

Welcome to the HISTORIC PARISH OF ST AUGUSTINE, YASS

established 1838

Located in the Yass Valley the Parish covers a large area including
Bowning, 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 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 Monday, Tuesday, Friday 9 am – 3 pm

Parish Finance Committee

Paul O'Mara (*Chair*) Mark Valencic Trish Gibbs
David Garland Irene Carr

Ex Officio Members Father Peter and Zuzy Webster

Parish Pastoral Council

Peter Cleary (*Chair*) Michael Van Wanrooy *Welfare*
Susan Bucknell *Liturgy* Jennie Fischer *Social Justice*
Mandy Leahy *Youth* Lara Kirk *Ecumenism*
Perry Healey *and* Genevieve Colbert *Education*
Katarina O'Connor *Social* Team *Maintenance*

Ex Officio Members: Fr. Peter Michael Green and Zuzy Webster

Principal – Mt Carmel School Michael Green
School Community Council Amber Maher
Sacramental Team Leader Anne Mattappallil

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.



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B

9th & 10th December 2023



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. (R.)

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

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. 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.

WEEKEND LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Saturday Vigil Mass 6:00 pm Uniting Church Hall Murrumbateman
Sunday Mass 8:30 am St Francis Xavier 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



FROM FATHER PETER AT THE PRESBYTERY

1. Mt Carmel School Graduation Mass will be celebrated this coming Thursday, 14 December at 9.30am in St Augustine's Church. Parishioners are warmly invited to attend. This Mass will be in place of the usual 7.30am Mass.
2. The Archbishop Christmas Appeal for 2023 will be conducted at all Christmas Masses throughout the Archdiocese. Support is Needed!
Help life saving assistance to refugees fleeing violence; including evacuation, food, shelter as well as student assistance in Europe, the Middle East and Asia. Communities in India, Africa and the Solomon Islands are also assisted.
3. On Wednesday 20 December in St. Augustine's Church commencing at 6.00pm there will be Adoration of the Blessed Eucharist for one hour.

During adoration the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated with six priests in attendance for the hearing of confession.

Please come to have an hour's adoration in preparation for Christmas.

The 5.30pm Mass will be celebrated in the Church on that day.

If it is of help to you, Goulburn Parish will celebrate the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation the previous evening, Tuesday 19 December, at 6.30 pm in Sts. Peter & Paul Old Cathedral.

4. A special 'Morning Tea' will be held after Mass on Sunday 31 December to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of my ordination. It will be wonderful to have the parishioners there to help me celebrate together with my family.
5. I will be taking my annual leave from Monday 8th January 2024 to Friday 2nd February 2024.
6. 'The Sisters of Mercy Farewell Mass' will be celebrated on Sunday 7th April 2024 at 10.15am. The Mass will be followed by Morning Tea. Please note your diaries.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Wed. 13 Dec: Saint Lucy

Thu. 14 Dec: Saint John of the Cross

ADVENT - The Advent Wreath

This is a circle of greenery to which four candles (three mauve, one rose coloured) are attached. One candle is lit progressively for each week in Advent (Weeks 1, 2 and 4 are mauve; rose represents Week 3, "joyful Sunday"), so that by Week 4, all candles are lit.

The wreath represents: the idea of waiting for the coming of Christ; the cycle of years from Adam until Jesus' birth; the cycle of years until the second coming.

AUGUST 2023 - AUGUST 2024



"It seemed good to us and the Holy Spirit"
(Acts 15:28)

YEAR OF THE Holy Spirit

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE

O God, who by the light
of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts
of the faithful,
Grant that by the same
Holy Spirit we may be
truly wise and ever rejoice
In his consolations.
Through the same
Christ Our Lord.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

This week's gospel captures beautifully the spirit of preparation and waiting that characterises the liturgical season of Advent. John the Baptist is portrayed as fulfilling the prophecies of Isaiah and others as the one who comes before the Lord preparing the way. He is a messenger, sent by God to 'do the groundwork' preparing the people for the coming of the Christ. Although this passage is used during Advent as preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, we know that John was a contemporary (indeed cousin) of Jesus and the time of preparation was immediately prior to Jesus' public ministry.

John appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism for forgiveness of sins. It may seem odd to think of going to the wilderness to try to influence people. Today we might think that the city centre or street corner might be the better venue to preach something. What is it about the wilderness? Reference is made to the wilderness several times in scripture. It is used as a place of preparation and encounter with God. The wilderness referred to was a vast expanse of emptiness on the eastern side of the Jordan River. It was not uncommon for wandering preachers like John and Jesus to go out into the wilderness as a way of making a break from their previous life and getting themselves ready in body and spirit to begin their ministry. The wilderness to the east of the Jordan was also the place in which many of the rebels based themselves. There was a sense that challenge and unrest came out of the wilderness. In many ways that is what Jesus – heralded by John – brought out of the wilderness as well.

Greg Sunter
Liturgy Help



Our Parish School – Mt. Carmel



VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you to all the families who provided donations for the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. It is great to see so many baskets filled with donations! The Mt Carmel Mini Vinnies Team will deliver the baskets to St Augustine's Conference this week.



ADVENT

1AH led a beautiful Advent Prayer Service last Monday morning.

Advent means 'coming' and it is a time of preparation, waiting and praying for the arrival of Jesus Christ.





**THE CHILDREN'S
LITURGY OF THE WORD at MASS**
will be held this Sunday 10th December *

All children are invited to attend
And be part of the activities centred around the Gospel.

*** This will be the last Children's Liturgy of the Word at Mass for 2023
and will recommence in February 2024**

Our next Morning 'Cuppa' will be held on Sunday 31st December 2023.

Please mark it on your calendar as it will be a **special Morning Tea** to celebrate with Fr Peter and his family, the 30th anniversary of his ordination.



Married this weekend

Marie-Clare Walker and Luke Andersson
In St. Augustine's Church, Yass
Congratulations! Marie-Clare and Luke



Invitation for Christmas Lunch
with Archbishop Christopher Prowse
on Monday 25 December 2023
at Archbishop's House,
Commonwealth Avenue, Parkes Act
12.30 for 1.00 pm

RSVP: Friday 15 December, 2023. Email: kylie.bereza@cg.org.au or phone: 62399811. Please advise special dietary needs

**YASS COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS
THIS SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER**

AT VICTORIA PARK YASS

Activities start 4.30pm

Market Stalls/ Kids Games/Hot Food/Coffee & mo



CAROLS START 6.00PM



**HELP NEEDED AT THE
YASS COMMUNITY CAROLS THIS SUNDAY**

The Combined Churches Carols Committee need help with:

- decorating the stage (with others) at 12 midday Sunday. Ring Keith Todd 0450 345 325 (Yass Baptist Pastor)
- learning the ropes this year to assist next year with coordinating the festival stalls and / or with the risk assessment paperwork.

Contact Lara Kirk 0429 192 869 (St Augustine's Parish Pastoral Council)



**MUSIC MINISTRY - NEEDED
SINGERS AND MUSICIANS
FOR CHRISTMAS**

If any parishioners would like to be part of the choir for Christmas, please phone Anne Eade on 0407 940 043 or the Parish Office. Practice will be before Mass each Sunday.

CHRISTMAS CLEAN - CHURCH ALTAR AREA

Monday 18 December 2023 9.30am

Your help would be appreciated if you could come on the day.

MASS TIMES

Saturday	23.12.2023	<i>Vigil Mass</i>	Murrumbateman
	6pm	Uniting Church Hall	
Sunday	24.12.2023	No Sunday Morning Masses	
	5pm	St Francis Xavier	Gunning
	7pm	Mount Carmel School Grounds	Yass
	11pm	St Brigid's (Vietnamese)	Dickson
Monday	25.12.2023		
	10.15am	St Augustine's	Yass



RECONCILIATION TIMES

Wednesday	20.12.2023			
	6pm	Second Rite	St Augustine's	Yass
Saturday	23.12.2023			
	10am -10.30am	St Augustine's		Yass
	5.15pm-5.45pm	Uniting Church		Murrumbateman

COMMUNION REFLECTION

The voice of John the Baptist was a lonely voice which many contemporaries ignored.
There are many lonely voices in our world.
Somewhere, at this moment, a child is crying - crying for love or maybe, simply, for bread.
Somewhere a young person is crying - crying for a listening ear or an understanding heart.
Somewhere an old person is crying - crying for a visit or a word from his/her children.
There are a thousand unheard voices in our world, coming from victims of injustice and neglect.
Lord, help us to listen to these voices.
Above all, help us to listen to your voice, whispering to us in the wilderness of our hearts, telling us that we are loved by you, and that we are to love one another.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



Recently Deceased

Warren Wales, Frank Dorris,
Therese Cullen and John (Jack) Wales

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), Judith Whittaker (1/12),
Beulah (Bubbles) Garry (3/12), Neville Bonnette (5/12),
William Freebody (5/12), Geraldine Smith (6/12)
Rae O'Brien (8/12), Mary Wicks (8/12), 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

READINGS NEXT WEEK: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B

First Reading

Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11

Isaiah proclaims the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24:

Rejoice and pray always.

Gospel

John 1: 6-8, 19-28

The priests and Levites question John's identity.

Please reflect on these readings over the coming week

CHANGING OR CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS?



Please notify the Parish Office of any changes to your address/phone number.

If you are new to the parish 'Welcome'.
Please fill out a New Parishioner Information Card located at the rear of the church. This helps our parish in being aware of those new to the parish of St Augustine in Yass.

Thank you.

ROSTERS

LITURGY

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

10 th Dec	Peter	Cleary	1	Jaclyn	Green	2
	Frank	Grace	3			
17 th Dec	Linda	Swadling	1	Eva	Karakotas	2
	Russell	Hill	3			

ALTAR SERVER

10 th Dec	Reima	Rithika	Ronith	Joseph	
17 th Dec	Charlotte	Hardy	Alicia	Hardy	Heath Wood

ALTAR CLEANERS

18th Dec CHRISTMAS CLEAN – 9.30am
PLEASE COME IF YOU CAN.

MAKING A DONATION TO THE PARISH



Located at the back of the church is a 'Tap Machine' setup for donations using your debit card or credit card.
Try it out, if this is a more suitable way of giving for you.

The plate for donations during Mass will still be used. Also, donations can be made using Planned Giving Envelopes, EFT and Credit Card on a regular basis (contact the Parish Office, talk to Zuzy who can arrange this for you).

Thank you for your generosity and support.

YASS LEARNERS

Bernie Howe

RTA accredited older driver assessor



Dual Controlled Vehicles
or your own vehicle



Email: bernieandyvonne@bigpond.com

Mobile: 0409 616 914

MANUAL & AUTOMATIC

Credit and Debit cards welcome

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

Yass Learners, B & V Engineering, Woolaroo Merino Stud, Priceline Pharmacy Yass, Designing Windows,
Ray White Rural Yass and Yass Earthmovers.