



St Mary's Bungendore  
 St Joseph's Gundaroo  
 St Peter & Paul's Hoskinstown  
 St Joseph's Tarago

<http://cg.org.au/bungendore/Home.aspx>

Fr. Tony Percy 0431 225 574 (Administrator)



## Feast of the HOLY FAMILY of Jesus ,Mary & Joseph

31st December, 2023

### BUNGENDORE PARISH TEAM

Fr. Tony Percy is our Administrator.

Baptisms: Baptisms will be on 1st & 3rd Sunday during Mass.  
 Please email or ring the parish office to arrange a baptism.

Weddings: Please contact Parish office; at least six months  
 notice required.

Phone: 6238 1247

Email: [bungendore@cg.org.au](mailto:bungendore@cg.org.au)

Website: <http://cg.org.au/bungendore/Home.aspx>

Secretary- Julie-Ann

Office Open: - Wednesday - 10:30am - 5:00pm  
 Thursday—9:00am—3:30pm

### BUNGENDORE, BRAIDWOOD and REGION MASS TIMES

Bungendore : Sunday 8.30am; Weekday Mass: Wednesday 9am Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Braidwood: Saturday 6.00pm Weekday Mass: Tuesday 10.00am Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Hoskinstown: Four times a year—1st Sunday Feb, May, Aug 10:30am (Nov cancelled)

Gundaroo: 2nd & 4th Sunday 10:30am

Tarago: TBA

Krawarree: 5th Sunday 11.00am



## HOLY FAMILY

Heavenly Father,  
 you have given us the model of life  
 in the holy family of Nazareth.  
 Help us make our family  
 another Nazareth  
 where love, peace and joy reign.  
 Teach us to see Jesus  
 in the members of our families,  
 especially in their distressing disguise.  
 May we love one another  
 as God loves each of us,  
 more and more each day,  
 and forgive each other's faults  
 as you forgive our sins.  
 Help us take whatever you give  
 and give whatever you take  
 with a big smile. *Amen.*

—St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta



The Parish of St Mary's, Bungendore acknowledges the Ngunnawal and Ngabri people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for many thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

### Entrance Antiphon

The shepherds went in haste,  
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

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### First reading

Genesis 15:1-6. 21:1-3

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'.

'My Lord', Abram replied, 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be one of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

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### Responsorial Psalm

**(R.)** *The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.*

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples.  
O sing to him, sing his praise;  
tell all his wonderful works! **(R.)**

Be proud of his holy name,  
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.  
Consider the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face. **(R.)**

Remember the wonders he has done,  
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.  
O children of Abraham, his servant,  
O sons of the Jacob he chose. **(R.)**

He remembers his covenant for ever,  
his promise for a thousand generations,  
the covenant he made with Abraham,  
the oath he swore to Isaac. **(R.)**

### Second reading

Hebrews 11:8. 11-12. 17-19

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and

his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

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### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,  
and the fullness of his message live within you.  
Alleluia!

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### Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master,  
you can let your servant go in peace,  
just as you promised;  
because my eyes have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,  
a light to enlighten the pagans  
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his

mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

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### Communion Antiphon

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

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## Dates for your Diary

**Wednesday Prayer & Communion** - 9am then please join us as we gather afterward at local café.

**Fridays @ St Mary's**—9am PRAY FOR PEACE Rosary & Reflection .

### For direct credit payments to the Parish:

BSB: 062-786 ACC: 00014851

NAME: St Mary's Parish Bungendore

Reference: NAME

Please give some consideration into how your time and talents can be used in our parish.

We need more people for the offertory and also for church cleaning.

## NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE AND BEYOND

The Archdiocese is closed until after 2nd January 2024 as they take a well earned break.

**Please pray for:-** Lauren Horton, Frank Shugg, Margaret Mikkelsen, Erwin Feeken, Maureen Boss, Sheather family, Doris and Roger Cutbill, Diana Robertson, Luke Alam, Bob Angel, Patrick Elwood, Peter Gagliardi, Annie Nikolaou, Jack Sealey, Magdalen Sillis, Stewart Briggs, Ed Cory, Cassandra Mallia, Bob Yates, Ann Reardon, Mary Coombe, Wayne Smith, Karen Toscan, Pam Finch, Rene Mallia ,Ken & Cathy Vine ,Elizabeth Van Gessel, Barb Rayner, Fr. Mick Burke ,Adrian van Prooyen & Carol-Jayne McManus.

### Recently Deceased:

**Anniversaries:-** Heather Shugg, Teresa Philips, Ruby Mary Flynn, Leslie Fabian Murphy, Sylvia Treweeke, Donald Milynn, Catherine Seery & Margaret Woodward.

### Church Cleaning Thanks!

DECEMBER : **Tess Montesin &**

**Rene Mallia**

JANUARY : **Julie-Ann Snudden**



### Plaques for Memorial Wall

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

Please contact the office for more details.

The above format will be the one used.



### Liturgical Roster

**Sunday : 31st December 2023 8:30 am**

**Minister of the Altar: Chris Murdock**

**R1; R2: Catherine Mueller & Mary-Ann Curran**

**Offertory:**

**Welcomer:**

**Sunday : 7th January, 2024 8:30 am**

**Minister of the Altar: David Bishop**

**R1; R2: Pauline Segeri & Julie-Ann Snudden**

**Offertory:**

**Welcomer: Julie-Ann Snudden**

**BUNGENDORE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Helen Jewell  
David Bishop  
Jenny Amey  
Chris Murdock  
Tess Montesin  
Julie-Ann Snudden

**BUNGENDORE PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL**

Greg Darmody (Chairperson)  
Michele Murdock  
Richard Konarski  
Ian Cusack  
Ed Cory  
Stephen Dunkerley

## *Reflection*

When I was sixteen, I read the works of Jesuit Fr John Powell. In one of his books he wrote, 'We should never leave this world not having the people that we love know that we love them.' Now, I don't come from a particularly demonstrative family. We do not make regular declarations of our love accompanied by long hugs. So I took John Powell's line as a personal challenge.

At the time my sister was working with Mother Teresa in Calcutta, and my brother was working in another city, so I wrote them both letters and told them I loved them. I never heard a word back.

That left my mother. I stayed in one Saturday night and, with my heart pumping and my tummy churning, I approached my mother after dinner while she was watching the news on the TV. 'Mum, I have something very important to tell you.' My mother, not taking her eyes from the screen, casually said, 'Oh yes, what's that?' 'Mum', I responded, 'I've never told you this before and I need to say it tonight.' As she slowly turned off the TV and faced me, I could tell there were now two hearts pumping and two tummies churning in that room!

I plucked up all my courage and came straight out with it. 'Mum, I just want to tell you that I love you.' And such was her relief that my mother replied. 'I hope so!' And quickly turned the TV back on. There were no hugs and kisses, no violins playing or statements about how long Mum had been waiting to hear one of us talk of our love for her. As I walked back to my room I thought I would never take John Powell's advice again!

My brother and sister wrote to my mother asking her what was wrong with me. They all concluded it was a phase I was going through. I hope it is a phase I never get over!

Today's feast of the Holy Family is about faithful love that looks after the most important people in our lives. We all know that fights and bitterness can wreck families for generations. If today's feast means anything it is not about romanticising how difficult family life can be these days. It is about naming that forgiveness, compassion and kindness are the blocks upon which Christian family life is built. Without these virtues family life crumbles.

The best way to honour today's feast is to do something about the faithful love it celebrates. I have often been with people on their deathbed when they speak about things they have left undone and would have liked to have achieved in their life. No one ever says that they wish they had spent more time at work. No one says they wish they had made more money. But many people say that they wish they had told those that they love, that they loved them. We shouldn't assume that our families know about our love for them if we haven't said it. If we show it, we should be able to say it. So write a letter, make a call or go and see them, but let's pluck up our courage and tell our families that we love them. It's too late once we're dead.

And the best news is that when we profess our love to our families we'll see that today's celebration is in fact a moveable feast.

a reflection from [liturgyhelp.com](http://liturgyhelp.com) by © Richard Leonard