



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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E-mail: yass@cg.org.au Website: www.stauga-yass.org.au

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B

5th & 6th December 2020



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. **R**

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. **R**

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. **R**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

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

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

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/Warmincton

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.

Thoughts from the Presbytery



FEASTS OF THE WEEK

- Mon:** Saint Ambrose
Tue: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Hopefully the weather will be favourable for Vigil Masses at Christmas to be celebrated outside. At this stage, the 5:30pm at Gunning will gather outside with the altar situated on the front porch of the entrance to the church. The 7pm in Yass will be held in the front of the Hartigan Centre with the altar on the verandah at the main door. Parishioners will need to bring a chair at both venues if possible, there will be 150 supplied at Yass and fewer in Gunning. Christmas day will be held in St. Augustine's as the new restrictions will accommodate those who attend.

I bring to your attention a request from Clare Healey for financial support as she joins a Youth Mission team this coming year. I'm also grateful to those who have contributed to the work of Jess at Yass High in her role as religious educator.

- This Monday Fr. Peter My is coming to see what he has taken on as Parish Priest of Yass/Gunning.
- The parish office will be unattended this Monday and Wednesday as Zuzy takes a break.
- After Christmas, on Saturday 26th at the 9am Mass, there will be the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Frail.
- We received a donation of \$1,000 this past week for our work in Timor Leste. Many thanks! I will discuss the future of Yass/Gunning Belun this week with Fr. Peter My.

Comfort

"There's good news, and there's bad news". A whole body of jokes begins this way, and we laugh ruefully because that statement is generally true. The news is hardly ever good or bad, but rather an amalgam of results better for some than for others. One ball team beats another; is this good news or bad?

John the Baptist preaches repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Good news or bad? It's great news for sinners who repent. It's good news for people who yearn to be forgiven and know they have reason to be. It's not so good for people who have no intention of leaving their sin behind. And it is positively bad news for the self-righteous, convinced of their innocence and resentful that sinful types are getting off the hook.

The message of John the Baptist is comfort with a catch. The catch is baptism, a drowning of the old way and a resurrection into gasping new life. We can't find comfort in religion - not this religion! - if we intend to remain just as we are. John's baptism is with water, bracing and cold. The Mighty One is coming along soon with fire and Spirit. Things are going to change.

How does the message of John comfort you? How does it challenge you?

Give a little comfort this season. Listen to someone who has a story to tell. Include the lonely at your table. Remember the poor.

"His baptism will change you from the inside out".

GPBS eNews

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)

The beginning of the good news

The second Sunday of Advent turns our attention to John the Baptist. John was an interesting individual. We are told he dressed a bit strangely and spent a lot of time in the desert, *'the voice of one crying out in the wilderness'*. Yet it seems he was very popular with *'all the people of Jerusalem'* went out to hear him. John must have been a dynamic speaker and one in whom people found hope and inspiration. In John the Baptist's time, the people lived under the oppression of the Roman Empire and were waiting for someone who would liberate them. John points to one that is greater than he, he points the people to Jesus.

When Pope Francis released the encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* in October this year he noted that dark clouds hang over our world and he urged everyone to embrace a spirit of friendship, kindness, compassion and solidarity as we move forward, to help ensure the dignity of every person and a more sustainable world for all. We have certainly experienced a type of *wilderness* this year as we continue to battle the effects of COVID19 and find a way forward. Our communities need messengers, like John, who bring good news, hope and a vision for the future, who point us towards a new way forward.

As we prepare to welcome Christ into our lives once more, let's make the most of this advent time, the most of this waiting time. May we use this space to reflect on what type of world can be born out of this wilderness we find ourselves in. May we reach out to those who are crying out for hope during these difficult months, like John the Baptist, offering a positive vision for the future.

Jane Mellett

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I was surprised at the words one of my grandchildren, who is five, spoke to his mother before bed, *"Mum, love isn't just something you feel, it's something you do. This whole earth is one big ball of family and if we all love each other and look after each other with love, the world will be like new"*.

Lourdes O'Keefe

A quote from Pope Francis:

"In switching on the light of the Nativity scene we wish for the light of Christ to be in us, a Christmas without light is not Christmas, let there be light in the soul, in the heart; let there be forgiveness to others; let there be no hostilities, which are dark, let there be the beautiful light of Jesus. This is my wish for all of you when you turn on the light of the crib".



Next week we welcome into
our Church community:

Logan	child of	Nathan & Lauren
Jonas Damien	child of	Jacob & Jenna

HELP WANTED



Sunday 13th December at 8:00am

FR. MICK'S FAREWELL FROM THE PARISHIONERS
(after the morning Mass at 10:15am)

Help is needed for about an hour next Sunday morning 13th December at 8:00am to put up chairs, tables and set up the BBQ in front of the Hartigan Centre.

A reminder for people to bring their own food and meat if wanting to cook on the BBQ.

Tea and coffee will be provided.

You will be required to register your name at the entrance gate.

Social distancing is still to be applied.

Thursday 24th December at 8:00am

CHRISTMAS MASS CELEBRATION

Help is needed for about 1 ½ hours on Christmas Eve morning at 8:00am to set up chairs, etc.

Limited seating will be available, so you are asked to bring your own chairs or rugs to sit on.

The main gate will be the only entrance except for the elderly and disabled who can gain entrance through the side gate near the chapel.

You will be required to register your name at both entrances.

Social distancing is still to be applied.

If you can help on either occasion, please contact Bob Nash on 0418 691 423.

YOUTH MISSION TEAM 2021

I was recently accepted into Youth Mission Team for 2021. This means that I will be serving as a missionary somewhere in Australia on a team of young people who have also deferred work or study to serve the Catholic Church in Australia.

My main ministry will be conducting reflection days, retreats and seminars for Catholic Schools, inviting young people to begin or continue to foster a relationship with Jesus. This is a mission I am very excited to commence in January next year.

I am seeking sponsors to give \$10 a week to help pay for the basic necessities of the whole team. If the parish would like to sponsor me or contribute any other donation I would be so grateful, but even more grateful for prayers throughout the year.

For details on how to donate please go to ymt.com.au/investinhope.

Please also email eternal.change@ymt.com.au to inform them that the donation is on my behalf.

Clare Healey

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

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

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER RETREAT – 20th TO 21st FEBRUARY

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life.

For further information visit:

www.engagedencounter.org.au.

THAT CATHOLIC SHOP

That Catholic Shop is an exciting development for *Aid to the Church in Need Australia*. This year do some Christmas shopping on the online store and support the works of ACN to keep the faith alive.

Please visit www.thatcatholicshop.com

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.

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.

Fake Jeep? Christmas shopping, though fun, can be difficult. Did you hear about the guy that bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas? A friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those sporty 4-Wheel drive vehicles." "She did," he replied. "But where am I going to find a fake Jeep?"

COMMUNION REFLECTION

The voice of John the Baptist was a lonely voice which many contemporaries ignored. There are many lonely voices in our world. Somewhere, at this moment, a child is crying - crying for love or maybe, simply, for bread. Somewhere a young person is crying - crying for a listening ear or an understanding heart. Somewhere an old person is crying - crying for a visit or a word from his/her children. There are a thousand unheard voices in our world, coming from victims of injustice and neglect. Lord, help us to listen to these voices. Above all, help us to listen to your voice, whispering to us in the wilderness of our hearts, telling us that we are loved by you, and that we are to love one another.

READINGS NEXT WEEK: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B

First Reading *Is 61:1-2. 10-11*
Isaiah proclaims the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading *1 Thes 5:16-24*
Rejoice and pray always.

Gospel *Jn 1:6-8. 19-28*
The priests and Levites question John's identity.
Please reflect on these readings over the coming week



YASS LEARNERS

Bernie Howe

RTA accredited older driver assessor



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0428 630 111

11 LAIDLAW STREET YASS NSW 2582
OFFICE: 6226 1466 FAX: 6226 3437
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PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



Recently deceased

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

Prayers for

William Grace, 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:

Betty Barber (1/12), Jessica Walker (1/12),
Eric Bernard (1/12), Eric Bell (1/12),
Beulah (Bubbles) Garry (3/12), Neville Bonnette (5/12),
Rae O'Brien (8/12), Mary Wicks (8/12), William Freebody
(5/12), Mary Warren (9/12), Patricia (Jeannie) Merritt (9/12),
Judith Woods (13/12), John Gray (21/12),
Jessamine Williams (21/12), Nataline Parkin (29/12),
Michael Cooke (26/12), Gary Teale (30/12)
and William Jefcoate (31/12).

Always In Our Hearts Loved and Remembered

ROSTERS

LITURGY

1 = Readings/Resp. Psalm/Gospel Acc.	2 = Prayers of the Faithful
3 = Acolyte	4 = Sunday Acolyte
5/ 6 Dec Lourdes O'Keefe 1	Bob Nash 2
Peter Cleary 3	Russell Hill 4
12/13 Dec Gaye McManus 1	Tom Considine 2
Frank Grace 3	Peter Walker 4

ALTAR SERVERS

5 Dec Wendy Morton	Louis Green
12 Dec Charlotte Alexander	Molly McPherson

ALTAR CLEANERS

12 Dec Kath Moore	19 Dec Coral Carroll
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PATRICK'S BUTCHERY

QUALITY

Beef, Lamb & Pork
Catering for Hotels,
Functions etc



FREE HOME
DELIVERY

Prop: Aaron Kurt Nettheim
49 Comur Street, Yass
Ph: 6226 1368

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.

Patrick's Butchery, Yass Earthmovers, Yass Learners, 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.