

SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



36 Queen Street (PO BOX 23) Moruya NSW 2537

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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



28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

-YEAR A-

OCTOBER 10 & 11 2020

PARABLE OF THE WEDDING GARMENT.

Come to the Banquet.

Food is used in all three readings today as an image of God's favourable presence with His people. In the first reading, Isaiah describes the messianic banquet on the Lord's mountain. The prophet sees the mountain of the Holy City transformed into a grand banquet hall full of life and good things. He paints the picture of "*a feast of rich food and choice wines.*" In the second reading, Paul says that he lives like a guest invited to the kingdom of God, enjoying vast spiritual benefit as a man of faith. So will God provide for us, he assures us, and we can do all things in God who strengthens us. In the Gospel, Jesus describes the eschatological banquet of heaven in the parable. He characterizes the reign of God as a wedding feast, a banquet of "*calves and fatted cattle.*" When the banquet is rejected by the chosen guests, it is offered to all and sundry. Thus all the reading suggest that God loves his people and provides for their eternal salvation. Today's scripture gives us the strong warning that if we do not accept His love, if we reject His gift, we can have no place with Him.

The parable of the Wedding Garment is a modification of two rabbinic stories well-known to Jesus' audience. In those days, participants in a banquet were expected to dress in clothes that were superior to those worn on ordinary days. Guests who could afford it would wear white, but it was sufficient for ordinary people to wear garments as close to white as possible. It was customary for the rich hosts to provide their guests with suitable apparel. For royal weddings special outfits were given to any guests who could not afford to buy their own. Hence to appear in ordinary, soiled working clothes would show contempt for the occasion, a refusal to join in the king's rejoicing.

The parable demands that when one freely accepts Christ as the Lord and Saviour, one must dedicate his life to Jesus. In other words, the Christian must be clothed in the spirit and teaching of Jesus. Grace is a gift and a grave responsibility. Hence a Christian must be clothed in a new purity and a new holiness. In other words, while the church opens wide its arms to the sinner, it expects him to make some effort to repent. It is not enough to simply continue unabated in one's sinful ways. Although Jesus accepted the tax collectors and prostitutes, he demanded that they abandon their evil ways. The permanent and universal lesson taught by the parable has nothing to do with the clothes in which we go to church. But it has everything to do with the spirit in which we enter God's house. It is true that church-going must never be a fashion parade or an occasion of scandals for others, but the garments of the mind and of the heart we wear when we go to worship God are more important. They are the garments of penitence, faith, and reverence. The parable ends on a slightly pessimistic note: "*For many are called, but few are chosen.*" It is a sad fact that, although everyone is called to experience the love of God, relatively few will really try to follow His teachings.

Fr George Azhakath

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 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.
The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22. R. v.6

(R.) *I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.*

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Phil 4:12-14. 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I
have been through my initiation and now I am ready for
anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach,

poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot
master with the help of the One who gives me
strength. All the same, it was good of you to
share with me in my hardships. In return my
God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus,
as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our
Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.**

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 22:1-14

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew*

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the
people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be com-
pared to a king who gave a feast for his son's
wedding.

He sent his servants to call those who had been
invited, but they would not come. Next he sent
some more servants. "Tell those who have been
invited" he said "that I have my banquet all pre-
pared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been
slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the
wedding." But they were not interested: one
went off to his farm, another to his business,
and the rest seized his servants, maltreated
them and killed them.

The king was furious. He dispatched his troops,
destroyed those murderers and burnt their town.
Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is
ready; but as those who were invited proved to
be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town
and invite everyone you can find to the wed-
ding." So these servants went out onto the roads
and collected together everyone they could
find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall
was filled with guests.

When the king came in to look at the guests he
noticed one man who was not wearing a wed-
ding garment, and said to him, "How did you
get in here, my friend, without a wedding gar-
ment?" And the man was silent. Then the king
said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot
and throw him out into the dark, where there
will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For
many are called, but few are chosen.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

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

Entrance Antiphon: If you, O lord, laid bare our guilt, who could endure it?
But you are forgiving, God of Israel

Communion Antiphon: The rich suffer want and go hungry, but nothing
shall be lacking to those who fear the Lord.



THE WORD AND LIFE this week...

1. Be grateful to Christ for the invitation to the heavenly banquet: Ever since we received baptism, we have been invited to the heavenly banquet and provided with the wedding garment of sanctifying grace. These great privileges and blessings are freely given to us by a loving God. But the same obstacles which prevented the Pharisees from entering the kingdom—love of this world, its wealth and its pleasures—can impede us too. Hence we must be prepared to do violence to our ordinary inclinations and offer ourselves in love and service to Jesus and to his people. That is how we will make our wedding garment clean and bright every day. Receiving these gifts of God also demands that, instead of remaining marginal members of our parish community, we bear visible witness to our beliefs. Let us have the consoling conviction that, while as Church members we are expected to contribute actively to its life and witnessing, the forgiveness of God and of the community is always available whenever we betray its ideals in our weak moments. Therefore, let us pray that we may keep our wedding garments pure and spotless, that we become disciples who really practice the teachings of Jesus, rather than remaining mere *Sunday Catholics*. Let us pray for a deeper faith and love and a better spirit of responsibility to our community.

1. Are our “banquet halls” full and vibrant? What do we do to make sure that the “banquet halls” of our churches are filled with people on Sunday mornings? Are we concerned enough to do something about it if they are not full or lively? The first part of the parable has some strong connections with our worship services. Does not God invite us there? Aren’t we also called to be the Lord’s messengers who are instructed to go and tell the invitees (the whole world) that everything is ready? Or do we absent ourselves because we have other “pressing” business that we think is more important? Do we remain mired in oppressive attitudes and discriminatory relationships even if our bodies are in Church? Do we ever prefer revenge to forgiveness? Do we see victimization of others and blame the victim? We must all work with God to rid ourselves of such attitudes.

2. We need to wear our wedding garment for the Eucharistic banquet: God incarnate waits for us in his house of worship, offering himself for us on our altars and inviting us for the sumptuous banquet of his own body and blood for the nourishment of our souls in the Holy Eucharist. According to St. Gregory, men and women who come to the wedding feast with hatred in their hearts do not wear the acceptable garment spoken of in the parable. Men and women whose faith and love are cold, who attend Church for social reasons, to show off their clothes and jewellery, or to visit with acquaintances are not dressed in a wedding garment pleasing to the King Christ Jesus. Our wedding garment is made of our grace-assisted works of justice, charity and holiness. Let us examine whether we have fully accepted God’s invitation to the messianic banquet and remember that banqueting implies friendship and intimacy, trust and reconciliation.

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: Graham Beer, Gail Fenton, John Gerber, Ben Pollock, Catherine Hulse, Catherine Ebbelaar, Carmel Trenholme, Dale Moore, Gerry Ebbelaar, Paul Rummery Jnr., Jean Marrion, Monique Driver and Andy McCosker. 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.

2021 PUBLICATIONS TO ORDER. If anyone would like to order a **2021 Josephite Calendar** please advise the parish office. Cost \$7 plus contribution to postage. The calendar has inspirational writings of Saint Mary of the Cross Mackillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods. Ph: 02 8741 2333 or email josephitecalendar@sosj.org.au to order personally.

DAILY MASS BOOK 2021 OR ORDO 2021 orders can be made at the parish office. Daily Mass Books \$24.20. Ordo \$13.20. Payment with your order would be appreciated please.

CG YOUTH A year of mission. This has been a challenging, yet successful year for the Youth Ministers across our parishes and schools, which we intend to continue to build on next year and beyond. The Archdiocese has recently produced a mid-year Report. It highlights our strategic priorities moving forward. One important strategy is Circles. Circles are small groups that commit to regularly gather, pray and give. Archbishop Christopher has identified them as representing a ‘new pastoral initiative for evangelisation’ of youth, young adults and our broader parish communities. Information on the pilot program is available at the parish office, with all resources for Circles accessible at www.belongcircles.com.

The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn wants to invite young people into the life and mission of the Catholic Church. Youth Ministers are employed to lead youth ministry in school and/or parish communities.

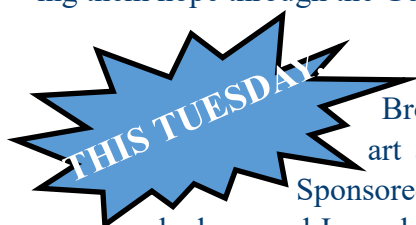
Applications: web: cgyouth.org.au/youth-ministers/ email: youth@cg.org.au.



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY APPEAL.

Will be celebrated on 18th October

“The joy of the Lord is our Strength!” Nehemiah 8:10. On 18th October we will celebrate World Mission Sunday—a special day, called by Pope Francis, when we are called to pray and offer material support to the work of mission around the world. This year we are invited to partner with the Church in Cambodia, which is reaching out to those who have been affected by disability and giving them hope through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and practical support to live a fulfilling life.



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.

“UNDERSTANDING DEPRESSION DURING COVID”

A talk will be held on **Thursday 29th October in the Tuross Head Country Club. 9.30am arrival for 10am start.** The **Tuross Head Caring Group** is presenting this sharing of personal journey with medical information to help others understand depression. It is a comprehensive and fascinating insight into the working and thought patterns of the brain during Depression. Many have asked if we could repeat this lecture so as their spouse/family members were able to attend, in order to have a true understanding of Depression. So please bring them along. Surprisingly, a lecture on Depression is not depressing, but interesting, educational and information. Open to all, however you need to register by phoning 0497 315534. We are following COVID safe guidelines.



Presenter Angela Darcey.

CONCERNED CATHOLICS OF CANBERRA-GOULBURN

invite all to join in a Public Forum (Zoomed) on Thursday 22nd October 5—6.30pm, on the topic: **How can The Light from the Southern Cross shine in dioceses?** Speakers: Susan Pascoe AM and Virginia Bourke. **FORUM CHAIR** Andrea Dean. **Further information about the speakers and Zoom details:** www.concernedcatholicscanberra.org/new-events

“The Light from the Southern Cross (Promoting Co-Responsible Governance in the Catholic Church in Australia)” is the historic review of governance in parishes and dioceses across Australia. It was produced by lay Catholics and clergy, having been commissioned by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious of Australia to canvas options for Church governance in the wake of the Sexual Abuse Royal Commission.. It has received broad acclamation in Australia and internationally. The majority of recommendations can be put in place now in parishes and dioceses national. This forum will examine the relevant recommendations from the report, and provide advice on how to go about these essential elements of reform. **Contact** Mark Metherell 0417 603 697



The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary.

A Healing Mass:

with anointing and special prayers for the sick will be held on the First Saturday of each Month.



School Resumes On Monday.

Please keep the children attending our schools in your prayers.