



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

SUNDAY MASSES:

Yass:	<i>St Augustine</i>	
Vigil Saturday		6:00 pm
Gunning:	<i>St Francis Xavier</i>	
1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th Sunday		8:30 am
5 th 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 th 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

Thomas Eccles Gardens (Linton)		
2 nd Tues (monthly)	Yass	11:00 am

Horton/Warlington

4 th 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 rd & 4 th Sundays	12:15 pm

Gunning Parish 1st 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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B

28th & 29th November 2020



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help.

R

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted.

R

May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name.

R

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

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 Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Thoughts from the Presbytery



FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Mon: Saint Andrew
Thu: Saint Francis Xavier

Thanks to everyone involved with First Holy Communion last weekend, there were many positive comments.

We desperately seek a co-ordinator for our catechists next year, if you are prepared to take on this important task, please let me know as soon as possible. The young children in our Government schools need our support if they are to grow in an awareness of the importance of faith. We also need a few parishioners to consider the apostolate as a catechist.

This coming week the Parish Pastoral Council will meet for the last time this year. If anyone has an item they would like discussed, please speak with a member.

Paul O'Mara, Irene Carr and myself prepared a budget for 2021. Approximately twenty-five percent of our income is from rent of properties, revenue to support the generosity of those parishioners who contribute especially through planned giving. Hopefully we will be able to continue with our maintenance program and pay ongoing costs.

As I mentioned last week, Yass/Gunning Belun will continue to support our many works in Timor Leste. Besides the regular contributions, we received \$1,500 and \$1,000 this past week. Many thanks!

Finding our feet

It can be very hard to live with uncertainty. Back at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, a counsellor was interviewed on radio about how people were coping with the 'lockdown'. People were anxious and fearful, she said. Many were experiencing loneliness, as their normal routines and social life came to an abrupt halt.

Another thing that people really struggled with was the inability to make decisions. They felt trapped and stuck, unable to plan ahead. They couldn't make plans to visit family or go on holidays. They didn't know if their jobs were secure, or if their children would return to school. When things are up in the air, it is hard to find your feet and feel grounded. Many of us are still struggling with these feelings.

Today we enter a new church year, and our first Advent season since the pandemic hit. Many of us are feeling more subdued than normal as we begin our preparations for Christmas. It will be very different from the usual family and social occasion, and we are saddened and worried by this.

In today's gospel, Jesus urges his disciples to 'stay awake'. We might feel we have no choice at the moment – the feeling of not knowing what is coming is very familiar. We are on our guard, on edge, waiting for the latest news. Yet already, there are initiatives springing up to support those who are vulnerable or in need this Christmas. In our own families, we are plotting ways to ensure no one is alone or isolated. We are 'awake' to the strange circumstances, and we are finding ways to cope. We pray today for the strength to guide us through the coming weeks, and for the peace and joy of Christ to lift our hearts and carry us onwards.

'In this time of tribulation and mourning, I hope that you will be able to experience Jesus, who comes to meet you, greets you and says: 'Rejoice.'

Pope Francis

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Parish Finance Committee Members:

Father David Paul Irene	Mick Burke Garland O'Mara Carr	Stan Mark Trish	Waldren Valencic Gibbs
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Parish Pastoral Council Members:

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

Be Watchful & Stay Awake

I've known several people in the last few years who were told by their doctors they were terminally ill. In each case, these folks immediately made decisions about their lives that they'd been delaying until now. People who know they're dying can't afford to save anything until later. There may not be a "later". There's only now.

The rest of us are kidding ourselves if we think we're not dying; not now, not any time soon, maybe never. When Jesus says "Be watchful!", we think he means the other guy. We put our faith squarely in "later". Some of us belong to the Church of Later, in which we fully intend to be good, spiritual, faithful people - at a future time to be announced.

Some of us may live to a satisfying old age and wear out with a smile. Some of us will get a deadline from our doctors and have some leadtime to prepare. Many of us are left in the dark as to when we'll die or how. This can make us sloppy about the way we live, even arrogant about it. Not taking death seriously is a real mistake in the spiritual life. The church's wisdom is to remind us, right from the start of the church year, that mortality is just what it says it is: a short-term proposition.

What are the lessons that death teaches you?

Resolve to live this Advent season with watchfulness and attention. Miss no opportunity to be kind, generous, forgiving. Resist spiritual laziness with its shrug toward "later". Be a saint in the making right now.

GPBS eNews



I think it's very important to be able to see the funny side of life and it's joyful dimension and not to take everything too tragically. I'd say it's necessary for my ministry.

Benedict XVI

FIRST COMMUNION 2020

Congratulations to the young people in our parish who made their First Holy Communion over the weekend. The joy and reverence they displayed made for prayerful celebrations on Saturday and Sunday.

Thank you to everyone involved with the ceremonies: the parents and communicants who prepared so well over the last few months, and who read at Mass; Fr Mick, Kassie Miller, Melissa Allan and Esther Glover who assisted with the preparation day last Friday; Peter Cleary and family for the lovely decorations on the altar; Peter Walker, Frank Grace, Tallara Howard and Clare Broers for acolyte and altar serving; Annabelle O'Connell, Anne Eade, Linda Swadling, Paula Beaton and Deb Valencic who played and sang so beautifully at both Masses; Kassie, Mandy, Linda and Annabelle who helped with making the stoles; Tom Constantine and his helpers who took up the collections; the teachers and students from Mt Carmel, and the parishioners who prayed for the communicants and who attended Mass in support of their special day.

Finally, thank you Fr Mick for your generous support and guidance to our parish over the last twelve years. It has been a privilege and pleasure working with you for the last ten years. We will miss you but wish you all the best in your future adventures.

Dianne Carey
Sacramental Team Leader



*This week we welcomed into
our Church community:*

Mila Ruth

child of

Patrick & Jana

MASSES FOR THE HOLY SOULS

During the month of November Aid to the Church in Need is encouraging the faithful to arrange Masses on behalf of loved ones and for the souls that have nobody to pray for them.

Find out more: www.aidtochurch.org/november

ADVENT 2020 WITH BRUCE DOWNES THE CATHOLIC GUY

Join me and people all around the world and Expect the Unexpected!

Sign up for a free daily email devotional that will guide you on a life-changing journey through Advent.

Starting November 29th you'll receive daily emails with short inspirational videos from Bruce Downes, full of real life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be!

Register now or for more information:

<https://brucedownes.org/registerforadvent>

Email: info@brucedownes.org

CHRISTMAS STALL – 28th TO 29th NOVEMBER

8.00am – 5.00pm

Calvary Hospital Auxiliary will hold its annual Christmas Stall at Belconnen Fresh Food Markets with a huge range of Christmas gifts and homemade goodies will be available.

All proceeds will go towards the purchase of equipment and items for the comfort of Calvary Public Hospital patients.

Enquiries phone Pat 0403 797 192.

ACC&C ART EXHIBITION

– 12th NOVEMBER TO 5th DECEMBER

10:30am-3:30pm Daily

Jesus Laughing & Loving.

In 2019 the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture became the permanent home to an important collection of paintings bequeathed by the late Harry Wallace, and presented by his family. The works all have one theme in common – we at the Centre lovingly know them as – the laughing Jesus paintings.

Where: The ACC&C chapel

Corner of Kings Avenue and Blackall St, Barton.

NORTH CANBERRA NATIVITY FESTIVAL

– 10th TO 13th DECEMBER

9:00am – 5:00pm Exhibition

6:30pm Sunday 13th December Community BBQ followed by Carols

North Canberra Nativity Festival an exhibition of 200 nativities from over 40 countries, by Rosary Parish Watson in collaboration with Holy Cross Anglican & St Margaret's Uniting Communities.

Where: St Margaret's Hall, Corner Antill St & Phillip Av Hackett

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED – BEIRUT

Immediately following the Beirut explosion, ACN provided an initial emergency grant of \$400,000 AUD for food. ACN has just announced a further commitment of \$8 million for the repair and reconstruction of churches and convents. ACN thanks everyone who has already donated to their national appeal.

Please visit <https://aidtochurch.org/lebanon>.

ALPHA AUSTRALIA

Our gift to you is some free wallpapers for your phones, tablets and desktops. Each download includes an Emmanuel image, as well as a Pause & Pray image, with a prayer for those who are believing will hear the true message of Christmas this year. We are believing with you!

You can download these at alpha.org.au/christmas.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION COORDINATOR VACANCY

Holy Spirit Parish is currently seeking a Sacramental Preparation Coordinator.

For the complete position description visit www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

If interested, please send a resume and a cover letter addressed to Fr Mark Croker via email to recruitment@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au.

Closing date: 5:00pm Friday 4th December 2020.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER POSITION WITH CDPF

This is high-level part-time position, which can be based in any Australian city.

Full details and a position description are available on the ACBC Employment Relations website: www.employmentrelations.catholic.org.au.

Applications close: 4:00pm on Monday 7th December 2020.

COMMUNION REFLECTION

It is said that while there is life there is hope.
 This has an even deeper meaning in reverse:
 while there is hope there is life.
 Hope is strength,
 hope sheds light into despairing hearts.
 It inspires the will to live.
 It is the doctor's most powerful ally.
 It is a shield against defeat and failure.
 It revives ideals and renews dreams.
 As long as there is hope, no situation is impossible.
 Advent summons us to wait in joyful hope
 for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
 In the final analysis, he is our hope.

READINGS NEXT WEEK: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B

First Reading *Is 40:1-5, 9-11*
 In the desert make ready the way of the Lord

Second Reading *2 Pt 3:8-14*
 The Lord shows great patience.

Gospel *Mk 1:1-8*
 John the Baptist proclaims the coming of the Messiah.

Please reflect on these readings over the coming week

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



Recently deceased

Roma Longley, Jan Stuart, Catherine Lu, Terry Pigram,
 Sr. Dorothy Keirans (Sr. Paulinus)

Prayers for

Garry Cooke, Cau cho Linh Hon Peter & Anna,
 Cau cho 2 Linh Hon Peter

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

Vernon Norris (1/11), Christopher Butt (1/11),
 Colin Cregan (2/11), Colin O'Mara (2/11), Rita Davis (3/11),
 Barry Cassidy (3/11), David Longley (3/11),
 Al Lustenberger (5/11), Fr Phil Buckley (5/11),
 Fr Bill Crahan (6/11), Melissa Merritt (7/11),
 Michael Abbey (8/11), Eunice Turner (9/11),
 Thora Hoey (12/11), John Brennan (13/11),
 Lachlan Betts (13/11), Una Corkhill (13/11),
 Ronald Waters (15/11), Bernard Finn (18/11),
 Michael Power (20/11), Anne Benson (22/11),
 Gregory Barton (24/11), Bruce Merritt (24/11),
 Mary Richmond (25/11), Keith Blundell (26/11),
 Ellen Agnew (27/11), Bruce Wales (28/11), John Best (28/11)
 Garry Cooke (29/11) and Patric Corcoran (29/11).

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ROSTERS

LITURGY

1 = Readings/Resp. Psalm/Gospel Acc.	2 = Prayers of the Faithful
3 = Acolyte	4 = Sunday Acolyte
28/29 Nov Steve Scroope 1	Gaye McManus 2
Bob Nash 3	Greg Minahan 4
5/ 6 Dec Lourdes O'Keefe 1	Bob Nash 2
Peter Cleary 3	Russell Hill 4

ALTAR SERVERS

28 Nov Grace & Charlie Miller	
5 Dec Wendy Morton	Louis Green

ALTAR CLEANERS

5 Dec Geraldine Doyle	12 Dec Kath Moore
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8:30 – 5:30 Monday to Friday • 9:00 – 12:00 Saturday

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SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday 13th December-Gaudete Sunday.

Please save the date for a parish picnic in the surrounds of the Hartigan Centre following 10:15 Mass.

This is our low key communal chance to say thanks to Fr Mick for his commitment to our parish and to celebrate community.

Covid regulations apply so please BYO everything!

Our Parish Bulletin is made possible each week by our generous sponsors, please support them.

B & V Engineering, Priceline Pharmacy Yass, Woolaroo Merino Stud, Miller's Pharmacy, Bowning Antique Centre,

Designing Windows, Old Linton Medical Practice,

Ray White Rural Canberra/Yass, Patrick's Butchery, Yass Earthmovers, Yass Learners.