



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>	

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

21st & 22nd August 2021



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. **R**

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal. **R**

They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. **R**

Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him. He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken. **R**

Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. **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!
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

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/Warmington

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.

Thoughts from the Presbytery



FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Tue: Saint Bartholomew
Fri: Saint Monica
Sat: Saint Augustine

HOMILY

The Word of Eternal Life

I remember seeing a James Bond film, I think set in Haiti. Anyway, it was where Voodoo religion was practised. The Voodoo priest could summon the Living Dead – called Zombies – people hovering between life in the grave and life above ground level, but ultimately trapped as human beings living a grave-dominated existence.

There are billions of the Living Dead around the world. People, apparently like you and me, but in fact living grave-dominated existences: people living with the belief that the grave will mark the extinction of their human life, marking the annihilation of their humanity.

But our ears are attuned to pick up words which sound the possibility of a destiny far beyond the zombie-like, grave-dominated lives of the Living Dead. The human heart yearns to hear of a different reality.

Where will we hear that word? From whom will we hear that word?

We certainly won't hear it from the various spruikers of the many addictions which temporarily dull the fear of the grave: alcohol in excess, activism without pause, consumerism: 'shop til you drop', drop into the grave.

The vendors of those forms of slavery speak beguiling words but they are like the Voodoo priests and leave people among the Living Dead.

What of the various spiritual gurus and maestros? We can easily dismiss the obvious leaders of Satanic cults or even astrology taken seriously.

But what of the more benevolent figures such as the Buddha or the Dalai Lama? What word do they offer about death? How do they speak of the grave?

They teach that the great task is to meditate until one's individuality is extinguished, absorbed undifferentiated into the great Ocean of Being.

But we have heard a voice which speaks a contrary truth, a voice which speaks of a more beautiful, more human reality.

That voice says that you and I, individually, personally are star dust with a marvellous destiny: a destiny that will see our ensouled bodies transformed, transfigured, translucent with Divine Light and energy.

Whose is that voice? The voice is that of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Where do we hear it? We hear that voice from within the Church, that Church which so frustrates and disillusiones me at times but which has transmitted the tradition of 'The Voice' for twenty centuries.

It has preserved and transmitted the tradition of the life of the Divine Word in the person and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth.

That Word was made flesh and dwelt amongst us so that we could be drawn into conversation with The Divine.

Hearing that Word in the Gospel, taking that Word into myself in Holy Communion, I move from the company of the Living Dead to the companionship of the Conqueror of Death.

I am no longer a 'Dead Man Walking' but a man alive with the reality of eternal life already within me.

(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)

That is why when lesser gods tempt me, that is why when I hear the siren song: 'Do you also wish to go away?' I answer with St Peter, I answer with the successor of St Peter, I answer in the company of others like you and like the billions of faithful over twenty centuries:

'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.'

Fr Michael Tate

Leap of faith

Children are often adept at looking beyond the practicalities and seeing the possibilities. Where a parent or guardian might only see a messy room in need of tidying, a child sees an obstacle course, a castle, a jungle, a magical fairy forest. It can be refreshing to take a breath and remember that there is more to life than our physical, tangible world with its daily routines and to-do lists. Sometimes circumstances can leave us blinded to life's beauty or meaning.

In today's Gospel, some of Jesus' followers are finding it difficult to see beyond the physical. He has been teaching them that he is the living bread, but it is hard for them to accept. They dismiss it as 'intolerable language' and they wonder 'How could anyone accept it?' His teachings are too difficult to comprehend and they are annoyed and offended. Some of them even walk away.

But Jesus is offering something more than the practicalities, more than physical food or drink: he offers the bread of life, living bread, his very self. It is a difficult message, but Simon Peter gets to the heart of it: 'You have the message of eternal life, and we believe.' He is able to see beyond the obvious, to hear the truth at the heart of Jesus' words. Jesus demands a lot of his followers, who must each decide whether or not they want to follow. Are we ready to make that leap of faith?

Triona Doherty

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To protect the people of NSW from the evolving COVID-19 outbreak, anyone in NSW who has been in the Australian Capital territory (ACT) since Thursday 5 August must stay at home and only leave their residence with a reasonable excuse.

Everyone in NSW, including those in NSW areas along the ACT border, must continue to comply with all relevant public health orders that are in place in NSW.

More information can be found at

https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/news/Pages/20210812_01.aspx

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.

FUTURE OF CATHOLICISM IN AUSTRALIA – 26th AUGUST

7:30pm – 9:00pm

Australian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform (ACCCR) extends an invitation to a second online convocation, *Outcomes & Actions for the Plenary Council*.

Opened by Dr Miriam Rose Ungunmerr Baumann (Senior Australian of the Year 2021).

Speakers: Jesse Rogers, Debra Zanella, Robert Fitzgerald, John Warhurst.

All welcome.

Register at accr.com.au

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

PLENARY COUNCIL SEEKS TECH SUPPORT:

Anyone willing to work as a Teams Support Person for the Assembly please contact olivia.lee@catholic.org.au

Anyone comfortable with Zoom and basic tech experience would be able to navigate this role and great training is provided.

Save the Date

FIRST RECONCILIATION

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

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Feast of the Assumption

Since the 5th Century there has been an active tradition and belief around the assumption of Mary. The tradition states that Mary was physically 'taken up' into heaven at the end of her life. It is believed that her soul and her body remained united. This ancient belief was defined as an infallible teaching of the Church by Pope Pius XII in 1950. It is one of only two infallible statements that have been defined as such and both related to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The feast is celebrated on August 15 and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Saying "Yes"

In a world that is increasingly selfish and negative, there is a trend towards isolation from family, neighbours and community. In the face of social isolation, the call to a Christian life is a call to say "Yes" to life itself and all it offers. To say "Yes" to life is to say "Yes" to life-giving relationships and decisions and "No" to life denying relationships and decisions. To say "Yes" to life is to say "No" to those things that harm self and harm others. A "Yes" to life is a "Yes" to hope; to possibility; to love; to God; and to yourself.

INVITATION to PARISH DISCUSSION of the SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2021-22

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on the 29th of August. The Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement, *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, invites us to join in responding to Pope Francis' invitation to take a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability guided by seven [Laudato Si' Goals](#). The Statement provides theological foundations to ground and inspire our efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded.

Find the statement at:

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Social-Justice-Statement-2021-22.pdf>

You are invited to join a two-part Kitchen Table Conversation about this year's social justice statement and what it means for our parish of St Augustine. The discussions will take place during the [Season of Creation](#) (1st September – 4th October) initially via Zoom on a date and at a time that suits participants best. If you are interested in being part of the journey to implement the Laudato Si Goals in our parish, please join the conversation.

Please contact Sarah on 0447180533 if you are interested in participating.

THE LAUDATO SI' ACTION GOALS



1. Response to the Cry of the Earth calls us to equitably address climate change, biodiversity loss, and ecological sustainability.



2. Response to the Cry of the Poor calls us to global solidarity, especially with marginalised or excluded groups, and to defend human life and all forms of life on earth.



3. Ecological Economics acknowledges that the economy relies on the biosphere - our common home – and it should serve people and respect creation.



4. Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles calls us to sobriety in our use of resources and energy, living with just enough, so we can ensure a good life for all.



5. Ecological Spirituality recovers a faith-based vision of creation, encouraging connection with nature in a spirit of wonder, praise, joy, happiness and gratitude.



6. Ecological Education calls us to re-think curricular and undertake institutional reform in the spirit of integral ecology to foster ecological awareness and action.



7. Community Engagement and Participatory Action calls for inclusive and synodal decision making to care for creation at local, regional, national, and international levels.

COMMUNION REFLECTION

In Jesus, your Holy One,
you have given us the words of eternal life, O God,
but you leave your household free to choose
whom we will serve:
the gods of the lands in which we live,
or you, the living God.

Far be it from us to forsake you!

To whom else can we go?

Nourish us with Christ's flesh and blood.

May we have life ourselves,
and bring life-giving love to others.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
the living bread, who has come down from heaven
for the life of the world,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

First Reading

Dt 4:1-2. 6-8

By obeying God, Israel shows wisdom.

Second Reading

Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

All truly valuable gifts come from above.

Gospel

Mk 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

Jesus confronts the Pharisees, who pay only lip service to God.

Please reflect on these readings over the coming week

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Christians and Jews

The first followers of Jesus and those who became followers in the years after the death of Jesus were faithful Jews. They saw the teachings of Jesus as a way of being a better Jew. They didn't think that they were beginning a new religion; just a new way of interpreting their faith. However, as the years passed and the followers of Jesus began to clarify their understandings and beliefs, it started to become obvious that their belief in Jesus as the Son of God was distancing them from their Jewish brothers and sisters. Gradually the term, Christian, came into use and their differences from Judaism became more apparent.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



Recently Deceased

*Susan Gibson, Sr Marie Jeanne Graham RSJ,
Frank Woods*

Prayers for

Phero, Phero, Phero, Anna

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

ROSTERS

LITURGY

1 = Reader

2 = Intro and Prayers of the Faithful

3 = Saturday Acolyte

4 = Sunday Acolyte

21/22 Aug	Steve Scroope	1	Rod	Perceval	2
	Frank Grace	3	Chris	Gold	4
28/29 Aug	Susan Morrissey	1	Joseph	Morrissey	2
	Peter Cleary	3	Bob	Nash	4

ALTAR SERVERS

21 Aug Louis & Fergus Green

28 Aug Grace & Charlie Miller

ALTAR CLEANERS

21 Aug Kath Moore

28 Aug Geraldine Doyle

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

**MURRUMBATEMAN
MEDICAL PRACTICE**

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

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B & V Engineering, Priceline Pharmacy Yass, Woolaroo Merino Stud, Desi Windows, Patrick's Butchery.*