

care and guidance. There are many people searching for truth today, people hungering for instruction, good people who are looking for direction. They may be parents who are sick with grief over the future of a troubled child; a man stripped of his dignity by unemployment; a woman facing a pregnancy alone; elderly people who feel the diminishing surge of life in their bodies; people who are angry and confused because they have lost the confidence in their leaders, whether political or religious. They are people who are looking for answers and for meaning. They are like sheep without a shepherd. They all need ideal pastors filled with the spirit of Christ the “Good Shepherd.”

## NOTICES FROM THE PARISH

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:** We continue to extend our support to those at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya, the sick members of our Parish and all those in need of our prayers: Kathleen Ebbelaar, Gerry Ebbelaar, Dianne Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Andy McCosker, Bala Stankovich, Clare Broekhuysen, Jan and Pat Morris, Barry Morris, Christopher Morris, John Kay, Lee Maat, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, Sue and Rod McDonald, Hans Brosch, Father Giles Setter OFM, John Nader, Mark Wales, Therese Masserot, Jenny Hopkins, Tammy Whiteman, Clair Holmes, Patricia Murphy, Barbara Kirk, Miriam Turnbull, Natasha Morton, Janice Setter, Pauline de Grave, David McWilliams, Paul Ryan, Rita Marion, Viola Collaran, Sandy Spellacy, John Munce, Sylvia and Cletus Heffernan.

**BAPTISMS:** Congratulations to the Fainga’a and Moore families as their children Edward and Hendrix are Baptised this weekend. Please keep these children in your prayers as they commence their faith journey.

**BIRTHDAY:** Very Happy Birthday to Michelle Scobie on 24 July!

**FIRST EUCHARIST 2024:** The following dates have been confirmed for First Eucharist preparation this year:

- Tuesday, 30 July **Parent Information Session** Sacred Heart Church **5.30pm**
- Saturday, 17 August **Commitment Mass** for children to attend **5pm**
- Wednesday, 28 August **Sacramental Retreat Day**, Carroll College

**Sunday, 15 September** Sacrament of First Eucharist, Sacred Heart Church, 10am

## NOTICES FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

### **TIM FISCHER ORATION ON ETHICS IN PUBLIC AND POLITICAL LIFE: 7 AUGUST, 6PM:**

We are at the crossroads in Australia in particular, and in the Western World in general. Fundamental human values are under great strain, and so an overarching societal narrative is becoming opaque. The Tim Fischer Oration aims to enlighten and encourage us to seek out and promote a free and fair society. Do join us on in our noble endeavour. **Speaker:** Professor Helen Alvare, Levy Endowed Chair in Law and Liberty at Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University  
**Q&A:** Chris Uhlmann, Political Journalist and TV Presenter *For more information & tickets visit [www.tfo.org.au](http://www.tfo.org.au)*

**ARCHDIOCESAN WOMEN’S BREAKFAST:** Join us for the Women’s Breakfast with Dr Helen Alvare on **Thursday, 8 August**. In a relaxed conversation style, we will explore meaningful connections in marriage, family, career, mission, and community-building. 7:00am for 7:30am - 9:00am Canberra Room Hyatt. Tickets: \$30 - Students \$25. Purchase online at [www.tfo.org.au/women-breakfast/](http://www.tfo.org.au/women-breakfast/)



**ARCHBISHOP’S ANNUAL MARY MACKILLOP PILGRIMAGE, EDEN:** Please join the Archbishop as he leads the annual Mary Mackillop pilgrimage in Eden on **Saturday, 3 August**. The day will include a pilgrim’s walk at 11am, Mass at 12pm and lunch will be provided by the Parish of Pambula. If you wish to attend and you have not yet, please rsvp to Sue Heffernan (0405 251 947) or Bernadette Wood (0429 774 119).

# 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

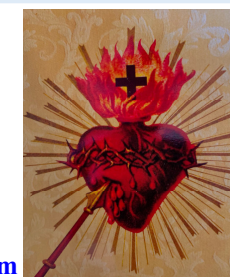
**Reconciliation:** Every Saturday @ Moruya 4:15pm-4:45pm before Vigil Mass

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



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- YEAR B -

20 & 21 July 2024

## The Lord is my Shepherd

“They were like sheep without a shepherd” (Mark 6:34)

Today’s readings explain how God, like a good shepherd, redeems His people and challenges us to use our God-given authority in the family, in the church and in society, with faithful fidelity and responsibility. Today’s “pastoral” ministry includes not only the pastoral care given by those named or ordained as “pastors” but the loving service given by many others who follow different callings to serve and lead others.



In the **first reading**, the prophet Jeremiah (VI century BC), thunders against Israel’s careless leaders—the king, some priests and some court prophets—because they have shown no concern for the poor. The prophet also foretells the rise of a good, new shepherd in the family line of David. Then he consoles the Israelites enslaved in Babylon, by assuring them that God will lead them back to their original pasture in Israel. Today’s Good Shepherd Psalm (No. 23) affirms David’s faith and trust in God, the Good Shepherd.

**The second reading introduces Jesus as the shepherd of both Jews and Gentiles and explains how Jesus, the good shepherd, reconciled all of us with His Father by offering himself on the cross. Paul also speaks about another reconciliation, that between the Jews and the Gentiles, brought about by Jesus who accepted both into the same Christian brotherhood. The reading from the gospel of Mark presents Jesus as the good shepherd fulfilling God’s promise given through his prophet Jeremiah in the first reading. Here we see Jesus attending to his weary apostles, who have just returned from their first preaching mission, while at the same time expressing his concern for the people who, like “sheep without a shepherd,” have gathered to meet him in the wilderness.**

**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 Jeremiah 23:1-6

A 'Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them. Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!

'See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks –

when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land.

In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence.

And this is the name he will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Second Reading Ephesians 2:13-18

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God. In his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to 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!**

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 22. R. v.2

**(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff, with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

## Gospel Mark 6:30-34

P: The Lord be with you

**All: And with your spirit**

P: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

**All: Glory to you O Lord**

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

The Gospel of the Lord

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

**Entrance Antiphon:** See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

**Communion Antiphon:** Behold, I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door to me, I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me.

## THE WORD AND LIFE this week ...

**1) Christians must be people of prayer and action:** The Christian life is a continuous passage from the presence of God to the presence of people and back again. Prayer is essentially listening to God and talking to Him. One of our main problems is that we do not truly allow God the opportunity to speak to us. We also do not know how to "be still and to listen." Hence, we are often in danger of refusing to allow God to recharge us with spiritual energy and strength. Besides, we do not set aside enough time for Him to speak to us and for us to speak to God. How can we shoulder life's burdens if we have no contact with the Lord of Life? How can we do God's work unless we rely on God's strength? And how can we receive that strength unless we pray to him individually, in the family and as a parish community in the church and receive His grace by participating in the Holy Mass and through the reception of the sacraments? However, we must never seek God's fellowship in order to avoid the fellowship of men but always in order to prepare for it. From our reflection on today's Gospel, let us remind ourselves that the Christian life consists of meeting with God in **the** secret place so that we may serve people more effectively in the market place.

**2) The Church has the double responsibility of teaching and feeding:** People today find it difficult to balance those two aspects of the Christian life. Some apparently believe

that the social ministry of the Church is all that is needed to make Christ present in the world. Others seem to believe that the Church's major concern should be preaching the Gospel, rather than feeding the hungry and healing the sick. The Church's duty, so the argument goes, is to spread the gospel and provide for public worship. Both views are one-sided. There can be no true Christianity without the proclamation of the gospel. Teaching the Word of God is essential to a Christian community. But that is only half of the story. Christians must also display the same compassion for the suffering that Jesus exhibited by meeting the social and material needs of others—even those who are not members of our Church.

**3) The Church needs ideal pastors:** The pastor must be a person of compassion. He must be able to feel deeply the suffering of others, to understand why they fear and tremble. The pastors are also called to "govern wisely" (Jer. 23:5), living the teaching they communicate. They are to guide people in right paths and are to be concerned about what is right and just. Their pastoral care should be involved and peaceful

**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.



## Prayer and reflection

*Jesus demonstrated how important it is to engage in times of quiet prayer and reflection. When you expend a lot of time and energy in the service of others it is essential to reflect on those experiences, to learn from them and consider what you'd do differently next time. It is also important that any ministry that seeks to be based in the message of Jesus can only remain so if it is fuelled by prayer. Only through prayerful dialogue with God can we learn what God desires for us.*