

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve

6pm: Vigil mass Sacred Heart, Moruya (36 Queen Street)

Special Children's mass. Children are encouraged to come dressed in Nativity costumes (Mary, Joseph, Angels, Shepherds, Wisemen)

Christmas Day

8am: Tuross (36 Craddock Road)

10am: Sacred Heart, Moruya



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 Eden Langlands

Secretary: Mrs Vickie Moore

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

Mass Times:

Moruya: Sat: Vigil 6:00 pm Sun: 10.00am

Tue: 5.30pm, Wed, Thu & Fri: 9.15am/1st Saturday of the month 9:15am

Reconciliation: Sat @ Moruya: 5:15pm-5:45pm before Mass

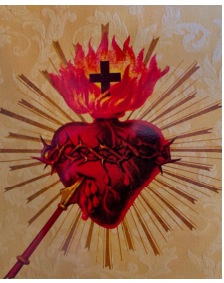
Tuross Mass: Sun: 8am

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 and Saturdays 9:30am Adoration 40 mins before weekday Mass



SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION: The Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated on **Wednesday, 21 December at 6:00pm** in the Church. We are all encouraged to avail ourselves of this wonderful sacrament as we prepare to welcome Christ anew into our hearts this Christmas.

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY:



All Parishioners are warmly invited to attend the Parish Christmas Party on **Friday, 16 December from 6pm** at the BBQ area. Sausage sandwiches will be provided; please bring a salad and sweet to share. BYO drinks. This is your last weekend to RSVP; so for catering purposes **please place your name on the acceptance sheet which you will find in the Church foyer by 12 December**. Tuross folk please email the office: moruya@cg.org.au or phone 4474 2024 and leave your acceptance if the office is unattended.

OTHER NOTICES

2022 CHRISTMAS LUNCH, RED DOOR HALL: Helpers on the day and food donations would be greatly appreciated. A notice is in the Church foyer for you to please put your name and phone number down if you are able to assist. Thank you.

2022
Moruya Lions
CAROLS
by Candlelight
Moruya Riverside Park
SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER 2022
5.30 pm - The fun starts with live music
7.00 pm - Carols by Candlelight
9.00 pm - Fireworks and arrival of Santa
FOOD VANS | COFFEE | DONUTS | ICE CREAM
Bring chairs or a blanket, come early and have dinner
PERFORMERS
THE TWO TENORS | TRISTAN & LILLY SMYTH | THE THUGS |
ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL | CARROLL COLLEGE |
CHRIS & MICK MCGRATH | TONY JAGGERS |
EUROBODALLA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA |
SPONSORED BY MORUYA COUNTRY MARKETS
& MORUYA LIONS CLUB

A warm invitation
**Community
Christmas
Day Lunch**

11.30am for 12 noon
Red Door Hall
next to St. Johns Church
corner of Page & Campbell St
Moruya
Lunch is free. All welcome.
small gifts for all
for bookings leave message: 4474 0300 or come on the day

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- YEAR A -

December 10 & 11 2022

Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday

“Rejoice in the Lord always” “The Lord is near”

Today is **Gaudete Sunday** because today's Mass begins with the opening antiphon: “*Gaudete in domino semper*” ie, “**Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say Rejoice! The Lord is near.**” Today we light the rose candle and the priest may wear rose vestments to express our joy in the coming of Jesus, as our Saviour. The Lord is near! Two weeks of our Advent preparations have already passed—and during the next few days the Church's liturgy will turn more attentively to the coming of the Lord at Bethlehem. But what about us? Half of Advent is already gone. Have we made any spiritual progress, given any more time to prayer, are we really any better prepared to greet the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day? Once again today, the **Gospel** reading focuses on John the Baptist, the faithful witness, challenging us too to ‘prepare the way of the Lord’ and to make a home for him in our hearts. The prophet Isaiah in the **first reading** encourages the exiled Jews in Babylon to believe that God is going to save them and transform their lives. In the **second reading** James the Apostle encourages the early Christians to be patient “because the coming of the Lord is at hand”. Finally, in today's **Gospel** reading, Jesus encourages John the Baptist to cast away the popular expectations about the Messiah and simply to accept His healing and preaching ministry as the fulfilling of the messianic prophecy of Isaiah.



Prayer for the Parish

Almighty God, we pray for Your blessing upon our parish and all who share in the life and work of the parish.

Mother Mary, pray for us, so that God's will may be done in all things regarding our parish. Grant us the grace to provide good pastoral care, and help us to be joyful, spirit-led people of deep faith, fully equipped to assist others to encounter Christ in a deep and meaningful way. Amen

Liturgy

First Reading Is 35:1-6, 10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
they shall see the glory of the Lord,
the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands,
steady all trembling knees
and 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 those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
everlasting joy on their faces;
joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

(R.) Lord, come and save us.

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 bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. **(R.)**
3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

Second Reading Jas 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of St James

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not

make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 11:2-11

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

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Communion Antiphon: Say to the anxious: be strong and fear not, our God will come to save us.

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.

THE WORD AND LIFE this week

Context: Today's Gospel describes how Isaiah's vision of Israel's glorious future is fulfilled unexpectedly by the coming of the promised Messiah and by his healing and preaching mission. But the Jews in general expected a political Messiah who would re-establish the Davidic kingdom after overthrowing the Roman government. Hence, most of them were scandalised by Jesus' peaceful preaching and shameful death. The disciples of John the Baptist continued to insist that John was indeed the Messiah and they, awaiting his return, causing problems to early Christians. Hence, all the four evangelists highlighted John's important role as the Messiah's herald but emphasised that John's was a secondary and subordinate role in salvation history. Matthew in the second part of today's gospel presents Jesus, the true Messiah, as paying the highest compliments to John the Baptist as his herald and the last of the prophets, and to the courage of John's prophetic convictions.

NOTICES FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

ADVENT APPEAL FOR UKRAINE: During the November 2022 Plenary meeting of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference, the Bishops strongly supported a proposal from Bishop Mukola Bychok CSsR, Eparch of Sts Peter and Paul for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Australia, to hold an appeal for the people of Ukraine. It has been proposed that dioceses designate the Second and/or Third Sunday in Advent to a special appeal for Ukraine. Parishioners can make a card payment via CBA Bpoint through the QR code provided:



NOTICES FROM THE PARISH

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray and extend our support to those at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya, and the sick members of our Parish: Ben Pollock, Kathleen Ebbelaar, Gerry, Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Andy McCosker, Bala Stankovich, Paul Croese, Clare Broekhuysse, Pat Morris, Julie and John Kay, Lee Maat, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, Rod McDonald, Hans Brosch, Father Giles Setter OFM, Jenny McCaskill, Annette Moore, Annette and John Nader, John Harnett, Ross Hay, Bernard Carroll, Taine Woodford, Jaijing Greenwood, Robyn Barkley, Mark Wales and Lyn Timms.

CONDOLENCES: Joy Jaensch sadly passed away during the week. Joy's funeral will be held in Murray Bridge, SA, 3pm on Monday, 12 December. Sincere condolences to the Jaensch family.

BAPTISM: Congratulations to the Russell family as Cillian receives the sacrament of Baptism this Sunday. Please keep Cillian and his family in your prayers.

ADVENT PRAYER GROUP: We will continue to meet for prayer and discussion in the Church after 5:30pm Mass each Tuesday during Advent. This is a wonderful opportunity to spiritually prepare ourselves for the Feast of Christmas.

READERS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS ROSTERS: The new rosters have been emailed and copies are available in the Church foyer. Thank you to Colleen Palise.