



# Historic Parish of St Augustine, Yass

Established: 1838

Bowning, Breadalbane, Dalton, Gunning, Gurrundah, Murrumbateman, Wee Jasper and Yass

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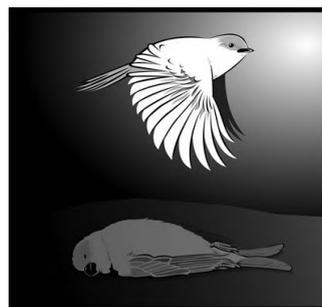
## ST AUGUSTINE'S PARISH VISION STATEMENT

St Augustine's Parish is a community striving to be Christ to one another and to welcome and serve the Christ in those around us. We seek ongoing spiritual formation as individuals, as families and as a community. We hope, through pastoral care, to strengthen, support and enrich one another and reach out to others in witness and evangelisation.

Parish Priest	Father	Mick Burke
Youth Worker	VACANT	
Chair Finance Committee	Paul	O'Mara
Chair Parish Council	Sarah	Johnston
Principal of the School	Michael	Green
School Community Council	Amber	Maher
Sacramental Team Leader	Dianne	Carey
RCIA	Sister	Aileen
Parish Office	Zuzy	Webster
	<i>Monday and Wednesday</i>	
	<i>9:00am – 3:00pm</i>	
Parish Bulletin	Bianca	Nash
	<i>Friday 9:30am – 3:30pm</i>	

## TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> June 2020



### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them for ever.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Response:** Lord, in your great love, answer me.

It is for you that I suffer taunts, that shame covers my face, that I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my own mother's sons. I burn with zeal for your house and taunts against you fall on me. **R**

This is my prayer to you, my prayer for your favour. In your great love, answer me, O God, with your help that never fails: Lord, answer, for your love is kind; in your compassion, turn towards me. **R**

The poor when they see it will be glad and God-seeking hearts will revive; for the Lord listens to the needy and does not spurn his servants in their chains. Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, the sea and all its living creatures. **R**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.

Alleluia!

### PARISH PRAYER

Lord God, may we, as St Augustine's Parish, be a united and welcoming community recognising the need for Christ in our lives and serving the Christ in others. May we, as community, continue to face challenges together serving and supporting individuals and our families through our own personal efforts and our parish support groups. Guide us with your patient love. Fill us with your infinite Wisdom. Pour out your rich blessings upon us as we reach out to one another to fulfil our spiritual and pastoral needs as One in Christ, in community, and in faith, hope and love. AMEN.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

### SUNDAY MASSES:

<b>Yass:</b>	<i>St Augustine</i>	
Vigil Saturday		6:00 pm
<b>Gunning:</b>	<i>St Francis Xavier</i>	
1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday		8:30 am
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Liturgy of the Word and HC		8:30 am
<b>Murrumbateman:</b>		
<i>To be held at Yass until further notice</i>		10:15 am
<b>Wee Jasper:</b>	<i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday		10:00 am

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Wednesday	Yass	5:30 pm
Thursday	Yass	7:30 am
Friday	Yass	12:00 noon
Saturday	Yass	9:00 am

### Nursing Home/Hostel

<b>Thomas Eccles Gardens (Linton)</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues (monthly)	Yass	11:00 am

### Horton/Warlington

4 <sup>th</sup> Tues (monthly)	Yass	11:00 am
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*Parishioners are invited to celebrate Mass with the residents at both locations.*

### Exposition

Saturday after 9:00am Mass until 10:00am

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday	Yass	10:00am, 5:00pm – 5:15pm
Sunday	Gunning	8:00am – 8:15 am

At other times: On request

### Baptisms

<b>Yass</b>	Saturdays	10:30 am
	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays	12:15 pm

**Gunning Parish** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 8:30 am & 12:30 pm

*Book by ringing the Parish Secretary (Mon, Wed. or Fri.)*

### Marriages

By appointment. Five to six months notice ideal.

### School Enrolments

Mt Carmel Central School: Kindergarten to Yr 6. Ring the School Secretary for appointment (02) 6226 3357.

# Thoughts from the Presbytery



## FEASTS OF THE WEEK

**Mon:** Saints John Fisher and Thomas More  
**Wed:** The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Numbers at Mass for the next two weeks are limited to fifty parishioners, this number excludes readers, servers, musicians, collectors and ushers. From the 1<sup>st</sup> July we are able to accommodate all who usually attend at Yass and Murrumbateman, but I do ask those who are unwell to remain at home. As from next week rosters will be published, including parishioners usually on a Murrumbateman roster. Due to social distancing, I can't imagine the Uniting Church hall being used until 2021.

St. Augustine's PPC held a meeting this past week but there are few reports from members due to the lockdown. A decision as to the resumption of preparation for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be made next week. At this stage we may have to postpone Confirmation until 2021, combining the two years.

Thank you for your patience and understanding, we walk together in these uncertain times. I am extremely grateful for your support of our communion of communities and pray we will grow even more in our love for each other and love of our God who cares for all our needs.

Yours fraternally,  
Mick Burke.



Yass/Gunning Belun supporting Sr. Mila and Dominicans at the orphanage in Oecusse

**Fear of monster under the bed:** A man visited a therapist because he had a fear of monsters living under his bed. The man had been seeing this doctor for months. Every time he would come in, the doctor would ask, "Have you made any progress?" Every time the man would say "No". The man decided to go and see another doctor. When he went back to his first doctor, the doctor asked, "Have you made any progress?" he said "Yes! I am feeling all better now!" The doctor asked, "What happened?" The man said, "I went to another doctor and he cured me in one session!" The doctor asked, "What did he tell you?" The man said "He just told me to cut off all four legs of my bed and leave no space for the monster!"

## Parish Finance Committee Members:

Bill	Luchetti	Father	Mick Burke
Stan	Waldren	David	Garland
Mark	Valencic	Paul	O'Mara
Trish	Gibbs	Irene	Carr ( <i>Minutes</i> )

## Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Annabelle O'Connell ( <i>Youth</i> )	Peter	Cleary ( <i>Liturgy</i> )
Bryan Coleborne ( <i>Ecumenism</i> )	Michael	Green ( <i>School</i> )
Genevieve Colbert ( <i>Education</i> )	Lourdes	O'Keefe ( <i>Social</i> )
Bob Nash ( <i>Maintenance</i> )	Michael	Van Wanrooy ( <i>Welfare</i> )
Ex Officio Member: Fr Mick Burke		Sarah Johnston ( <i>Social Justice</i> )

## Whispered Word

Jesus says to fear no one; but I run out of fingers counting the people and situations that cause fear and anxiety in my life. I want to believe with the certainty of Paul, but more often I find myself keeping company with Jeremiah, worried to a frazzle. Is it that I doubt God is going to get me out of the latest scrape I'm in? (Yes) Is it that God has given me reason to doubt that I will be rescued? (No) So what's the problem?

The problem is me, not God. God keeps track of the hairs on my head and the fate of every sparrow, but I'm keeping the log of everything that can and does go wrong with frail mortality. People go broke. People get sick. People die. These things are often more compelling to me than God's dominion over creation. Jesus reminds us that the body is not as important as the soul, but I have grown very fond of the body and have spent a lifetime preserving it. Still, I crawl up on the rooftop of hope every once in a while and warble faintly about what I've heard and believe, despite all uncertainty, to be true. When I speak this truth, its certainty grows in me. When I act on this truth, I'm brought into the light.

GPBS eNews

## We need not be afraid:

Sometimes we are afraid that we will make a wrong decision. At other times, we are afraid of what others will think when we speak up for Jesus. We are afraid of what the future will bring our children. We are also afraid of growing old. Sometimes we are afraid of what bad health will bring us. At the root of these fears is the fear of loss. Every fear we have is grounded in the knowledge that we have something or someone to lose. I can lose my job, family, house, money, health and even life itself. Rejection and loss are the basis of our fears. But we forget one thing: whatever trouble or crisis affects us, we know that God understands it better than we ourselves do. Our Heavenly Father knows exactly what is happening. What a release from fear it is to know that God is on our side; that our life is in the hands of a loving God! The next time fear grips our life we need to remember that being faithful to Christ wherever we meet him in this life is much more important than our fear of rejection and loss. Also let us take a moment to recall some of the great promises of God. Let us remind ourselves that God cares – we are each a dear child of His, and He cares for each of us.

*"Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows."*  
The last verse of Psalm 27 sums it up nicely: *"Trust in the Lord. Have Faith; do not despair. Trust in the Lord."*

*Congratulations!*

Today we welcome Bev Lawler as she enters full communion into the Catholic Church.

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## PASTORAL LETTER – 19<sup>th</sup> JUNE

### THE RETURN TO OUR EUCHARISTIC HOME SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

COVID-19 restrictions on the numbers allowed at Mass are slowly being relaxed. Thanks be to God!

We continue patiently to pray for this terrible pandemic to cease in all its extensive and serious consequences. We pray for all those impacted in the world, especially in the health and economic areas of human endeavour.

As the doors of our Churches slowly open to congregations, let us reflect on the “Eucharistic fasting” that we have all been doing.

Eucharistic fasting is not new to Australians.

### EUCHARISTIC FASTING IN AUSTRALIA’S BEGINNINGS

First, 2020 marks the bi-centennial anniversary of the first official Catholic priests allowed to offer pastoral care in Australia.

Before this a number of priests did come to Australia on the many ships bringing people of all sorts of backgrounds to these shores inhabited by Aboriginal peoples for millennia. These priests, however, were only able to stay short periods. Their presence was often seen as a threat to the colonial authorities. Upon departing they did leave the Blessed Sacrament, nonetheless, with some colonial families – the Davis and Dempsey families.

During the many years prior to 1820, Catholics gathered near Sydney Cove for prayers and Eucharistic devotion in these family homes. There was no Mass.

After the official priests (Fr. John Joseph Therry and Fr. Philip Conolly) arrived and celebrating Mass was permitted, the great Eucharistic missionary efforts began systematically in this new but ancient land. We are now heirs of that Catholic evangelising impulse of over two hundred years ago. We are truly grateful.

It was a long Eucharistic fast!

### PROLONGED EUCHARISTIC FASTING

Secondly, great Eucharistic piety was demonstrated in another type of fasting of only a few generations ago.

So many of us can remember stories of the long Eucharistic fasting requirements of earlier times. The liturgical demand was to fast from the night before one could receive Holy Communion at Mass. Perhaps, with lenient fasting rules presently applicable, we have lost a sense of the long spiritual tradition of fasting before the Eucharistic feasting. Should this be considered afresh today?

Notwithstanding current assessments on this matter from present sensibilities, these older requirements did raise up generations imbued with a solid understanding of the piety needed to reverently receive Holy Communion. The stomach pains of hunger did remind the pious of the spiritual hunger for “panis angelicus” (the bread of angels). In rural areas, there are many examples too of the long distances that fasting families needed to travel to the nearest parish for Mass. Few complained. The love and respect of the Holy Mass matured. We ought to learn from this with docility.

## COVID-19 EUCHARISTIC FASTING

Thirdly, I believe that the current Covid-19 induced “Eucharist fast” is deepening our Catholic instinct that the Eucharist is the very centre of our lives in Christ, Jesus.

Over these months I have heard of our Catholic people *yearning* for Mass and reception of Holy Communion. Sure enough, there has been a huge uptake on online daily Masses. Here “spiritual communion” is explained and appreciated by those participating from home. However, as one committed Catholic mentioned to me recently, “We are not really “e-Catholics” in the sense of *electronic* Catholics, but we are “E-Catholics” in the sense of *Eucharistic* Catholics.

This is the Catholic instinct arising within us. I see it as a wonderful sign of the presence of the Holy Spirit in this “valley of tears”.

### THE RETURN TO OUR CHURCHES

Some lonely voices are already saying that Mass numbers will not return to their earlier numbers once all Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. Some suggest that the movement from comfortable couches and armchairs to wooden Church pews is a distance too far. I respectfully disagree.

Clearly, we are learning of the usefulness of modern technology in advancing our faith. Online platforms for Mass ought to continue in some form in the future, especially for the sick and elderly. But the thousands who have participated in online Masses contain many who had previously lapsed in the practice of their faith. Some speak of their re-engagement in the Catholic Mass over these months of online Masses. Unless there is a good reason, the Catholic instinct will not be satisfied with simply a “stay at home” faith. We are radically communitarian both as human beings and as people of Christian faith.

Making the step to return to Masses in parish will be sheer joy for many. It will be a transition that will be difficult for some for all sorts of reasons.

Yet the gathering of the People of God for the gift of the Eucharist that Jesus gave us at the Last Supper is irresistible to the depths of the human spirit. Ask those adults that have become Catholics in recent years. They will tell you as they have told me: “Fully participating in the Mass we find our true home!”

Let us prepare now to welcome everyone’s return to our Eucharistic “home”.

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## ARCHDIOCESAN MARRIAGE & FAMILY MONTH

Live-streamed, 30 minute marriage enrichment presentation available this Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> (and next) at 11.45am straight after the 11am Online Mass at the Cathedral.

Join us at <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/> and ask questions of our local guest presenter couple. Richard Marson & Helena Zobec from *Ministry to the Newly Married* will be speaking on “*The Five Love Languages*” and how they can help you be effective in expressing love to your spouse.

More information at <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/marriage-family-month-june-2020/>

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## INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC MARRIAGE SUMMIT

Last weekend’s international Catholic Marriage Summit attracted an amazing 35,000 couples online! Free access to the talks is no longer available but you can freely join 25,000 other Catholic couples who are continuing to encourage each other and share tips and stories on Facebook (search ‘Catholic Marriage Summit’).

For access to the 70+ talks by well know marriage educators you now need to pay to subscribe at [www.joyfulerafter.org](http://www.joyfulerafter.org)

## COMMUNION REFLECTION

My Jesus, I love and adore you. You have come to me; I am one with You. I want You to remain with me forever, in this life and in the next. Thank You for allowing me to share Your divine life. May I become more like You through this sacred Food. Let me never take You for granted, but always pray for those whose lives are dark with sin and ignorance and selfishness. Let me remember, in the words of Saint Paul, that "there, but for the grace of God, go I." Each day, I can become more like You, O Lord. And each day I can pray for those who have never heard the Gospel, or who have heard it and rejected it.

Amen.

### READINGS NEXT WEEK:

#### THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

**First Reading** 2 Kgs 4:8-11. 14-16

Elisha promises a son to an influential woman.

**Second Reading** Rom 6:3-4. 8-11

We are baptized into Christ's death.

**Gospel** Mt 10:37-42

Take up your cross.

*Please reflect on these readings over the coming week*



Catholic Mission invites you to join us for our first ever series of virtual events. Given these unusual times of social distancing, we want to find a way to connect with you, share an opportunity to 'virtually visit' our newest project and remind you how much we value your ongoing support as a part of our broader Catholic Mission family.

Our charismatic and passionate guest speaker, Bishop Enrique 'Kike' Figaredo Alvargonzales SJ is not to be missed. Livestreaming from Battambang Province in Cambodia, Bishop Kike will tell us about some of the challenges facing the Church and communities in Cambodia today.

This is a unique opportunity to hear, in person, from project partners overseas and give you, our supporters, a better understanding of our work.

We welcome you to attend the session and ask that you simply register to receive your Zoom webinar link direct to your inbox.

We look forward to welcoming you to the session and thank you again for your ongoing support to the work of Catholic Mission.

#### GENERAL SESSION FOR ALL

*COVID-19's impact on Cambodian Communities*

*When:* Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June

*Time:* 12:00pm

*Register:* [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_oh8TflHyTv-h1EBsPMPpAg](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oh8TflHyTv-h1EBsPMPpAg)

## PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



### Prayers for

*Michael Abbey, Paul Shim*

#### **Prayers for all those whose anniversary occurs at this time including:**

*Doreen (Pat) McKenna (1/6), Mary (Mollie) O'Brien (1/6), Aileen Wales (10/6), Guiseppe (John) DeMartin (10/6), James MacQuillan (13/6), Nance O'Connor (14/6), Damien Broderick (15/6), Gordon Butt (17/6), Don Bayley (17/6), Eileen Jackson (18/6), Francis 'Noel' Agnew (20/6), Gerald Honner (26/6), Audrey Pearce (27/6), Susan O'Connor (27/6), Peter Doyle (27/6), Raymond Bayley (28/6), Maria Doemling (28/6), Cliff Doust (29/6) and Margaret Morrissey (30/6).*

**Always In Our Hearts Loved and Remembered**

### ROSTERS

#### ALTAR CLEANERS

27 Jun Geraldine Doyle  
4 Jul Jane Hingston

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