

Welcome to the HISTORIC PARISH OF ST AUGUSTINE, YASS

established 1838

Located in the Yass Valley the Parish covers a large area including
Bowling, Breadalbane, Dalton, Gurrundah, Murrumbateman, Wee Jasper and Yass

Meehan St, PO Box 24, YASS NSW 2582

Ph: (02) 6226 1086 **E-mail:** yass@cg.org.au **Website:** www.staug-yass.org.au



*St. Augustine's Church
Built 1954*



*Original St. Augustine's Church
- The Lovat Chapel*

FATHER PETER MY, PARISH PRIEST

St. Augustine's, Yass and St. Francis Xavier's, Gunning

ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC 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 Secretary Zuzy Webster

Parish Office Open: Mon., Tue. and Thu. (Bulletin) 9 am – 3 pm

Parish Finance Committee

Father Peter (Parish Priest) Anthony Ockwell (Chair)

Tracy McKay Michael McManus

Matthew Maher Annalissa Alexander

Rhonda Hagerty

Ex Officio Members: Zuzy Webster and Bob Nash (Maintenance Team)

Murrumbateman - Sub-Committee of the PFC

Paul Trezise (Chair) Paula Beaton Jennie Fischer

David Bray

Parish Pastoral Council

Father Peter (Parish Priest) Phil Billington (Chair) Liturgy

Steve Scroope Welfare Jennie Fischer Social Justice

Vacant Youth Lara Kirk Ecumenism

Katarina O'Connor Social Activities Perry Healey RCIA

Joe Morrissey Maintenance

Ex Officio Members: Michael Green and Zuzy Webster

Principal – Mt Carmel School Michael Green

School Community Council Katie Davis

Sacramental Team Leader Anne Mattappallil

Safeguarding Officer Di Carey

Yass.safeguarding@cg.org.au

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.



22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

29th / 30rd August, 2026



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

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.)

For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

WEEKEND LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Saturday Vigil Mass 6:00 pm Catholic Church Hall Murrumbateman

Sunday Mass 8:30 am St Francis Xavier's Church Gunning

Sunday Mass 10.15 am St Augustine's Church Yass

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)

EXPOSITION

Saturday after 9:00am Mass until 10:00 am

NURSING HOME/HOSTEL

Thomas Eccles Gardens (Linton)

2nd Tuesday of the month Yass 11:00 am

Horton/Warmington

4th Tuesday of the month Yass 11:00 am

Parishioners are invited to celebrate Mass with the residents at both locations. However, due to COVID/lockdowns, please check with each location first that you can attend.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday Yass 10:00 am - 10:30 am

1st Sat. of Month Murrumbateman 5.15 pm - 5.45 pm

Sundays Gunning 8:00 am - 8:15 am

BAPTISMS

Yass Saturdays 10:30 am

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

Book by ringing the Parish Secretary (Monday or Tuesday). Notice of at least one month is required for a child 0-7 years. Enquiries for older children/adults please talk with the Parish Secretary.

MARRIAGES

By appointment. Notice of five to six months is ideal.

School Enrolments

Mt Carmel School: Kindergarten to Yr 6.

Ring the School Secretary for appointment (02) 6226 3357.



"BE WHO YOU WERE MEANT TO BE AND YOU
WILL SET THE WORLD ON FIRE"
ST CATHERINE OF SIENA

FROM FATHER PETER AT THE PRESBYTERY

1. Archbishop Christopher Prowse wishes to express his sincere and heartfelt thanks for your wonderful support during our Second Archdiocesan Assembly. Please find enclosed the Archbishop's brief Pastoral Letter, which reflects on and responds to the many graces we have received. The Archbishop hopes that you may find this Letter a valuable resource for discussion within your parish as we continue our synodal journey together.
2. **Welcome** to all who participated in our Parish Pilgrimage Walk on Saturday 29 August. There will be many great stories to be told of the day and we look forward to hearing them.
3. **Father's Day** is next Sunday, 6 September. All fathers are invited to join us at Mass for a special blessing and receive a lovely Father's Day card created by our very own Mt. Carmel students.
4. As we reflect on the Archdiocesan Festival Week, Archbishop Christopher Prowse would like you to read two homilies delivered during two key events of the week. Attached on our website are homilies from:
 - **The Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of Deacon Don Gomez**
 - **The launch of the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn Education Limited (CACGEL) Apostolic Action Plan — Grounded in Faith, Growing in Service.**
 I encourage you take some time to read and reflect on these homilies.

*Please pray for the children as they prepare
for their Confirmation on the 13th September.*



Sophie
Ben
Jack
Vincent
Jess
Gabriel
George
Natalie
Billy
Leo
Ethan

Prayer to the HOLY SPIRIT For the Archdiocese

Holy Spirit,
Lord of all evangelisation,
guide us in our Archdiocese.
Lead us to **Encounter** you
("Get up"),
Teach us to be true **Disciples** of
the Resurrection
("Listen"),
Send us out as **Missionaries** after
your own likeness in a synodal way.
("Go!")
Mary, lead us always to your
Son, Jesus,
Our Saviour and Mighty God.
Amen

Our Parish School – Mt. Carmel



Reflection Pilgrimage: In the footsteps of St Paul the Apostle

I had many sacred moments of encounter through Greece and Turkey following in the footsteps St Paul, but the most powerful one was encountering the Holy Spirit through Lydia and renewing my baptismal vows where Lydia was baptised by St Paul, on the River Ζυγάκης, west of ancient Φίλιπποι.

I did not know much about Lydia until I visited this sacred site and my connection to her was immediate because she opened her heart to Him and used her gifts to serve others with hospitality and compassion. I was able to relate to this because once I opened my heart, I was able to listen to the Holy Spirit to help guide me in my faith journey. Lydia represents the many women who helped build the early Church through their faith, service, and generosity, and this is evident today with women continuing this service. Like Mary, Lydia lived with courage, strength, and deep faith, making her a powerful role model for Christian women and an inspiration for my own ministry and faith journey.

Eva Karakotas
Religious Education Coordinator

PARISH PASTORAL PRIORITIES - NEXT PHASE - RENEWAL OF MINISTRIES OF THE LITURGY

Listen with the ear of your heart ... Proverbs 22.17



THANK YOU

TO ALL WHO HAVE RESPONDED TO VOLUNTEERING SO FAR – WE WILL FINALISE THIS WEEKEND!

We received 12 Responses Online & 22 Response Sheets.

Thank you!

That sounds like a lot, but we have **13 Ministries** to fulfil, and we would **LOVE more New Volunteers** – you will bring ideas and talents to us!

The **Volunteering Forms** are at the back of the Church, on the website or accessible through the QR Code below.

Please contact any members of the Liturgy Team or PPC.

We invite you to:

- **Complete the Form at the Church or on the website**
- **Respond to the QR Code**
- **Email: ppcyass@gmail.com**



Liturgy Team Members: Peter Cleary, Di Carey, Susan Bucknell, Anne Eade, Paul Trezise, Michael Green, Linda Swadling, Fr Peter & Phil Billington (Chair).

What's on the Parish Grape Vine?

September

Sat. 5 th	9.00 am	Anointing Mass - St Augustine's Church
Sun. 6 th	10.15 am	Father's Day Mass - St Augustine's Church
Sun. 13 th	10.30 am	Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation by Fr Peter My
	After Mass	Parish Morning Tea - St Augustine's Church
Sun. 27 th	10.15 am	Parish Multicultural Mass - St Augustine's Church
Sun. 27 th	10.15 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word at Mass - St Augustine's Church
	After Mass	Parish Morning Tea - St Augustine's Church

October

Sat. 3 rd	9.00 am	Anointing Mass - St Augustine's Church
Sun. 11 th	10.15 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word - St Augustine's Church
Sun. 11 th	10.15 am	Parish Morning Tea following Mass Please bring a plate to share - St Augustine's Church

I am the vine you are the branches John 15: 5

CONFIRMATION

Liturgy 3 Thu 10 Sep 6.30pm Practice and Reconciliation

Sacrament of Confirmation

Sunday 13th September 10.30am at St Augustine's

Further details are available on the Parish website under:

Mass Times – Sacraments- Tap on Confirmation then Resources



FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

The annual collection for our retired priests: There are 22 priests of our Archdiocese who after years of faithful and generous service now come under the care of the Clergy Retirement Foundation. The annual **Father's Day Appeal** raises much needed funds to meet the needs of these priests and to give them security in their retirement years. At next weekend's Masses, you will have the opportunity to donate to this Appeal. All gifts are tax deductible. Please give generously as you have in the past.

Donations can also be made at www.cgatholic.org.au/donate

28 August | Homecoming Silent Retreat 28th -30th August, Carmel House, Varroville, NSW |

"His father saw him, ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him." Lk 15: 20 Your heavenly Father waits for you to come away with him for a weekend of silently soaking in his great love for you. Embrace this opportunity for encountering deep peace and serenity. This retreat is for men and women aged 18+. Hosted by the MGL Sisters.

Choose from a weekend retreat or extend your time with a 5 day retreat opt w/e: www.trybooking.com/DIDBK extended: www.trybooking.com/DIDBU

12 September | St Vincent de Paul National Capital Orchestra

St Vincent de Paul Society and the National Capital Orchestra present a major charity concert at 3.00 pm in Llewellyn Hall. Internationally acclaimed pianist Lucas Krupinski will perform Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 2, followed by Mahler's Symphony No. 1 ("Titan"). Proceeds from the concert will support the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society assisting people experiencing hardship across the Canberra and Goulburn region. Further information: nco.org.au

Tickets available from ticketek: <https://premier.ticketek.com.au/shows/show.aspx?sh=NCORACMA26>

30 September | Explosion 2026: Increase & Overflow | 05:30 pm

Registrations are now open for Explosion 2026, a Catholic youth conference for students in years 7 to 12. Hosted by the Disciples of Jesus Covenant Community, Explosion will be held at St Clare's College, Canberra, from September 30 to October 3, offering inspiring speakers, powerful prayer and worship, and the opportunity to build lasting friendships while growing in faith. Early bird pricing available until August 8. For more information and to register, visit explosionyouth.com.

PLANNING TO MARRY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

Go to the Archdiocesan marriage and family webpage (without delay) for information and to choose a marriage preparation program that suits at www.marriagefamily.org.au. For enquiries email marriage.preparation@cg.org.au or text Helena on 0405 440 463.

I AM CATHOLIC Card

The I AM CATHOLIC card, developed by the Knights of the Southern Cross, can be carried in your wallet or purse to indicate that you would like a priest to visit you if you are in hospital or involved in an accident. Parish contact details can be included.

The card is free for adult parishioners. For information or to order, contact Bob Perkins KSC Canberra at perkins.family@aapt.net.au.

Position Vacant - Parish Officer Gunning

People are invited to apply for the position of Parish Officer for St Francis Xavier Parish, Gunning NSW. This is a permanent part time position of 4 hours per week and will be based in the Parish Office, Gunning. Employment conditions are subject to Clerks Award.

For a copy of the Duty Statement and essential requirements please email the Parish Office gunning@cg.org.au
Applications addressing the Selection Criteria and current CV to be sent to Fr Peter My, Parish Priest peter.my@cg.org.au

FOLLOW CATHOLIC VOICE

<https://www.facebook.com/CatholicVoiceAustralia/>
<https://www.instagram.com/thecatholicvoice/>
<https://www.youtube.com/catholicvoice>

ANOINTING MASS



Next Saturday 5th September at 9.00am
in St Augustine's Church.

Prior to Mass the Holy Rosary will be recited at
8.40am

ST AUGUSTINE'S PRAYER GROUP

Will gather for discussion and prayer on the
Wednesday 23rd September @ 3.30 pm
Venue: 15 Walker Place, Yass
All Welcome



Enquiries please phone Sue Morrissey on 0402 915 546

CLOSURE OF THE TOILET BLOCK

The toilets at the rear of the Church are currently undergoing a refurbishment and are **now fully closed**.

However, a portable unisex toilet has been placed nearby for use until the main toilet block is completed and fully functional.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.



COMMUNION REFLECTION

Late have I loved you, O Beauty so ancient and so new; late have I loved you! For behold you were within me, and I outside; and I sought you outside and in my ugliness fell upon those lovely things that you have made. You were with me and I was not with you. I was kept from you by those things, yet had they not been in you, they would not have been at all. You called and cried to me and broke open my deafness: and you sent forth your beams and shone upon me and chased away my blindness: you breathed fragrance upon me, and I drew in my breath and do now pant for you: I tasted you, and now hunger and thirst for you: you touched me, and I have burned for your peace.

A reading from the Confessions of St. Augustine

Readings for next week, 6th Septembert, 2026

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

First Reading

Ezekiel 33: 7-9

Ezekiel is to be the watchman for Israel.

Second Reading

Romans 13: 8-10

Love your neighbour.

Gospel

Matthew 18: 15-20

Find ways to win others over; prayer shall be answered.

Please reflect on these readings over the coming week

ROSTERS

LITURGY

1 = 1st Reading & Responsorial Psalm

2 = 2nd Reading & Prayers of the Faithful 3 = Acolyte

30th Aug	Ronith Joseph	1	Jaclyn Green	2
	Peter Cleary	3		
6th Sep	Sue Morrissey	1	Joe Morrissey	2
	Sid Mattappallil	3		

ALTAR SERVERS

30th Aug Jackson Pearse **6th Sep** Harrington Roser

COUNTERS

30th Aug	Irene Carr	Cathy Cleary	Darren Lepp
6th Sep	Peter Cleary	Jenny Stewart	Rhonda Hagerty

ALTAR CLEANERS

31st Aug Susan Bucknell **14th Sep** Coral Carroll

PLEASE HELP IN THE FINANCIAL PLANNING OF THE RUNNING OF THE PARISH

Become a member of the Planned Giving Program. Information Form and envelopes are available from the Parish Office.

Phone Zuzy at the Parish Office on 6226 1086 on a Monday or Tuesday for more information.



Designing Windows

Curtains, Pelmet, Tracks & Rods

All types of blinds including; Roman, Vision,

Roller, Cedar, Venetians & Shutters

Cushions, Accessories and much more.....

Extensive range of fabrics and every budget catered for.

Compare our prices, service & professional installation

*Our mobile service allows our full range to be shown
in your home at a time that suits you*

Cathy Cleary – 6226 2012

Email: designingwindows@ozemail.com.au

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



Recently Deceased

Peter Goodchild

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),
Frank Woods (10/8), Dennis Hoey (11/8),
Susan Gibson (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),
Jean Belford (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),
Joan McKenzie (28/8), Peter O'Brien (28/8),
Joan Perrot (31/8) and Lois Nash (31/8).*

Always In Our Hearts Loved and Remembered

VINNIES MATTERS



This week marked a milestone in our association with Pathway to Plates. We accepted our first large donation of pre-cooked, frozen meals which provided us with a good range of different dinners. These meals will extend the offerings we are able to make available to our companions, especially for people with limited cooking facilities.

We have continued to distribute the bags of groceries donated by IGA, following 1 Red's request. These little bags have been very well-received, especially when the story of their existence is told.

We would like to express our gratitude to the parishioner who has provided us with some vouchers for use at the butchery. This donation, along with the support provided by the parish community in terms of donations to the grocery basket at the back of the church is an enormous source of help and positivity, so thank you!

If you hear of anyone who might need our help, please give them our number: 0429 506 220. This number is also on the side wall of the Vinnies building in Sr Fielding Lane.

If you would like to know any more about the work that we do, please pick up our brochure from the back of the church or call me on 0427 674 246.

Deb Valencic, President, St Augustine's Conference of SVdP

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

*Designing Windows Yass Priceline Pharmacy, Ray White Rural Yass,
Yass Earthmovers and Woolaroo Merino Stud.*



Archbishop's Office
GPO Box 3089
Canberra ACT 2601

PASTORAL LETTER – SECOND ARCHDIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

AUGUST 24TH 2026

***"FROM HIS FULLNESS WE HAVE ALL RECEIVED GRACE UPON GRACE"
(John 1:16)***

We have just celebrated our Second Archdiocesan Assembly.

In 8 different multi-media hubs, about 500 of our people and a small army of leaders gathered to discern further the presence of the Holy Spirit in our Archdiocese.

Throughout the entire Assembly Week there have been multiple manifestations of the presence of the Holy Spirit among us.

We are so grateful to the Lord for opening further our hearts to activate our Baptisms. Truly, we have received "from his fullness grace upon grace." (John 1:16)

"The harvest is plentiful" (Matthew 9:37). It is time now to bring in this plentiful harvest. Let us gather in our parishes and community groups to share the convergences and divergences of these days. Give testimonies of your experiences, especially to those who were not able to participate in the Assembly. Where do we go from here locally, and as an Archdiocese?

In this time of reception of the Lord's many blessings, may I offer three areas (there are so many more) where I feel the Holy Spirit is alive amongst us?



1. EMBEDDING A SYNODAL WAY OF THINKING AND ACTING.

It seems that we are becoming more accustomed to synodality (walking together) and all this means in the Catholic world. Over this Assembly I observed many more participants than at our First Assembly (2024) who were more comfortable in using the terminology and processes of synodality. This is a great joy to observe!

Many steps are still to be encountered. We were given some challenging statistics of our Archdiocese indicating areas for our pastoral attention.

Many of us have now experienced firsthand the Conversation of the Spirit synodal method. It does take some time to become comfortable in this new way of attentive listening to each other. It is time now to share our "experience", especially to those who are completely new to this approach. It is, however, only a method.

Methods and processes are helpful, but they are to lead us to a more contemplative approach to the way we balance relationships and structures.

We truly need to deepen the formation of us all in the Baptismal or synodal way of being Church in our times. There is so much information about this exciting deepening of Trinitarian or relational dimension of all the baptised since the Vatican II Council. A key priority from our 22 August Assembly is the need for a thorough formation in our faith, in our capacity to participate in Eucharist and Liturgy more generally. Many resources we already have functioning in these areas were showcased.

This formation will lead us to move synodally in attending to practical/structural issues arising sincerely from communal discernment.



2. AN IMPORTANT STEPPING STONE ON OUR SYNODAL JOURNEY.

The title of our Assembly, "Sanctuaries for the Thirsty", and the stepping stones used in the literature graphics was significant too. It offers a dynamic image of the journey of faith we are all on with the entire the People of God. We are truly "walking together" in faith, in the company of all the communion of Saints, especially Mary.

Many steps are still to be encountered. However, the experience in our Second Assembly is that we are together on this Emmaus/Eucharistic journey. It is the Holy Spirit leading us. Some of us seem rather slow in the walk! Others perhaps even faster than the Holy Spirit! But we are trying to walk together. We want to "Get up! Listen! Go!"

We are joined by the Catholic Church universal. The Vatican has given us a number of time benchmarks for national, regional and global Assemblies in the near future. The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 is also an opportunity to be embraced. These too will be important stepping stones.

I observed a growing awareness in our Assembly that we feel all part of something bigger than we had thought or imagined.

I also observed, especially in the Reports from the Parish Assemblies, that our communities sense they must be more than simply going to Mass and sitting in the same place week after week!

We are to become welcoming communities that invited people to something more.... An invitation to encounter Jesus, become disciples in a fresh and deeper formation of our faith, and to become missionary disciples to the nations. This is what evangelisation is all about.



3. BECOMING A MISSIONARY SYNODAL ARCHDIOCESE

During the Assembly there was strong support to “get out there!” We have moved from the simply being welcoming places to wanting to be invitational communities. Remaining “inside the Church/tent” is not enough. Missionaries are to be inviting the troubled world from outside the Church/tent.

Accompanying the poor and gaining confidence in missionary evangelisation alongside the vulnerable was stressed. Proper formation to do this was requested.

Issues such as the working poor, homelessness, mental illness and struggling families were highlighted. Much is being done. Much more ought to be done as synodal missionaries in our wounded world.

Let us share locally such issues and communally discern further missionary ways of responding to Jesus in the poor.

We give thanks to the Lord for the many blessings of our Second Assembly. I thank the small army who organised all the practicalities.

We move forward together, with the abiding help of the Holy Spirit who “makes all things new” (Revelations 21:5).

God’s blessings on you always.

In thanksgiving for all your efforts in the name of the Lord,

Archbishop Christopher Prowse
Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn