



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 Website: 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</i>	
	<i>9:00am – 3:00pm</i>	
Parish Bulletin	Bianca	Nash
	<i>Friday 9:30am – 3:30pm</i>	

SUNDAY MASSES:

Yass:	<i>St Augustine</i>	
Vigil Saturday		6:00 pm
Gunning:	<i>St Francis Xavier</i>	8:30 am
Murrumbateman:		
<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)

2nd Tues (monthly) Yass 11:00 am

Horton/Warmincton

4th 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, 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
	<i>Book by ringing the Parish Secretary (Mon, Wed. or Fri.)</i>	

Marriages

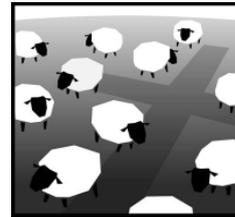
By appointment. Five to six months notice ideal.

School Enrolments

Mt Carmel Central School: Kindergarten to Yr 6. Ring the School Secretary for appointment (02) 6226 3357.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

17th & 18th July 2021



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **R**

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff, with these you give me comfort. **R**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **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!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.

Thoughts from the Presbytery

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Thu: Saint Mary Magdalene

HOMILY

Dividing Walls of Enmity

It has sometimes been claimed that, from space, astronauts can see the Great Wall of China – stretching for thousands of miles and constructed so as to keep the enemies of the Chinese kingdom 'outside'.

We humans love constructing barriers, sometimes to keep others out, sometimes to keep others in – the 'otherness' usually based on race or ethnic or religious identity. In any case, it is to make clear who is 'not one of us', who is to be regarded as 'the other'.

The Jewish people did that at the Temple in Jerusalem.

There was a stone barrier separating the inner area which only Jewish people could enter, and an outer area where 'gentiles' i.e. people from other religious backgrounds i.e. non-Jews – could gather.

In the late 19th century a slab was found bearing the inscription that any non Jew crossing the stone barrier would do so under the pain of death.

It is that barrier which St Paul refers to in the second reading: 'The dividing wall of enmity'. And what St Paul is celebrating is the fact that the 'dividing wall of enmity' between Jew and non-Jew has been torn down.

It is torn down by Jesus Christ in whom a new humanity is being created without discrimination, without segregation, a new People of God.

This new People of God is supposed to be found in the Catholic Church. But what did the Catholic Church often do when it was in a position of political power, or able to influence its exercise?

It collaborated in putting the Jews behind a 'dividing wall of enmity' i.e. created ghettos which disfigured many European cities. These were areas in the cities barricaded off and to which Jewish people were forced to retreat (except, of course, when facilitating commerce for the Christian majority à la 'The Merchant of Venice').

But we can be very proud that it was an Australian, Cardinal Cassidy, who led the difficult early stages of dialogue between the Catholic Church and adherents of the Jewish religion throughout the world. He was given this task by the Pope who adopted St Paul's name as part of his own: Pope John Paul II.

The Pope's mission in this regard was best symbolised during his pilgrimage to the site of the old Temple in Jerusalem in March 2000. You have all seen pictures of the so-called 'Wailing Wall' at which Jewish people pray. It is actually the last remaining great foundation stones of the Temple.

In a little cleft or gap between the stones the Pope pushed a piece of paper on which was written his prayer expressing sorrow for centuries of Christian maltreatment of those whom he called 'the children of Abraham'. I am quite sure that Cardinal Cassidy's hand could be found in the drafting of that prayer.

It is regarded as the greatest gesture of reconciliation between Catholics and Jews and an Australian cardinal helped to facilitate it!

It is true that we are distinctive and have our own identity. Every week we come to Mass in response to Our Lord's invitation in today's gospel: 'Come away and rest awhile.' Our Lord is saying 'Come away by yourselves so that I can nourish you with Heavenly Bread and Spiritual Drink which is my Holy Communion with you.'

(Con't)

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)
Sarah Johnston (Social Justice)	Zuzy Webster (Secretary)

Ex Officio Member: Fr Peter My

(Con't)

Yes, we do that as a moment of refreshment or re-creation, but always as a prelude to the great task. We are to go out and break down the walls of hostility between peoples – the various 'dividing walls of enmity': racism, caste and class, historical grievances, sexist subjugation.

We, like Pope John Paul II, are to press our prayers and actions into whatever opportunities present themselves.

When, and only if, we do so, will we be truly disciples of Jesus Christ, truly of the new humanity He envisaged, truly Catholic.

Fr Michael Tate

Take a break

We all need a break sometimes. I remember once reading a selection of entries for a Mothers' Day competition, in which people were asked why their mother deserved to win a prize. They all had themes in common - she never does anything for herself; she's always thinking of other people; I can't remember the last time she took a break.

In today's Gospel, the disciples need a break. They have returned from their mission, eager to catch up with Jesus, but there is so much happening that they barely have time to eat. Jesus sees their need, and invites them to take a boat with him to a quiet place and rest for a while. But there is no time for rest, as the crowds have followed them on foot. Jesus is moved by them because they are 'like sheep without a shepherd'. He is the Good Shepherd who always cares for his flock, and he responds with compassion and love.

No doubt the disciples are drafted in to help: it turns out it is not break time! We can imagine their exhaustion. We all feel tired or overwhelmed from time to time, from work or family pressures or simply trying to balance everything. Postponing our own needs to care for others is familiar to every parent or caregiver. We don't know if the disciples got a rest at that point, but we know that Jesus valued time apart as he later sends the disciples off in the boat again while he goes away by himself to pray. In the chaos of life, even when there are demands on our time and energy, it is important to take some time to reflect and to pray.

Triona Doherty

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Living the Gospel – Take time out

I recently travelled to France and was amazed that in the smaller towns and villages everything stopped for two hours in the middle of the day and people went home for lunch. As a tourist used to almost 24 hour convenience, it was at first terribly frustrating. Even tourist attractions would close down. The only businesses open were restaurants. However, the wisdom of the custom soon became apparent. How wonderfully civilised and life-giving to stop for two hours in the middle of the day, go home and have a leisurely lunch. It made me ask myself, 'When do I take time out to renew myself?'

Greg Sunter

NOTICE

CARPET LAYING DELAYED

Due to the unavailability of sufficient carpet tiles at the moment, the carpet laying has been delayed until the end of August.

The manufacturer will be running a special run of the tile so the same dye is used on all the tiles.

Parishioners will be informed when the church will be closed for the works to be carried out.

A BIG THANK YOU to those parishioners who were making themselves available for the pre-works needed. I hope you will be available again later in August.

Bob Nash
Maintenance



CELEBRATION MASS FOR THE SISTERS OF MERCY IN YASS, NSW and a Farewell for Sr Aileen Wailes

Due to the current Covid situation the Sisters of Mercy farewell is postponed.

A new date will be set by the Sisters in consultation with Fr Peter and St Augustine's Parish.

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.

ARCHDIOCESAN MARRIAGE COURSE – 3rd AUGUST

7:15pm-9:30pm

Nicky Gumbel says "There's no marriage that can't be improved." The Marriage Course aims to strengthen one's relationship from the comfort of one's own home via Zoom for 7 weeks.

Register for information session 7:30-8:00pm Tuesday 27th July
bit.ly/TMCInfonight

Find out more at bit.ly/TMCRegister Contact
steph.ransom@cg.org.au

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER RETREAT

Choose any of the Weekends: 7th to 8th August 2021
13th to 14th November 2021
19th to 20th February 2022

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.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND – 21st TO 22nd AUGUST

An opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love!

Come and join us on August 21 - 22, 2021 at a Live-Out Marriage Encounter Weekend at St John Bosco Parish, Engadine.

Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

INAUGURAL TIM FISCHER ORATION ON ETHICS IN PUBLIC & POLITICAL LIFE – 26th AUGUST

Speaker: John Anderson

Venue: Parliament House, Canberra

Tickets: \$30 www.tfo.org.au

Inquiries: jeanie.alberto.cg.org.au, Ph: 6239 9801

VOCATIONS HOLY HOUR AND DINNER:

Each first Thursday of the month there is a Holy Hour and dinner at Archbishop's House for those interested in exploring a vocation to the priesthood. If you are wanting to meet other like-minded men, please contact Fr Paul Nulley at: paul.nulley@cg.org.au

Save the Date

FIRST RECONCILIATION

for students in Year 3 or beyond, will be celebrated on
Wednesday 10th November, 2021.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Prayer and reflection

Jesus demonstrated how important it is to engage in times of quiet prayer and reflection. When you expend a lot of time and energy in the service of others it is essential to reflect on those experiences, to learn from them and consider what you'd do differently next time. It is also important that any ministry that seeks to be based in the message of Jesus can only remain so if it is fuelled by prayer. Only through prayerful dialogue with God can we learn what God desires for us.

COMMUNION REFLECTION

Be kind to yourself

How hard we can be on the person closest to us - hard on ourselves.

We all need a bit of compassion for ourselves, for our weaknesses, faults and failings.

We also need to be able to forgive ourselves - if we're hard on ourselves, we'll be hard on others.

We can be so hard on ourselves that we're tough on everyone else.

Can we accept ourselves as we are?

That's having compassion on ourselves.

We can be hard on ourselves at all ages.

For not being good enough, failing to reach impossible standards, for having feelings like jealousy or envy.

And regrets:

Everything you wanted to happen and it didn't.

Maybe ways you let down a husband or wife,

or ways you failed your children.

Jesus was big on compassion. And we need it.

Look on our whole selves: not just one side of ourselves.

If you have harmed people and they forgive you, allow yourselves to be forgiven.

And let the compassion of Jesus give you sympathy for yourself.

We need to love ourselves.

Accept yourself – love yourself as you are, not as you might have been or might be.

Be kind to yourself and you'll be kind to others;

let others be kind to you and you'll be kind to yourself.

Be compassionate to yourself and you will be to others.

Allow others to be compassionate to you,

and you'll look on yourself with love –

and that's how God looks on you.

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

First Reading

2 Kgs 4:42-44

Elisha feeds a hundred people with twenty loaves.

Second Reading

Ehp 4:1-6

Live a life worthy of your calling.

Gospel

Jn 6:1-15

Jesus feeds five thousand.

Please reflect on these readings over the coming week

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PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



Recently Deceased

John Taylor, Fr Brian Maher

Prayers for

Holy Souls, Kevin Dawes, Joe Kelly

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

Gerald Longley (3/7), Roy Gibbs (2/7),
 Brigid Faulkner (5/7), Herman Poecher (5/7),
 Reginald (Dal) Hanrahan (5/7), Dennis Faulkner (6/7),
 Leslie Cox (6/7), Lee Irwin (8/7), Joanne Kelly (8/7),
 Ben Van den Bulk (9/7), Kevin Dawes (9/7), Cliff Hoey (9/7),
 John O'Connor (9/7), Bernard Howard (9/7),
 Harry Wales (10/7), Judith Ticehurst (10/7),
 Frans Broers (13/7), Dulcie Finn (14/7),
 Thomas Wales (14/7), Helen Bunting (14/7),
 Justin Hayward (16/7), Joan Bray (17/7),
 Adrian Cooke (17/7), Brett Irwin (18/7), Gerald Doyle (18/7),
 Ron Merriman (18/7), Henry Burgess (18/7),
 Len Longley (19/7), Stan Irwin (21/7), Robyn Cox (21/7),
 James McGinley (22/7), Catherine Wallace (22/7),
 Patricia Dobbin (22/7), Teri Bates (23/7),
 Maureen Yates (23/7), Marie Grace (24/7),
 Angela Waters (24/7), Eric Hobday (26/7),
 Joyce Ryan (26/7), Nita Hogan (27/7),
 Ronald Howard (27/7), Gordon Todkill (30/7),
 Glenice Doyle (30/7) and Justin Bell (31/7).

Always In Our Hearts Loved and Remembered

ROSTERS

LITURGY

1 = Reader

3 = Saturday Acolyte

2 = Intro and Prayers of the Faithful

4 = Sunday Acolyte

17/18 Jul	Tom	Considine	1	Rod	Perceval	2
	Peter	Walker	3	Frank	Grace	4
24/25 Jul	Peter	Gibbs	1	Gaye	McManus	2
	Chris	Gold	3	Greg	Minahan	4

ALTAR SERVERS

17 Jul Grace & Charlie Miller

24 Jul Wendy Morton Grace McPherson

ALTAR CLEANERS

17 Jul Coral Carroll 24 Jul Kath Moore

OLD LINTON MEDICAL PRACTICE

Dr Ray Burn, Dr Hanna Burn-Petersen

Dr Shyama Gonakumbura

Dr Ann Stephenson – Psychiatrist

Ruth Sneesby – Foot Nurse

Monday - Friday

9:00 am – 5:00 pm (by appointment)

(Closed for lunch 1pm – 2pm)

Mobile 0428 581 355

Residence 6226 5328

153 Comur Street, Yass

Phone: 6226 3697 Surgery

ALSO



MURRUMBATMAN
MEDICAL PRACTICE

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

Miller's Pharmacy, Old Linton Medical Practice, Ray White Rural Canberra/Yass, Patrick's Butchery, Yass Earthmovers, Yass Learners, B & V Engineering, Priceline Pharmacy Yass, Woolaroo Merino Stud, Designing Windows.

ST AUGUSTINE'S PARISH

Tel: (02) 6226 1086
Email: yass@cg.org.au
ABN: 40734 484 795

Meehan Street
PO Box 24
YASS NSW 2582

17 July, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

With the departure of the Sisters of Mercy from Yass, there is now an opportunity for the Yass Parish to purchase the former residence of the Sisters, at 106 Meehan Street (alongside the Church on the Comur Street side). Father Peter, the Parish Finance Committee and the Pastoral Council have been considering whether such a purchase would be a worthwhile investment for the Parish, and assessing options for financing such a purchase, as outlined below.

One key option being considered by the Parish Finance Committee is to finance the purchase of 106 Meehan Street firstly from the proceeds of the sale of the Parish's existing rental unit in Dutton Street. This would be supplemented by the proceeds of the sale of the Wee Jasper Church late in 2021, following its closure and de-consecration (hopefully) in coming weeks.

At this stage, potential sale and purchase prices have not been finalised and are subject to further appraisal and negotiation. However, the Parish Finance Committee considers it likely that the sale of the Dutton Street unit and the Wee Jasper Church would provide sufficient funds to allow us to purchase 106 Meehan Street outright, including stamp duty, legal fees and agent's commission. It is anticipated that there would also be sufficient funds left over to pay off the Parish's small existing debt of around \$20,000, and to undertake some much needed work on St Augustine's Church, including the installation of a modern heating system at an estimated cost of around \$30,000.

The Parish Finance Committee considers that there are several potential benefits for the Parish if we proceed with this proposal. While we would no longer have the Dutton Street unit, it would be replaced by a larger and more valuable property at 106 Meehan Street. The Meehan Street property would be able to be rented for significantly more than the existing Dutton Street unit, boosting the Parish's rental income. And it would leave the Parish debt free and hopefully with a warmer church! Importantly, it would also give us the option of using 106 Meehan Street as a Presbytery and Parish Centre at some point in future years.

Of course, another option would be to keep the Dutton Street unit and finance the purchase of 106 Meehan Street substantially with borrowed funds. In this case, it is unlikely that the rental income from 106 Meehan Street would fully cover the costs of servicing the debt, leaving the Parish to make up the difference. Although the Parish would have more assets, an additional strain would be placed on the Parish to meet its other day to day financial commitments. In the long term, of course, the Parish could benefit from additional capital gains to the extent that we owned both properties and they increased in value over time.

We would welcome the views of parishioners, ideally over the next week or so, on these important issues.

Please feel free to speak to either Fr Peter, Paul (0437 359 316) or any member of the Parish Finance Committee or Parish Pastoral Council.

Yours faithfully,

Fr Peter My
Parish Priest

Paul O'Mara
Chairperson – Parish Finance Committee