

## 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 Broekhuysse, 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, Tammy Whiteman, Clair Holmes, Patricia Murphy, Barbara Kirk, Miriam Turnbull, Natasha Morton, Janice Setter and Pauline de Grave.

**CONDOLENCES:** Condolences to Di Fee and her family on the passing of her brother -in-law Brian Fee on 10 January. Brian had been on our sick list; may he RIP. Please keep the Fee family in your prayers.

**FUNERAL:** Stephen Heffernan's funeral service will be held at Sacred Heart Church on Wednesday, 24 January at 11am.

**BIRTHDAY:** Very Happy Birthday to Gabby Strahlendorf who celebrated on 10 January. We hope you had a lovely day Gabby!

**MASS TIME CHANGES:** Fr George will be on leave next week. Fr Chris Heffernan will be stepping in to celebrate Mass on Wednesday, 17 January at 9:15am and for the weekend Masses. Please make Fr Chris welcome.

**PARISH OFFICE:** The Parish Office hours next week will be Tuesday, 16 January 9am-2pm and Friday, 19 January 9am-2pm.

**ASSISTANCE REQUIRED:** The Christmas Nativity, decorations and lights will be packed away on Saturday at 10am. If you are able to assist, it would be much appreciated.

## 7 gentle reminders as you start your year

- Take it slow. Remember that beautiful things take time. Enjoy the Lord's process.
- God has a unique timing for your life. What's for you will be for you.
- A busy life doesn't mean a productive life.
- It's okay if you're not at your best all the time. When you're weak, God's strength will cover you.
- Take as much as quiet moments as you can. Process your emotions and learn to lead them wisely.
- Friends do come and go, but there are relationships that are built for a lifetime. Value those people.
- Protect your peace. Let go of anything that is not helping you to becoming kinder, wiser, and healthier.

### A Gift in Your Will

**Have you considered a Bequeath to Sacred Heart Parish, Moruya to be included in your Will?**

**A)** Making a gift for the upkeep and maintenance of your Parish is a meaningful gift and legacy to your faith community, a gift that will be remembered forever...

To make a **bequest**, you should consult your solicitor or trustee company. It may be sufficient to make an addition or amendment to an existing Will by adding a codicil. If you are considering a bequest, the Parish Office will be able to assist you with further details.

**B)** If you would like to assist the Church/Archdiocese to continue its charitable works by making a bequest, we recommend the following clause:

*I give, devise and bequeath [the sum of...] OR [my property known as...] OR [...% of my estate] free of all duties and taxes to the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn (ABN 12 689322721) to be applied as the Archbishop sees fit at the time and I declare that a receipt for the same signed by the Archbishop of the Archdiocese shall be sufficient discharge from my Executor."*

**For further information, please contact the Gift Manager  
(02) 6239 9801 or [giving@cg.org.au](mailto:giving@cg.org.au)**

# 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 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:** 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



2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

- YEAR B -

13 & 14 January 2024

## “Come and See”

“They went and saw where Jesus lived  
and they stayed with him the rest of the day”

Today's theme is divine vocation. Everyone is called by God to be something, to do something for others with his life and with his unique gifts. Hence, today's **readings** remind us of our personal and corporate call to become witnesses for the Lamb of God and to lead lives of holiness and purity. We are told that each of us, as a Christian, is personally called to discipleship, which demands an ongoing response of commitment.

The **first reading** describes how Yahweh called Samuel to His service. The boy Samuel responded to God promptly, as instructed by his mentor Eli, saying “*Speak, Lord, your servant is listening*”. Hence, God blessed him in his mission entrusted to him, and Samuel became an illustrious figure, ranking with Moses and David as a man of God. In the **Responsorial Psalm**, the psalmist sings “*Behold, I come to do your will*”, voicing his recognition that his vocation has called him to obedience to what God has commanded him to do.

In the **second reading**, we listen to St Paul speaking to us, too, as he reminded his readers that they had a divine call, a call to holiness. He argued that Christians had to keep their bodies pure and their souls holy because in baptism they had become parts of Christ's body and the temples of the Holy Spirit.

In the **Gospel**, John the Baptist introduces Jesus to two of his disciples as the “Lamb of God”. They followed Jesus to His residence, accepting his call to “come and see”. They went with Him and stayed with Him that day. Then Andrew brought his brother Simon to Jesus, introducing Jesus to him as the Messiah. Thus, today's **gospel** describes the call of the first apostles.

**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 1 Samuel 3:3-10.19

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am'. Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv. 8.9

**(R.) Here am I, Lord;  
I come to do your will.**

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord.  
and he stooped down to me;  
he heard my cry.  
He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God. **(R.)**
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,  
but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I. **(R.)**
3. In the scroll of the book it stands written  
that I should do your will.  
My God, I delight in your law  
in the depth of my heart. **(R.)**
4. Your justice I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
you know it, O Lord. **(R.)**

## Second Reading 1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is in you since you have received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation John 1:41. 17

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

We have found the Messiah:

Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel John 1:35-42

P: The Lord be with you

**All: And with your spirit**

P: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**All: Glory to you O Lord**

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

The Gospel of the Lord

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

**Entrance Antiphon:** All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

**Communion Antiphon:** You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

## THE WORD AND LIFE this week ...

**1) Our Christian call is to live and die like the Lamb of God:** We live like a lamb: A) by leading pure, innocent, humble, selfless lives, obeying Christ's commandment of love. B) by appreciating the loving providence and protecting care of the Good Shepherd in his Church. C) by partaking of the body and blood of the Good Shepherd in the Holy Eucharist and deriving spiritual strength from his Holy Spirit through prayer and the sacraments. We die like a sacrificial lamb: a) by sharing our blessings of health, wealth and talents with others in our families, parish and community. b) by bearing witness to Christ in our illness, pain and suffering. c) by offering our suffering for the salvation of souls and as reparation for our sins and those of others

**2) Our call is to rebuild broken lives:** Like the missionary call of Samuel and the apostles, we too are called. Our call is to rebuild broken lives, reconciling them to God's love and justice through Christ Jesus, our lamb and Lord. Through baptism and through the Body of Christ, we are empowered and enabled by the Holy Spirit to free the poorest. Through the love of the lamb of God, we are called to better the lot and improve the broken spirit of all who have been exiled from the possibility of hope, exiled from God's righteousness or burdened by the yoke of spiritual, social, economic, and political dislocation. In other words, through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the glorified Lamb, we are called to empower the human spirit with a sense of identity and purpose.

**3) Our call is to bear witness to the Lamb of God:** Today's Gospel reminds us that being a disciple of Jesus means that we to grow in faith and become witnesses for him. Bearing witness to Christ is an active rather than a passive enterprise. Knowing Jesus is a matter of experience. One could know the Catechism of the Catholic Church, all 700 pages of it, by heart, and still not know Jesus. Bearing witness to Christ, then, demands that we should have personal and first-hand experience of Jesus. We get this personal experience of Jesus in our daily lives—through the meditative reading and study of the Bible, through personal and family prayers and through the sacraments, especially by participation in the Eucharistic celebration. Once we have experienced the personal presence of Jesus in our daily lives, we will start sharing with others the Good News of love, peace, justice, tolerance, mercy and forgiveness preached and lived by Jesus. The essence of our witness-bearing is to state what we have seen, heard, experienced and believed, and then to invite others to "come and see". Other people will see Jesus in our lives when we love, forgive and spend time doing good. A dynamic and living experience of Jesus will also enable us to invite and encourage people to come and participate in our church activities.

**Parish Safeguarding Commitment:** Sacred Heart Parish is committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of all our children and vulnerable people. We seek to empower children, their families and carers, and vulnerable people, to have a say, to be listened to, and to be protected. This approach is at the centre of all of our thinking.

**Communicating Concerns:** Parishioners are encouraged to raise any concerns they may have by emailing Fr George Azhakath or the Parish Office. Alternatively, please phone the Parish Office to arrange a time to talk with Fr George. Specific safeguarding issues can also be emailed to the **Parish Safeguarding Officers: Pauline Parnell** ronandpauline@yahoo.com; **Louise Strahlendorf** loumm214@gmail.com; or **Peter Hoban** peter.hoban@peters.com.au. Parishioners are also welcome to contact Maria Hicks, Manager for the Archdiocese's Institute for Professional Standards and Safeguarding (IPSS) ipss@cg.org.au/6239 9806.