

SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



36 Queen Street (PO BOX 23) Moruya NSW 2537

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

Priest: Fr George Azhakath msfs

Secretary: Mrs Pat Anderson

Parish Office hours: Wed. and Fri. 10am—3pm

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. 8am 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

Devotions: Daily Rosary after mass. First Friday Adoration & Benediction. 9.45—10.45 am



26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

-YEAR A-

September 26 & 27 2020

PARABLE OF THE MAN WITH TWO SONS.

The Hallmark of a Christian is Obedience, Graciously and Courteously Given

Today's scripture passages warn us that it is our final decision for or against God, that is, our choosing to obey Him gracefully by doing His will or our choosing to go against His will, which will decide our eternal reward or eternal punishment. In the first reading, the Lord God, through His prophet, Ezekiel, corrects the Jewish belief that children inherit the guilt of their ancestors and are punished for it, and that God is more strict than merciful. God explains that His mercy overrules strict justice and that He will punish us only for our sins, not for the sins of our ancestors.

In the parable in today's gospel, a man who has two sons tells both to go out to work in the vineyard. The first son says he won't go, but later regrets it and works. The second son says he will go but does not. In each case it is the final decision that is more important. Jesus teaches through this short parable that repentant tax-collectors and prostitutes, represented by the first son who initially refused to go, will make their way into the kingdom of God before the chief priests and the elders, represented by the second son in the parable. Because of their pride and their refusal to obey God's call to repentance, the Scribes and the Pharisees will exclude themselves, while the tax-collectors and sinners, whom they despised, will repent of their sins and will be accepted into God's kingdom.



WHICH ONE DID HIS FATHER'S WILL?

Fr George Azhakath

Entrance Antiphon: All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Communion Antiphon: Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

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: Ez 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

Second Reading: Phil 2:1-11

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

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling

to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the under-
world,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: Thank be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said.

Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

This is the gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



THE WORD AND LIFE this week....

1. **We need to lead a responsible Christian Life, saying “yes” to God:** Each one of us is responsible to God for every one of his or her actions, and the just God will punish or reward each individual according to his or her actions. As we do not know the moment death will strike us, our only guarantee of dying in God’s friendship is to live in that friendship always, saying “Yes” to God in our deeds. We should become men and women who profess our faith in word and deed—knowing that, *“Not all those who say to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but those who do the will of my Father who is in heaven”* (Matthew 7:21). God is ever with us to strengthen us, and to pardon and lift us up again if through human weakness we stumble on the road. God is calling us right now, inviting us to work in His vineyard, inviting us to say “Yes” to Him with our words and actions. Let us accept God's invitation by purifying our hearts in the sacrament of reconciliation; by resolving to put words into actions each morning before stepping out of bed; and by declaring interiorly that people will be able to identify us as followers of Christ simply by our Christian actions and not by empty words or pious gestures. In this way, we shall live a life filled with the joy that doing the will of the Father brings.

2. **Instead of trusting in lame excuses, we need to seek God’s mercy:** We often use flimsy excuses to silence our conscience. They run like this: “We didn’t realise how sinful we were”; “We were too occupied with family and personal cares to have time for our spiritual duties”; “We were led astray by bad example”; “We didn’t like to be different from others”; “We were going to put things right”. These are not valid excuses at the judgment seat of God. Hence, if we have been disobedient to God in our past life, we need to knock at the door of God’s mercy. We need to remember that what God in his mercy did for the tax-collectors and harlots in the parable, the Matthews, the Augustines, the Margarets of Cortona, and the millions of unknown penitent who are now saints in heaven, He can also do for us. We need to repent of our past sins and renew our lives as the first-asked son in the parable did. It is never too late for us to be transformed.

From the Parish Council meeting 23rd September, 2020.

*The PPC thanked Fr George for all the work, pastoral and maintenance, that he has organised and achieved since December 2019.

* **ARCHBISHOP’S Visit on 1st October 2020.** the PPC finalised plans for the Mass at 5.30pm as well as preparation for the meal to follow. Please see notices in the foyer of the church in Moruya and at Tuross to nominate what you will bring for dinner. Jan Morris, Jo Rummery, Ilonka Clynk and Norma O’Connor are coordinating this special function.

* The PPC are still committed to keeping in contact with parishioners, particularly those who will **isolated due to COVID or ill-health.** This may be a phone call or a catch up at Mass or more casually.

* **The data collection for the Parish Profile** is not yet completed. We have obtained a copy of the 2016 National Catholic Life survey which will be helpful. The PPC is also going to collect stories from people to go with this profile. If you would like to share your story of your journey in Sacred Heart Parish please contact the Parish Office.

* **Women’s Taskforce:** Jo Rummery and Sue McCosker are going to organise a follow up meeting to discuss options for a local branch, If you are interested, please contact them.

*For our community to thrive it is important to acknowledge people’s birthdays, anniversaries, farewells, welcoming and achievements. The PPC would like to know of any news that is appropriate to share either at Mass or in the bulletin or newsletter.

***COVID 19:** Our Parish is now registered with the **NSW Government COVID 19-Safe program.**

*If anyone is interested in joining an informal group to make cards for the Parish to use, please contact the Parish Office.

***Agenda items:** If anyone has any items they would like addressed at the PPC meetings, please contact the Parish Office.

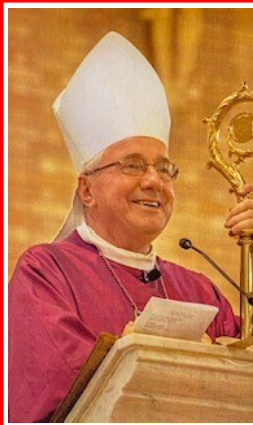
PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSE BOUND: We continue to pray and extend our support to those who are in near lock down at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya; and the sick members of our Parish: Jake Harris, Graham Beer, Gail Fenton, John Gerber, Debra Morris, Ben Pollock, Catherine Hulse, Catherine Ebbelaar, Carmel Trenholme, Dale Moore and Gerry Ebbelaar and Paul Rummery Jnr. Love and prayers to all of them for a speedy recovery.

Please advise the Office if you would like to be added to or taken off the list of prayers.

WELCOME TO OUR COVID-19 FREE VENUE WITH ALL THE PROTOCOLS IN PLACE. PLEASE FOLLOW THEM ALL AS WE CARE FOR EACH OTHER.

Hand sanitizing and recording personal details are to be strictly followed. Yellow marks have been placed on the floor to make it easy for distancing between persons as you move around. Please keep safe distancing when entering a pew, while going up for Communion and while leaving the church. A small number of masks are available in the foyer for anyone who might feel more confident using one.





**Welcome
To our Parish**

**Archbishop
Christopher
Prowse.**

Invitation.

All parishioners and friends are cordially invited to attend the Archbishop's visit to our parish on Thursday 1st October, 2020.

Please join with him at Mass at 5.30 pm followed by an evening meal in the School Hall.

He is looking forward to meeting you.

ART & LEISURE SCHOOL.

Hi, my name is Bert, Bert Broekhuysen (Brookhouse) and I'd like to have 'a chat' with you about art and its value as leisure time, so needed in these pressing times. Sponsored by the Moruya Caring Group, a ministry of this parish, who asked me and I was happy to oblige, to speak and examine the possible formation of an Art and Leisure School, as 'school' being the collective noun for group and a possible sponsorship by our Parish. This and a demonstration with talk on landscape painting, techniques, composition and subjects, executed in charcoal, will be held. THE DIARY DATE; 13th October, 2020. TIME: 10.00am. WHERE: the Kennedy Room. WHO: beginners and seasoned artists—and those interested in the arts — ALL are welcome. Hope to see you there. Bert and Clare Broekhuysen. 48 Evans St. Moruya. Ph: 44033752.



Happy Birthday To all who are celebrating their birthdays especially John Heffernan. We thank God for the gift of you all.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS: The marriage of Amanda Gibbs and Christopher Knights took place on Saturday. We wish them God's blessings on their future life together.



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS. Friday was the last day of this school term. We wish the pupils, parents and staff a relaxing and safe holiday. Schools resumes 12th October, 2020.

CARROLL COLLEGE YEAR 12 GRADUATION was held on Wednesday 23rd September. Thirty nine students celebrated with Fr Martins and Fr George at a special Mass with the theme 'Light Our Way'. We wish them God's every blessing for their future and thank their parents and teachers for their part in their formation.

CARMELITE MONASTRY, CANBERRA: "As we begin our Novena to the Great St Therese this evening in preparation for her Feast Day on Thursday 1st October, we wanted to assure you of our especial prayerful remembrance of yourself personally, and each member of your parish. St. Therese is a popular and a most powerful Saint who experienced in her own life trials that face many of us today—her mother's struggle with cancer and premature death, loneliness, misunderstanding, bullying, and her father's dementia—to mention a few....enduring Covid Restrictions—we are unable to have our usual public Mass in St Therese honour next week. However, our Novena prayers and private Masses include you Father and each member of your congregation. The foundation group of our Carmelite Monastery here in Canberra have each gone to their eternal reward over the recent years. As we ask your prayers please, as we, 'the new group', endeavour to fulfil the legacy left to us by those valiant women, and our prayerful responsibility for the Archdiocese and region. With every good wish. Sincerely, on behalf of the community. St Bernadette."



SAINT THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS. Feast day 1st October:

Therese Martin, the popular 'Little Flower of Jesus,' obtained special permission to enter the cloistered Carmelites of Lisieux at age 15. She developed a spiritual approach of striving for holiness through her childlike confidence in God's love and mercy known as the 'little way'. After a period of illness and intense suffering, she died a holy death at the age of 24. The spread of her spiritual teaching grew through her autobiography. 'The Story of a Soul'. Canonised in 1925, she was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 1997 by Pope John Paul II.

We celebrate this Feast day with our Archbishop.

REMINDERS: Parish Freezer: Foil containers available outside presbytery. Masks: still needed for Victoria.

VINNIES TWINNING COLLECTION....THIS WEEKEND. Please give generously to this worthy appeal. There will be a retiring collection after each mass.