

Gosford Parish

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





Community

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SAY THE CHURCH IS A COMMUNITY?

INTRODUCTION

We say the church is a community, but what does that mean? How can a group of distinct individuals be one community? What binds them together? These are the questions that arise when we speak of the church as community.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Talk of community in the church is rooted in various concepts, primary among these is the notion of fellowship or koinonia. In Scripture Paul presents the relationship of believers to one another as a shared experience of salvation. This is often referred to in the Greek as koinonia. Within the Greek cultural context the concept had wideranging meanings related to various types of common enterprises. However, the New Testament emphasis is upon the participation "in something," particularly realities outside one's existence, rather than association "with someone" which is often the emphasis in contemporary notions of "fellowship."

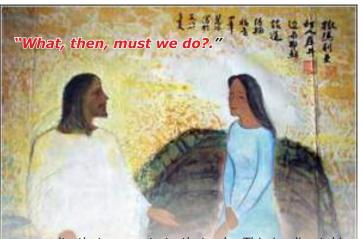
In Paul's writing we regularly see this idea of participation in spiritual realities, such as in the description of the Lord's Supper to the Corinthians. Here, the Lord's Supper signifies fellowship with Jesus Christ where the sharing of a common meal is a sharing in the body and blood of Christ. The Philippians are another instance of fellowship in terms of participation, but this time it is in reference to sharing in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (Phil 1:7). Both of these examples speak more about participation in the Holy Spirit rather than the fellowship created by the Holy Spirit. Sharing in the Spirit is the decisive factor in their life together.

Scripture shows us that believers are formed into a community, but in what sense do we "belong to one another" in Christ (Rom 12:5)? From a Trinitarian perspective, we might think of it in three terms:

God's rule--from the rule of God comes membership in a



We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



community that consents to that rule. This implies taking up discipleship, a discipleship that is shaped by conversion and baptism, nourished in the life of Christ through participation in the Lord's Supper.

The centrality of Christ--through the centrality of Christ emerges a community of faith defined by the story of Jesus Christ. The church is bound to the faith of its members, since faith is not an individual human accomplishment, and shares a mutual commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord. It is a fellowship shaped by the crucified and risen Christ.

The power of the Holy Spirit--by the work of the Holy Spirit believing and confessing human beings are constituted into the church. It is not that each person fashions himself or herself into a member of the church, but rather through their pluriform confessing the Spirit makes them into one body.

It is clear in Scripture that this concept of community has both an individual and a corporate aspect and that the role of the Holy Spirit is integral. Throughout the Old and New Testaments, the primary work of the Holy Spirit is to bestow shared life on the people of God. There are many stories in the Old Testament about the ruach (Spirit) enlivening certain people. There is also Israel's longing for a corporate bestowal of the life of the Spirit on God's people. The New Testament maintains the concept of bestowal of life, power, and vitality on individuals. The Spirit gives life (2 Cor. 3:6; Jn. 6:63). Alongside this there is a corporate bestowal of the Spirit. The narrative of the Day of Pentecost is notable for its corporate emphasis where we see the outpouring of the Spirit which results in a life of community (Acts 2:42-47). The Holy Spirit constitutes the unity of the body of Christ (Eph. 4:1-4) and supplies the koinonia or fellowship that keeps us one (Phil. 2:1-2). In terms of the creeds of the church we refer to this as oneness or unity which is a gift to the church by the Spirit.



FR FRANCIS JORDAN SDS

"We want to contemplate your example, (assimilate your ways) and heed your gentle

MM Our Exemplar 1870 in Poems



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 KirkMon - Thurs: 8:30am - 4:30pm 8:30am - 1:00pm Friday Darren Fitzgibbon Bursar:

Sacramental Programme

Coordinator: Frances Mathey

Email: franceshanna@yahoo.com

Catechists' Coordinator: Raelene O'Connor

Email: saintpatsccd@acs.net.au

9:00am - 1:00pm Wed: 9:30am - 1:30pm Thurs: Youth Ministry: Jaimi-Lea Andrews Ph: 0452 480 112 Email: jaimilea.andrews@gmail.com

Media Coordinator: Tom Croll 9:00am - 2:00pm Thursday: Fmail: tcroll@photom.com.au Phone: 0411-962 122.

> Denise Jay 9:00am - 3:30pm

Peter McLean

Greg McBride

Maisie Tenev Ph: 0416 803 334

Trevor Byrne

Joyce Byrne

Victor Camilleri

Anthony Vassallo

Barbara McCarthy

Ron Begg, Chris

Galea & Tim Mara

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin: Friday:

AV Presentation: Caretakers:

Baptism Co-ordinator:

All bookings must be made through the parish office.

Gardeners:

Ph: 4322 0250 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

School Principals

Seniors' Ministry:

St Patrick's Primary: Mrs Cheryl Walsh 4325 1159 St Joseph's College: Mr Tony McCudden 4324 4022 Mr Mark Bonnici 4321 6400 St Edwards College: St Peter's College: Mr Tim Hilderbrandt 43512344

CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM - 4:30PM.

STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

9:00am 12:00pm Mon: Wed: 11:30am Fri: 9:00am Tue: 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 7:30am, 9:30am & 6:00pm

SOMERSBY, 30 LUTANA RD SPENCER, 4,200 WISEMANS FERRY RD 5:30pm 4:00pm 2nd Saturday of Month Sat Vigil:

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"	
Wednesday	10:30am to 11:00am	
Fridays	11:35am to 12:00pm	
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

ST PATRICK'S GROUPS MEETINGS

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

Cancer Prayer

Group

Craft Group

Grief & Loss Support

MenAlive

Prayers for Christian Unity

Prayer Group DVDs

Praver Group & **Bible Discussion**

Bible Study -Monday night

Salvatorian **Collaborators**

Womens Faith Circle

AS SOON AS INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE WE WILL NOTIFY EVERYONE REGARDING THE RESTARTING OF GROUP GATHERINGS





NATIONAL CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP STANDARDS

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STANDARD 1 - COMMITTED LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE & CULTURE

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

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Hilary Pope



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SPECIAL NOTICE FOR SPENCER PARISHIONERS

DECEMBER MASS AT SPENCER WILL BE ON 18TH DECEMBER, NOT THE USUSAL 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

ADVENT REFLECTION GROUP

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN SEMINARIAN HUY

For a reflection and prayer in the Jordan Room, every Wednesday at 10am during Advent Session. Due to Govt COVID rules only fully Vaccinated can attend.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:



SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

As is our custom at St Patrick's Parish we will host the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation in our Parish Church. Priests from the parishes of Wyoming, Terrigal and Woy Woy will be in attendance along with Fr Greg.

Gosford Tue 14 December 7:00 pm
The other close by churches will host on:
Wyoming Wed 15 December 7:30 pm
Terrigal Thu 16 December 7:00 pm
Woy Woy Fri 17 December 7:00 pm

VOLUNTEERS MASS OF THANKSGIVING

OUR PARISH THANKS ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS - SAT 18 DECEMBER 9 AM

Fr Greg would like to invite all volunteers to a Mass to celebrate our volunteers and the thank them for their efforts throughout the year.

Please join with us for this wonderful celebration of our St Patrick's community. Cuppa afterwards if restrictions allow.



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

WE HONOUR COLEEN KIRK

ON SATURDAY 18TH DECEMBER 9:00AM MASS

This coming Saturday we will be honouring Colleen Kirk for her amazing service to the church as Secretary for 25 years.

Please join with us while Fr Greg offers Mass to Colleen and we give thanks to this amazing, talented woman.



CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

NATIVITY PLAY

ANY FAMILIES WITH PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED IN THE NATIVITY PLAY THIS YEAR PLEASE EMAIL KELLY PAGET KELLYPAGET@ GMAIL.COM OR SEND HER A TEXT MESSAGE ON 0427960305.

NEW BUS DRIVER REQUIRED FOR SUNDAY MASSES

WE NEED A NEW BUS DRIVER WITH AN "LR" LICENSE.

THE DRIVER WILL BE ROSTERED ON TO DRIVE THE BUS ONE SUNDAY PER MONTH

Each Sunday we have transported elderly parishioners to and from Mass.

If we can't get a new driver we may need to look at reducing the service to once a fortnight.

DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

Will take place after the 9 am Mass on Monday December 13.

Please join in and help with the fun of making our church beautiful for Christmas.



A HUGE THANK YOU

TO THE BIGENI'S AND OTHERS WHO HELPED WITH INSTALLING THE NATIVITY SCENE AT THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH ON SATURDAY.

PARTICULARLY CHRIS GALEA FOR INSTALLING A POWER POINT OUTSIDE SO THE NATIVITY SCENE CAN BE FESTOONED IN CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

CLEANING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

ON TUESDAY 21, DECEMBER 2021

We would greatly appreciate you help to clean the Church and surrounds, read for Christmas!

So if you can sweep, clean glass, remove cobwebs or anything else to make our church "spic n span", please join in.

Delicious Morning Tea will be provided after the work is done:)

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

ST PATRICK'S TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH



If you would like to attend the Christmas Lunch at St Patrick's Hall on Christmas Day, please book by calling the Parish Office. We are hoping numbers won't be restricted,

however to help catering, it is essential to book. If you won't be attending but would like to assist with costs by making a small donation, please pop some money marked Christmas Lunch and place it in the receptacle available at any time.



SALVATORIAN FOUNDATION DAY MASS AT ST LUKE'S REVESBY



SALVATORIAN FOUNDATION DAY MASS

AT ST LUKE'S REVESBY

A beautiful Mass was celebrated on Wednesday night followed by



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Above:

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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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

PHIL 4:4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.

Indeed, the Lord is near.

FIRST READING

ZEP 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:

Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

IS 12:2-6 R. V.6

(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

1. Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!

Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!

Declare the greatness of his name.

(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

3. Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING

PHIL 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to

the Philippians

The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

IS 61:1 (LK 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia

GOSPEL

LK 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

CF. IS 35:4

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.

Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

The exaltation in this oracle of salvation is stated clearly at the outset: 'Shout!... Sing!... Be glad and exult!' The people are told to cast aside all cautious reserve and to rejoice wholeheartedly. The reason for this rejoicing is their deliverance by God from their enemies. 'On that day' is an allusion to the Day of the Lord, a time in the future when the justice of God will

be executed throughout the world. The concluding verses express God's love. They describe both the tenderness that God has for this restored people, and the joy that their restoration elicits in God. The people are called to rejoice in God, because God rejoices in them.

In the response, God is declared the source of salvation. Bolstered by this assurance, the writer claims to be unafraid and filled with courage knowing that the source of salvation is the Lord rather than a mere human being. Here water is transformative. It is the water of salvation and all who draw from this well will be refreshed by God's salvific power. Jerusalem, the royal capital of the Davidic dynasty and the site where the temple was built, is called upon to rejoice, for God is in its midst. The presence of God in the midst of the people is the source of the writer's confidence of future deliverance.

Twice Paul calls the people to rejoice. This is followed by another, perhaps more forceful, admonition: 'Have no anxiety'. The joy that Paul advocates is not merely the happiness that comes from enjoyment of life. It is a special kind of joy, joy in the Lord, the kind that is grounded in faith in Jesus Christ. 'The Lord is near' is an eschatological watchword, acclaiming the future coming of the Lord to set all things right. If the Christians live righteously, God will come as a Saviour. The reward for such commitment to righteousness is peace, which originates from God, transcends everything imaginable, and withstands anxiety that might threaten human equanimity.

Although John himself lives an austere life removed from the ordinary pursuits of people, he does not ask his inquirers to dissociate themselves from their own lives or occupations. Rather, he challenges them to continue where they are, but to carry out their daily responsibilities with concern for others, with honesty and integrity. The expectation that filled the people was eschatological; they were looking for the Christ, the 'anointed one'. John was not this one. His baptism with water was a ritual of repentance and cleansing; Christ's baptism of the Spirit will purge and transform, and his coming will be a time of judgment, when the wicked will be separated like chaff from the wheat and will be thrown into the fire. John's ministry calls for the change of heart required of those who would be saved from this distress.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

THIS WEEK

Mon 13 St Lucy, virgin, martyr.
Tue 14 St John of the Cross, priest, doctor.

NEXT WEEKS READINGS

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1st: Micah 5:1 - 4 2nd: Heb 10:5 - 10 Gospel: Lk 1: 39 - 44

God Loves



6Tel: 4325-1042 ♦ email: patsgos@acs.net.au ♦ Web: <u>www.bbcatholic.org.au/gosforc</u>

YOUR ROSTER – DECEMBER 19, 4 TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT						
MASS	VIGIL 5:00	7:30am	9:30am	6:00pm	Somersby - 5:30	
DATE	18.12.21	19.12.21	19.12.21	19.12.21	Function	18.12.21
Audio/Visual	Cheryl Parry	Peter McLean	Arthur Holland	Thomas Werner	Audio/Visual	Michael Xuereb
Acolytes	Bernie Pannell	John Ryan	Peter Cho	Patrick Nicholls	Altar Society	Michael Monaghan
	Hilary Pope	Huy Tran Quang	Huy Tran Quang	Mark Bennett		
Commentator	Bridget Sharp	Josie McGuinness	Emily Rudd	Angela Stitt	Commentator	Alyce Chin
Lectors	Maisie Tenev	Susana Lindaya	Nicole Mead	Youth	Lectors	Sarah Xuereb
	Jan Blanch	Anne Lovett	Neil Murphy	Jessica Russell		Peter Chin
Extraordinary	Maisie Tenev	Regina Fong	Molly Holland	Sherree Sullivan		Mary Luci
Ministers of						
The Eucharist						
					Cleaning	
Altar	Taz Parry	Amelia Eager	Yuna Iwasaki	Vito De Toffol		Mia Xuereb
Servers		Laura Eager	Shiho Iwasaki	Remi De Toffol		
			Helen Shiju	Luca De Toffol		
			Jude Mathey	Xavier Werder	Flowers	Nai Herford
COUNTERS 20/12 Eunice Dal Busco Margaret Hunter Victoria Milanovic 27/12 Eunice Dal Busco Ron Begg Marie Cradock	ALTAR LINEN P/up Dec 13 Angela Stitt Ret'n by Dec 17 P/Up 20/12 Marie Cradock Ret'n by 24/12	ALTAR SOCIETY Thu, Dec 16 Maree Nolan Anna Neale Pauline Nesbitt Ros Moriarty Margaret Pratt	CHILDRENS LITURGY Postponed until after School Resumes	PARISH BUS Postponed	FRIDAY HOSPITAL VISITATION 24/12 Coleen Drummond Theresa Giddings Denise Nicholson Sandrea Petith Gary Wills	SUNDAY HOSPITAL VISITATION 26/12 John McRae Cecilia Coughlin

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Ross Sayer, Fred Boland, Teresa Davar, Rod Pelling, Susan Milne, Bernadette Humphries, Maura Garvey, Allan Hoole, Maree Nolan, William Parkhouse, Anne Holohan, Brent Senger, Oliver Senger, Christopher Michael Graham, Angela Gibbs, Peter Allman, Peter Gloss, Pat Lowe, Maria Keisellis, Pam O'Malley-Jones, Megan McGowan, Judith Wennerbom, Marie O'Donovan, Frank McGuinness.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Carmel Xerri, Elvis Gaulbert, Luigina Caccato, Jim Dibben, Louie Lombardo, Kathleen Jones.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Jose Bembo, Eris & Sheila Eaton, Fariba Ghazi, Mario Astolfi.

REMEMBRANCES:

Middleton, Schmitz & Hetherington Families, John Lingbeck Fred Iani, Muir & Murtagh Families Tosca King & Ann Campbell, Ken & Iris Mckenzie, Phil Crawford,

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to all those who have recently deceased loved ones. May God hold those passed in the palm of his hand.



MASS INTENTIONS					
Date	Mass	Intention	Date	Mass	
Sat 11/12	9:00am Gosford & on line	+ Remembrance FARIBA GHAZI	Thu 16/12	9:00am Gosford & on line	
Sat 11/12	5:00pm Gosford	+ Remembrance VAL & ERIC NEILSON	Fri 17/12	12:00pm Gosford & on line	
Sat 11/12	5:30pm Somersby	Recently Deceased CARMEL XERRI	Sat 18/12	9:00am Gosford &	1. COLLEEN'S 25TH anniversary of working in Office 2. Parish Volunteers
Sun 12/12	7:30 am Gosford			on line	
Sun 12/12	9:30 am Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS	Sat 18/12	5:00pm Gosford	201H Wedding Anniversary
Sun 12/12	6:00 pm Gosford				JOHNSON & ANITA FERNANDES
Mon 13/12	9:00am Gosford & on line	+ Birthday Remembrance JOSEPH VAZ	Sat 18/12	5:30am Somersby	. 5
Tue 14/12	9:00am Gosford &	Birthday Blessings JOHN MATHEW	Sun 19/12	7:30 am Gosford	+ Remembrance LIBIA, ANTHONY & IAN D'MELLO
,	on line	, 3	Sun 19/12 9:30 am Gosford & on Line		+ Anniversary ALAN NOLAN
Wed 15/12	11:30am Gosford				
			Sun 19/12	6:00 pm Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS

MACC INTENTIONS

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TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE

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