



# 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

Tel: (02) 6226 1086

E-mail: [yass@cg.org.au](mailto:yass@cg.org.au) Website: [www.staug-yass.org.au](http://www.staug-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   | Peter My |
| 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                     | Father   | Peter My |
| Parish Office            | Zuzy   | Webster  |
|                          | <i>Monday to Wednesday<br/>9:00am – 3:00pm</i> |          |
| Parish Bulletin          | Bianca   | Nash     |
|                          | <i>Friday 9:30am – 3:30pm</i>                  |          |

## 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 | Lovat Chapel, Yass   | 5:30 pm    |
| Thursday  | Lovat Chapel, Yass   | 7:30 am    |
| Friday    | Lovat Chapel, Yass   | 12:00 noon |
| Saturday  | St Augustine's, Yass | 9:00 am    |

## Nursing Home/Hostel

### Thomas Eccles Gardens (Linton)

2<sup>nd</sup> Tues (monthly) Yass 11:00 am

### Horton/Warlington

4<sup>th</sup> Tues (monthly) Yass 11:00 am

*Parishioners are invited to celebrate Mass with the residents at both locations.*

## Exposition

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

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

|           |         |                                      |
|-----------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Saturdays | Yass    | 10:00am -10:30am,<br>5:00pm – 5:30pm |
| Sundays   | Gunning | 8:00am – 8:15 am                     |

## Baptisms

Yass Saturdays 10:30 am

**Gunning Parish** 1st Sunday of the month  
8:30am (during Mass) or 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.

## ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Response:** Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. **R**

The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **R**

Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **R**

## 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.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

# Thoughts from the Presbytery



## HOMILY

### The Sowing of the Seed

In Australia, so far as I know, a farmer ploughs the land and *then* plants the seed. In Galilee, the farmer scattered the seed on the old field and therefore on tracks which people made walking across it after cropping, on thorny areas, and also on what he hoped was good soil. He *then* ploughed in the seed.

It is a wonder that anything grew, and generally the return was about 7:1. In a previous parable Jesus had spoken of the Kingdom he was inaugurating as if it would turn out to be like a bumper harvest of up to a hundredfold.

What would such a harvest mean for a peasant tilling the rocky soil of Galilee? It would mean release from the endless servitude to a landlord, generation after generation. It would mean liberation, not only from hunger, but from the power structure which was quite content with a permanent underclass of subsistence farmers.

In other words, Jesus was telling his listeners that God's Kingdom would turn the world as they knew it 'upside down'. As Mary sang in the Magnificat: 'The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away.' Power structures would be shattered by the impulses of the Gospel to create a society where there was a just distribution of the world's resources.

Naturally, the peasant farmers of Galilee wanted to know 'when' and 'how'. We want to know the 'when' and the 'how' of the fulfilment of the Kingdom of God.

Jesus' answer to them, and to us, is basically: 'It is not for you to know. Just get on with the sowing of the Gospel seed. Something will happen with the seed you sow, something out of all proportion to your part in the process.'

Our Lord pictured this by contrasting the tiny mustard seed and the mustard bush which he even exaggerates into a tree in which birds could find shelter!

In this parable Jesus says: 'Be patient, allow the creative power of God to work in the earth and the small seed will be "raised up".'

When did God's creative power work in the depths of the stony ground so that the Gospel Seed was raised up? The answer is, of course, in the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

And what effect did this have? We read in the Acts of the Apostles concerning the early Christian community that 'The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.' (Acts 2:44)

In other words, the social system was being subverted by the power of the Gospel. A more just distribution of resources was taking place in the immediate aftermath of the proclamation of the Resurrection by Peter on the Feast of Pentecost.

I think it is very telling that a little further on in the Acts of the Apostles we read: 'The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no-one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common. The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power.' (Acts 4:32-33)

There is a correlation between the commitment of Christians to a just distribution of the world's resources and the proclamation of the Lord's resurrection. Only if the commitment is authentic and real will the proclamation be powerful and effective.

So,  
let us lead lives with an authentic dimension of social justice,  
let us get on with sowing the seed of the Gospel whenever we get the opportunity,

(Con't)

### Parish Finance Committee Members:

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

### 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) |

(Con't)

let God get on with germinating that seed with the power of the Resurrection so that the Tree of Life may grow to such a height that all peoples 'can shelter in its shade.'

Fr Michael Tate

### 'It is like a mustard seed'

Something we may not often think about is Jesus' earthly relationship with creation. Jesus walked everywhere, went to quiet places to pray, preached from mountains, from boats on the water; his followers included fishermen in tune with the rhythm of the sea. In Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* – On Care for Our Common Home, he reminds us that Jesus 'was in constant touch with nature, lending it an attention full of fondness and wonder' (*Laudato Si'*, 97). Jesus' parables are full of imagery from the natural world and in today's Gospel we have an example of this in the parable of the mustard seed. People of Jesus' time may have preferred the image of the lofty 'cedars of Lebanon' to explain God's kingdom, mustard plants however, only stand a few feet tall. Jesus is turning the ideals of power and triumph on their head. There is an ancient text which forbade planting mustard seeds in Palestinian gardens because the shrub takes over wherever it is planted and attracts unwanted birds. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to *kudzu*, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack cement buildings. This mustard seed image of God's dream for this world is one which suggests that it will grow even in places where it is not wanted, putting cracks in seemingly mighty structures.

The New Testament not only tells us of the earthly Jesus and his tangible and loving relationship with the world. It also shows him risen and glorious, present throughout all of creation (Col 1:19-20). 'The very flowers of the field and the birds which [Christ's] human eyes contemplated and admired are now imbued with his radiant presence' (*Laudato Si'*, 100). As we watch out for traces of the mustard seed kingdom this week, let us also embrace the joy of Christ in all of creation.

Jane Mellett

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### Living the Gospel – Seed on the land

The first parable in the gospel passage describes the unerring work of the kingdom. It is like the seed that almost magically transforms into a fully grown plant that may be harvested – apparently without any external forces. Of course, we know that plants need to be fed, watered, weeded and nurtured to ensure their proper growth. However, the kingdom of God works in our lives in a similar way – if we feed and nurture it, the kingdom will produce a great harvest. Even if we don't pay it attention, the kingdom is present and acting in our world.

Greg Sunter

**CELEBRATION MASS FOR THE SISTERS OF  
MERCY IN YASS, NSW**

**and a Farewell for Sr Aileen Wailes**

*Sunday 18 July, 10:15am,*

*St Augustine's Church, Meehan St. Yass*

The Sisters of Mercy are leaving Yass after 146 years of good works in our community. We are going to honour them suitably, beginning with a Mass of Thanksgiving. Following Mass, we will have a story telling/memory sharing time in the Mt Carmel PAC, a catered light lunch with the Sisters at approx. 1.15pm, and a suggested donation for this is \$20-25pp. There will also be a photographic history on display.

We invite you to join us, for whatever part of the day you may wish to attend.

**RSVPs for lunch are essential by 30<sup>th</sup> June** for catering and COVID-Plan purposes.

Please RSVP to Lourdes O'Keefe ph. 0413 096 413

For any queries contact Annabelle O'Connell ph. 0412 919 856

**ALL WELCOME**

- In light of the planned display for the Thanksgiving Day, we invite families to contribute any photos, stories and/or other significant items that we can add to our collection. If you or someone you know wishes to do so, please see or contact Sarah Johnston or Annabelle.
- We are going to present the attending Sisters on the day with a small gift. If you have a teacup and saucer in perfect condition, gathering dust, that is not precious to you, we would appreciate you donating it to the cause. Thank you!

**NOTICE – OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY – CATHOLIC CHURCH WEE JASPER**

Advice has now been received from the Trustees of the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn that the closure and option to sell of the Wee Jasper Church has been approved.

The decommissioning ceremony of Our Lady of the Rosary – Catholic Church Wee Jasper will be at 11:30am, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021.

**PLEASE NOTE**

Starting this week, weekday masses (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday) will be held in the Lovat Chapel.

Thank you.



*Next week we welcome into our Church community:*

Hugh child of Reece & Amy

**POSITION VACANT – CLEANER**

A permanent/part-time position (1½ hours per week) is vacant for assisting with the cleaning of the Hartigan Centre/Lovat Chapel.

Please contact the Presbytery on (02) 6226 1086 for more information.

**VINNIES CEO SLEEP OUT FOR THE HOMELESS  
– 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE**

COVID has resulted in more homeless people in Canberra needing help but also greater difficulties in raising funds.

This year Michael Green, principal of Mt Carmel School, is again participating the the Vinnies CEO Sleepout. He will be joining a number of Catholic School Principals and business leaders to sleep rough at the National Arboretum in Canberra and raise much needed money for those in our community who can't afford the basics - food, education, utilities and even a place to call home.

His personal goal is to raise \$2,000 for Vinnies; if you are able to donate to this important cause, go to <https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/fundraisers/michaelgreen/canberra>.

**YRAR PRESENTS: THE GIFT OF UNITY- A REFUGEE STORY**

*When:* Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June

*Where:* St Clements Church Hall, 20 Church St, Yass

*Time:* 2:00pm

Hear from our panel about the resettlement of Vietnamese refugees in Yass in 1979-80. Stories of courage and resilience from the resettlement committee and the families they supported.

Includes the extraordinary story of our very own Father Peter My. Vietnamese Choir from Canberra will sing a few songs.

Hosted by Paul Bongiorno AM, Contributing Editor, Network 10.

Afternoon Tea provided.

This is a COVID Safe event.

For more information or to *RSVP* please contact Sarah: 0447 180 533 or email: [yass4refugees@gmail.com](mailto:yass4refugees@gmail.com)

**8 WEEK MARRIAGE DISCERNMENT COURSE  
– 18<sup>th</sup> JUNE & 6<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

*10:00am-12.00pm*

Registration close on 14 June. 75% sponsorship is available for 10 individuals – single or dating – to participate in a live, online vocational discernment program. Delivered via Zoom. Includes small group work.

Cost (after discount) is \$25 per person.

Expressions of interest to [lara.kirk@cg.org.au](mailto:lara.kirk@cg.org.au) 0429 192 869

**ARCHDIOCESAN WOMEN'S TASKFORCE DINNER  
– 16<sup>th</sup> JULY**

*5:00pm*

The dinner will be held at the Southern Cross Club Woden to celebrate women's ministry. Scholar and teacher, Sr Margaret Beirne RSC will give a talk on St Mary Magdalene.

Three course meal \$65.

All welcome.

Bookings essential at <http://bit.ly/MaryMagdaleneDinner>

**RETREAT - FINDING GOD IN AUSTRALIA  
– 6<sup>th</sup> TO 8<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

Fr John Hill will lead a retreat to be held at St Clement's, "Finding God in Australia".

Please contact St Clement's to register. [info@stclement.com.au](mailto:info@stclement.com.au) or phone 02 6380 5222 Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm.

## COMMUNION REFLECTION

Like scattered seed, whose growth is slow but steady,  
 your kingdom is revealed, O God.  
 At first so small,  
 Its harvest provides for all who hunger.  
 Turn to us who measure progress  
 by standards so different from your own.  
 Give us trust in your ways of planting,  
 patience with gentle nurturing,  
 until we come to rest in the great branches of the cross.  
 Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
 who lives and reigns with you  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 God for ever and ever.

### READINGS NEXT WEEK:

#### TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

##### First Reading

The Lord constrains the sea.

Jb 38:1. 8-11

##### Second Reading

We are new creations in Christ.

2 Cor 5:14-17

##### Gospel

Jesus stills the sea.

Mk 4: 35-41

*Please reflect on these readings over the coming week*

### ROSTERS

#### LITURGY

|                                |                                       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 = Reader                     | 2 = Intro and Prayers of the Faithful |
| 3 = Saturday Acolyte           | 4 = Sunday Acolyte                    |
| <b>12/13 Jun</b> Steve Scroope | 1 Dianne Carey 2                      |
| Russell Hill                   | 3 Greg Minahan 4                      |
| <b>19/20 Jun</b> Peter Gibbs   | 1 Tom Considine 2                     |
| Peter Cleary                   | 3 Peter Walker 4                      |

#### ALTAR SERVERS

|        |                        |
|--------|------------------------|
| 12 Jun | Grace & Charlie Miller |
| 19 Jun | Clare & Ella Broers    |

## PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



### Recently Deceased

Collette Dawes, Elizabeth (McRae) Warren,  
 Margaret Lawrence, Sheila Armstead, Lorna Simpson,  
 John Hill

### Prayers for

Anna Maria, Jim McCabe

### 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

## Yass Earthmovers

Local business for 40 years

### All types of earth moving and machinery

|                 |                   |              |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
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Jim Field  
**0428 486 330**



Andrew Field  
**0428 630 111**

11 LAIDLAW STREET YASS NSW 2582  
 OFFICE: 6226 1466 FAX: 6226 3437  
 EMAIL: yassearthmovers@ozemail.com.au

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### QUALITY

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