

NOTICES FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY APPEAL: Collection for Formation of our Seminarians: Last weekend we gave thanks for the vocations that have sprung from our own communities – for the young men who, God willing, will be ordained priests to serve in our Parishes. Thank you to all who gave generously last weekend. If you still have your envelopes, please bring them to Mass or to the Parish Office. Donations can still be made on-line at bit.ly/goodshepherd2024

HEALING RALLY WITH DAMIAN STAYNE - WEDNESDAY, 1 MAY: @ St Peter Chancels Church, Weston Street, Yarralumla from 7pm - 9:30pm. Everyone is welcome! Praise, worship, healing prayer and joy in the Holy Spirit! Damian is a Catholic lay evangelist from the UK. He ministers powerfully in the charisms of preaching and healing. To register call/text Susanna 0419 902 293 or Neda 0415 266 019.

THE MARRIAGE COURSE—2 MAY: Nicky Gumbel says “There’s no marriage that can’t be improved.” *The Marriage Course* offers practical support and ideas to strengthen your relationship, in a fun, impactful way, all from the comfort of your own home *via zoom*. Starts Thursday 2nd May 7:00 – 9:00 for 9 weeks, including a closing dinner. Watch presentations with other couples but discuss content privately with your spouse. The cost is \$48 for a pair of workbooks required for the course. Register for the course at <https://cgcatholic.org.au/marriagefamily/home/marriage-course-inner-north-canberra-parish-registration-form/> More information at <https://cgcatholic.org.au/marriagefamily/married/> Enquiries helena.zobec@cg.org.au or 0405 440 463

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES - 18 MAY: Upcoming Marriage Preparation courses for engaged couples: *Engaged Encounter*- Sydney, Sat 18 & Sun 19 May. *FOCCUS* - Tues 11th June 5-9pm plus a private follow-up session at CatholicCare. *Evenings for the Engaged* - Sat 13 & 20 July. *SmartLoving* – online, 9 lessons, learn at your own pace when it suits you. For more information or to register go to www.marriagefamily.org.au Enquiries: Text Helena Zobec on 0405 440 463

FERTILITY AWARENESS WINTER CAMPAIGN: The Archdiocese of Canberra Goulburn is very blessed to now have a **Creighton** trained GP, a **Marquette** trained nurse and **Billings** and **Sympto-thermal** instructors operating in our Archdiocese. We meet regularly to support each other and to collaborate on promoting better general knowledge of Fertility Awareness Methods within our parishes and broader community. If you would like to better understand anything regarding current offerings in our Archdiocese, please feel free to ring, text or email Lara Kirk lara.kirk@cg.org.au (02) 6239 9835/0429 192 869.

A Gift to your Church in Your Will

Making a gift to the Sacred Heart Parish, Moruya 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 would like to assist your Parish for its upkeep and maintenance, 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 Sacred Heart Church, Moruya (ABN 23357238651) to be applied as the trustees see fit at the time and I declare that a receipt for the same signed by the Trustees of Sacred Heart Parish, shall be sufficient to discharge from my Executor.” For further information, please email the Parish Office moruya@cg.org.au or phone the Parish Office 4474 2024.



Congratulations to our dear Father George on the occasion of the 35th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood on 30 April

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

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

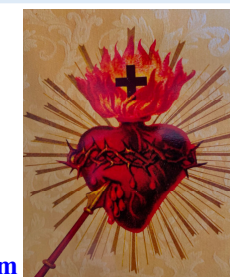
Reconciliation: Every Saturday @ Moruya 4:15pm-4:45pm before Vigil Mass

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



5th Sunday of Easter

- YEAR B -

27 & 28 April 2024

I am the Vine and you are the Branches

“All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit”

We are part of the new vineyard, but it can grow and multiply only if we remain united with Christ the true vine.

From the resurrection of Christ springs up the new vineyard which will cover the whole world. Those who believe in the word of God are granted on to the new vine. Those who remain firm in the faith will extend the influence of Jesus Christ to many people, thus bearing much fruit.

Genuine faith is contagious, and if the word meets resistance, that will prompt the faith to be purer and more vigorous.

The crisis of the mission perhaps points to the crisis of our faith. What does it mean for us to believe in Christ, to “remain” in Christ? If the source is blocked, the flow of water is scarce. If the profession of faith is tasteless, how can our evangelisation be fruitful? Only a convinced believer can convince another person. Without Christ we can do nothing. How can we bring back to the Church her dynamic vitality? In what way can the Gospel become once again the festive wine for the people of today?

Entrance Antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia

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 Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! **(R.)**
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.
(R.)
3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.' **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 John 3:18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John

My children,
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,
but something real and active;
only by this can we be certain
that we are the children of the truth
and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence,
whatever accusations it may raise against us,
because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.
My dear people,
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,
we need not be afraid in God's presence,

and whatever we ask him,
we shall receive,
because we keep his commandments
and live the kind of life that he wants.
His commandments are these:
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ
and that we love one another
as he told us to.
Whoever keeps his commandments
lives in God and God lives in him.
We know that he lives in us
by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation John 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

Gospel John 15:1-8

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.
Every branch in me that bears no fruit
he cuts away,
and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes
to make it bear even more.
You are pruned already,
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,
but must remain part of the vine,
neither can you unless you remain in me.
I am the vine,
you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty;
for cut off from me you can do nothing.
Anyone who does not remain in me
is like a branch that has been thrown away
– he withers;
these branches are collected and thrown on the fire,
and they are burnt.
If you remain in me
and my words remain in you,
you may ask what you will
and you shall get it.
It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear
much fruit,
and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE WORD AND LIFE this week ...

1) **We need pruning in our Christian life:** Cutting out of our lives everything that is contrary to the spirit of Jesus and renewing our commitment to Christian ideals in our lives every day is the first type of self-imposed pruning expected of us. A second means of pruning is practicing self-control over our evil inclinations, sinful addictions and aberrations. Cordial mingling with people of different cultures, races, religions and orientations in our neighbourhood and society enable us to prune our selfish and prejudicial tendencies and to treat others in our society with Christian charity and openness. Jesus prunes, purifies and strengthens us by allowing us to face pain and suffering, contradictions and difficulties with courage of our Christian convictions.

2) **Let us abide in Christ and let Christ abide in us:** The four gospels teach us how to become true disciples of Jesus and how to abide in him as branches abide in the main trunk of the vine drawing its life from it. Personal and liturgical prayers, frequenting of the sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation, daily and meditative reading of the Bible and selfless, loving acts of kindness and mercy and forgiveness enable us to abide in Jesus, the true vine, as fruit-bearing branches.

NOTICES FROM THE PARISH

We continue to 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, Jan and Pat Morris, Barry Morris, Christopher Morris, John Kay, Lee Maat, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, 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 and Rita Marion.

CONDOLENCES: Sincere condolences to Lorraine Stevens on the passing of her husband Barry on 23 April. Marg Croese's brother-in-law Malcolm Stevenson (husband of Monica (nee Honan)) also passed away on Tuesday. Please keep both their families in your prayers.

FUNERAL: Joan Neill's funeral will be held at Sacred Heart Church on **Wednesday, 1 May at 10:30am.**

BODALLA MASS: Mass will be celebrated at Bodalla this **Sunday, 28 April at 3pm.** All welcome.

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.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Bearing fruit

The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.