

Baptisms at St Mary's

MAKING A BOOKING FOR A BAPTISM:- You can phone the Bungendore parish office on 6238 1247 between 11am and 5pm on Wednesdays. The "Request for Baptism" form can be downloaded from St Mary's website, www.stmarysbungendore.org.au/ completed and emailed to St Mary's Parish bungendore@cg.org.au

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION: The parish asks that you participate in a preparation session if this your first child or if you have not previously participated in such a session for any other

children. When you contact the office to organise a date for the baptism we will help you to arrange a suitable time for this preparation to happen.

PRESENTATION MASS: You will also be asked to attend a Presentation Mass. This is where you and your child will be welcomed to our parish community. If possible, the godparents are invited to attend this Mass to be part of this service. From Sunday 7th January our weekend Mass is at 8:30am on Sundays.



The Swag

Parishioners will see in the porch ten copies of the magazine "The Swag". This is published four times a year by the National Council of Priests of Australia.

The National Council of Priests is an Australia wide organisation of Catholic Clergy (Bishops, Priests, Deacons) and Associate Members (Lay and Religious) who join together to support each other in their ministry in the Church.

Founded in 1970 in the Spirit of Vatican II, the NCP is committed to the fraternity and further education of clergy and to representing all clergy in the public forum. The NCP is acknowledged by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

The magazine is contains articles on a wide range of topics including lay leadership of parish communities, what happens after the royal commission, the language of the missal, plenary councils past and present and the renewal of marriage preparation. Authors include a number of lay people and some nuns, as well as our own Fr Peter and Bishop Pat. There are also book reviews, letters to the editor and some obituaries for deceased members.

Please feel free to take one and read it. If there is sufficient interest, we can order more. It would also be good, when you've read it, to either bring it back or pass it on to someone else.



News from the Archdiocese and beyond

8 – September

"Consultation for Women of the Archdiocese"

From 10.00am to 3.00pm at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Blackall Street, Barton. Women are invited to share their story of faith with other women. It will be an occasion for women to name their reality, concerns and dreams for the Church in a safe and supportive environment. It will be an opportunity for women to shape a response to the listening sessions for the 2020 Plenary Council.

Register your interest: Jacinta (02) 62019861 or

catholic.women@cg.org.au

11 – September

Australian Centre for Christianity & Culture, Barton

6pm Book Launch

Fr Frank Brennan sj and Anglican bishop Stephen Pickard will launch the following books

The Forgotten Jesuit of Catholic Modernism - Anthony Maher
Faith & the Political in the Post-Secular Age - a collection of essays by Anthony Maher, Elaine Graham, Bob Dixon, Andrew Cameron, John Warhurst, Terry Veiling, Brendan Long, Frank Brennan

7:30pm "The future of the Catholic Church in Australia"

Concerned Catholics of Canberra-Goulburn will hold its 4th Public Forum

Special guest speakers:

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv DD – Diocese of Parramatta

Sr Clare Condon - Sisters of the Good Samaritan

Ms Anne Kirwan - CEO Catholic Care, Canberra-Goulburn

13-16 – September "Men's Cursillo"

A Men's Cursillo weekend is to be held at Hartzer Park Conference and Retreat Centre, Burradoo NSW. An opportunity to explore your relationship with God, their selves and with others. Further information Joe Jambor at irmandjoe@gmail.com or Mob: 0401 159 852

26-30 September—Ignite Youth Conference

Mueller Catholic College, Rothwell, Brisbane. Sessions for High School students, Uni students and leaders. More information on www.ingniteconference.com.au Some pamphlets are in the porch.

Plenary Council 2020

Listen to what the Spirit is saying.

When was the last Plenary Council in Australia?

The last Plenary Council was held 80 years ago in Australia in 1937. For a detailed insight into Plenary Councils in Australasia, read Peter Wilkinson's article published in The Swag.

How can I have a say?

More information how about local communities (formal or informal) can have their say, is available at <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/have-your-say/>



Plaques for Memorial Wall

We are now taking orders for plaques for the memorial wall.

Please contact the office for more details. **The following format will be the one used.**



St Mary's Bungendore

part of

Queanbeyan Mission

28 Turallo Terrace Bungendore

Website: www.stmarysbungendore.org.au/

Find us on Facebook



Year B

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

26th August 2018

Entrance Antiphon

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

First reading

Joshua 24:1-2,15-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people, 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed? What is more, the Lord drove all those peoples out before us, as well as the Amorites who used to live in this country. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Responsorial Psalm

R: *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

Second reading

Ephesians 5:21-32

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. *For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to*

his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel

John 6:60-69

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer.

The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

Communion Antiphon

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.



Reflection

“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

In today’s Gospel we enter in the middle of a narrative in which Jesus has just finished preaching, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believe in me will never be thirsty.” The disciples are challenged and perplexed by this mysterious teaching and they struggle to believe in Jesus’s words.

They say to themselves, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” Jesus, aware of their complaints, tries to reassure them that the words he has spoken to them “are spirit and life,” but they are unable to receive him and we learn that as a result, “many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer followed him.”

At this point the story takes an unexpected twist. Jesus, having just been rejected by many of his disciples, turns to his closest friends, the Twelve and dares to ask, “Do you also wish to leave?”

In asking this question Jesus humbles himself further and gives his dearest friends the freedom to choose discipleship or to turn away like the others. Here we encounter Jesus’ vulnerability.

Peter is the first to respond to his friend in this tender moment. Peter’s words are sincere, and full of love and affection,

“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”

As I prayed with these scripture passages, I was invited to pause here and ask...

-How was Peter able to respond with such unwavering faith to Jesus’ mysterious and unsettling words, “whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood will have eternal life.”

-What was the source of Peter’s conviction? What was the source of his belief?

-What is the difference between Peter and the other disciples who leave after hearing the very same words?

I suspect that it wasn’t because Peter was smarter than the other disciples or even that he was able to fully understand Jesus’ words while the others were not, but rather **because of Peter’s friendship with Jesus. I suspect that Peter’s proclamation of faith was rooted firmly in all that he had learned through accompanying Jesus in his public ministry and sharing his daily life.**

For the past several years I have worked in the Philippines at a program that brings students from the U.S. to study for a

semester at the Jesuit University in Manila. The key to the program is that each week our students are immersed in local communities that are living in great material poverty.

Emmie is one of our community educators who welcomes students to accompany her 2 days a week. Emmie supports her large family by walking through the streets selling homemade delicacies she cooks each day. A few years back one of our students, who I’ll call Rebecca, loved to walk with Emmie through the streets selling food in the afternoons. As they walked together, arm in arm, Emmie would share stories with Rebecca. Emmie confided in Rebecca about her family and how some of the children she was raising were actually her grandchildren who had been abandoned to her care.

Rebecca watched Emmie give discounts to tricycle drivers and street sweepers who she knew didn’t have enough money to buy her snacks. Emmie welcomed Rebecca to spend the night in her home and invited Rebecca to share meals with her family, attend prayer meetings with her, and play with her children. Towards the end of the semester, a large typhoon hit Manila and creek that runs by Emmie’s house rose and flooded their humble home, destroying almost all of their material belongings. Rebecca entered Emmie’s house the day after the flood, only to find her sweeping out the sludge and debris from the flood. Rebecca was devastated, tears welling up in her eyes. Emmie gently looked at Sara and shared, “It’s ok, don’t worry, my 8 children are alive and well and that’s the most important thing, my family.”

Like the disciples who struggles to accept Jesus’ words, Rebecca struggled to accept the words of Emmie. “It’s ok, we are ok, and that’s the most important thing, my family.” What about their clothes and their stove? How could it be alright? Rebecca was challenged. However, like Peter who had grown in relationship with Jesus, Rebecca had grown in relationship with Emmie, walking with her day to day, was about to trust Emmie and follow her lead. Rebecca had come to know Emmie’s kind heart, and the way she loved her family beyond measure. And through her relationship was able to believe in the sincerity of Emmie’s words, “It’s ok, don’t worry, my 8 children are alive and well and that’s the most important thing, my family.” Rebecca was able to believe, her heart stirred.

We live in hope that, like Peter, we may one day be able to proclaim with the whole of our lives:

“To whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.” Amen.

From a reflection by Heidi Kallen, formerly of Casa Bayanihan, Manila and currently of St Anthony’s Medical Clinic, San Francisco at the website <http://www.catholicwomenpreach.org/>

Saint of the Week - Saint Monica



Born:- 332, Thagaste, North Africa;
Died:- 387, Rome, Italy
Feast Day:- 27 August
Canonised:- before formal processes;
Patron Saint of:- difficult marriages, wayward children, victims of verbal abuse

Short biography:- Born in Roman-occupied North Africa, Monica was married at a young age to a pagan Roman official, Patricius, who was reputed to have a violent temper and dissolute habits. She had three children who survived infancy including Saint Augustine. In spite of her difficulties, Monica was a prayerful and generous woman.

Bungendore Parish General Information

Fr Peter Day Associate Priest Bungendore / Braidwood (resident in Queanbeyan)

Deacon Chris van Gessel (2nd & 4th Sundays) 0401 696 438

Secretary - Mary; Finance - Maureen;

Confessions: Father Peter is available for confessions 1st / 3rd Sundays 8 –8:15am or another mutually convenient time.

Baptisms: Usually on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 10:00 am. Please speak to the parish office if this is not a suitable

time for your family.

Phone: 6238 1247 Email: bungendore@cg.org.au

Website: www.stmarysbungendore.org.au/

Office Open: - Wednesday 11am - 5pm Office is on east side of Hall.

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8.30am

Weekday Mass: Wednesdays 9.00am;

(Anointing Mass - 1st Wednesdays)

Hoskinstown: 1st Sunday 11am **Gundaroo:** 3rd Sunday 9am

Please pray for our sick

Judy Nicolau
Hazel Costello
Emanuel Mallia
Zelma McManus (Mary-Anne Curran’s Mum)
Mary-Anne Webster
Frank Shugg
Peter Fogarty
Margaret Mikkelsen
Donn Oates (Barbara Rayner’s Dad)
Erwin Feeken
Tony Boys
Maureen Boss

Recently Deceased:

James Lim (Deacon John’s brother)
Michael Curran (John’s Dad)
David McCamley
Ishabel Richards (Helen Montesin’s Mum)

Anniversaries:

Patrick Joseph Byrne
Leo Evans
Annie Hamilton
George McIntyre
William O’Donnell
Mary Jane Girvan
Peter Gallagher
Karina Kingston
Kara Kingston
Neville Flynn
Irene Gormly
Douglas Phillips
Kenneth Coombe

Sick List Names

Except for people whom the office knows to have chronic conditions, we will be taking names off the sick list after three months. Please check with people, before requesting that their names be added to the list.

St Mary’s Hall Bookings

Hall bookings can be made by emailing bungendore@cg.org.au

Current regular bookings for the hall are Monday 5:30—8pm, Tuesday evenings, Wednesday 5:30—8pm (except last Wednesday of month), Friday 9am—10:15am, and Seniors 10am-2pm Tuesdays.

The continuing paving saga

No new developments this week.

Drought Relief

For the next few weeks we will be taking up a collection for drought relief to add a practical dimension to our prayerful concern about the effects the lack of rain is having in our nation. Local knitters may also wish to contribute to ‘Lamb Jumpers-Helping our farmers’ who are making vests for poddy lambs. They have a facebook page with more details.

Children’s Liturgy

Children’s liturgy is on again this week. The leader is Kim McGillion.

Confirmation Program

Our Confirmation preparation program is for children in at least Year 6 and will consist of Preparation Masses on Sundays 26th August, 2nd, 9th and 16th September; followed each week by a one hour parent / child class;

Church Cleaning : September:- Tina Kelly & Pauline Segeri
Thanks to those who have been cleaning the church in August.

Church Opening hours

St Mary’s is open most days from 9am to 5pm for prayer and quiet reflection. Please keep the sliding glass door shut.

Ministries Roster

Sunday 26th August 2018 8:30 am
A: David Webster
E.M: Pauline Segeri & Anna Melek
R: Tess Montesin & Jacinta Carroll
Gifts: Greg & Sarah Darmody
Servers: Thomas K

Sunday 2nd September 2018 8:30 am
A: Anna Melek
E.M: Pauline Segeri & Tess Montesin
R: David & Alison Bishop
Gifts: Rene Mallia & family
Servers: Natalie G

Reflection and Practice session on Thursday 18th October 6pm (for a maximum of 1.5 hours)
The Confirmation Mass is Sunday 21st October and will be followed by morning tea;
Detailed information is available on the parish website.

Printer—free to good home

The Parish Office has a Canon A4 inkjet printer which is surplus to our requirements. It is a number of years old but is in good working order. It includes some generic inks. Please email us if you would like to adopt this printer. First in—best dressed!

Thursday 30th August Combined PPC/PFC meeting

The Parish Council and the Parish Finance Committee will be having a joint meeting in the hall next Thursday.

Topics to be discussed include:-

- ◆ a joint parish submission to the Plenary Council listening process
- ◆ —restarting Scripture study sessions— fortnightly
- ◆ —a report on the paving and drainage works and an application for a heritage grant to assist with further maintenance of our historic church and grounds
- ◆ —Deacon Chris’s role in the parish
- ◆ —contribution to drought relief
- ◆ —possible future construction of retirement units on part of the church grounds

Any additions to this, or further enquiries to David Webster.

Morning Tea: Held monthly, after 8.30am Sunday Mass.
Next one: 2nd September 2018