



# Historic Parish of St Augustine, Yass

Established: 1838

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

Meehan Street, PO Box 24, YASS NSW 2582

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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	Clare	Barry
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
		Monday and Wednesday 9:00am – 3:00pm
Parish Bulletin	Bianca	Nash
		Friday 9:30am – 3:30pm

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> August 2020



### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Response:** O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. **R**

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. **R**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. **R**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

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

With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

### SUNDAY MASSES:

Yass:	<i>St Augustine</i>	
Vigil Saturday		6:00 pm
Gunning:	<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
Murrumbateman:		
<i>To be held at Yass until further notice</i>		10:15 am
Wee Jasper:	<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

Yass	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

**Thu:** Saint Bernard  
**Fri:** Saint Pius X  
**Sat:** The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Keeping our communities Covid Safe is critical for attendees at Mass, please adhere to social distancing and use sanitizer. From this weekend I will be asking those who distribute Holy Communion, including myself, to use a mask. Where you cannot assure social distancing, it is recommended to use a mask.

At our finance meeting held this week we looked at ongoing maintenance for the next five years. The parish has a comprehensive document, thanks to Bob Nash, setting out a plan into the future. A vital source of revenue is the leasing of our buildings and we have two new tenants occupying the offices in the Hartigan Centre. Due to the generosity of our people we are tracking extremely well in these difficult times.

Some months ago, the Grube painting in the dining room of the presbytery fell off the wall. Members of the Men's Shed came this past week and hung this significant work of art and I am grateful to them.

I attended a meeting this week of a reorganised Northern Deanery. With little consultation, the former Northern Deanery which included Goulburn, Queanbeyan, Yass, Braidwood, Crookwell, Gunning, Bungendore and Michelago, has now been amalgamated with Belconnen and Gungahlin.

## "Are you waiting to speak to one of us?"

Here are a couple of stories about Dorothy Day, the founder of the Catholic Worker Movement, demonstrating how she valued each human being as a child of God and hence, as important. A reporter came to interview her at her office on 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Manhattan. He could see her talking to a man who was either drunk or mentally ill. Time passed and the reporter grew impatient. Dorothy finally appeared and said, "Are you waiting to speak to one of us?" Obviously, Dorothy did not think that she was more important than the person she was talking with. On another occasion, a woman came in and donated a diamond ring to the *Catholic Worker*. Her co-workers wondered what Dorothy would do with it. If she asked one of them to take it to a diamond merchant and sell it, it would buy a month's worth of rice and other food items for a poor family. That afternoon, however, Dorothy gave the diamond ring to an old woman who lived alone and often came to Dorothy for meals. "That ring would have paid her rent for the better part of a year," someone protested. Dorothy replied that the woman had her dignity. So she could sell it if she liked and spend the money for rent, a trip to the Bahamas, or keep the ring to admire. "Do you suppose," Dorothy asked, "God created diamonds only for the rich?" Dorothy Day was one of the prophets of her day. Her vision allowed her to see all human beings as equal – no one distinguishable from another. She recognized, as Mother Teresa did, the mark of the children of God in everyone, in the same way Jesus recognized God's child in the Canaanite woman who belonged to a race inimical to the Jews.

## Parish Finance Committee Members:

Father	Mick Burke	Stan	Waldren
David	Garland	Mark	Valencic
Paul	O'Mara	Trish	Gibbs
Irene	Carr		

## 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> )
<i>Ex Officio Member:</i> Fr Mick Burke Sarah Johnston ( <i>Social Justice</i> )		

## Building a Bigger House

Even dogs have hope! This is what the woman says to Jesus, when she asks him to heal her tormented daughter. She classifies her family with the dogs, knowing the average Israelite would describe a Canaanite that way. Jesus is astounded by her faith and gives her the desire of her heart.

Some scholars claim Jesus was testing the woman by not responding to her requests right away. Others say Jesus learned from her that his mission was larger than Israel. This seems strange to those of us who were taught that Jesus had the mind of God from the time Mary first laid him in the straw. But if Jesus is also fully human, he'd have to grow in wisdom and grace, as Luke says Jesus did.

This woman summoned up the courage to tell Jesus how to run his own ministry! The best of the prophets and saints showed this kind of spirit, sparring with God over matters of importance to them. Who knows what could happen if more people prayed with such confidence? Who knows how many of us could wrestle with God like Abraham, Jacob, Hannah, and the Canaanite woman - and win?

***Do you think God's mind can be changed? Do you think there are things about God which "God's mind is made up"? Name some things that might fall in either category.***

Show some boldness! Resolve to pray for the things that are most important to you - peace in the world, an answer to hunger - or a job or a better relationship with your spouse. Pray unceasingly, as Paul says, or sing your prayer, as Augustine recommends. But pray most of all unfaithfully.

***"Oh, woman, your faith is something else. What you want is what you get!"***

(GPBS eNews)

The latest figures from the ABS, that is for 2018, show that the proportion of the population getting married is at its lowest point at least for the last 20 years – 4.8 marriages per 1000 population against 5.9 in 1998. Of the 119,188 registered marriages in 2018 were 6,538 ssm, representing 5.5% of all marriages. Just 20.3% of marriages were performed by a minister of religion against 50.5% in 1998. The role of the church in weddings and the "married life" of couples is sadly diminished. There are approx. 4.5 to 5m marriages all of which have probably had to adjust in varying degrees to the situations caused by this pandemic and a number of those marriages are hurting and need help.



*This week we welcomed into  
our Church community:*

Jordan & Alyssa

children of

Jesse & Shannon

## **WALKING TOGETHER: THE JOURNEY TO HEALING AND RECONCILIATION**

In his recent Welcome to Country on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, Michael Bell stirred the hearts and minds of many of our parishioners with his eloquent description of the historically good relationship between the Ngunnawal people of Yass, Father Lovat, the parishioners of St Augustine's parish and the Sisters of Mercy. However, it also became evident that there were elements of our shared history that were not so positive particularly the establishment of the original St Augustine's Church on the site of an Aboriginal Bora Ring. Michael Bell met this week with Father Mick and members of the Parish Pastoral Council to discuss the best approach to a healing journey. Michael explained that if we can use this history to now bring the community together we can start healing process. The journey begins with thorough research and telling the story of the history of the incident and public acknowledgment of the significance of the location. There can then be a joint ceremony/commemoration and/or establishment of a public art work which builds a pathway for both communities. As well as building strong and respectful relationships within our church and community, "The ultimate goal," said Michael, "is to tell the true story of Yass through the Aboriginal and parish history and in doing so put this church on the map". Who wouldn't want to be a part of that creative, healing journey?!

Please start thinking about whether you have particular gifts and skills that you would like to put to the service of the St Augustine's Parish Reconciliation Action Plan.

Watch this space for further developments!

## **BOOK FAIR 2020**

As previously advised, a decision was made due to the current circumstances to cancel this year's Book Fair. A number of people have asked if they might be able to bring donations for the next fair now. While it would be great to take these wonderful donations off your hands in anticipation of 2021, we simply don't have the space to store them safely until such time as they can be used.

I have investigated the Life Line Book Fair. Unfortunately they are not taking donations at the moment either.

I really hope that by this time next year, this virus might be behind us and I will be imploring you to bring in your books so that we can make the 2021 Book Fair a huge success. Until then, maybe read your books again. There's nothing quite like a good book! (And not just The Good Book.)

*Deb Valencic*

## **OZANAM SUNDAY APPEAL –SEPTEMBER 2020**

Archbishop Prowse has approved the St Vincent de Paul Society conducting its annual Ozanam Sunday appeal for our Twinned Conferences in September in each parish in the Archdiocese. Twinning is the program by which the Society supports fellow Vincentians in developing countries.

Normally this appeal is held as a retiring collection after the Masses on the weekend nearest the feast of St Vincent de Paul which this year is Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September. At this stage of what has been an extraordinary year, arrangements for Mass celebrations will vary across Parishes. Details to follow.

## **WOMEN'S RETREAT DAY – 22<sup>nd</sup> AUGUST**

The retreat is based on St Catherine of Siena's words "Be who you are meant to be and you will set the world on fire". This event is both an in-person event and available online commencing at 9:00am and concluding with dinner.

For more information please contact [mglisisters@gmail.com](mailto:mglisisters@gmail.com).

*Location:* St Thomas the Apostle, 37 Boddington Cres, Kambah, ACT 2902.

## **CONCERNED CATHOLICS CANBERRA GOULBURN – 27<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

PUBLIC FORUM via ZOOM

Plenary Council Update

*The writing and discernment papers: Where to from here?*

*Chair:* Andrea Dean (Chair, WATAC (Women and the Australian Church))

*Speakers:* Terry Fewtrell (Lead author of CCG submission to the Plenary Council), *Andrew Phelan* (Contributing author of CCG submission to the Plenary Council)

*Respondent:* Beth Doherty (Author of *All the Beautiful Things: Finding Truth, Beauty and Goodness in a Fractured Church.*)

*Time:* 5:00pm-6:30pm

*Further details:* [www.concernedcatholicscanberra.org](http://www.concernedcatholicscanberra.org)

*Contact:* Mark Metherell 0417 603 697

## **WOMEN'S REFLECTION AFTERNOON – 29<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

The "Afternoon" will be livestreamed to all corners of the Archdiocese from 2:00pm to 4:30pm.

Gather with friends at home or in the parish and connect with women from Lake Cargelligo to Pambula to hear inspiring talks and participate in short guided prayer experiences. Hosted by the Archdiocesan Women's Taskforce.

Register at [www.bit.ly/WomensReflectionAfternoon](http://www.bit.ly/WomensReflectionAfternoon)

Enquiries email [catholic.women@cg.org.au](mailto:catholic.women@cg.org.au) or ring/text Lara on 0429 192 869.

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY – 30<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

The 2020–2021 Statement, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today*, encourages faith communities, governments and each one of us to make mental health a priority. It is a timely message in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic is affecting many members of our parishes, schools and communities.

Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. The Statement encourages us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community.

## **NATIONAL PRAYER CRUSADE FOR VOCATIONS – 6<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

The Knights of the Southern Cross will launch their 14th National Prayer Crusade for Vocations. The aim is to pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life with the hope that this will lead to an increase in Catholic Chaplains for the Australian Defence Force (both in Australia and overseas) where there is an ongoing need.

The Crusade runs until Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and all Catholic organisations/schools and colleges, parishes and individual Catholics throughout Australia are being invited to participate.

Each participant is asked to choose one week during the Crusade period and pray the following Crusade Prayer each day:

*"Heavenly Father, you know the faith, courage and generosity of your people throughout Australia including the men and women serving at home and overseas with the Australian Military Services. Please provide your people in Australia with sufficient Priests, Deacons and Religious to meet their needs and be with them always as they endeavour to meet the challenges of their daily lives. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen."*

## COMMUNION REFLECTION

### A woman who was true to herself.

Be true to yourself and your feelings  
follow your heart and be guided by your mind;  
love sincerely and with respect;  
express faithfully your love.

Listen and remember,  
you're not alone.

Keep sight of your roots,  
the love of parents, your home, your friends.  
These roots are only the beginnings.

You create the branches,  
care for the fruit  
and delight in the harvest.

Live really and honestly,  
dream of peace and beauty,  
love gently and with care.

Have faith in God.  
Be true to yourself.

John McHugh

## PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



### Recently deceased

Justin Bell, Mary James, Shayne Phillips

### Prayers for

Sr. Kathleen Cudmore

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

Frances Todkill (1/8), Catherine Wallace (1/8),  
Frances Cassidy (1/8), Eric Runnacles (5/8),  
Thomas Heaney (5/8), Robert Field (6/8),  
Beverley Beeten (7/8), Tilly Ward (7/8), Dennis Hoey (11/8),  
Paul Ryan (13/8), Val McDonald (7/8), Josef Kuszko (13/8),  
Helen Hird (15/8), Robert Wade (15/8), Irene Diver (15/8),  
Samantha Darmody (15/8), Margaret Neumann (16/8),  
Brendan McPhillips (16/8), Emma Bainbridge (18/8),  
Gweneth Besgrove (19/8), Thomas Hilly (21/8),  
Florence Davis (21/8), Brian Hepple (22/8),  
Kevin McKenzie (23/8), Peggy Kennedy (25/8),  
Bernard Robinson (27/8), Catherine Walmsley (27/8),  
Valda Connors (28/8) and Joan Perrot (31/8).

**Always In Our Hearts Loved and Remembered**

## SACRIFICIAL PLANNED GIVING

Tax receipts are available at the back of the church.

## ROSTERS

### LITURGY

1 = Readings/Resp. Psalm/Gospel Acc.	2 = Prayers of the Faithful
3 = Offertory	4 = Acolyte
<b>15 Aug</b> Joe Morrissey 1	Susan Morrissey 2
N/A 3	Vince Coffey 4
<b>22 Aug</b> Rod Perceval 1	Bob Nash 2
N/A 3	Russell Hill 4

### POWER POINT PRESENTERS

<b>15 Aug</b> Peter Gibbs	<b>22 Aug</b> Russell Hill
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### ALTAR CLEANERS

<b>22 Aug</b> Helen Murphy	<b>29 Aug</b> Coral Carroll
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## READINGS NEXT WEEK:

### TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

#### First Reading

Is 22:19-23

The Lord appoints Eliakim over the house of Judah.

#### Second Reading

Rom 11:33-36

Who knows the mind of God?

#### Gospel

Mt 16:13-20

Jesus asks, "Who do people say I am?"

**Please reflect on these readings over the coming week**

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**49 Comur Street, Yass**  
Ph: 6226 1368

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