

HAPPY AUSTRALIA DAY! HAPPY AUSTRALIA DAY!  
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ON WEDNESDAY, 26 JANUARY WE CELEBRATE AUSTRALIA DAY. AUSTRALIA DAY IS THE DAY TO REFLECT ON WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AUSTRALIAN, TO CELEBRATE AUSTRALIA AND TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND RESPECT OUR HISTORY.



**Feast of St Francis de Sales (1567-1622), Bishop and Doctor of the Church: Patron of the Missionaries of St Francis de Sales and 16 other Congregations.**

**Monday, 24 January is the Feast Day of St Francis de Sales.**

**Francis** was born into a wealthy and royal family. Francis studied law before hearing the message to “*Leave all*

*and follow Me*” which he took as a call to the priesthood. He studied at the Universities of Paris and Padua. He was ordained a Priest in 1593 and through his kindness won back the people of his home region from Calvinism to the Catholic Church. Later as Bishop of Geneva, at the age of 35, and as a writer, he set himself to show that the ordinary life of people, not Priests or religious, could and should be made holy. He wrote his renowned spiritual classic “*Introduction to the Devout Life*” especially for this purpose. He founded the Order of the Visitation with Saint Jeanne de Chantal.

# SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



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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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -YEAR C- January 22 & 23 2022

**“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me for He has anointed me ... to bring good news to the poor”**

The scriptures for today focus our attention on the importance and power of the **Word of God** and its challenge for us today. **The Word of God** is called sacramental—in the sense that when it is spoken, read or heard, God becomes present in our midst. For that to happen, we must listen to the Word, accept it into our hearts, and then put into practice as we live out our lives.



**Today’s reading** from the prophet Nehemiah and Luke’s gospel describe the public reading of Sacred Scripture which challenged the hearers to make a “fresh beginning” with a new outlook. After rebuilding the Temple and restoring the city, Ezra was leading the people in a “*Covenant renewal*” ceremony. In this ceremony, Ezra read and interpreted the Law to the Jews gathered before the Water Gate, from early in the morning

till midday on the first day of the Jewish year. **The Second reading** from the Corinthians reminds us that “*Together we are Christ’s body, but each of us is a different part of it*”, suggesting that, as different parts of Christ’s body, we have a share, as his instruments, in bringing the freeing and saving mission of Christ to our world in our times.

**Today’s gospel** describes how, on a Sabbath, Jesus stood before the people in the synagogue of his hometown, Nazareth, reading and interpreting what Isaiah had prophesied about the Messiah. Jesus rooted his mission and ministry in the written word of Isaiah, in the passage in which the Spirit sends the prophet to bring glad tidings to the poor, liberation to captives, recovery of sight to the blind and freedom for the oppressed—language that reflects the biblical year of jubilee. Jesus’ mission would be to give liberation to everyone who would listen to his “good news”, accept it, and put it into practice.

**Entrance Antiphon:** O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

**Communion Antiphon:** I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

**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 Neh 8:2-6. 8-10

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered Amen! Amen!; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, ‘This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep’. For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, ‘Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.’

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 18:8-10. 15. R. See Jn 6:63

**(R.) Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.**

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.  
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple. **(R.)**
2. The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes. **(R.)**
3. The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just. **(R.)**
4. May the spoken words of my mouth,  
the thoughts of my heart,  
win favour in your sight, O Lord,  
my rescuer, my rock! **(R.)**

## Second Reading

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

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. Now you together are Christ’s body; but each of you is a different part of it.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation See Lk 4:18

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Lord sent me to bring the Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel Lk 1:1-4. 4:14-21

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

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord’s year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, ‘This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.’

The Gospel of the Lord

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

## THE WORD AND LIFE this week ...

**1) We need to receive Christ’s freedom, live it and pass it on to others:** As members of Christ’s Mystical Body, we share in the freeing, saving mission of Jesus. However, even after we have chosen to believe him, to accept his teachings and to live them out in our lives, we are still in bondage. We are captives of sin, who need Christ to set us free. We are often blinded by our evil habits, addictions and need for financial security. Pride and prejudice can make us blind to the needs of the less fortunate, prompting us to fear and avoid them, rather than to love and help them. We can also be blind to the presence of God within ourselves and others. We are often not free to listen to a lonely, heart-broken neighbor. We can be prisoners of materialism and consumerism, chained to pleasure, power, money and control of everyone and everything in our world. Accordingly, we need to be freed and raised to a richer level of life. Once we receive from Christ true liberation we have to share it with those we encounter in our daily lives in our families and workplaces.

**2) We need to let the power of the Holy Spirit fill us, and be ready to have miracles done through us.** Today’s gospel tells us that Jesus performed miracles because he was filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. The same is true of us. Jesus promised the same Spirit to his disciples: *“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth ... He lives with you and will be in you”* (John 14:16-17). To this very day the Holy Spirit is available to all believers who sincerely ask Him to dwell in their hearts. If we fail to receive, and then to use, His power and His gifts, we are left with nothing but our natural abilities, and we will be unable to be used as instruments in His freeing miracles. Miracles occur every day through weak human instruments, although they may be less spectacular than the ones Jesus performed. People whose minds are ravaged by fear and hatred can be miraculously filled with peace and kindness. Those whose hearts are crippled with bitterness and anger can be made gentle and peaceful. Perhaps others, whose relationships with their spouses are strained, can be miraculously resurrected by love and faithfulness. These are true miracles, performed by the power of God, through the Holy Spirit, often making use of human instruments. Let us be ready to become Spirit-filled instruments of Christ’s saving freedom.

**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, Trish Tarlinton, Pat Morris, Julie and John Kay, Lee Maat, Paul Rummery Jnr, Sandra Spellacy, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, Rod McDonald, and Kaye Shephard.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Remembering Parishioner Noeleen Norman’s friend Kevin Whitby who died on 21 January 2016 and Kathleen Booth, Noeleen’s sister who passed away on 23 January 2019. Please pray for them.

**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.

**REGIONAL SENIORS TRAVEL CARD:** On the 17th January 2022 the NSW Government will release another round of the Regional Seniors Travel Card (RSTC). A flyer is on the noticeboard in the Church foyer with more information. The RSTC provides eligible seniors living in regional, rural and remote areas of NSW with a **\$250 prepaid card** to help ease the cost of travel. The card can be used at certain retailers to pay for pre-booked NSW Trainlink Regional trains, coaches, fuel and taxis. **Applications for 2022 will open at 7am on 17 January 2022 and close on 30 November 2022.**

From 17 January 2022, seniors can apply for a card if they are of Age Pension age and receiving either a Disability Support Pension or Carer Payment from Services Australia. This is in addition to eligible seniors who have already been receiving the card. **With the latest COVID-19 health advice, we strongly advise persons to apply online or call **13 77 88**, rather than visit a service centre.**

For more information: <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-regional-seniors-travel-card>

The NSW Government is helping ease the cost of living through over 70 rebates and savings. They are providing free individual Cost of Living appointments over the phone to discuss eligibility and further information about over 70 rebates and savings on offer through the NSW Government. If you would like further information about programs or rebates on offer through the NSW Government or to book a Cost of Living phone appointment, please contact NSW Government: [service.nsw.gov.au](https://www.service.nsw.gov.au) / **13 77 88**