

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: 10.00am

Tue: 5.30pm, Wed, Thu & Fri: 9.15am

Sat: Reconciliation: 10—10.30am

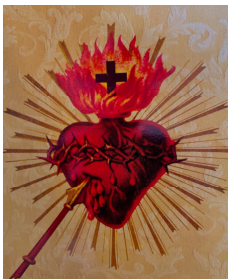
Tuross Mass: Sun: 8am **Bodalla Mass:** 2nd Thursday of the month 9.15am and Fourth Sunday of the month 3pm

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—10.45am



CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to Taylor Bindslev and Corey Greive on their Wedding this weekend at Sacred Heart Church. We wish Taylor and Corey a lifetime of love and happiness and may God Bless them on their special day and throughout their lives.

COVID PROTOCOLS: All are welcome to our services at Sacred Heart. If you are unwell please do not enter. Please remember to follow current covid rules which include the wearing of face masks, social distancing, hand sanitising, checking in using the QR code or manually registering in the Church foyer.

ST MARY'S: 1st Reconciliation Enrolment /Parent Information evening was on **Thursday, 17 February**. We invite all the parents of the candidates for First Reconciliation to attend **The 1st Reconciliation Commitment Mass** on Sunday, **6 March** and the **Celebration of 1st Reconciliation** will be on **Wednesday, 30 March at 5:30pm** at Sacred Heart Church.

BANKSIA VILLAGE: Masses at Banksia Village have resumed after the Covid restrictions were eased. Masses are held on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 11am.

VOLUNTEERS FOR VARIOUS PARISH MINISTRIES NEEDED: Ministry areas include: Readers, Special Eucharistic Ministers, Greeters, Flower Arrangers, Altar Servers, setting up for Mass, Gardeners, Caring Group volunteers, Children's Liturgy, Collectors, Counters, and Hospitality to arrange morning teas after Sunday Mass. In the first instance, please call Susie McCosker on 0426 820 860 or email jasper.mccosker@gmail.com. Alternatively, please email the Parish office: moruya@cg.org.au or call 4474 2024 Wednesdays and Fridays between 9am-2pm.

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: You are invited to attend **The World Day of Prayer** which Sacred Heart Catholic Church will be hosting on **Friday 4th March 2022 from 1.30pm** with afternoon tea in the picnic area afterwards (weather permitting).

This is an Ecumenical prayer day. Invitations have gone to the Anglican, Baptist, Presbyterian, Seventh Day Adventist, Uniting and Southern Life churches.

Our focus this year is on Jeremiah 29:1-14 - **God's promise to people in exile.**

For enquiries, please call or see Sue McCosker 0426820860 or Marg Croese, Pauline de Grave, Jan Morris and Annette Moore.

LENT 2022 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY BRUCE DOWNES: Be inspired, Be refreshed, Be renewed! For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: : <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent22> Call 1300 734 880 for more info

WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE—20 FEBRUARY 2022: World Day of Social Justice is an international day recognising the need to promote social justice, which includes efforts to tackle issues such as poverty, exclusion, gender inequality, unemployment, human rights, and social protections.



ART FOR LEISURE: For some time now, a very pleasant practical "Art for Leisure" program has been happening each Tuesday morning 10am-12pm in the Kennedy Room next to the Presbytery. It is a pleasant interaction with some constructive helping hands enabling all to be creative in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. Here are just a few of the beautiful works which have been created at "Art for Leisure". Come and have a look for yourself and see if you would like to join our group. You are most welcome, even if you would just like to have a chat and a cuppa. - Bert Broekhuysse



SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

-YEAR C -

February 19 & 20 2022

"Love your Enemies"

Golden Rule for Christian Living

The readings today are linked together by one main theme: *the power of Christian love*, when exercised in unconditional forgiveness. The readings also instruct us about our *right and wrong choices*. The right choices lead us to God, and the wrong ones break our relationship with Him and with one another. **The first reading** shows us how David made the right choice respecting God's anointed king by forgiving his offences, while Saul continued to make the wrong choices, perpetuating his misery with his revenge. In the **second reading**, St Paul tells us how the "First Adam" made the correct choice of fulfilling his Father's saving plan. **Today's gospel** (Luke 6:27-38), gives us Jesus' revolutionary moral teaching about correct choices in our human relationships, placing special emphasis on the *golden rule*. "Do to others as you would have them do to you". This golden rule is amplified by a string of particular commands: "Love your enemies ... Do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you and pray for those who maltreat you". For Jesus, love is a fundamental attitude that seeks another's good. Jesus orders us to love our enemies and to be merciful as God our Father is merciful. Jesus challenges us to do for others what God does for us. "Be compassionate, as your Father is compassionate". He concludes by instructing us to stop judging and start forgiving.



Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

Communion Antiphon: I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

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 Sm 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, ‘Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord’s anointed and be without guilt?’ David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul’s head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, ‘Here is the king’s spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord’s anointed.’

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**
4. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:45-49

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

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 6:27-38

P: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit

P: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All: Glory to you O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

‘Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.’

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE WORD AND LIFE this week ...

The Gospel passage contains four commands of Jesus: love, forgive, do good and pray. They specify the kind of love that the Christian follower is expected to show toward an enemy. The enemy is one who injures, hates or rejects a Christian. **1) Love your enemies:** This command proposes a course of action that is contrary to human nature. Jesus invites those who follow him to repudiate their natural inclinations and instead follow his example and the example of the heavenly Father. He recommends, not merely a warm affection (Philia), such as one might have for one’s family, or a passionate devotion (eros), such as one might expect between spouses, but a gracious, active interest (agape) in the welfare of precisely those persons who are antagonistic to us. Agape is the love that cares deeply for others simply because they are created in God’s image and wishes them well because that is what God wishes. Jesus not only commanded us to love our enemies, he also gave us the most vivid and awesome example of this type of action. While hanging on the cross, he prayed, ‘Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing’.

2) Offer your other cheek to the one who strikes you: This injunction and that in v.30 cut through the old principle of retaliation (Exod 21:24; Lev 24:20; Deut 19:21-30). Jesus is not saying that we should permit the destruction of the innocent and defenseless or allow ourselves to be abused or killed. The Catechism is very clear on this point: ‘Self-defense is morally legitimate, as long as it is proportional to the attack. Let us remember that the commandment is ‘Love your neighbour AS YOU LOVE YOURSELF’ ... Love toward oneself remains a fundamental principle of morality. Therefore, it is legitimate to insist on respect for one’s own right to life’ (CCC-2264). What are the challenges Jesus gives us in this command to ‘turn the other cheek’? First, he challenges us to forgive others totally and completely, which means letting go of any and every grudge. He also challenges us not to seek vengeance. In addition, he wants us to be patient with the shortcomings of others and to love everyone, even our enemies (CCC-2264). So the bottom line is this: It is morally wrong not to defend the innocent, when we have a responsibility to do so; it is morally legitimate to defend ourselves from an unjust aggressor; but it can be virtuous to ensure unjust sufferings and even martyrdom for the sake of Jesus Christ and his Gospel.

3) ‘Forgive and you will be forgiven. Bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you’: This message might have sounded very strange to the Jews, who were familiar with a God who was merciful to his own people and vengeful to their enemies, as pictured in Psalms 18, 72 and 92. But Jesus repeats his teaching on forgiveness, both in the prayer he taught his disciples ‘*forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us*’, and in his final commandment to his apostles, ‘*Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another*’. Another good reason for us to forgive our enemies is ‘so that everyone will know that we are disciples of the Most High’. That is, Christian forgiveness can be a form of evangelization. Jesus does not advise his followers to overlook evils, wars, economic disparity and exploitation of the vulnerable. Instead, we are called to forgive, to be merciful and not to retaliate. But we cannot achieve this level of love and forgiveness by ourselves. We need the power of God working through us by the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit.

4) The Golden Rule: ‘Do unto others as you would have them do unto you’: Christian ethics consists, not in merely refraining from evil, but in actively doing good, not only to those who are friends, but those who hate us or do evil against us. In other words, Jesus expects us to rise above our human instincts and imitate the goodness and generosity of God. The observance of the golden rule makes us like God whose love and mercy embrace saints and sinners alike. At the same time the Golden Rule does not require that we allow others to take advantage of us.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: We continue to pray and extend our support to those at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya; and the sick members of our Parish: Sylvia Heffernan, John Gerber, Ben Pollock, Kathleen Ebbelaar, Gerry Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Monique Driver, Andy McCosker, Paul Croese, Clare Broekhuysse, Jan and Pat Morris, Julie and John Kay, Lee Maat, Paul Rummery Jnr, Sandra Spellacy, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, Rod McDonald, Kaye Shephard and Hans Brosch. PLEASE ADVISE THE OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED OR REMOVED FROM THE LIST

CONDOLENCES: It is with sadness that we have been advised of the death of Fr Henry Byrne at age 92. Fr Henry was instrumental with the planning and establishment of Carroll College, Broulee and did a great deal of work in the area. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.