

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 (<i>Chair</i>)	Michael Van Wanrooy	Welfare
Susan Bucknell	Jennie Fischer	Social Justice
Mandy Leahy	Lara Kirk	Ecumenism
Perry Healey	Genevieve Colbert	Education
Katarina O'Connor	Team	Maintenance

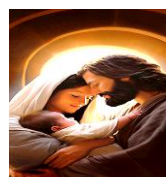
Ex Officio Members: Fr. Peter Michael Green and Zuzy Webster

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.



**HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH – YEAR B**
30th & 31st December 2023

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

1. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. O sing to him, sing his praise; tell all his wonderful works! (R.)
2. Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. Consider the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face. (R.)
3. Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke. O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose. (R.)
4. He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. (R.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message live within you.

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION

will replace weekday Masses during January 2024
as Fr Peter will be on leave

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
	<i>(starts with 8:40am Rosary)</i>		

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

**** There are no Masses in January 2024 as Fr Peter will be on leave.**

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.



FROM FATHER PETER AT THE PRESBYTERY

1. Wishing everyone a Happy New Year. May the year of 2024 bring you many blessings.
2. I will be taking my annual leave from Monday 8th January 2024 to Friday 2nd February 2024. There will be some visiting priests to celebrate the weekend Masses whilst I am away. They are:
Weekend of 13/14 January Fr. Richard Thompson, Vicar General
Weekend of 20/21 January Fr. James Anthony
Weekend of 27/28 January Fr. Troy Bobbin
Masses during the week will be replaced by the Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion, celebrated by Peter Cleary and his team.
Please note that the Saturday 9.00 am Mass on the 6th January 2024 will be held as a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion as I am unable to celebrate Mass that morning. Therefore, the first Anointing Mass for 2024 will be the 9.00am Mass on Saturday 3rd February.
3. **Some news from the Archdiocese:**
 - + **Archbishop Christopher Prowse** will be on his annual leave in January and our new Vicar General, Fr Richard Thompson, will be present in his absence.
 - + **Seminarians - Bran Grgic** – has enjoyed his time with Fr Mark Croker at Cooma. **Cinnil Thomas** has completed his 30-day retreat as part of the end of First Year programme. Both seminarians are now having a break before resuming their 2024 studies.
 - + **Nicholas Barry** – We welcome Nicholas into the Archdiocesan family as a seminarian for 2024. He will enter First Year at Good Shepherd Seminary in Homebush, Sydney. 24 year old Nicholas originally came from the Yass Parish and has been an RE and Music teacher at St Clare's. Please pray for Nicholas and all our seminarians.
4. Please keep Archbishop Francis Carroll, Bishop Pat Power and all our retired clergy in your prayers. There are some very senior clergy who are not in the best of health and are in need of our prayers.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

- Mon. 1 Jan:** Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Tue. 2 Jan: Saints Basil and Gregory

AUGUST 2023 - AUGUST 2024



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.

Everyone is invited to a SPECIAL THANKSGIVING MASS

at 10.15 am

AND MORNING TEA

In the church grounds this

SUNDAY 31st DECEMBER

to celebrate

Father Peter's 30th Anniversary of his Ordination.

Father Peter's family will be there too, some of whom are also celebrating big events:

Mrs. Therese Thi Hue Doan (Fr's mother)
95th Birthday

Father Joseph Cong Chinh Bui (Fr's brother)
30th Priesthood Anniversary

Father Peter Phong Bui (Fr's cousin)
40th Priesthood Anniversary

Sister Emma Thi Bich Tram Do (Fr's niece)
20th Religious Profession Anniversary

PLEASE JOIN THEM FOR THIS SPECIAL OCCASION.



ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2023 - LOVE ALWAYS TRIUMPHS

The birth of Jesus, the Light of the World, always triumphs over the darkness.

The hope and light of the First Christmas in the Gospels is proclaimed from the darkness of the night. There is a star that guides. There is the joyful light that the shepherds, the Magi, and all creation encounter in the humble stable.

The surrounding "night" is not simply due to the fact of no sun. It is because there is no Son (of God) in the hearts of some. There are those who plot the killing of the Christ Child. Jesus himself is clothed in cloths and placed in a wooden crib – all suggesting a future death on Calvary. There is no hospitality for the "Prince of Peace" here.

This pattern continues even today.

There is the continuing darkness of the wars in Ukraine, the Holy Land, Africa and other places. Let us not forget that war is always a defeat for humanity – here darkness is chosen over the light of love and peace-making.

There is also the challenge in Australia of re-imagining our relationships with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people after the defeat of the Voice Referendum.

Also, with the upward trend of the cost of living, this Christmas will be tough for so many to provide the necessities of table and shelter for their loved ones.

Yet, in the midst of these many darknesses, dawns the triumph of Divine Love found in the birth of the Son of God – Jesus, love itself.

Let us in silence and adoration invite this Christmas light, that chases away the long darkness of loneliness and isolation, to triumph in our hearts, our families and our communities!

Let Christmas joy have a practical expression in helping others. Please give generously to the Archbishop's Christmas Appeal. It will assist greatly places of need throughout the world.

Happy Christmas and New Year to all!

*Archbishop Christopher Prowse - Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn
Apostolic Administrator,
Military Ordinariate of Australia*



2023

What's on the Parish Grape Vine?

SPECIAL MASS & MORNING TEA

31st DECEMBER

In celebration of Father Peter's 30th Anniversary of his Ordination.
Please join Fr Peter and his family as he celebrates this occasion.

2024

January

Mon. 8th Father Peter on leave until Fri. 2nd February 2024.

February

Thu. 8th 9.30 am School Opening Mass.
Everyone welcome to attend.

Sun. 11th 10.15 am Reconciliation Commitment Mass
- St Augustine's Church
(Proposed date)

Tue. 13th 5.30 pm First PFC Meeting for 2024

Wed. 14th Ash Wednesday

9.30 am School Mass with distribution of Ashes

5.30 pm Parish Mass with distribution of Ashes

Tue. 20th 6.30 pm First PPC Meeting for 2024

March

Thu. 21st 6.30 pm First Reconciliation - St Augustine's Church
(Proposed date)

April

Sun. 7th 10.15 am Farewell Mass & Morning Tea for the
Sisters of Mercy.
- St Augustine's Church

Sun. 7th 10.15 am First Eucharist Commitment Mass
- St Augustine's Church
(Proposed date)

June

Sun. 2nd 10.30 am Celebration of the Sacrament of First
Eucharist.
- St Augustine's Church - (Proposed date)

July

Sun. 28th 10.15 am Confirmation Commitment Mass
- St Augustine's Church
(Proposed date)

September

Sun. 22nd 10.30 am Celebration of the Sacrament of
Confirmation
- St Augustine's Church - (Proposed date)

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION – Faithful

A strong image that emerges from this passage is the faithfulness of Mary and Joseph. Their whole purpose in visiting the Temple is to fulfil the requirements of their faith. They are faithful to the Jewish tradition and it is into this tradition that they initiate Jesus. The faithfulness of Mary and Joseph is a hallmark of their life as a family. Their faithfulness is a significant element of what we celebrate in the feast of the Holy Family and their faithfulness to God and to one another is a model for all families and for all people.

FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE NEEDY PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN



Please bring along a donation of tinned food when coming to Mass to assist in this worthy cause.

A basket for donations of non-perishable goods is placed at the back of the church.
Thank you.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES FOR

2024 ARE AVAILABLE AT THE REAR OF THE

CHURCH. Please collect yours today



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 or Tuesday.

Winner of the
St Augustine's Christmas Hamper Raffle
drawn on Tuesday 19 December 2023

was

A Cassels ticket no E29 (yellow).



Congratulations!

Tribunal of the Catholic Church - Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Canberra Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process.

For further information please phone the Canberra Office of the Tribunal Office on **6239 9813** or email tribunal@cg.org.au

JAN – FEB 2024 | INTRODUCTORY CPE COURSE

Are you interested in growing your capacity to be fully present to others by learning how to offer effective pastoral and spiritual care?

An Introductory Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) course is being offered online using Zoom in January/February 2024. This short 40-hour course will comprise of 6 sessions and run from 9am to 3.30pm, commencing Mon 29, then Tues 30, Wed 31 January, then Mon 5, Tues 6 and Mon 12 Feb.

Applications close on Thursday January 25, 2024. For more information please contact Barbara Hall at barbarahall1909@gmail.com or phone: **0418 413 731**

CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION (CPE) 400 HOUR FOUNDATIONAL UNIT

Are you drawn to

- Growing in knowledge, understanding and developing skills that will enable you to offer effective pastoral and spiritual care?
- Deepening your awareness of spirituality in your life and of people's spiritual needs, hopes and concerns during times of illness?
- Becoming more aware of your own values, attitudes and assumptions?

A CPE Foundational Unit will be offered as a blend of both online and in person sessions conducted on Wednesdays from February to June 2024. (Limited places are still available.)

Please contact Barbara Hall at barbarahall1909@gmail.com or phone: **0418 413 731** for more information and an application form.

COMMUNION REFLECTION

Your children are not your children.
 They come through you but not from you.
 And though they are with you,
 yet they belong not to you.
 You may give them your love but not your thoughts,
 for they have their own thoughts.
 You may house their bodies but not their souls,
 for their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow,
 which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.
 You may strive to be like them,
 but seek not to make them like you.
 For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.
 You are the bows from which your children
 as living arrows are sent forth.

MAKING DONATIONS

- **On the plate during Mass** – cash & Planned Giving envelopes.
- **Planned Giving Envelopes** – become a member and obtain your envelopes by contacting Zuzy 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 Zuzy at the Parish Office to arrange this).

Thank you for your donations

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



Recently Deceased

Brian O'Connor and Helena Van Den Bulk

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

ROSTERS

LITURGY

1 = 1st Reading & Responsorial Psalm
 2 = 2nd Reading & Prayers of the Faithful 3 = Acolyte
31st Dec Alan Oakey 1 Irene Carr 2
 Greg Minahan 3

2024

7th Jan Russell Hill 1 Kate Walker 2
 Peter Walker 3

ALTAR SERVER

31st Dec Louis Green Heath Wood Ronith Joseph

2024

7th Jan Fletcher Lees Imogen Maher

READINGS NEXT WEEK: THE EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD - YEAR B

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is exalted.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3 :2-3, 5-6

Paul declares the Gentiles co-heirs to the Kingdom.

Gospel

Matthew 2: 1-12

The Wise Men journey to the infant Jesus.

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 & Workwear		6226 2422
Designing Windows	Cathy Cleary	6226 2012
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 Field	0428 630 111