



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

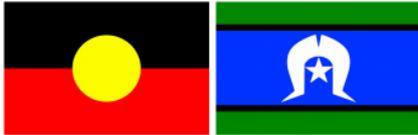
ST AUGUSTINE'S PARISH VISION STATEMENT

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.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the traditional custodians of the land in which we meet.

We pay our respects to the Elders of the past, present and future.



Parish Office Zuzy Webster (*Secretary*)
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Parish Bulletin Friday
9:00am – 3:00pm

NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS) VIGIL MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us, and in the morning you will see his glory.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)

Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss. (R.)

'He will say to me: "You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me." I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure.' (R.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed:
the Saviour of the world will be our king.

Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The glory of the Lord will be revealed,
and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.



NATIVITY OF THE LORD CHRISTMAS DAY

24th & 25th December, 2022

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation.. (R.)

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. (R.)

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. (R.)

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. (R.)

Alleluia, alleluia!

A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth.

Alleluia!

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

BAPTISMS

Yass Saturdays 10:30 am
Gunning Parish 2nd Sunday of the month 8:30 am (during Mass)

Book by ringing the Parish Secretary (Mon, Tue, or Wed.)

MARRIAGES

By appointment. Five to six months notice ideal.

School Enrolments

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



Thoughts from the Presbytery



Parish Priest	Father	Peter My
Chair Finance Committee	Paul	O'Mara
Chair Parish Council	Bryan	Coleborne
Principal of the School	Michael	Green
School Community Council	Amber	Maher
Sacramental Team Leader	Anne	Mattappallil
RCIA	Genevieve	Colbert

WEEKEND LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Yass Mass	Saturdays	6:00 pm	3 rd & 17 th
Yass Mass	All Sundays	10:15 am	
M'bateman Mass	Saturdays	6:00 pm	10 th
Gunning Mass	Sundays	8:30 am	4 th , 11 th & 25 th
Gunning Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion	Sundays	8:30 am	18 th

***CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES, 24th & 25th DEC.**

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

(starts with 8:40am Rosary)

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 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays	Yass	10:00 am - 10:30 am
Sundays	Gunning	8:00 am - 8:15 am

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Mon. 26 Dec: Saint Stephen **Tue.** 27 Dec: Saint John
Wed. 28 Dec: The Holy Innocents
Fri: 30 Dec: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

From Fr Peter

1. Happy Christmas Everyone. A Christmas card is there for you in the bulletin. If you missed getting one there are a few more available at the back of the church
2. Next Sunday, 1st January 2023, I will celebrate the 29th anniversary of my ordination.
3. Next Wednesday, 28th December, Mass will be replaced with Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion as I will be away.

Parish Finance Committee Members:

Paul O'Mara	Mark Valencic	David Garland
Trish Gibbs	Irene Carr	

Ex Officio Members: Fr Peter My & Zuzy Webster (Parish Secretary).

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Mandy Leahy (Youth)	Peter Cleary (Liturgy)
Genevieve Colbert (Education)	Lourdes O'Keefe (Social)
Michael Van Wanrooy (Welfare)	Anna Healey (Social Justice)
Bryan Coleborne and Jennie Fischer (Ecumenism)	
Bob Nash (Maintenance)	

Ex Officio Members: Fr Peter My, Michael Green (Principal) and Zuzy Webster (Parish Secretary)

ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Walking Together...at Christmas

Despite COVID 19 still present in the community, in comparison to recent years we are able to enjoy this Christmas and New Year time in relative freedom from drastic restrictions. We can meet each other face to face and not simply on a computer screen. We can cultivate deeper friendships.

So let us focus anew on the Christmas story.

Regardless of religion or the lack of it, people are generally happy to walk together at Christmas and reflect on their lives in the light of the coming of Jesus, the babe of Bethlehem.

Walking together and reflecting on this "Silent Night, Holy Night", gives us an opportunity to deepen inner silence in our chaotic lives. We can permit ourselves to be still for a moment in our change of era. A response can be made in simplicity in contrast to life's confusions.

I trust that such reflections can make us more graceful and peaceful. Hope is given. A star leads us.

Humble shepherds help us to reflect on the lost, lonely and least around us. We are given motivation to offer practical assistance.

By walking together at Christmas, we realise afresh that we are not alone. We dismiss the temptation from self-appointed ideological elites that life is merely about "my choice" and "my Rights". We start to talk also about "our responsibilities and duties" to family and society's poor and oppressed.

Walking together means that this time is not simply "the festive season". We are not reduced merely to eating and shopping. It is also "the Christmas season". It is when "God-is-with-us" (Emmanuel) in Jesus. There is joy and laughter. There is song and hope. There is transcendence and radiance.

Let us pray for peace in our world, especially in Ukraine. May we do all we can to make peace flourish as we walk locally under God's "Star of Wonder".

May Jesus bless and protect you all at this Christmas time!

Archbishop Christopher Prowse

Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn

Apostolic Administrator, Military Ordinariate of Australia
Christmas 2022





to any new parishioners to the Parish Family of St Augustine's. Please make yourselves known.

REFLECTION - Christmas Music

The glory of God and profound peace reaching out to embrace the whole of humanity are dynamically related in the baby in the manger. This is the song of the angels, and it is our privilege to join in that song at this Christmas Mass.

Every baby is a promise of a new future which fills one with hope. But *this* baby is unique. *This* Jewish boy baby is the body language of God. *This* baby is the sonburst of God entering our dark world. *This* baby shows us that God is not impossibly remote but, rather, God is as intimately close as a vulnerable infant.

And *this* baby fulfils all the yearning of the human heart. We want to love to the utmost. We want to be loved to the utmost. *This* baby enables both because he is without any finite boundaries or restraints: He is in-finite love reaching out to us.

Can we grasp all this? Probably not. So, like the little lambs nuzzling up to the manger, we just follow some deep intuition which says: 'I must kneel in adoration, it is good to be here.' We could pause for a moment to pray for the resolve to do our bit to echo the angel's message: 'I bring you good news of great joy to be shared by all peoples.'

Fr Michael Tate
Creative Ministry Resources

AVAILABLE

Church organ to any parish that may be in need of one.
For further details please phone the Parish Office on 62261086

Volunteers Needed: Sts Peter and Paul's Goulburn

Volunteer for just 2 hours a month: You will be joined by another volunteer to welcome pilgrims and visitors to the only Greenstone Church in the world. Join us in this exciting adventure. **Sign up** via the QR Code or email goulburn@cq.org.au www.stspeterandpauls.com.au



ORIGIN OF THE CRIB

In 1223 St Francis of Assisi celebrated Christmas in the small town of Greccio in Italy. On that occasion, St Francis had people come to Midnight Mass in a cave where there was an ox and an ass and a manger filled with straw. And the story went around that the Christ child appeared in the straw and Francis held the Babe of Bethlehem in his arms.



THE MYSTERY OF CHRISTMAS

'The mystery of the Holy Night, which historically happened two thousand years ago, must be lived as a spiritual event in the 'today' of the Liturgy. The Word who found a dwelling in Mary's womb comes to knock on the heart of every person with singular intensity this Christmas.' - Pope John Paul II

ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2022

The Archbishop's Christmas Appeal for 2022 is conducted at all Christmas Masses throughout the Archdiocese in place of the 2nd collection. Again the funds raised split will be split.

- Our support will continue for the **ecumenical Christmas Bowl appeal** and its work in Ukraine, Syria, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe and assisting Congolese refugees in Kenya.
- Contributions will be made to support **Diocesan projects within the Dioceses of Otukpo, Nigeria, Africa, Thamarassery, India and Bougainville in PNG.** Within Bougainville, our contribution will support the expansion and overhaul of **St Joseph's College, Mabiri, to meet and manage the needs of an envisioned increase in students, many of whom, must board away from home.**
- Other international endeavours will include support towards: **projects focused on helping the poor within the La Salette Matha Province in India; and further student assistance for those in need at Bethlehem University in the Holy Land.**

An article with detail on this year's Archbishop's Christmas Appeal is also in the December edition of the Catholic Voice along with a Coupon for people wishing to send in their donation.



ANOINTING MASS
Saturday
14th January at 9.00am

**** PLEASE NOTE:**

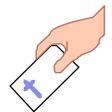
Anointing Mass will be on the 3rd Saturday in January as I will be away on the 1st Saturday.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES FOR 2023

ARE AVAILABLE AT THE REAR OF THE CHURCH
Please collect yours today

With many thanks.

If you are not already a member of the Planned Giving Program, please consider joining. To arrange this please contact Zuzy at the Parish Office on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday.



GIFT GIVING

The central event of Christmas is the birth of Jesus. The joy of giving at this time reflects the act of God giving us his Son.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2022

Sat 24th December	5.00 pm Vigil	St Francis Xavier	Gunning
	7.00 pm Vigil	Mount Carmel School Grounds	Yass
	8.30 pm Vigil	Uniting Church Hall	Murrumbateman
Sun 25th December	8.30 am	St Francis Xavier Church	Gunning
	10.15 am	St Augustine's Church	Yass

**** PLEASE NOTE:**

Parishioners please bring your own chair for the 7pm Vigil Mass as the school can provide only a limited number of chairs.



COMMUNION REFLECTION

Sometimes people expect something extraordinary, or even miraculous, to happen at Christmas. But when Christ came on earth, he came clothed, not in the extraordinary, but in the ordinary. He came dressed in the cloak of our weak, fragile, mortal humanity. *They wrapped the baby in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger.* Like an acorn that falls to the earth, silently and unheralded, in a remote corner of the forest, and which grows into a great oak tree, so from these lowly origins Jesus grew up to show us the greatness of our humanity.



MAKING DONATIONS

- **On the plate during Mass** – cash & Planned Giving envelopes.
- **Planned Giving Envelopes** – become a member and obtain your envelopes by contacting Zuzu at the Parish Office.
- **'Tap Machine'** – (Smart Terminal) Located at the back of the church. Set up for \$5, \$10 or \$20 donations with an option for other amounts. *(These donations are split 30% to the 1st Collection and 70% to the 2nd Collection).*
- **EFT** - Using your home computer or phone. In making donations **it is very important to put Yass as the reference and if PG please add your envelope number and surname.**

Bank Details are:-

1st Collection

To the Archdiocese:- (support of Parish Priests)

BSB: 062-786
Account No: 000019611
Account Name: St Augustine's Parish, Yass Presbytery

2nd Collection

For the Parish:- (to assist in operating expenses, eg. gas, electricity, rates, wages etc.)

BSB: 062-786
Account No: 000013002
Account Name: St Augustine's Parish, Church Yass

- **CREDIT CARD** on regular basis. (Contact Zuzu at the Parish Office to arrange this).

Thank you for your donations

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



Prayers for

Sam Turner

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

Betty Barber (1/12), Jessica Walker (1/12), Eric Bernard (1/12), Eric Bell (1/12), Beulah (Bubbles) Garry (3/12), Neville Bonnette (5/12), Rae O'Brien (8/12), Mary Wicks (8/12), William Freebody (5/12), Mary Warren (9/12), Patricia (Jeannie) Merritt (9/12), Judith Woods (13/12), Valerie Hanrahan (13/12), Lorna Fing (19/12), John Gray (21/12), Jessamine Williams (21/12), Nataline Parkin (29/12), Michael Cooke (26/12), Gary Teale (30/12) and William Jefcoate (31/12).

Always In Our Hearts Loved and Remembered

ROSTERS

LITURGY

1 = 1st Reading & Responsorial Psalm
2 = 2nd Reading & Prayers of the Faithful 3 = Acolyte

24th Dec CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS 7.00pm
Peter Gibbs 1 Alan Oakey 2
Peter Cleary 3

25th Dec CHRISTMAS DAY MASS 10.15am
Sue Morrissey 1 Joe Morrissey 2
TBA 3

31st Dec
Peter Cleary 1 Steve Scroope 2
Russell Hill 3

2023

1st Jan
Eva Karakotas 1 Dianne Carey 2
Greg Minahan 3

ALTAR CLEANERS

30th Dec Coral Carroll

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

First Reading Num 6: 22-27

Aaron is instructed on how to bless the Israelites.

Second Reading Gal 4:4-7

We are children of God in the spirit that cries out 'Abba!'

Gospel Lk 2: 16-21

The shepherds arrive at the manger.

Please reflect on these readings over the coming week

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

B & V Engineering	Peter Van Den Bulk	6226 2422
Designing Windows	Cathy Cleary	6226 2012
Old Linton Medical Practice	Dr Ray Burn	6226 3697
Priceline Pharmacy	Andrew Douglas	6226 1003
Ray White Rural Canberra/Yass	George & Simon Southwell	0429 838 345 / 0427 755 997
Woolaroo Merino Stud	James, Charles, Jack & Peter Walker	6226 1104
Yass Earthmovers	Andrew & Jim Field	0428 630 111 / 0428 486 330
Yass Newsagency		6226 1049