

# Welcome to the HISTORIC PARISH OF ST AUGUSTINE, YASS

established 1838



St. Augustine's Church  
Built 1954

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](mailto:yass@cg.org.au) Website: [www.staug-yass.org.au](http://www.staug-yass.org.au)

FATHER PETER MY, PARISH PRIEST

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



Original St. Augustine's Church  
- The Lovat Chapel

## 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.



## 4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

27th & 28th January, 2024



## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)

Come in, let us kneel and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R.)

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light:  
a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.

Alleluia!

## 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  
(starts with 8:40am Rosary)

## EXPOSITION

Will be held after the Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion Services

## 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.

## 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.



### FROM THE PRESBYTERY

1. Fr Peter is on well-deserved annual leave until 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2024. Visiting priests are celebrating Mass in Fr Peter's absence and this weekend we welcome Fr Troy Bobbin. We thank Fr Richard Thompson, Fr Namora Anderson and Fr Troy Bobbin for being with us to celebrate our Sunday Mass whilst Fr Peter has been on leave.
2. This week Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion will be held in the Chapel on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Saturday morning, the 3<sup>rd</sup> February, we will be back to having Mass celebrated by Fr Peter at 9am in St Augustine's Church. This Mass will be our first Anointing Mass for 2024.

### FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Wed. 31 Jan: Saint John Bosco

Fri. 2 Feb: The Presentation of the Lord

The feast of the Presentation of the Lord originated in Jerusalem before the fifth century and was adopted in Rome during the seventh century. Celebrated forty days after Christmas, commemorating the prescribed Mosaic ritual following the birth of a child, and recalling the encounter of Jesus with Simeon and Anna in the temple. Christ is 'the light to enlighten all nations'.



### ANOINTING MASS

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February  
9.00am

in St Augustine's Church



### 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.

### PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN! IT'S URGENT

St Vincent de Paul Society, St Augustine's Conference, has received a request for a washing machine to assist a large young family, consisting of five children, with the youngest being twins.

- The current washing machine has broken down and is beyond repair
- Ideally a machine of 8-10kg capacity in good working order
- Top Loader if possible
- Perhaps you are moving and cannot take your machine with you, or you are downsizing

If you can help out in this most urgent matter please contact Judith of the St Vincent de Paul Society Yass on 0490 150 938.

### Homily - Evil Spirits versus the Holy One of God

I lecture at the nearby university on war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. Often, I find myself dealing with a blood-lust which seems to craze whole societies leading to the massacre of innocent civilians, the use of rape as an instrument of terror, torture and dehumanising on a systematic basis. It has revived my belief in diabolical powers.

I suppose I had a rather infantile, Disney type image of the devil in my youth. I discarded that and saw human wickedness as the wellspring of evil in our world. But I now think St Paul was correct when he said: 'Our battle is not against human forces but ... we are struggling against the spirits and supernatural forces of evil.'

There are powerful spirits at work in our world: good angelic forces and evil demonic forces – sometimes called diabolical forces.

The word 'diabolical' comes from a Greek word referring to something broken in two, something torn apart, something shattered which should be whole.

Looking at persons and societies torn apart, it is obvious that the diabolical spirit is very powerful.

But that spirit harbours a certain fear: the fear that there could be a stronger spirit moving through human history, a spirit of wholeness, a spirit of holiness:

Could there be a Holy Spirit which could heal a person torn apart whether by illness or abuse or a deep sadness which divides body, mind and soul? Could there be a Holy Spirit which can integrate the personality and make it whole again?

Could there be a Holy Spirit which could heal a group or even an entire nation divided by racial hatred, class warfare, unjust discrimination based on sex, religious conflict? Could there be a Holy Spirit which can overcome such alienations and can make a society, a community out of the divided group?

The diabolical spirit found this fear to be well grounded when Jesus appeared at the synagogue at Capernaum, when the Holy One of God appeared on the scene of human history.

What did the 'unclean spirit' which possessed a man cry out?

'Have you come to destroy us?' The fear was realised because they recognised Jesus as 'the Holy One of God'.

They realised that they were in peril: 'Are you going to destroy us?' Jesus' answer was a resounding 'Yes', not in words but in action.

He healed the man possessed. He made whole this gravely disturbed person being torn apart by the diabolical spirit.

Our Lord continued with this mission for three years. He *invites* you and me to share in this mission. He *empowers* you and me to share in this mission.

You and I are to use all our healing powers whenever we come across whatever it is which tears people apart: disease, long festering conflict within a family or some other group, deep loneliness – the most prevalent contemporary manifestation of apartness.

That is our mission at the personal level, but of course, there are tasks at the communal, social, political levels also.

These are all dimensions of a battle of immense scale going on: evil spirits versus the Holy One of God.

What gives us hope that the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ will prevail?

On Easter Sunday, Jesus Christ conquered the worst the diabolical power can inflict on you and me: the apparent finality of a death which wrenches body and soul apart.

Jesus' resurrection manifests the triumph of the Holy One of God: the reintegration of the human person – body/soul.

Let us become allies of this Victor over Death.

That will put the fear of God into the devil!

Fr Michael Tate  
Liturgy Help



## What's on the Parish Grape Vine?

### February

Fri. 2 <sup>nd</sup>		Father Peter returns from his annual leave.
Mon. 5 <sup>th</sup>		<b>FIRST RECONCILIATION – TIMETABLE/DETAILS</b> given separately in notice opposite
Thu. 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	<b>School Opening Mass.</b> Everyone welcome to attend.
Sun. 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.15 am	<b>Reconciliation Commitment Mass</b> - St Augustine's Church
Tue. 13 <sup>th</sup>	5.30 pm	First PFC Meeting for 2024
Wed. 14 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
	9.30 am	School Mass with distribution of Ashes
	5.30 pm	Parish Mass with distribution of Ashes
Tue. 20 <sup>th</sup>	6.30 pm	First PPC Meeting for 2024

### March

Fri. 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00 am	<b>World Day of Prayer.</b> St Augustine's Parish to host this ecumenical prayer service. To be held in the Lovat Chapel. All welcome to attend.
Thu. 21 <sup>st</sup>	6.30 pm	<b>First Reconciliation</b> - St Augustine's Church



### April

Sun. 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.15 am	<b>Farewell Mass &amp; Morning Tea for the Sisters of Mercy.</b> - St Augustine's Church
Sun. 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.15 am	<b>First Eucharist Commitment Mass</b> - St Augustine's Church (Proposed date)



### June

Sun. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30 am	<b>Celebration of the Sacrament of First Eucharist.</b> - St Augustine's Church - (Proposed date)
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### July

Sun. 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.15 am	<b>Confirmation Commitment Mass</b> - St Augustine's Church (Proposed date)
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### September

Sun. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30 am	<b>Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation</b> - St Augustine's Church - (Proposed date)
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*I am the vine you are the branches ..... John 15: 5*

### 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.**

## FIRST RECONCILIATION

### Online Information Session

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30pm

Please contact sacramental team email for Zoom meeting invite.



### Registration

Due by Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February:-

willingness to participate in the Commitment Mass plus the preparatory programs are essential prerequisites for the reception of First Reconciliation.

### Commitment Mass

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 10.15am

### Sacrament of Reconciliation - Liturgy

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 6.30pm at St Augustine's

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 6.30pm at St Augustine's

Further details are available on the Parish website under:

Mass Times – Sacraments

First Eucharist (Reconciliation) then Resources

## Palm Sunday Australia

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents.

On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand.

RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567. WEB: [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au)

## 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](mailto:barbarahall1909@gmail.com) or phone: 0418 413 731 for more information and an application form.

**See brochure on the Parish Notice Board**

## Calling Catholic Mental Health Professionals

Join the Raphael Network, founded in 2023 for Australian Catholic mental health professionals. We blend psychology with Christian anthropology—body, mind, spirit—and Catholic teachings. Enjoy online talks, an annual retreat, and peer support. We're a hub for holistic well-being, referrals, and resources. Apply at [www.raphaelnetwork.org.au](http://www.raphaelnetwork.org.au)

## Financially Speaking



### Collections Received in December 2023

**1<sup>st</sup> Collection:** \$ 4,251.45

**Includes:** 30% share from the Smart Terminal Tap Machine, Xmas Dues and Baptism donations.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:** \$ 6,780.80

**Includes:** Loose at Mass, Planned Giving, EFT, Direct Debits, Credit Card and Smart Terminal (Tap Machine).

*Thank you very much for your donations.*

## COMMUNION REFLECTION

Ideally words should always be preceded by deeds.

When people who have done something  
begin to speak, people listen.

Their words carry enormous weight.

They have real authority.

The weakness of a lot of words arises from the fact  
that they are not preceded, or accompanied,  
or even followed by deeds.

At the root of innumerable wrongs in our world  
is the discrepancy between word and deed.

It is the weakness of Churches, parties, and individuals.

It gives people and institutions split personalities.

Lord, grant that what we have said with our lips,  
we may believe with our hearts,

## PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



### Recently Deceased

*Anthony Hagerty, Brian O'Connor*

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

*Glen Snowden (1/1), Brian Rosser (1/1),  
Maureen Field (5/1), Noel Maher (5/1), Alfred Warner (7/1),  
Toby Abbey (8/1), Bruce Longley (11/1), Frank Carey (12/1),  
Barry Wales (16/1), Patricia Brown (17/1),  
George Power (17/1), William Brassil (17/1),  
John Warren (18/1), Patrick Cleary (20/1),  
Robyn Rees (20/1), Margaret Horne (22/1),  
Vincent Brown (22/1), Jessica Patrick (23/1),  
Markus Gibson-Huck (24/1), Peter Bell (24/1),  
Len Dawes (25/1), Tony Cooke (25/1), Rachel Gorst (25/1),  
Brian O'Mara (28/1), Edward Balnaves (28/1),  
Lily Delaney (28/1) and Michael Hickey (29/1).*

**Always In Our Hearts Loved and Remembered**

### READINGS NEXT WEEK: 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

#### First Reading

*Job 7: 1-4, 6-7*

Life is a drudgery.

#### Second Reading

*1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23*

Paul is compelled to preach the Gospel.

#### Gospel

*Mark 1: 29-39*

Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law.

**Please reflect on these readings over the coming week**



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 = 1<sup>st</sup> Reading & Responsorial Psalm

2 = 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading & Prayers of the Faithful

3 = Acolyte

28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Steve	Scroope	1	Peter	Gibbs	2
	Greg	Minahan	3			
4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Kate	Walker	1	Peter	Cleary	2
	Peter	Walker	3			

#### ALTAR SERVER

28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Mackie	Leahy	Zoe	Leahy
4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Grace	Miller	Lily	Butt

## B&V ENGINEERING & WORKWEAR

15 WARROO RD, YASS

- King Gee Workwear & Boots
- Hard Yakka • CAT Workwear • Stubbies
- Hi Vis & PPE Gear • Casual Clothing & Boots

**Phone: 6226 2422**

8:30 – 5:00 Monday to Friday • 9:00 – 12:00 Saturday

## 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).**

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

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