

PUBLIC ROSARY: October is the Month of the Holy Rosary and on Saturday, 14 October a Public Rosary at 11am at the Rotunda, Russmartin Park, Moruya at 11am in the Rotunda. Everyone is welcome and for further details, please call Michael Irwin on 0478 227 979.

NOTICES FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

RESPECT FOR LIFE—SUNDAY, 1 OCTOBER MASS AND LUNCHEON: Archbishop Christopher Prowse will celebrate Respect Life Sunday Mass at 11am on October 1st at St Christopher’s Cathedral. Following will be a light luncheon in the Haydon Hall including brief inputs from those working at the coalface in caring and advocating for human life in its most vulnerable stages. RSVP for luncheon @ www.cgcatholic.org.au/respect-life/Enquiries: Lara Kirk lara.kirk@cg.org.au 0429 192 869

SYNOD OF BISHOPS IN ROME:

“The people of God have been on the move since Pope Francis convened the whole Church in Synod in October 2021” (*Instrumentum laboris, 1*), and now we have reached another milestone in this process that began with the consultation of the People of God. In a few days, on October 4, the Holy Father will open the first session of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, “For a Synodal Church, Communion, Participation, Mission”.


WORKING WITH CHILDREN/WORKING WITH VULNERABLE PEOPLE AUDIT:

Dear volunteers, thank you for your commitment to ministry in our parish. We would be unable to continue to provide pastoral and administrative support to our parishioners and community members without your dedication and support. It is a requirement in the ACT for anyone over 16 years of age involved in activities with children and/or vulnerable persons to hold a current Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) card. In NSW the requirement is for anyone over 18 years of age involved in activities with children to hold a current Working With Children Check (WWCC). At a parish level, this applies to parish priests/staff/volunteers active in particular ministries.

Twice a year, a report of all active WWVP and

WWCC holders is required to be sent to the Institute for Professional Standards and Safeguarding office (IPSS) in the Archdiocesan Chancery, Manuka. Audits are due at the end of **March and September** and all parishes in the Archdiocese are required to comply. The Archdiocese can be audited by ACT or NSW government agencies at any time so the audit reports are an important aspect of maintaining accurate records for when an audit occurs.

Our Parish is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons and complying with Archdiocesan and Government requirements for WWVP/WWC. Please help us to maintain accurate records for the audits by ensuring your WWVP/WWC is current. If you are not sure if your Working with Children Check is up to date, if you require assistance with renewing or for more information please do not hesitate to contact the office Monday or Friday between 9am-2pm. Thank you



OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

The first half of the Hail Mary is from Scripture: the Angel Gabriel’s greeting to the Virgin Mary when God let her know of her unique place in the history of human salvation. The second half is the church’s response, our petition to Mary as Mother of God. We acknowledge our need for her help for our salvation now, and we ask in particular for this help at the moment of our death. So many private apparitions of the Blessed Virgin over the centuries have given us messages about this help, and it is a great comfort to believe that Mary will be there when the soul, the source of life for our body, struggles toward a different form of living. Mothers give birth; Mary will be there, no matter when or how death comes to each of us.

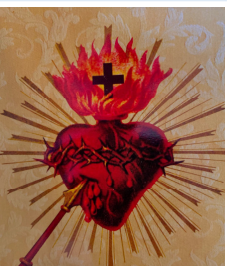


HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY

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
 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:** 40 mins before weekday Mass
Schools: St Mary’s Moruya: 4474 2817 Carroll College Broulee: 4471 5600
Caring Groups: Tuross Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - YEAR A - September 30 & October 1 2023

Parable of the Man with Two Sons

The Hallmark of a Christian is Obedience, Graciousness and Courtesy 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 the Kingdom of God.

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 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 Ezekiel 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.’

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 Philippians 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 underworld,
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.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 21:28-32

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 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.’

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 when the moment of 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 needs. 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 matters to have time for our spiritual duties”; “We were led astray by a 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 judgement seat of God. Hence, if we have been disobedient to God in our lives, 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 penitents who are now saints in Heaven, He can 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 to us to be transformed.

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 Broekhuyse, 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, John Richmond, Miriam Turnbull, Natasha Morton and Janice Setter. We have been advised Fr Greg Beath, former Parish Priest is also in need of our prayers. Dear Lord, please keep Fr Greg and our parishioners safe and please make them well, we ask this in Jesus name, Amen.

BAPTISMS: Congratulations to the Hope-Hodgett's family who are having their children Grace and Toby baptised this weekend. Please pray for Grace and Toby as they start their faith journey with in our Parish.

BIRTHDAYS: Happy Birthday to Adam Strahlendorf who celebrates on 30 September and Marg Croese whose Birthday falls on 2 October. Wishing you both a splendid day celebrating with family and friends.