

SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



36 Queen Street (PO BOX 23) Moruya NSW 2537
Phone: 4474 2024 Email: Moruya@cg.org.au
Web: <http://cg.org/au/Moruya>

Priest: Fr George Azhakath msfs

Mass Times:

Moruya: Sat: Vigil 6.00 pm Sun: 10.00 am

Tue: 5.30 pm Wed, Thu & Fri: 9.15 am

Sat: Reconciliation: 10—10.30 am

Tuross Mass: Sun 8.00 am. Bodalla Mass 2nd Thursday of the month 9.15am. Fifth Sunday of the month 3 pm.

Schools: St Mary's Moruya: 4474 2817

Carroll College Broulee 4471 5600

Caring Group: Tuross Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993



20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

-YEAR A-

August 15 & 16 2020

Jesus Heals the Daughter of the Canaanite Woman

“Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish”

Gospel story: God reveals the truth that in His eyes there is no distinction among human beings on the basis of race, caste or colour. The long-expected messianic kingdom was intended not only for the Jews but for all nations as well.

Jesus demonstrated that salvation was meant for the Jews as well as for the gentiles by healing the daughter of a Gentile woman as a reward for her strong faith. Thus He shows that God's mercy and love are available to all who call out to Him in faith.

Fr George Azhakath



Jesus said “Woman you have great faith. Let your wish be granted”

Entrance Antiphon: God our protector, keep us in mind; always give strength to your people. For if we can be with you even one day, it is better than a thousand without you.

Communion Antiphon: With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

Prayer for Priests: Jesus our Good Shepherd, You told us that “The harvest indeed is great but the labourers are few. Pray, therefore, the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into His harvest, “we ask You to strengthen us as we follow the vocation to which you have called us. Grant that men and women from our community may have the grace and courage to hear and answer Your call to priesthood and religious life. We pray for priests, sisters, brothers and deacons, that they may be open and responsive to the call of serving Your people. We thank you for our faithful priests and bishops, whose spiritual fatherhood and example of fidelity, self sacrifice, and devotion is so vital to the faith of your people. Grant that they may be faithful to their commitment, zealous in their vocation and mission. May all our Priests feel loved, respected, valued and supported by everyone all over the world especially in the community they serve. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit One God forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for Australia: Lord you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary Help of Christians. Through her prayers grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens. Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer after Communion: Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith, the day of our Risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you.

O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment thine.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Is 56:1.6-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Second Reading

Rom 11:13-15. 29-32

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 15:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.'

But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



THE WORD OF LIFE this week.....

Trustful persistence rewarded. Jesus first ignores both the persistent cry of the woman and the impatience of his disciples to send the woman away. He then tries to awaken true faith in the heart of this woman by an indirect refusal, telling her, *"I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel"*. But the woman is persistent in her request. She kneels before him and begs, *"Lord, help me."* Now Jesus makes a seemingly harsh statement. *"It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs."* The term *"dogs"* was a derogatory Jewish word for the Gentiles. Dogs were regarded by the Jews as unclean, because they would eat anything given to them, including port. The woman noticed, however, that Jesus had used the word *kunariois*—the word for household pets—rather than the ordinary Greek word for dogs—*kuon*. She also observed that Jesus had used the word for dogs in a joking way—a sort of test of the woman's faith. So she immediately matched wits with Jesus. Her argument runs like this: Pets are not outsiders but insiders. They not only belong to the family, but are part of the family. While they do not have a seat at the table, they enjoy intimacy at the family's feet. Hence the woman replied: *"Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table"* (v. 27), expressing her faith that Jesus could and would heal her daughter. Jesus was completely won over by the depth of her faith, her confidence and her wit and hence responded exuberantly, *"Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."* We notice that the woman was refused three times by Jesus before he granted her request and finally, the fourth time, her persistence was rewarded and her plea was answered.

1. We need to persist in prayer with trustful confidence: Although the essential parts of prayer are adoration and thanksgiving, the prayer of petition plays a big part in most people's daily life. We have so many spiritual and temporal needs, which we cannot provide for by ourselves. Christ himself has told us to ask him for these needs; *"Ask and you shall receive."* Asking with fervour and perseverance proves that we have the 'great faith' we need to receive what Christ wants to grant us in response to our requests. We must realise and remember that we do not always get exactly what we ask for, but rather what God knows we need. What we need most are the peace and security that come from being in harmony with God's will for us.

2. we need to pull down the walls of separation and share in the universality of God's love: Very often we set up walls which separate us from God and from one another. Today's Gospel reminds us that God's love and mercy are extended to all who call on him in faith and trust, no matter who they are. In other words, God's care extends beyond the boundaries of race and nation to the hearts of all who live, and God's house should become a house of prayer for all peoples. It is therefore fitting that we should pray that the walls which our pride, intolerance and prejudice raise, should crumble. Next, we have to be grateful to God for all the blessings we enjoy. As baptised members of the Christian community we have been given special privileges and easy access to God's love. But we also have serious responsibilities arising from these gifts. One of these responsibilities is to make clear to others, with true humility and compassion that God's love, mercy and healing are for them also because they too are the children of God.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY: 30TH AUGUST.

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. In the Social Justice Statement 2020-21, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today*, the Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. You can access the Social Justice Statement and associated resources now from the website of the Bishops' Office for Social Justice.



GREETINGS FROM ORDER OF MALTA: Frank Testa and Daniel Kwok and their companions extend their continued love, thoughts and prayers for Moruya Parishioners through their recent telephone conversation after hearing about Moruya floods. They are planning to visit us to have a chat with us as soon as the Covid-19 situation eases a little bit more here in South Coast. Very welcome.

INSTALLING TELEVISION SCREENS FOR MORUYA CHURCH is in progress. The quote for this expense has gone much higher than the budget estimated. We welcome any financial donations towards this project.

HOLY HOUR: We have one hour of Adoration and Benediction on all Fridays following the 9.15am Holy Mass. Please consider to join in this well spent, precious time.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING:

The PPC members will meet this Wednesday 19th August, at 5.30pm in the Presbytery.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO VINCE AND ELIZABETH FISHER FOR THEIR
DONATION OF AN ELECTRIC PIANO FOR OUR PARISH.
IT MAY BE DELIVERED BY NEXT WEEKEND.**



LAUDATO SI DIALOGUE: Commencing August/September an ecumenical group of participants will look together each fortnight at **Laudato Si**, Pope Francis' letter "**On Care for Our Common Home**". You can register interest in obtaining further information in taking part at BelconnenSouth@cg.org.au or on 0428 625 110.

WOMEN'S REFLECTION AFTERNOON: Livestreamed to all corners of the Archdiocese 2-4:30pm Saturday 29th August. Gather with friends at home or in the parish, wherever you have internet access. Connect with women from Lake Cargelligo to Pambula to hear inspiring talks and participate in short guided prayer experiences. Hosted by the Archdiocesan Women's Taskforce. Register at www.bit.ly/WomensReflectionAfternoon Enquiries email catholic.women@cg.org.au or ring/text Lara on 0429 192 869.

PLANNED GIVING "STATEMENT OF GIVING": A letter containing the amount given to the parish during the past financial year is available for collection from the foyer. This is not a Tax receipt as the parish has not contributed to the School Building Fund since 2016. All givers are sincerely thanked for their contributions. The Planned Giving system helps the parish to budget.

MASK KITS for VICTORIA: The response has been very encouraging. Thank you to those who took kits last weekend. More are available in the foyer. Pieces of material are available in the plastic tub out the front of the presbytery for those wanting to sew a different design. Special thanks to the unknown sewer who donated 50 sewn masks.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC MEN'S GATHERING FOR 2020: Is Now being offered as an online program for registered participants. This modified program will be delivered in four pre-recorded sessions of approximately 1 hour in length. Each session will offer input from a variety of speakers and musicians, along with reflection questions for group discussion or individual reflection. The program offers flexibility so that you may participate individually or gather with others from your parish/diocese or men's ministry group. Cost: FREE. Registration: www.catholicmensgathering.com.au. Program available from Saturday 15th August, 2020.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSE BOUND: We continue to pray and extend our support to those who are in near lock down at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya; and the sick members of our Parish: Jake Hardis, Graham Beer, Gail Fenton, John Gerber, Debra Morris, Ben Pollack, Katherine Halse, Louise Strathendorf, Catherine Ebbelaar, Carmel Trenholme and Jerry Ebbelaar still undergoing physiotherapy in Western Australia. Love and prayers to all of them for a speedy recovery.

CHURCH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS: For those wishing to do Direct Debit into the Church Account, as donations to the church or as Second Collection may use the following details.

BSB: 062-786. ACC: 000014984. Account Name: Sacred Heart Moruya. Please include purpose of Donation and Surname. Or if it is Planned Giving then envelope number and surname.

HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY. The Catholic teaching that the souls of people who had faith and love for God and for neighbour but died in an imperfect moral and spiritual state could still be perfected after death in purgatory. Though they are "assured of their eternal salvation," they still need to 'undergo purification' that makes possible "the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven". (CCC No.1030) These souls cannot earn any merits in purgatory but suffer passively there. Still, the prayers and works of the living can bring them merit and benefit. (CCC, n 1032) Let us pray for the souls in purgatory.



FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: 15th AUGUST— SATURDAY SPECIAL MASS: The Assumption is a holy day of obligation. It celebrates Mary's passing over, body and soul, from this world into the glory of her risen son. There will be Feast day Mass on Saturday 15th August at 9.15am in Moruya. The 6pm Vigil Mass will be as normal.

ST. BERNARD'S PRAYER: MEMORARE:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Hail Mary Full of Grace