



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

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
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.

ST MARY OF THE CROSS – YEAR B

7th & 8th August 2021



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Come, you blessed of my Father, says the Lord: I was sick and you visited me. Amen, I say to you: whatever you did for one of the least of my brethren, you did it for me.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. **R**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. **R**

So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R**

On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **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!

Many women were there by the cross, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus and looked after him.
Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another, says the Lord.

Thoughts from the Presbytery



FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Sun: Saint Mary of the Cross
Tue: Saint Lawrence
Wed: Saint Clare
Sat: Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe

HOMILY

Mary MacKillop

Imagine this passage sounding in the ears of someone starving without warm clothing or shelter. I don't think it could be piously proclaimed at a refuge for the homeless. It could sound callously indifferent to the suffering of those there. 'Don't Worry, Be Happy' is a great song but not in that context.

But this Gospel is directed to you and me as disciples of Jesus, so we have to check what does it actually say? Rather, what does it *not* say? It does not say we should not worry about what *others* eat or drink or have to wear. In fact, we know that Jesus was moved with compassion when he saw hungry crowds and told his disciples: 'Give them something to eat'.

And won't we be judged on whether we gave 'the Least' food, shelter, companionship, in short, the necessities of life? (Mt 25) We should be *very* anxious that we do so, otherwise we will not hear: 'good and faithful servant'.

In mid-late nineteenth century, a young woman was very concerned with the plight of the poor and the marginalised in the colonies which later federated as the Commonwealth of Australia. What were the necessities of life that so many were lacking? Perhaps the most obvious was schooling of the young, as education is a proven path out of poverty.

So, this woman, whose most famous saying was 'never see a need without trying to do something about it', set about remedying that situation. Mary MacKillop established the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart as bands of women who took the traditional vows but who broke out of the confines of enclosed convent life to educate the poor.

She ignored colonial boundaries and set up a network of schools (and much else such as orphanages) throughout the colonies. She exhausted herself and her Sisters in this task, not anxious about food or clothing she or they might have, totally devoted to relieving the legitimate anxieties of others for the necessities of life.

This is well known. What is less well-known is a key factor in her excommunication from the Catholic Church.

Why did Bishop Sheil of Adelaide in 1871 move so drastically against this woman now recognised as a Saint?

It was because she reported that a priest, Father Keating, was molesting children at a local church school. The response to his paedophilia led to his being disciplined by the local church authorities (although sent back to Ireland to minister as a priest!) This infuriated the mafia of Irish priests who were bent on the destruction of Mary MacKillop and her Order. Bishop Sheil was like putty in their hands.

Despite all of this, and with the full personal backing of Pope Pius IX for her Order, Mary MacKillop and her Sisters went on to educate hundreds of thousands of children in the colonies and the later federation of the Commonwealth of Australia. She and they lived this Gospel passage in their personal and community lives. She and they set their hearts on building the kingdom of God.

(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 (<i>Youth</i>)	Peter Cleary (<i>Liturgy</i>)
Bryan Coleborne (<i>Ecumenism</i>)	Michael Green (<i>School</i>)
Genevieve Colbert (<i>Education</i>)	Lourdes O'Keefe (<i>Social</i>)
Bob Nash (<i>Maintenance</i>)	Michael Van Wanrooy (<i>Welfare</i>)
Sarah Johnston (<i>Social Justice</i>)	Zuzy Webster (<i>Secretary</i>)

Ex Officio Member: Fr Peter My

(Con't)

Bishop Sheil revoked the excommunicated five months later, but the fact remains that Australia's saint was dealt the most severe blow which a Catholic can suffer (at least in the institutional sense).

Mary MacKillop's education provision is itself a fantastic achievement and legacy. But more should be made of Mary MacKillop's response to clerical sexual abuse of children. She suffered grievously because of her courage in doing so in the face of a clerical culture which could not abide such revelations.

May it be presumed that as St Mary MacKillop entered the celestial Kingdom of Heaven she was surrounded by the thousands of those who as youngsters living in poverty or as subject to abuse, benefited so greatly from the Josephites setting their hearts on [the Father's] Kingdom first, and on God's saving justice.

Fr Michael Tate

Uphill struggle

Have you ever felt like giving up? Elijah certainly did. In today's first reading we meet a prophet who has had enough. He is fleeing from trouble and things seem so hopeless after a day's journey that he sits under a bush and begs God to take his life. Life has a way of getting on top of us, such as when we are grieving a loss, when we are hurt by a friend, when illness strikes, or when we are simply exhausted. We experience the feelings described in the famous anonymous poem Don't Quit: 'When things go wrong as they sometimes will/ When the road you're trudging seems all uphill...'

At these times of struggle it is helpful to pause and to refuel for the journey. Elijah was visited by an angel who offered him comfort and respite, giving him the strength he needed to carry on. In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus again say he is the living bread. Some people have been complaining about his teaching. Surely this is the son of Joseph, they say, demonstrating their lack of understanding of who Jesus really is. Again, he explains that he is the bread of life - more than physical food, more than an ordinary man, he is the living bread and he is God. In all our struggles, especially when we feel like giving up, Jesus offers us nourishment for the journey. This gift is there for us especially in the Eucharist, offering comfort and strength.

'The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.' (Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*)

Triona Doherty

Printed with permission of Intercom – a pastoral and Liturgical resource of the Irish Bishop's Conference

LADIES MORNING TEA

When: Thursday 12th August

Where: Yass RSL Club, Meehan Street, Yass

Time: 10:15am



ALL WELCOME

CALVARY HOSPITAL AUXILIARY BOOK FAIR – 18th TO 19th AUGUST

8:00am-4:00pm

Calvary Hospital Auxiliary is holding a Book Fair at Calvary Public Hospital, Bruce. A great selection of paperbacks, cookbooks, children's books, biographies and more. Nothing over \$3!

Proceeds will go towards the purchase of equipment for the care of public hospital patients and staff.

MARY MAGDALENE DINNER – 3rd SEPTEMBER

The Mary Magdalene Dinner is the inaugural event of its kind, organised by the Archdiocesan Women's Taskforce. The keynote speaker for the evening is Dr Margaret Beirne RSC.

Dr Margaret Beirne RSC is a Sister of Charity who, following doctoral research at the Ecole Biblique, published her thesis *Women and Men in the Fourth Gospel*, a Genuine Discipleship of Equals. For the past twelve years, she has been senior lecturer in Biblical Studies at St Andrew's Greek Orthodox Theological College in Sydney.

When: 3rd September

Where: Canberra Southern Cross Club, Woden

Time: 6:30pm

Cost: \$65 per person, three course meal

Book: <http://bit.ly/MaryMagdaleneDinner>

Enquiries: 0432 608 310

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

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Don't be distracted

When we read in today's gospel that we are 'not to worry', the word, worry, might better be translated as distracted. Jesus says to not be distracted or consumed by the pursuit of money, food and nice clothes. He says that it is the gentiles – those who do not know the love of God – who set their hearts on attaining these things. We are immersed in a culture in society that values these outward signs of success above all else. The challenge is to avoid being caught up in the distractions of our material society. One way to do that is through regular prayer and reflection.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Mary MacKillop

Mary MacKillop is not only the first Australian to be recognised by the Church as a Saint, she is truly a very Australian saint. She characterises the spirit of the Australian mythology. She was a prodigious hard worker who put the needs of others before herself. She exhibited something of the larrikin spirit: constantly in dispute with authority but pressing on, regardless. She used the strengths of others but also didn't tolerate those who were not genuine. Her commitment to the schooling of children from poor and rural communities established a model of Catholic education that continues to today. A Saint for and of Australia!

GOD'S SAVING JUSTICE

The Gospel reading for today is, at first glance, an odd choice to pair with the feast of St Mary of the Cross. Mary MacKillop faced more than a few financial challenges, after all, especially in her youth. The burden of supporting her poor family fell to Mary in her teenage years, and surely no one held it against her for worrying about money, food, or clothing.

But the pairing of saint and gospel makes sense in the context of Mary's vocation. Rather than worrying about herself, she cared for others. In this, Mary MacKillop lived the gospel very effectively. First caring for her immediate family, then for wider relations, soon enough Mary was focused on meeting the many needs of the communities in which she and her fellow Sisters of St Joseph lived. Through aid, education, and example Mary offered her contemporaries and us an example of faith through works.

From quietly and unobtrusively teaching in a stable in 1866, to founding a religious order that spread throughout and beyond a continent, Mary's spiritual journey was truly focused on "God's saving justice". Tending to Australia's Aboriginal peoples, prisoners facing execution, children requiring education, the homeless, the orphaned, the sick, indeed anybody she saw in need, Mary shows us how God seeks to answer the day's troubles: through us.

Nick Brodie

Save the Date

FIRST RECONCILIATION

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

COMMUNION REFLECTION

Gift of God through others.

The wheat was sown in the land
and grew silently, hidden, day and night;
the wheat was harvested
by many human hands.

And bread was made:
threshed, shaped, baked,
and its fragrance filled the house.

The fragrance of God is the air we breathe.
The gifts of life and of love
are the sources of human strength.
And like the bread on the table,
life and love come from God
shaped and nurtured by human hands.

The bread of life is the work of human hands;
the work of Mary and Joseph caring for Jesus,
the food made by them nourishing the son of God.

The bread of life is Jesus,
given to us by Mary, by God;
given to us by many human hands,
the hands that care for us in life.

Jesus is the gift of God
through many others
to each of us.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



Recently Deceased

Frank Woods, John Taylor

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

Frances Todkill (1/8), Catherine Wallace (1/8),
Frances Cassidy (1/8), Eric Runnacles (5/8),
Thomas Heaney (5/8), Robert Field (6/8),
Beverley Beeten (7/8), Tilly Ward (7/8), Dennis Hoey (11/8),
Paul Ryan (13/8), Val McDonald (7/8), Josef Kuszko (13/8),
Helen Hird (15/8), Robert Wade (15/8), Irene Diver (15/8),
Samantha Darmody (15/8), Margaret Neumann (16/8),
Brendan McPhillips (16/8), Emma Bainbridge (18/8),
Majorie Shields (18/8), Gweneth Besgrove (19/8),
Thomas Hilly (21/8), Florence Davis (21/8),
Brian Hepple (22/8), Kevin McKenzie (23/8),
Peggy Kennedy (25/8), Bernard Robinson (27/8),
Catherine Walmsley (27/8), Valda Connors (28/8),
Peter O'Brien (28/8) and Joan Perrot (31/8).

Always In Our Hearts Loved and Remembered

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – YEAR B

First Reading Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10
Vision of the coming of salvation.

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:20-26
Christ is the first-fruits.

Gospel Lk 1:39-56
The Magnificat.

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

7/ 8 Aug	Lourdes O'Keefe	1	Tom	Considine	2
	Peter Cleary	3	Peter	Walker	4
14/15 Aug	Kate Walker	1	Peter	Gibbs	2
	Greg Minahan	3	Russell	Hill	4

ALTAR SERVERS

7 Aug	Charlotte	Alexander	Molly	McPherson
14 Aug	Wendy	Morton	Grace	McPherson

ALTAR CLEANERS

7 Aug	Kay	Perceval	14 Aug	Coral	Carroll
--------------	-----	----------	---------------	-------	---------

Yass Earthmovers

Local business for 40 years

All types of earth moving and machinery

BULLDOZERS	BACKHOES	GRADERS
EXCAVATORS	TIPPERS	ROLLERS
MINI EXCAVATORS	FRONT END LOADERS	WATER TRUCKS
BOBCATS	SCRAPER	LOW LOADERS

NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL

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



Team Southwell has the capital region covered

Let our family sell your family's
real estate for more!

SimonSouthwell 0427 755 997
GeorgeSouthwell 0429 838 345
RayWhite Rural Canberra | Yass

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

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