



# 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.

## WEEKEND MASSES THIS MONTH – FEBRUARY

Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	Gunning
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	Murrumbateman
All Sundays	10:15am	Yass
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Gunning

**Parish Office** Zuzy Webster  
Monday to Wednesday  
9:00am – 3:00pm

**Parish Bulletin** Bianca Nash  
Friday  
9:00am – 3:00pm

## SUNDAY MASSES:

### VIGIL (SATURDAY)

<b>Gunning:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> of the month	6:00pm
<b>Murrumbateman:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> of the month	6:00pm

### SUNDAY

<b>Yass:</b>		10:15am
<b>Gunning:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> of the month	8:30am

## 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
	(start with 8:40am Rosary)	

## Nursing Home/Hostel

### Thomas Eccles Gardens (Linton)

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

4 <sup>th</sup> Tues (monthly)	Yass	11:00 am
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*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,
Sundays	Gunning	8:00am - 8:15 am

## Baptisms

<b>Yass</b>	Saturdays	10:30 am
<b>Gunning Parish</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> 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.

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> February 2022



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Response: Happy are they who hope in the Lord.**

Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night. **R**

He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper. **R**

Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom. **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!  
Rejoice and be glad;  
your reward is great in heaven.  
Alleluia!

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

# Thoughts from the Presbytery



Parish Priest	Father	Peter My
Youth Worker	Father	Peter My
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	Genevieve	Colbert

Parish Finance Committee meets Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

Parish Pastoral Council meets Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

## HOMILY

### Not a Celestial Joke!

Blessed are the poor? – the hungry? – those who mourn? Is this some cruel celestial joke? What is Jesus doing in these Beatitudes? The short answer is that *he* is trying to create a different world. But *we* have to start in Thailand.

Have you ever seen, on TV, Buddhist monks in Thailand? Every morning they go out from their monasteries in pairs with little bowls to beg for food. They are utterly dependent for food on householders who come out and put a morsel of food in the bowl until it ends up with enough food in it for the day.

The people call the monks 'a blessing'. It allows them to perform acts of generosity, acts of unselfishness, everyday.

The abbot of such a monastery could well say to his monks every morning: 'Blessed are you who hunger, you shall be satisfied.'

They are 'blessed' in view of a coming act which will deliver them from hunger.

And the abbot could say that with confidence because Buddhism has created in Thailand a *social* reality, a *communal* reality, a *mutual* reality, which allows for that need to be satisfied.

Jesus of Nazareth tried to create a social reality, a communal reality, a mutual reality he called 'the kingdom/reign of God'.

In it, those who are poor, hungry or weeping would find generous compassionate companions on the journey of life.

Jesus was not a 'pie in the sky' dreamer saying: 'You are destitute, hungry now. Don't worry, you will be okay in some paradise in the long distant future.' How callous would that be? *That* would be a cruel celestial joke.

Don't forget the nature of the society of his day and the great cities of the Eastern Roman Empire for which St Luke was writing his Gospel.

Social stratification was intense. The elite enjoyed wealth, status, prestige, power. The ordinary person was very, very inferior, always on the edge of destitution. The men were mostly day-labourers: no work on the day, no food for the family.

This was the Greco-Roman Empire into which the Gospel burst and Jesus wanted to challenge and change that social system. It is always a danger to reduce Jesus to one dimension, but *one* dimension *is* that Jesus is a radical reformer of the relations between classes of people.

He sets about the task of creating a new sort of society, the *ekklesia*, the church in which the destitute, the starving, the weeping, are *blessed* in the sense that they can expect their suffering to be alleviated, companions to be found in their distress.

### 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			

Why? Because if those with wealth, power and prestige want to join this new phenomenon, the Christian church, they *must* – it is a divine imperative – *must* break out of their comfort zone of plenty of money, full stomachs, plenty to laugh about.

They must radically redistribute their wealth and enter into the harsh reality of other people's destitute, starving, weeping lives.

Woe to them if they do not.

It was a challenge to those listening to Jesus. It is still a challenge for us today.

There are still hundreds of millions of destitute people throughout the world.

There are still hundreds of millions starving and malnourished.

There are still widows weeping because their husbands, the day labourers in some square in Kabul, have been blown up by suicide bombers.

Can Our Lord look into the heart of each one of us, of you, of me, living in our comfortable world, and then with confidence turn to that *other* world and say:

'Blessed are you who are without the necessities of life, you will be provided for.

Blessed are you who are hungry, you will have enough food for yourselves and your families.

Blessed are you who mourn, you will be comforted.'

Our Lord's credibility is on the line. He depends on us.

*Fr Michael Tate*

### Standing on Level Ground

The Sermon on the Mount is the most recognised passage of the gospel. Matthew's gospel pictures Jesus on a hillside preaching. Luke tells us Jesus delivered this famous sermon on a plain. Does it matter whether this is the Sermon on the Mount or the Plain? Scholars have speculated that Luke didn't know any better. As a Greek convert to the faith, he may have never been close enough to the geography of Israel to know the difference.

But in the context of Luke's whole story, it's a shrewd move to have Jesus preaching on level ground. Jesus literally levels the playing field by blessing the poor with the advantages of the rich, promising satisfaction to the hungry, and laughter to those who grieve. He likewise assures those who've made it that "it's trouble ahead". If Jesus stands on a par with the crowds and doesn't enjoy a privileged place, we can be sure the justice of the kingdom will make no exceptions.

***How are you, at this time in life, poor, hungry, sorrowing, or excluded?***

***How are you rich, satisfied, celebrating, and admired?***



*This week we welcomed into our Church community:*

Hayley Bridget child of Glenn & Erin



**A MESSAGE FROM AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA:**

Each month ACN highlights a project of the month that helps support projects in need of your support. This month could you help the church in Ethiopia to build permanent churches that will support the Catholic faithful in Ethiopia to live their faith and receive the Sacraments? To learn more visit [www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject](http://www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION MARCH 2022**

The Catholic Parish of St Augustine's, Yass, invites children baptised in the Catholic tradition, Year 4 or older, to continue their journey in faith by preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for their First Holy Communion in June. If you believe your child is ready to take this next step and you are prepared to be involved in the journey, please enrol your child at St Augustine's Presbytery on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> or Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February between 5:00-6:00pm.

For further details and to print an enrolment form (please complete prior to arriving at the presbytery) please visit the parish website [www.staug-yass.org.au/wp/sacraments](http://www.staug-yass.org.au/wp/sacraments) or contact Dianne Carey 0419 276 889 Sacramental Team Leader.

*Please note the Reconciliation program offered in March is only for students in Year 4 or above, as they missed out as Year 3s in 2021 when we had to postpone the celebration in November. We will have a second Reconciliation program in November for the Year 3s of 2022.*

**ACCOMODATION AVAILABLE (ACU CANBERRA):**

Accommodation for an ACU student at the Canberra campus (Signadou) is available for share with another ACU student commencing in February 2022. Preferences are for a country student, female (18-21 years old) and in their first year of study of a Bachelor of Education or Bachelor of Nursing at Canberra. House is fully furnished. Optional to have your own bedroom furniture. Rent \$150 per week includes electricity and internet. Located 3mins walk from ACU in Watson. References would be helpful. For further details please phone Chris on 0427 491461 or email [christine.baron@bigpond.com](mailto:christine.baron@bigpond.com)

**CLAIM THE DATE - SACRAMENTS 2022**

**RECONCILIATION** (Year 4 and above)  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 6:00pm St Augustine's

**FIRST EUCHARIST** (Year 4 and above)  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June 10:30am St Augustine's

**CONFIRMATION**  
September – date to be confirmed

**RECONCILIATION** (Year 3 and above)  
November – date to be confirmed

**WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES – 22<sup>nd</sup> TO 26<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022**

Every three years since 1994, the Church has celebrated the World Meeting of Families in a different city of the world. In 2022 the event will be hosted by the Diocese of Rome with Pope Francis leading special celebrations. However the Holy Father has also asked that the World Meeting of Families be celebrated concurrently in every diocese of the world in 2022. The idea is for families to gather locally around their bishop to explore and celebrate the theme of "Family love: a vocation and a path to holiness" In our Archdiocese of Canberra Goulburn it is envisaged that celebrations will happen in three locations: one in Canberra, one in the Eastern Deanery and one in the Western Deanery.

For more local information contact [lara.kirk@cg.org.au](mailto:lara.kirk@cg.org.au) 0429 192 869

General information at : [www.romefamily2022.com](http://www.romefamily2022.com)



**ST AUGUSTINE'S PARISH ASSEMBLY - 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022**

Please save the date and join in a day of stimulating discussion and spiritual renewal as we discern future directions for our parish.



**POSITION VACANT**

**PARISH OFFICE COORDINATOR – SACRED HEART CHURCH – 25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

Part-time, 2 days per week during school terms, 9am to 3pm. 12 month contract with option to extend. General Office Administration & Coordination & Administration of the Sacramental Programs.

Applications close Friday 25 February with a start date in March. Contact [wodensouth@cg.org.au](mailto:wodensouth@cg.org.au) for a duty statement: attention Melanie Kerr Office Manager.

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**SYNOD OF BISHOPS – 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

Have you taken up Pope Francis' invitation to participate in a global conversation about the Catholic Church? You still have three weeks to make a submission to your local consultation for the international Synod on Synodality, calling the People of God to walk together in our mission as Christians.

Submissions close on February 27.

Find out more at: <https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

DISCOVER Mary's promises@ "The seven sorrows of Our Lady"

John Meston

## COMMUNION REFLECTION

Not from on high,  
do you summon us, O God,  
to tasks beyond our power.  
But through Jesus,  
you come into our midst  
with promises of blessing  
and warnings of woe.

Shield us from the false security  
of possessions and privilege.

Fix our hearts instead on the blessings  
promised those who trust in you alone.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
Go for ever and ever.

### READINGS NEXT WEEK:

#### SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

**First Reading** 1 Sm 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

David spares Saul.

**Second Reading** 1 Cor 15:45-49

Jesus is the new Adam.

**Gospel** Lk 6:27-38

Love your enemy.

*Please reflect on these readings over the coming week*

## DESIGNING WINDOWS

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## PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



### Recently Deceased

*Fr Laurie Blake, Phillip Ranyard*

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

*Barbara McKeown (1/2), Roger Vanden Bulk (1/2),  
Helaine Hallahan (1/2), Nola Cooke (5/2),  
Kingswell Brown (6/2), Eileen Power (7/2),  
Erzsike Devrieze (10/2), Catherine Ryan (13/2),  
Faye Kaveney (13/2), Bill McManus (15/2),  
Jakob Oakey (19/2), Bill Patrick (20/2), Denis Maher (20/2),  
Betty Carey (20/2), Isabella Polyak (22/2),  
Sydenham Dobbins (22/2), Bruce Simpson (23/2),  
Muriel Hobday (23/2), Robert Ryan (23/2),  
Mary Morris (24/2), Olive Dyball (25/2), Allan Field (25/2),  
Harry Cooke (25/2), Reginald Bainbridge (26/2),  
John Murphy (28/2), Thomas Barber (28/2)  
and Marija Ivanisevic (28/2).*

**Always In Our Hearts Loved and Remembered**

## ROSTERS

### LITURGY

1 = Reader  
3 = Acolyte

<b>13 Feb</b>	Susan	Morrissey	1	Joseph	Morrissey	2
	Greg	Minahan	3			
<b>20 Feb</b>	Steve	Scroope	1	Tom	Considine	2
	Anthony	O'Connell	3			

### ALTAR SERVERS

<b>13 Feb</b>	Charlotte	McPherson	Mackenna	Leahy
<b>20 Feb</b>	Molly & Grace McPherson			

### ALTAR CLEANERS

<b>19 Feb</b>	Kath	Moore
<b>26 Feb</b>	Coral	Carroll

**MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.** 1½ HOURS / WEEK ON A  
ROTATIONAL BASIS ANYTIME BEFORE WEEKEND MASS. PLEASE  
HELP IF YOU CAN.

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