23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time—7 September 2025

Entrance Antiphon: You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

.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.

First Reading Wisdom 9:13-18

What man can know the intentions of God?

A reading from the book of Wisdom

straightened

and saved, by Wisdom.

Who can divine the will of the Lord?
The reasonings of mortals are unsure
and our intentions unstable;
for a perishable body presses down the soul,
and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.
It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth,
laborious to know what lies within our reach;
who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?
As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you
not granted Wisdom
and sent your holy spirit from above?
Thus have the paths of those on earth been

Responsorial Psalm Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

 You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. (R.)

and men been taught what pleases you,

- You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. (R.)
- 3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart.

 Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?

 Show pity to your servants. (R.)
- In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

Second Reading Philemon 12-17:Phlm 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending

him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

Gospel Acclamation Psalm 118:135

Alleluia, alleluia! Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

The Sacred Heart Catholic Parish comprises the localities of Moruya, Moruya Heads, Broulee, Mossy Point, Congo, Tuross Heads and Bodalla.



Sacred Heart Catholic Parish, Moruya

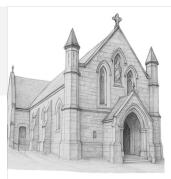
Parish Priest: Fr. Joshua Scott PP VF Parish Secretary: Vickie Moore

PARISH OFFICE

36 Queen Street Moruya NSW 2537 **Parish Office Hours:** Wednesday and Friday—9.00 am - 2.00 pm

Phone: (02) 4474 2024

Email: moruya@cg.org.au Website: www.cg.org.au/moruya



Year C

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 7 September 2025

Sunday Mass

Sacred Heart, Moruya 36 Queen Street, Moruya

Sat. Vigil: 5.00pm Sunday: 10.00am,

'The Pines', Tuross Head 36 Craddock Rd. Tuross Head

Sunday: 8.00am

St. Edmund's, Bodalla 162 Princes Hwy, Bodalla 4th Sunday: 12noon

Weekday Mass

Sacred Heart, Moruya Tuesday: 5.00pm

Wed, Thurs, Friday: 9.15am

St Edmund's, Bodalla 2nd Friday: 9.00am

Syro-Malabar Rite Mass Sacred Heart, Moruya First Mondays: 6pm.

Confessions

Sacred Heart, Moruya Tuesday: After Mass. Saturday: 4.30pm - 4:50pm

Adoration Sacred Heart, Moruya

Fridays: 9:45am (After 9.15 Mass)

Rosary
Daily: After Mass

"Fatherhood: A Gift to Be Cherished"

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's Gospel (Luke 14:25–33) reminds us that following Jesus shapes every part of our lives. Discipleship calls for commitment, courage, and generosity of heart. These qualities are also reflected in the vocation of fatherhood, which we celebrate this weekend.

On **Father's Day**, we give thanks for the gift of fathers, grandfathers, and father figures within our community. Their love, guidance, and sacrifice are often quiet and unseen, yet they play a vital role in forming strong families and healthy communities. Good fathers lead with love, protect with courage, and inspire with hope. Today we pause to honour them, pray for them, and remember those who are no longer with us but whose influence still blesses our lives.

We also turn our thoughts to our priests, who serve as **spiritual fathers** to countless people. Through their ministry of celebrating Mass, offering the sacraments, preaching the Gospel, and accompanying us in both joy and sorrow, they help nurture our faith and guide us toward Christ. Many of our priests continue this service well into retirement, while others, now frail, need greater care and support.

This is why the **2025 Archdiocesan Father's Day Appeal** for the Clergy Retirement Foundation is so important. Our priests have given their lives in service, and it is fitting that we now care for them with the same generosity they have shown to us. Without this foundation, their retirement and medical support would be far less secure. By contributing, we not only express gratitude but also live out our calling as a community that honours and supports its fathers—both in our homes and in our Church.

So today, as we celebrate Father's Day, let us thank God for the gift of fatherhood in all its forms. May we be inspired to strengthen family life, support our priests with love and care, and nurture future generations with faith, hope, and compassion.

Your brother, Father Josh

'Cor ad cor loquitor' - 'Heart speaks to heart'

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NOTICES

PARISH SCHOOLS

ST MARY'S PRIMARY, MORUYA

Johanna Wain
Principal
Ph: 02 4474 2817



CARROLL COLLEGE, BROULEE

Jacqui Heffernan
Principal
Ph: 02 4471 5600



PARISH GROUPS

St Vincent de Paul Conference

37 Queen Street, Moruya Phone: 02 6234 7404

> Caring Group Tuross Head Mob: 0497 315 534

Moruya
Please call the Parish Office

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon 8th —Nativity of the B.V.M.

Tues 9th — St. Peter Claver

Wed 10th—St. Finian

Thurs 11th— St. Patiens of Lyon

Fri 12th—The Most Holy Name of Mary

Sat 13tth—St. John Chrysostom Sun14th—The Exaltation of the Holy

Sun14th—The Exaltation of the I Cross.



September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows.



Happy Father's Day to all fathers and grandfathers in our parish!
We also thank our spiritual fathers, especially Fr Josh, for their wisdom, care, and love.

<u>PARISH OFFICE PHONE</u>: The Parish Office phone is now back in service following the recent system upgrade. Thank you for your patience during the outage—phone calls can once again be made directly to the office.

FATHERS DAY APPEAL: The 2025 Archdiocesan *Father's Day Appeal* is being conducted throughout September to support the *Clergy Retirement Foundation*. Many retired priests continue to live independently and serve our community by celebrating Mass, ministering in hospitals, caring for the sick, and offering comfort to those in grief. Other retired priests are frail and require medical support. Without the *Clergy Retirement Foundation*, their retirement and care options would be less secure. They have been the cornerstones of our Catholic community, and it is fitting that we care for them as they age. So, please prayerfully consider giving a generous gift today. You can make a tax-deductible donation:

online: www.cgcatholic.org.au/donate by calling: (02) 6239 9876 or via **Envelopes** available on the Church pews. Thank you for taking care of our priests in their retirement.

A GENTLE REMINDER: As many viruses are currently circulating, we kindly ask everyone to be prudent and considerate, especially as we have vulnerable parishioners among us. Simple steps like staying home if unwell, practicing good hand hygiene, and being mindful when greeting others can make a big difference. Together, let us care for one another and help limit the spread of illness in our parish community.

MARIAN PROCESSION 2025: Join us on Sunday, 26 October in Goulburn for the annual Marian Procession—a joyful celebration of unity, prayer, and peace. Bring your family and friends, walk in procession, pray the Rosary, and share in Mass as we honour Our Lady and pray for peace in our world.

FIRST EUCHARIST: Year 4 First Eucharist Mass will be celebrated on **Saturday, 13 September** at 5pm Mass. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers as they continue to prepare for this sacrament.

Recently Deceased: Joy Bourke, Michael Cooper, Pauline Brierley.

Those who are sick and housebound: For those in Aged care facilities and in Moruya Hospital, for our sick and housebound parishioners, Gerry and Dianne Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Andy McCosker, Bala Stankovich, Clare Broekhuyse, Jan Morris, Christopher Morris, Lee Maat, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, Sue and Rod McDonald, Hahn and Pauline de Grave, Hans Brosch, Father Giles Setter OFM, Mark Wales, Jenny Hopkins, Tammy Whiteman, Clair Holmes, Patricia Murphy, Barbara Kirk, Paul and Margaret Ryan, Rita and Doug Marion, Viola Collaran, Sylvia Heffernan, Leo Kop, Rae and Peter Fishlock, Michael Irwin, Fr Greg Beath, Deacon Paul and Jo Rummery, John Heffernan and Graham Beer.

NOTICES



CONGRATULATIONS JACQUI!

We warmly congratulate **Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan** on her appointment as Principal of **St Mary MacKillop College, Wanniassa**.



Jacqui has been a blessing to our community, and we thank her with love and prayers as she begins this new mission.

SAVE THE DATE: *Heart of Moruya* – a musical fundraiser for Sacred Heart Parish on Saturday, 27 September at 6pm, St Mary's Hall during the River of Art Festival.

<u>WRITE YOUR WILL FOR FREE:</u> St Vincent de Paul, in partnership with Safewill, is offering Sacred Heart parish members the chance to write a legally valid will online for free. See the flyer in the church foyer and scan the QR code to get started.

LEAVING A GIFT TO THE PARISH: Consider leaving a bequest to support the ongoing mission of our parish. Any gift, large or small, is deeply appreciated. Contact the Parish Office for more information.



An Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

GIVING AND RECEIVING

Direct Debit and Tap N Go are available. Thank you for your generosity. If possible, consider donating to the 1st and 2nd collections via direct debit.

1ST COLLECTION – Supports Arch. Clergy
Direct Debit (include "Sacred Heart Parish"):
BSB: 062-786 | Account: 000029248 | Reference:
Sacred Heart Parish, Moruya & Surname

2ND COLLECTION – Supports the Parish Direct Debit / Bank Deposit:

BSB: 062-786 | **Account:** 000014984 | **Reference:** Planned Giving # & Surname (current givers) or "Donation" (new givers)

MORUYA ROSTERS						
Readers			Ministers of Holy Communion		Counters	
Mass	6th/7th September	13th/14th September	6th/7th September	13th/14th September	8th September	15th September
SAT 5pm	C. Palise. P. Pollock	First Communion Children	F. Levi	T. Cahill	T. Monaghan T. Cahill	R. Parnell T. Chattto
SUN 10.am	I. Browne R. Patyus	H. Browne G. Strahlendorf	G. Campbell	J. Gillett		

<u>Parish Safeguarding Commitment:</u> At Sacred Heart Parish, we're deeply committed to creating a safe, respectful, and caring environment for all children and vulnerable people. We believe everyone deserves to be heard, valued, and protected—and we work together with families to make sure their voices are always part of the conversation.

Communicating Concerns: Parishioners are encouraged to raise any concerns by contacting Father Josh or the Parish Office. For matters specifically related to safeguarding, please reach out to our Parish Safeguarding Officers—Pauline Parnell, Louise Strahlendorf, or Peter Hoban—via email at moruya.safeguarding@cg.org.au. Additionally, you may contact Maria Hicks, Manager of the Archdiocesan Institute for Professional Standards and Safeguarding (IPSS), at ipss@cg.org.au or by phone on 02 6239 9806.