

**EVANGELISATION PROGRAM:** Next Tuesday, 17 October after 5pm Mass, Jan Morris will be hosting The Chosen at 12 Shorthorn Close, Moruya.

## NOTICES FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

**NEEDS OF LAY CATHOLICS TODAY:** What do adult lay Catholics need today to help them live a committed Catholic life amid the circumstances of modern society? To find out and to help improve their services to our Archdiocese, the Canberra Circle of The Catenians, an international association of lay Catholics, is conducting an Archdiocesan-wide online survey. Please help by completing this brief, anonymous, tick-box survey via this URL or QR code. Thank you. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CLTZGMW> Contact: Phil Murray, President, Canberra Catenians 0419 695 927 or [phil13murray@gmail.com](mailto:phil13murray@gmail.com)



With Timor-Leste's fragile infrastructure, reliance on local health practices, and limited access to medical care, many health conditions only worsen, and sadly can result in death.

**Next week Catholic Mission will offer you the opportunity to partner with the Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters in Venilale, Timor-Leste, where your gift can help continue a life-saving program to help address this reality.**

We hope you will take next week's opportunity to make an incredible impact for those in need.

**Hearts on Fire**  
**FEET ON THE MOVE**

**catholic MISSION** Freecall: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/timor](http://catholicmission.org.au/timor)

### MARIAN PROCESSION 2023:

Over many decades, the Marian Procession has gathered tens of thousands of Catholics from across the Archdiocese and beyond.

In this Year of the Holy Spirit, we are gathering to pray and celebrate as an Archdiocese, seeking the intercession of the Blessed Mother.

Together, we will Celebrate the Eucharist, offer the Sacrament of Penance, pray the Rosary and be Inspired by stories from across our community. This is a multicultural family day of prayer and festivities, where local Parishes, ethnic and ecclesial communities, clergy and religious take time to enjoy one another and journey with Mary to Jesus.

**Marian PROCESSION**  
2023

SUNDAY - OCTOBER 22

The restored and rededicated  
STS PETER & PAUL OLD  
CATHEDRAL, GOULBURN

10.00AM | MORNING TEA  
10.30AM | CATHEDRAL GUIDED TOUR + CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES  
10.30AM - 11:45AM | PENANCE  
12.00PM | MASS  
1:00PM | BBO FUNDRAISER  
1:30PM | CATHEDRAL GUIDED TOUR  
2:00PM | ROSARY

# SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



36 Queen Street (PO Box 23) Moruya NSW 2537  
Phone: 4474 2024 Email: [moruya@cg.org.au](mailto:moruya@cg.org.au)  
Web: <http://cg.org.au/Moruya>  
Priest: Fr George4 Azhakath  
Secretary: Mrs Vickie Moore  
Parish Office hours: Wed and Fri 9:00am—2:00pm



**Mass Times:**  
**Moruya:** Sat: Vigil 5:00pm Sun: 10:00am  
Tue: 5:00pm, Wed, Thu & Fri: 9:15am/1st Saturday of the month 9:15am  
**Tuross:** Sun: 8:00am **Bodalla:** 4th Sunday of the month 3:00pm/2nd Thursday of the month 9:00am  
**Reconciliation:** Every Saturday @ Moruya 4:15pm-4:45pm before Vigil Mass  
1st Saturday of the month @ Moruya 8:15am-9:00am  
**Devotions:** Daily Rosary and Saturdays 9:30am **Adoration:** All Fridays after Mass  
**Schools:** St Mary's Moruya: 4474 2817 Carroll College Broulee: 4471 5600  
**Caring Groups:** Tuross Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- YEAR A -

October 14 & 15 2023

## Parable of the Wedding Garment

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". The **psalm** describes how, like a totally committed shepherd, God spares nothing in order to provide nourishment for His flock. In the **second reading**, Paul says that he lives like a guest invited to the kingdom of God, enjoying vast spiritual benefits as a man of faith. In the **Gospel**, Jesus describes the eschatological banquet of heaven in the **parable**. He characterises 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 **readings** suggest that God loves his people and provides for their eternal salvation. 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** means 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 their 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 simply to continue unabated in one's sinful ways.

**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 Isaiah 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.

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 Philippians 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.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

### Gospel Acclamation See Ephesians 1:17-18

**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 Matthew 22:1-10

P: The Lord be with you

**All: And with your spirit**

P: A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Matthew

**All: Glory to you O Lord**

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the  
people: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared  
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 prepared, 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  
wedding." So these servants went out on to the  
roads and collected together everyone they could  
find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was  
filled with guests.'

The Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

**Entrance Antiphon:** If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

**Communion Antiphon:** When the Lord appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

## 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 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.

**2) 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 stuck in oppressive attitudes and discriminatory relationships even if our bodies are in Church? Do we even prefer revenge to forgiveness? Do we see victimisation of others and blame the victim? We must all work with God to rid ourselves of such attitudes.

**3) 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.

## NOTICES FROM THE PARISH

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** We continue to pray and extend our support to those at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya, the sick members of our Parish and those in need of our prayers: Kathleen Ebbelaar, Gerry Ebbelaar, Dianne Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Andy McCosker, Bala Stankovich, Clare Broekhuysen, Pat Morris, Julie and John Kay, Lee Maat, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, Rod McDonald, Hans Brosch, Father Giles Setter OFM, Annette and John Nader, Robyn Barkley, Mark Wales, Therese Masserot, Jenny Hopkins, Pat Anderson, Tammy Whiteman, Clair Holmes, Patricia Murphy, Leo Kop, Barbara Kirk, Miriam Turnbull, Natasha Morton, Janice Setter and Pauline de Grave.

**CLEANER - IMMEDIATE START:** Expressions of interest are invited for a cleaner to clean the Presbytery and Church up until Christmas. The position is for preferably a Monday or Tuesday for 5 hours and the award rate will be paid. Please contact the Parish Office: moruya@cg.org.au or call 4474 2024.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** Alternatively, if anyone would like to volunteer to clean the Church once a week, please contact the Parish Office.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** At the PPC meeting held on Wednesday, 11 October the need for more volunteers in various ministries within the parish was highlighted. In particular, the areas most in need are:

**(1) Counters; (2) Sunday power-point back-up; (3) Setting up the Altar; (4) Offertory; and (5) Readers.**

If you would like to assist in any capacity, or have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office: moruya@cg.org.au / 4474 2024 or call John Munce 0439 473 214 for more information. Assistance, training and guidance will be provided.