

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

Secretary: Mrs Vickie Moore

Parish Office hours: Wed. and Fri. 9am—2pm

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 and Fourth Sunday of the month 3pm.

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 before/after mass. Adoration & Benediction Fridays 9.45—10.45 am



23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

-YEAR B -

September 4 & 5 2021

**“The eyes of the blind shall be opened
and the ears of the deaf unstopped”**

The central theme of today's readings is an invitation to us to become humble instruments of healing in Jesus' hands by giving voice to the voiceless and caring love to the needy and the marginalised in our society. The readings also invite us to open our ears to hear the word of God and to let our tongues be loosened by the Holy Spirit to convey the good news of God's love and salvation to others.

The **first reading** (Is 35:4-7) reminds us that God's eyes are constantly focussed on the helpless. God especially cares for the “frightened, the blind, the deaf, the lame, the mute”, and He encourages the powerless to “be strong and fearless”. This is why, in today's **second reading** (James 2:1-5), the apostle gives us some basic and challenging principles of social justice. He exhorts Christians to show no partiality based on external appearance and to practice God's “preferential option” for the poor. He warns the faithful against scorning or hating the poor while showing special consideration to the rich. **Today's psalm** sings of a God who give sight to the blind, raises up those who are bowed down and welcomes strangers. **Today's gospel** describes how Jesus, by healing a deaf and mute man, fulfilled Isaiah's Messianic prophecy, “The eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped”. The ailments listed by Isaiah are symbolic of our interior illnesses: blindness to the needs of our neighbour, unwillingness to hear God's voice and the inability to speak words of praise and gratitude. Through this miracle story, Mark also reminds us that no one can be a follower or the Lord without reaching out to the helpless (“preferential option for the poor”).



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.

Happy Father's Day to all the Fathers in our Parish

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Is 35:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for water gushes in the desert,
streams in the wasteland,
the scorched earth becomes a lake,
the parched land springs of water.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bound down,
the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger. **(R.)**
3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

Second Reading James 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St James

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in

faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation cf. Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



THE WORD AND LIFE ... this week

Life messages: 1) **We need to help Jesus to heal the deaf and the mute today.** Jesus desires to give us his healing touch in order to loosen our tongues so that he may speak to the spiritually hungry through us. He invites us to give him our hearts so that he may touch the lives of people in our day through us, just as he touched the lives of millions through saintly souls like Francis of Assisi, Vincent de Paul and the Blessed Mother Teresa. Jesus' compassionate touch will help us to hear the cries of the poor and the sick. It will teach us to show kindness, mercy and consideration to others. His healing touch will also help us convey peace and hope to those around us.

2) **We need to allow Jesus to heal our spiritual deafness and muteness.** We may find it hard to speak to God in prayer and harder still to hear Him speaking to us through the Bible and through the Church. Hence, let us imitate the dumb man in the gospel by seeking out Jesus, following him away from the crowd, and spending more of our time in coming to know him intimately as we study Holy Scripture and experience him directly in our lives in personal prayer.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: 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: John Gerber, Ben Pollock, Catherine Hulse, Kathleen Ebbelaar, Dale Moore, Gerry Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Monique Driver, Andy McCosker, Paul Croese, Clare Broekhuysse, Trish Tarlinton, Anthony Morris, Pat Morris, Julie and John Kay, Lee Maat, Paul Rummery Jnr, Lesley Cornish, Sandra Spellacy, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, and Kay Morton..

BIRTHDAYS: Happy Birthday to our fellow parishioners: Maureen Price on 4th September, Norma O'Connor and Diana Ebbelaar on 10 September!

COVID PROTOCOL: Parish Offices are **closed.** Face Masks are **mandatory.**

Churches and chapels are **closed.**

Public Masses and Liturgies are **not** to be celebrated.

Funerals (10 people only) are permitted.

Weddings (5 people only, couple, minister, two witnesses) Holy Communion **can** be taken to the sick.

Anointing of the Sick **can** be celebrated.

Visitation to hospitals by priests should be minimal

Live Stream Mass St. Christopher's Cathedral Monday – Saturday 12.15pm, Sunday 11am <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/>

COLLECTIONS DURING LOCKDOWN: During Lockdown and whilst Churches are closed and collection income is not occurring there are some payment options available for parishioners who are wanting to do so: 1) **Via CDF's facility:** The CDF's website address is: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CATHOLICDEVELOPMENTFUNDARCHDIOCESEOFCANBERRA> Payments can be made for both 1st (Clergy) and 2nd (Parish) Collections; 2) **Direct credit to Parish account** Please contact the CDF to confirm the account details – Note the BSB/Account number combination must include our CBA CDF Canberra Goulburn unique BSB 062-786; 3) **Please save your weekly Planned Giving envelopes with money in to take to the Church when lockdown is over.**

MARRIAGE COURSE: Whether you've been together for 6 months or 40 years, in a good place or struggling, The Marriage Course offers practical support and ideas to strengthen your marriage, in a fun, impactful format. Hosted by the Archdiocese, explore 7 topics together in the comfort of your own home (via ZOOM). It is for all ages and stages of marriage. Starting Tuesday 19th October. Cost is \$70. To watch a trailer about the course click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qba2wYpXgUs> To register for the course: www.cgatholic.org.au/marriagefamily/the-marriage-course/ or contact Steph Ransom steph.ransom@cg.org.au

A CHURCH FOR ALL: A GUIDE TO THE AUSTRALIAN PLENARY COUNCIL:

The virtual (Zoom) launch of "A CHURCH FOR ALL: a Guide to the Australian Plenary Council ...and Beyond" – 7pm next Thursday, Sept 9th.

Join Plenary Council Members: Francis Sullivan, Claire Victory, and John Warhurst in discussion. Register at accr.com.au and a zoom link will be sent by email on Wednesday Sept 8th.

Enquire: Kevin.liston1@gmail.com

Happy Father's Day to all Fathers and Grandfathers

The first Sunday in September is **Father's Day**—where we acknowledge and thank Fathers for their love and guidance.

To Be A Father: Promises for Consideration and Reflection

To My Wife

I will accept some responsibility for our children's undesirable traits and habits.

I will regard our marriage as a holy alliance for our sanctification and that of our children.

I will choose to forgo some of my interests, allowing more time for you and our family.

To my Children

I will communicate by word and deed my high moral expectations of you.

I will teach you that true freedom is not being free to do whatever you want but being free to choose the good, I will talk to you about God.

I will teach you that in many matters you must be different.

I will teach you that faith is your most precious possession.

I will demand you show your mother great respect.

I will teach my sons that chastity is a masculine word.

I will give my daughters the attention and affection they need, teaching them that pure love is the only real love.

I will put the newspaper down when you want to talk to me.

To Myself

I will remind myself that the only enduring legacy I will leave is the imprint I leave on the lives of my children and others I touch throughout my life. I will make a plan to grow spiritually, I will try to remember that my willingness to sacrifice is the measure of the depth of my love. I will consider my life a unity of God, family, work and friendship.

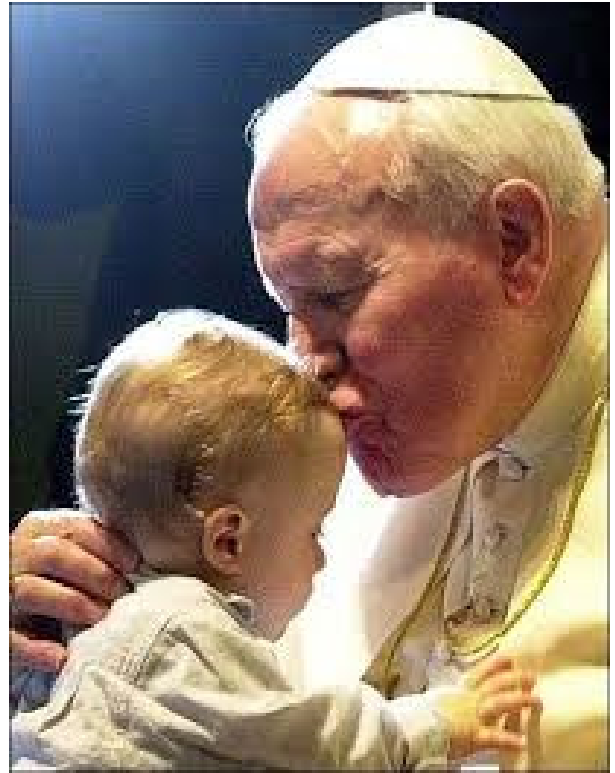
I will try to foster extended family relationships and teach my children what a treasure family is— Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins.

FEAST DAYS IN THE COMING WEEK:

1) The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 8 September: This feast originated in Jerusalem around the late fifth century, near a site venerated as Mary's birthplace (the Church of St Anne). The Liturgy invites us to rejoice, for the birth of Mary means that the birth of Jesus, our Saviour, is coming near. Mary's birth prepared for the mystery of the redemption. 'When the fullness of time at last arrives, Mary comes into the world as the dawn of the New Covenant'.

2) The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, 14 September: The bronze serpent on a standard is a well known symbol of the medical profession. Its origins go back to the time when God healed the repentant Israelites in the wilderness through a bronze serpent that Moses fashioned and placed on a standard. In the Gospel, Jesus applies this image to his own crucifixion. By being lifted up on the cross he will bring healing and eternal life to all who believe in him.

3) Our Lady of Sorrows, 15 September: The Gospels testify to the fulfillment of Simeon's prophecy to Mary that 'a sword will pierce your own heart' (Lk 2:35). With a mother's love, she accompanied her son through his passion, crucifixion and death: 'At the cross her station keeping, stood the mournful mother weeping, close to Jesus to the last.' The 'Seven Sorrows' of Mary includes the moments when his body was taken down from the cross and when he was buried.



The Caring Groups are offering to help people be connected by pairing up those who are willing to contact others during lockdown.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE

A PEN PAL,

A EMAIL PAL OR

A TELEPHONE PAL?

Phone or email either Caring Group and we will link you up to someone in the same category.

Phone: Moruya: 0431 354 993

Tuross Head: 0497 315 534

Email: turossheadcaringgroup@gmail.com

'It's the little things that mean a lot'