



# 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	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
	<i>Monday and Wednesday 9:00am – 3:00pm</i>	
Parish Bulletin	Bianca	Nash
	<i>Friday 9:30am – 3:30pm</i>	

## THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH – YEAR B

26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> December 2020



### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Response:** The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. O sing to him, sing his praise; tell all his wonderful works! **R**

Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. Consider the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face. **R**

Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke. O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose. **R**

He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. **R**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,  
and the fullness of his message live within you.

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

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

### SUNDAY MASSES:

<b>Yass:</b>	<i>St Augustine</i>	
Vigil Saturday		6:00 pm
<b>Gunning:</b>	<i>St Francis Xavier</i>	8:30 am
<b>Murrumbateman:</b>		
<i>To be held at Yass until further notice</i>		10:15 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/Warmington

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

### 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>	Saturday	10:30 am
<b>Gunning Parish</b>	Sunday	12:30 pm
<i>Book by ringing the Parish Secretary (Mon, Wed. or Fri.)</i>		

### 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:** The Holy Innocents  
**Fri:** Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God  
**Sat:** Saints Basil and Gregory

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
I made the comment last Sunday that it is for my good and yours that I leave and start the last phase of my life. It isn't easy to let go but I have a sense that I have done what I have been called to do in the Yass and Gunning parishes. Every parish I have left I still have lasting friendships and the same will be true of here. I must acknowledge that the generosity of many parishioners in these parishes, sharing time and talents, is second to none.

I also said last Sunday that I'm under no illusion that some people have left our communities because of my style in living out priesthood and hurtful comments I have made. Forgiveness in these circumstances is the only way to move forward.

My future is a little uncertain as Covid-19 has wrecked my plans. It is good for me to be uncertain of what lies ahead as I have to place my trust more and more in the Lord.

Thank you all for your love and support and may the many blessings we have received continue into the future.

Mick Burke

## The Presentation in the Temple

Simeon and Anna welcome Mary, Joseph and Jesus to the Temple. They have been waiting for this moment. What kind of Messiah were they expecting? Simeon welcomes this family who must have seemed 'ordinary' and poor. He can see that this child will be 'a light...for the glory of your people'. Already there is a note of reversal; of boundaries being stretched. Mary is told that this child 'is destined for the fall and the rising of many'. There will be challenging times ahead for this family. Simeon knows that many thoughts will be exposed for God's invitation and welcome has no boundaries and this radical hospitality might not sit well with everyone. Anna rejoices for all those who were looking for a change, for hope, she knows that this child will overturn systems of oppression and exclusion.

Luke is interested in how humanity responds to the Gospel. If Jesus' message is really good news, then this requires a shakeup; a shakeup which challenges comfortable assumptions about the way God works. God's abundant invitation to all may not sit comfortably with many. While Anna prays and fasts for a change of heart in the way Jerusalem operates, Simeon warns Mary that this will not be an easy road.

Many situations in our own world today need a shake-up, especially in our church. This can be uncomfortable as we have to let go of certain things and invite freshness. What situations in our own society and in our church require a shake-up; an uncomfortable but necessary change so that God's love and welcome can shine through? Jesus came to show us how to live. We must constantly look back at his example.

*'We often make do with looking at the ground...I wonder if we still know how to look up at the sky? Do we know how to dream, to long for God, to expect the newness he brings, or do we let ourselves be swept along by life, like dry branches before the wind?'*

Pope Francis

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## Parish Finance Committee Members:

Father Peter My	Stan Waldren
David Garland	Mark Valencic
Paul O'Mara	Trish Gibbs
Irene Carr	

## 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 Peter My	Sarah Johnston (Social Justice)

## PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



### Recently Deceased

Luke McCue, Val Hanrahan

### Prayers for

Michael Cooke, Jackie Longley, William Grace

### 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**

## IN BETHLEHEM

O' REDEEMER, AT THIS DAWN  
WE RECALL HOW YOU WERE BORN  
IN A MANGER, COLD AND LOWLY,  
OF MARY, VIRGIN, O MOST HOLY!  
HEAV'N'S SWEET VEIL NOW IS LIFTED  
MANKIND INFINITELY GIFTED,  
ANCIENT PROPHECIES FULFILLED,  
GOD-MADE-MAN, BY SPIRIT WILLED.  
THE MAGI KNEW WHAT WAS FORETOLD,  
AND BROUGHT THEIR GIFTS OF MYRRH AND GOLD,  
FRANKINCENSE THEY ALSO GIVE,  
TO HIM WHO'LL DIE THAT WE MIGHT LIVE.  
ANGEL CHOIRS ALL GLORY SING,  
PAYING HOMAGE TO THEIR KING,  
NOT TIME-BOUND, BUT IMMORTAL,  
GUIDING US TO HEAV'N'S PORTAL.  
ALLELUIAS NOW ASCENDING,  
HIM WE HONOUR, VOICES BLENDING,  
PRAISING HIM WITH ONE ACCORD:  
JESUS CHRIST, OUR SAVIOUR LORD!

John Meston

## GOD GETS AN A; YOU GET AN F.

Just before Christmas a college professor read the following on an examination paper: "God only knows the answer to this question. Merry Christmas." Across the same paper the professor wrote: "God gets an A; you get an F. Happy New Year."