is the change from CWF to Pastoral Works Broken Bay enables us to reach further and wider in helping our local community, and more deeply connects us to the mission of Jesus."

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL, Bishop of Broken Bay

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Launching Nationally on
Saturday, 31st July 2021
www.catholicmensgathering.com.au



[Click here to see more!](#)

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC MEN'S GATHERING 2021

REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE

CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEOS

"They were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other Apostles,

Brothers - what then must we do?" Acts 2:37

LAUNCHING NATIONALLY ONLINE FROM SATURDAY 31 JULY 2021

The Australian Catholic Men's Gathering aims to inspire and encourage all men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish/diocese and the world. The 2020 event saw approximately 1000 men gather across the nation at 42 hosting sites.

In this Year of St Joseph, the Australian Catholic Men's Gathering is again being offered as a free event for registered participants. All dioceses across Australia are invited to participate in the 2021 program which will focus on St Joseph and will include a pre-recorded introductory session, three pre-recorded sessions, and a final commissioning, all available from Saturday 31 July 2021.

You can participate individually or gather with others from your parish/diocese or men's ministry group. The

sessions are designed so that they can be used on one full day or across a number of days and they can be integrated with local initiatives such as Mass, testimonies and group discussions.

Individual registration will ensure you receive updates about the program and all links to the pre-recorded videos when they are available.

when did you last feel FULLY ALIVE?

menALIVE

Yes we are going to have three menALIVE zoom meetings in August.
We will be watching/discussing one of the Australian Catholic Men's Gathering videos in each session as there are three keynotes, too many to do in one.
The topics will be:

- Tue, Aug 03 => Man of God
- Tue, Aug 17 => Man of Service
- Tue, Aug 31 => Man of Character

If you would like to attend, contact Peter Axon ptaxon11@gmail.com or Ph: 0448 005 140

NEW RCIA PROGRAM

Anybody interested in, or know someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic please contact the Parish Office to register your interest in joining the RCIA program.

Office Phone # 4325-1042.



HELP FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Vinnies wants people to know that though their shops aren't open you have only to call the office on 4322 5861 to arrange for vouchers for food etc and they will be delivered to your letterbox.

NEW BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR ST PATRICK'S PARISH.

The Commonwealth Bank is streamlining its systems and is transitioning to new account numbers.

Please note that our new account details are

Gosford Parish Church Account

BSB 062784

Account No 10001599.

In an effort to ensure everyone is given the chance to update their records, we will continue advertising this until the CBA closes off the period of grace when both the old and new account numbers will be valid.

We ask those who are giving directly into the Church Account to take particular notice. Thank you.

PLEASE CONSIDER FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

If you wish to donate to our Parish, you can donate direct to our Bank Account. When you do so please indicate in the "Reference" the purpose for the donation.



Bank Account Name

Gosford Parish Church Account

BSB: 062 784

Account Number: 10001599

WOULD YOU LIKE A PRINTED COPY OF THE BULLETIN?

You can pick up a copy of the Bulletin from the front door of the church when you are passing on your exercise walk.

SECURE DROP OFF FOR DONATIONS

We would like to especially thank those who have been contributing to the financial support of the parish and its clergy via direct deposit or calling to donate over the phone, or depositing their envelopes into our mailbox.

However - Donations have dropped 40 %, when we compare June 2021 before the lockdown to July 2021 following the lockdown.

We now have a secure letterbox in the fence near our gate into the office area, which people may place their donations - again while they are on their walk.

Certainly, it should be acknowledged that many people and businesses are suffering, and we are grateful for the support we are getting. However, we do have to ask for everyone to keep us in their prayers and remember to give their financial support.

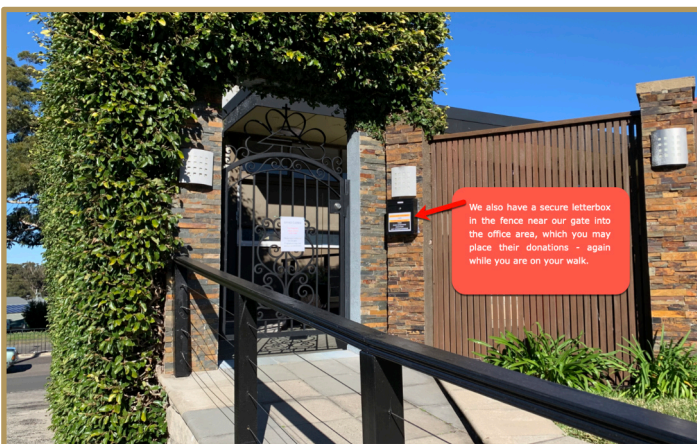


Please also remember that whilst the office isn't open to all, we are taking calls and can assist you should you need help, book future sacraments or appointments, or collect your donations.

We encourage you to please stay in touch as your health and wellbeing are very much at the forefront of our minds.

May you dare to trust in the Lord with your whole heart
and not lean on your own understanding.

May you look up and acknowledge him with every step
you take, knowing he'll get you where you need to go.



CATHOLIC FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP FOR FAMILIES, ENGAGED AND MARRIED COUPLES

7 sessions to strengthen your relationship



Session 3:
"RESOLVING CONFLICT"

SUNDAY, AUG 29
1:00 PM

ST PATRICK'S
GOSFORD PARISH

ONLINE EVENT

The
Marriage
Course

Time and space to focus
on your relationship

COUPLES & FAMILY GROUP

Running The Alpha Marriage Course

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, this session will be run online.
To receive the relevant links/videos

PLEASE REGISTER at Cosford.Families@gmail.com

Start at 1.00 pm **The Marriage Course: Session 3**
There will be online activities for children run in parallel

The Mass is live-streamed at 9.30am and you are most welcome to join at:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC44NSRmeBlmg_EKlJUFJpvg/live

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

All shall be brought to life in Christ

D Q X Q H B D X Z N T X G V
H H U V R R N E O P C V T V
T O D A W Q A I J A E C S K
R L V K D Y T W A E E S C E
P Y T D X E L I Z A B E T H
T S I W S A K W S D T U O X
U P F H K H W T X K X N T W
D I C R O W N T H A V L C Y
B R T H R O N E F F B V V S
B I D X V V I C T O R Y X N
K T J U D E A Y B A B Y E G
A D A M Z T X A R F M A R Y
B Q R W O M A N Z C H I L D
I A Q L E C E N E M I E S E

Try to find these words:

Adam
baby
child
crown
enemies
Elizabeth
HolySpirit
Judea
Mary
throne
victory
woman

Rv 11:19: 12:1-6, 10
Ps 44:10-12: 16, R, v 10
1 Cor 15:20-26
Lk 1:39-56

The Assumption of the Virgin Mary into Heaven [N1551AUS_2004_WS3.#1]

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SALVATORIAN FORMATION DONATION CODE.

If you would like to support future Salvatorian priests please go to the link. Just scan with your QR Code Reader on your phone.

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=FHE9UKNMLYLQA

10 REASONS WHY MARY'S ASSUMPTION

WAS THE GREATEST MOMENT OF HER LIFE

BY GRETCHEN FILZ THE CATHOLIC COMPANY

"Through thee have the gates of Paradise been thrown open to us, O thou who this day did triumph so gloriously among the Angels." - Divine Office Antiphon

Each year on August 15 we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven, a Holy Day of Obligation. According to St. Peter Canisius, Doctor of the Church, the Solemnity of the Assumption is the greatest of all Marian feasts and therefore holds the highest place of them all. Why?

Because Mary's entrance into heaven was the happiest and most joyful event of her life - even happier than the Annunciation and the Nativity of Our Lord.

Below are ten points regarding the awesomeness of today's feast.

At her Assumption into heaven:

1. The Blessed Virgin Mary was, for the first time since His Passion and Ascension into heaven, physically reunited with her Son, Jesus, for all eternity, never to be separated from Him again.
2. Her long and difficult earthly mission as a co-worker in Christ's redemption of the human race was now complete; through God's grace she persevered to the end in perfect harmony and submission to the will of God.
3. At this moment she received the fulfillment of all she longed, sacrificed, sought, worked, desired, hoped, waited, and prayed for her entire life.
4. She experienced perfect and complete happiness in her entire person, as both her body and soul were united in heaven (Mary and Jesus are presently in heaven

with their physical bodies; the souls of the other saints will receive their bodies at the final resurrection of the dead).

5. Everything mysteriously written and prophesied in the Scriptures of her role in salvation history was brought to its glorious fulfillment.
6. Mary, the true Ark of the Covenant where the Incarnate Christ dwelt, was finally in her exalted place in the Temple of the heavenly Jerusalem.
7. Just as Mary humbly received Jesus into the world at his nativity, now Jesus magnificently receives Mary into heaven for all eternity.
8. Mary, as the most beautiful and perfect creature in all of God's created order, enters heaven for the first time - with her physical, human body - and is given the highest place above all the choirs of angels, and there receives the honour and praise proper to her exalted state.
9. Mary is crowned as Queen of Heaven and Earth to reign as Queen Mother alongside her Divine Son, to rule, protect, guide, intercede, and lead all of her spiritual children to be with her Son, Jesus, just as she is.
10. Mary is the first to receive the promise of the resurrection given to all who are united to Jesus Christ and persevere in faith as she did; therefore she embodies the future hope of the Church and of all believers.

"Among all these feasts which have been celebrated so devotedly for so many years, even unto the present day, the Feast of the Assumption is considered the greatest and holds the chief place. Indeed there was no happier or more joyful day for Mary, if we duly consider the happiness of both body and soul granted to her on that day. Then especially, as never before, her spirit, soul and body rejoiced wondrously in the living God and she could rightfully say: He hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden; for behold, all generations shall call me blessed; for he that is mighty hath magnified me." - Homily by St. Peter Canisius (Doctor of the Church)

Prayer for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Almighty and everlasting God, You have taken up body and soul into the heavenly glory the Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of Your Son: Grant, we beseech You, that, ever intent upon heavenly things, we may be worthy to be partakers of her glory.

Through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

22 August 2021: The Queenship of Mary - Maria Regina Church is under this title.

One of the most beautiful and universal titles of the Blessed Virgin Mary is her title as Queen, honoured on the August 22nd feast of the Queenship of Mary, the octave day of the feast of her Assumption.



Jamberoo Abbey
Online Retreat
a retreat about Hope

Meet me in the Middle

Van Gogh - Tower in the fields

ABOUT

This retreat is based on Charles Peguy's Little Girl Hope from the book: "The Portal of the Mystery of Hope".* Hope is both a virtue and a mystery. It is desirable yet elusive. Many dismiss it, misunderstand it, shrug it off and turn their backs on it, extolling faith and charity instead. Whilst faith and charity are absolutely critical in these times of uncertainty and fear in society, there is now a need for hope as never before since World War II.

DATE

Retreat begins Sunday, September 5, 2021.
All videos and texts will be available on our website for as long as you need access.

DETAILS

There are 6 conferences with two being uploaded each week. There are also questions for reflection. Take your time as there is no need to complete the two conferences within the one week.

COST

The cost of the retreat is \$250
Pensioners can apply for a reduced price- see website for details

CONTACT

Register online at:
jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats

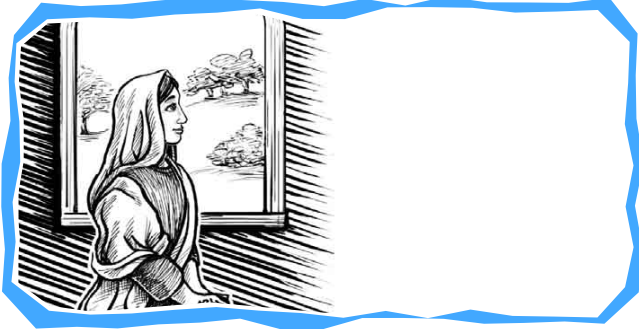
*The Portal of the Mystery of Hope
William B Eerdmans Publishing Co. Michigan USA

God has done great things for me



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Year A

The angel Gabriel visited Mary. Draw the angel.



With all my heart I praise the Lord,
and I am glad because of God my Saviour.
He cares for me, his humble servant.
All people will say God has blessed me.
God All-Powerful has done great things for me,
and his name is holy.

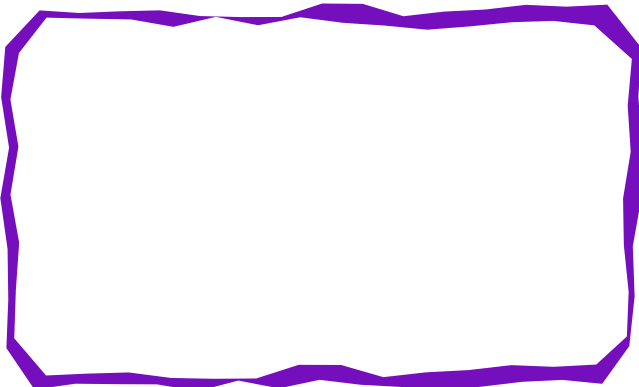


Mary travelled to Judea to see her cousin

Mary gave birth to Jesus in the town of Bethlehem. Draw Jesus in the manger.



When Jesus died on the cross Mary stood by him. Draw Mary standing at the foot of the cross.



Mary was assumed into heaven. Colour the picture of Mary.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

CF. REV 12:1

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

FIRST READING

RV 11:19; 12:1-6, 10

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I saw a woman clothed with the sun and with the moon at her feet.

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened, and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it.

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready. Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 44:10-12. 16. R. V.10

(R.) The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

1. The daughters of kings are among your loved ones.

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir. Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words: forget your own people and your father's house.

(R.) The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

2. So will the king desire your beauty: He is your lord, pay homage to him.

They are escorted amid gladness and joy; they pass within the palace of the king.

(R.) The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

SECOND READING

1 COR 15:20-26

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

As members of Christ all people will be raised, Christ first, and after him all who belong to him.

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order; Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

LK 1:39-56

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The Almighty has done great things for me; he has lifted up the lowly.

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

And Mary said: 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.

Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me.

Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him.

He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart.

He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly.

The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away.

He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy – according to the promise he made to our ancestors – of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

LK 1:48-49

All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

Several mythological themes lie behind the apocalyptic vision that unfolds before us in the first reading. The basic one is the primordial cosmic battle in which a young warrior god defeats the evil sea monster. The second tale recounts an attempt to usurp the privileged position of an unborn prince, a plan that is thwarted by attendants who carry the baby to safety. Weaving these two stories together, the reading tells of a pregnant woman and the cosmic dragon. While it awaits the birth of the child, the dragon engages in cosmic battle, and is relatively successful. However, complete victory is not yet in sight. In fact, ultimate victory will belong to God's Anointed One who establishes the kingdom of God.

In this royal psalm, all attention is given to the queen who is arrayed in gold at the right hand of the king. The psalmist exhorts her to: Hear and see! Listen to my words and realise their value! There is surely a sexual connotation to the reference to the king's desire for her beauty. The final verse alludes to the wedding procession that was part of most marriages. Usually the bride and her attendants walked in procession to the home of the groom. The high station of this wedding couple is seen in the fact that the wedding entourage is carried into the palace, probably on exquisitely decorated litters. Once the bride arrived, the feasting would commence.

The reading from Paul carries us first back through time to the primordial period of beginnings, and then forward to the end of time and the eschatological age of fulfilment. Christ is identified as the first fruits of those who have died. Paul is referring to human solidarity in Adam when

he declares that one man sinned and brought death into the world. Analogously, joined in faith, all believers participate in the resurrected life of Christ. The events that Paul describes transcend time. Paul believes that there is an interval between the parousia and the final end when Christ will hand over everything to God. During this time all of Christ's enemies will be vanquished.

The gospel reading falls naturally into two parts: the account of Mary's visit to Elizabeth (vv.39-45); and Mary's prayer of praise (vv. 46-56). The response of the child in Elizabeth's womb is reminiscent of the joy that filled David as he leapt before the ark of the covenant, the symbol of God in the midst of the people (see 2 Sm 6:14-15). Filled with the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth proclaims her faith in the child that Mary is carrying. Mary's hymn of praise has strong parallels in the victory hymns of Miriam (Ex 15:1-180, Hannah (1 Sm 2:1-10), and Judith (Jdt 16:1-17). This hymn suggests that the marvels accomplished in Mary are a final example of God's mercy. The salvation of the people has finally come.

THIS WEEK

Fri St Bernard, abbot, doctor
Sat St Pius X, pope

NEXT WEEKS READINGS

21ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

1st: Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18
2nd: Eph 5:21-32
Gospel: Jn 6:60-69



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Susan Milne, Bernadette Humphries, Maura Garvey, Allan Hoole, Arthur Holland, Maree Nolan, Carlos Llenado. Jim Dibben, William Parkhouse, Anne Holohan, Brent Senger, Oliver Senger, Christopher Michael Graham, Nancy Fitzgerald, Angela Gibbs, Peter Allman, Peter Gloss, Pat Lowe, Maria

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Keisellis, Pam O'Malley-Jones, Megan McGowan, Judith Wennerbom, Marie O'Donovan, Frank McGuinness.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Ernesto Jose Lumayno, Keanu Campbell, Allan Sidney Barrett, Lawrence Meehan, Maria Del Sagrario Gomez De Las Heras Alonso.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Norman Curran, George Frediani, Josephine Comensoli, Boleslaw Then, Rodney Spencer, Andrew Murphy, John & Eva Smith, Sr Marie Paul Chanel, Maria Dabski, Eric Fitzgibbon, Ines Bembo, Marget Richter, Elaine Murphy, Angelina Comensoli.

REMEMBRANCES:

Ron Nixon, Jean Gimmonds, Valerie & Eric Neilson, Keanu Campbell, Joseph Vaz, Ronald Freeman, Fariba Ghazi, Mary Jane Buhagiar, Glenn Mills, Friquet Family, Mr Sammut, Foss family members, For all the Souls

of the Vaz family, Kevin Boland, Fariba Ghazi, Mary Anne Dwyer, Gary Bell, John & Doris Bourke.

CONDOLENCES:

Our sincere condolences to all those who have recently lost family members or friends. May their souls rest in the peace and glory of our Lord.



Date	Mass	Intention	Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 14/08	9:00am Gosford	+ Remembrance VAL & ERIC NEILSON	Thu 19/08	9:00am Gosford	
Sat 14/08	4:30pm Spencer 2nd Sunday of Mth		Fri 20/08	12:00pm Gosford	
Sat 14/08	5:00pm Gosford		Sat 21/08	9:00am Gosford	
Sat 14/08	5:30pm Somersby			4:30pm Spencer 2nd Sunday of Mth	
Sun 15/08	7:30am Gosford		Sat 21/08	5:00pm Gosford	
Sun 15/08	9:30am Gosford	Recently Deceased ERNESTO JOSE LUMAYNO	Sat 21/08	5:30pm Gosford	
Sun 15/08	6:00pm Gosford		Sun 22/08	7:30am Gosford	
Mon 16/08	9:00am Gosford	Birthday Blessings JOSEPH MATHEW	Sun 22/08	9:30am Gosford	
Tue 17/08	9:00am Gosford	+ Anniversary RON HINCKSMAN	Sun 22/08	6:00pm Gosford	
Wed 18/08	11:30am Gosford	+Anniversaries ALMA & HOWARD DELANEY NETA & DOUG SAUNDERS BERNICE & BRIAN TERRY COLIN DELANY GREG DUGAN			

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