



SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA

The Presentation of the Lord.

1-2nd February, 2020.

Moruya Sacred Heart Parish.

36 Queen Street.

(P.O. Box 23)

Moruya. NSW. 2537.

Fr. George Azhakath.

Parish Office: 44742024.

Email: Moruya@cg.org.au.

Web: <http://cg.org.au/Moruya>

REGULAR MASS TIMES:

Sat: Vigil 6pm. Moruya.

Sun: 8am 'The Pines' Tuross Head.

10am. Sacred Heart Moruya.

Mon: 9.15am Communion Service

Tues: 5.30pm Mass

Wed: 9.15am Mass

2.00 pm Mass Banksia Village

Thurs: 9.15am Mass

First Thursday of the month

10.30am. Visit IRT. Moruya

Fri: 9.15am Mass followed by 1 hr.
Adoration and Benediction.

Rosary: After mass.

Reconciliation: 10—10.30 am Sat.

**Baptisms, Anointings, Weddings
and Funerals by appointment.**

CARING GROUPS:

Tuross Head 0497 315 534.

Moruya: 0431 354 993.

SCHOOLS:

St Mary's: 4474 2817

Carroll College: 44715600



This feast commemorates how Jesus, as a baby, was presented to God In the Temple in Jerusalem. This presentation finds its complete and perfect fulfilment in the mystery of the passion, death and Resurrection of the Lord. The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is a combined feast, commemorating the Jewish practice of the purification of the mother after childbirth and the presentation of the child to God in the Temple and buying back (redemption) from God.

In the first reading, taken from Malachi, the prophet speaks of the Lord suddenly coming to Jerusalem to purify the lax, lazy and indifferent priests of His Temple as silver is purified by fire. Simeon saw the Infant Jesus as the fulfilment of this passage. He saw Jesus as the Lord who has come to the Temple, “destined to be the downfall and rise of many in Israel.”

In the second reading, St Paul proclaims Jesus as our Eternal High Priest of the New Covenant (Heb 2:17), who offered himself on the altar of Calvary, the only pure priestly sacrifice that could please God. He replaces the former priesthood.

The Gospel describes how Joseph, as the head of the Holy family of Nazareth, presented Mary and the baby Jesus in the Temple of God for the mother's purification and the Child's “redemption”. It also describes the Holy Family's encounter with the old prophet Simeon and the holy old widow Anna. In his prophecy, Simeon extols the divine blessings which the Messiah is bringing to Israel and to all men and predicts that Mary will play a crucial role in her Son's redemptive work by sharing in her Son's sufferings.

First Reading

Mal 3:1-4

A reading from the prophet Malachi

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23:7-10. R. v. 10

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

1. O gates, lift up your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
2. Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war. (R.)
3. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
4. Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory. (R.)

Second Reading

Heb 2:14-18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate

and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 2:22-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation

which you have prepared for all the nations to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The encounter with Simeon and Anna:

Pope Francis: "Simeon took him in his arms and thanked God that he had finally "seen" salvation. Anna, despite her advanced age, found new vigor and began to speak to everyone about the Baby. It is a beautiful image: two young parents and two elderly people, brought together by Jesus. He is the one who brings together and unites generations! He is the inexhaustible font of that love which overcomes every occasion of self-absorption, solitude, and sadness. In your journey as a family, you share so many beautiful moments: meals, rest, housework, leisure, prayer, trips and pilgrimages, and times of mutual support....Nevertheless, if there is no love then there is no joy, and authentic love comes to us from Jesus. He offers us his word, which illuminates our path; he gives us the Bread of life which sustains us on our journey.

The paradox of blessedness:

Mary was given the blessedness of being the mother of the Son of God. That blessedness also would become a sword which would pierce her heart as her Son died upon the cross. The words Simeon addressed to Mary announced that she would be intimately linked with her Son's redemptive work. The sword indicated that Mary would have a share in her Son's suffering. Her suffering would be an unspeakable pain which would pierce her soul. Our Lord suffered on the cross for our sins, and it is those sins which forged the sword of Mary's pain. Mary received both a crown of joy and a cross of sorrow. But her joy was not diminished by her sorrow because it was fuelled by her faith, hope and trust in God and his promises. Jesus promised his disciples, "no one will take your joy from you" (John 16:22). The Lord gives us a supernatural joy which enable us to bear any sorrow or pain and which neither life nor death can take away. Do you know the joy of a life fully



surrendered to God with faith and trust?

According to Dr. Scot Hann, the feast we celebrate shows a curious turn of events. The Redeemer is redeemed. She who is all-pure presents herself to be purified. Such is the humility of our God. Such is the humility of the Blessed Virgin. They submit to the law even though they are not bound by it.

PRAYERS:

Your prayers are asked for all the sick of our parish and those mentioned in the Hospital prayer request book including Fr Tim Cahill (Friend of a parishioner), Kay Morton and John Bolton.

Please also pray for those recently deceased: Maxwell Fitzgerald, Lyle Davis, Kevin Whitby and Marie Merriman.

Please advise the office if you are: sick, going to hospital, needing a home visit, Communion or need the Sacrament of the sick so that we can organise a minister of the Eucharist or priest to visit.

FIGHT POVERTY WITH YOUR USED STAMPS!

Mary MacKillop Today (MMT) recycles used postage stamps to raise urgently needed funds to fight poverty.

Your used stamps will:

Give disabled children an education in Papua New Guinea;

Fund training programs for poor women to learn life-skills in Peru;

Provide vital healthcare to poor communities in Timor-Leste.

Your used stamps will be sold at auction in Sydney, as well as to collectors. The money raised will go directly to Mary MacKillop Today in Sydney.

Just cut the stamp off, leave a generous margin of envelope all around.

Drop them off at the parish office to be forwarded.

SCHOOLS RESUME:

Prayers of thanksgiving for our Education System and especially our teachers are in order. Some of them have been affected directly by the fires and all experienced and are still experiencing the 'unknown' in personal safety and with their property. As most of us are, yet a great deal of expectation and responsibility are placed on them to cope. They have been offered the opportunity to look at their own needs and helped to prepare to see to the needs of their students and parents who have also been through this trauma. Assistance is also being offered to the students to look at their feelings and help them settle back into the familiar routine of school and the safety it brings to many of them.

Please keep the teachers, students and parents in your prayers as we all continue to work through this dreadful experience of the bushfires.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY.

Jan Morris has advised that the Children's Liturgy will recommence next weekend.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL.

People are still asking how and where to make donations to those affected by the bushfires:

To donate to St Vincent de Paul:

- Go online to "bushfireappeal.com.au"
- Or call 131 812
- Or drop into the Centre.



Vinnies are in partnership with Channel 9.

PARISH SECRETARY:

Expressions of interest are called for the position of parish secretary. The position would possibly be for 3 days a week. The position requires computer knowledge and training will be given in the use of the Archdiocesan accounting and data program.

Call the parish office for further information:

4474 2024. email: Moruya@cg.org.au



TUROSS HEAD CARING GROUP.

Invitation to all to join us on

Thursday 6th February.

10am for 10.30am at

the Tuross Head Country Club

when Catherine Hancock has offered to facilitate a time to reflect on our stories and experiences through the recent bushfires.

Catherine who spent fifteen years working in prisons as a mental health nurse and currently lecturing at a Sydney university has offered her skills to us.

If you are unable to join us on the day you might like to look up the web site: <https://thepulse.org.au/2020/01/07/look-after-your-health-in-the-bushfire-emergency/>

For additional mental health support call Disaster Welfare Assistance Line on 1800 018 444 or Mental Health Line on 1800 011 511 or Lifeline on 131 114.

WATER RESTRICTIONS:

The Eurobodalla Shire Council has imposed Level 4 water restrictions as from 28th January, 2020.

This basically means no hoses of any kind to be used for any purpose. All watering of gardens and cleaning to be done using buckets.

Visitors need to be aware of these restrictions. All bushfire affected areas have seen the water bombers carrying this precious cargo through the air to put out fires.

Please be water wise. *Do you remember any of the old slogans to save water?*