



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. Joshua Scott (Interim Administrator)



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time 25th August, 2024

BUNGENDORE PARISH TEAM

Fr Joshua Scott : joshua.scott@cg.org.au or 6299 4611

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

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

Secretary- Julie-Ann

Office - 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: 1st & 3rd Sunday after Mass

Braidwood: Saturday 5.00pm (Starting 2nd March)

Gundaroo: 2nd & 4th Sunday 10:30am _Baptisms will be conducted during Mass on these dates.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

This year's Social Justice Statement has as its theme, TRUTH AND PEACE: A Gospel Word in a Violent World. In the 2024 – 2025 Social Justice Statement, "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World", Australia's Bishops scrutinise the signs of our own troubled times, observe the violence around us, and ask why it is so. They also ask what is needed if there is to be peace. In a world full of pessimism, they put their faith and hope in the possibility of peace.

Using scripture and the guidance of Pope St. John XXIII's *Pacem in Terris* and Pope Francis' *Fratelli Tutti*, we learn that peace is possible if we put our trust in Christ who is the way, the truth and the life and the Prince of Peace. It is from him that we learn about the architecture of peace. From him, we learn a commitment to the culture of encounter, the value of dialogue at all levels and the importance of seeing everyone as our sister, our brother.

At a time when violence is everywhere we look, such a word, a word of truth, doesn't seem to make sense. It looks like weakness in a world where it seems only the strong can thrive, but the Gospel says that what looks like strength is weakness and what looks like weakness is strength. This is the upside-down logic of the Cross which never seems to make sense.

War may seem to be a show of strength, but it isn't. The rejection of truth upon which war depends may seem to make sense but it doesn't. The prime truth, a recognition of which is essential for peace, is the God-given dignity of the human being, which is violated whenever we have war. Connected to this is the further truth that every other human being is not my enemy but my sister, my brother, even my friend; and this truth too is rejected too whenever there is war. As St Paul says in Ephesians, there is only "one body"; but war denies that truth. So, on this Social Justice Sunday and with the Social Justice Statement in our hand, we are God's People who speak that truth upon which peace depends. With Peter, we say to the Lord Jesus: "To whom would we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we know that you are the Holy One of God". We are those who reply to Joshua: "We will serve the Lord, for he is our God", knowing that to serve the Lord isn't just a matter of religious formalities but requires a self-sacrificing commitment to the justice of God, a world of right relationship in which peace becomes possible, a world which makes sense.



The Parish of St Mary's, Bungendore acknowledges the Ngunnawal and Ngambri 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

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. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal. **(R.)**

They call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save. **(R.)**

Many are the trials of the just man
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
not one of his bones shall be broken. **(R.)**

Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. **(R.)**

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!

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.

PARISH NEWS

Prayer for Vocations—Pray for our Parish

*Lord of the Harvest,
Help men and women to hear the call and to serve in
the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn.
Our needs are great and our people thirst for your
presence.
Open the hearts of many, raise up faithful servants of
the gospel, dedicated, holy priests, sisters, brothers
and deacons, who will spend themselves for your
people and their needs.
Bless those who are serving now with courage and
perseverance.
Grant that many will be inspired by their example
and faith.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Please pray for:- Frank Shugg, Margaret Mikkelsen, Erwin Feeken, Sheather family, Roger Cutbill, Diana Robertson, Luke Alam, Bob Angel, Patrick Elwood, Peter Gagliardi, Annie Nikolaou, 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, Katherine Southwell, Carmen Azzopardi, Mary McCullagh, Peter Hugonnet, George Bishop-Lyras, Bishop Pat Power .

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries:- Kenneth Coombe, Douglas Phillips, Irene Gormly, Neville Flynn, Kara Kingston, Karina Kingston, Peter Gallagher, Mary Jane Girvan, William O'Donnell, George McIntyre, Annie Hamilton, Leo Evans & Patrick Joseph Byrne.

Church Cleaning Thanks!

**AUGUST : Mary-Anne & John
Curran
SEPTEMBER : Pauline Segeri**



**Wednesdays @ St Mary's—9am Prayer and
Communion Service followed by Rosary.**

Join us after at The Gathering for a cuppa

Fridays @ St Mary's—9am Rosary and Reflection

Social Sunday—15th September join us after Mass

For direct credit payments to the Parish:

BSB: 062-786 ACC: 00014851

NAME: St Mary's Parish Bungendore

Reference: NAME

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE AND BEYOND

Adoration Retreat

Saturday, 7th September 9.30am- 4pm

St Benedict's Church, 10 Tallara Parkway,
Narrabundah

Lunch and Morning Tea provided. \$20 donation
Are you carrying rocks in your daily spiritual
backpack? Unload some burdens and refill with
hope. Join Sr Kate Atkins, an experienced spiritual
guide, as we journey towards Jubilee 2025. For more
information contact Anne Sutherland 0413 203 901

**Marymead CatholicCare High Tea Buffet \$60
Sunday, 8th September 2:00pm**

Mercure Canberra, corner of Ainslie & Limestone
Avenue, Braddon.

Join the Marymead CatholicCare Auxiliary for a high
tea buffet

Bookings close on 22 August 2024.

Visit mccg.org.au for more details on how to book.

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 : 25th August, 2024 8:30 am

Minister of the Altar: Thomas Konarski

R1; R2: Sarah & Stephen Dunkerley

Offertory: Pauline Segeri

Welcomer:

Sunday : 1st September, 2024 8:30 am

Minister of the Altar: David Bishop

R1; R2: Louella & Luke Reeves

Offertory:

Welcomer: Julie-Ann Snudden

BUNGENDORE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Helen Jewell
David Bishop
Jenny Amey
Chris Murdock
Julie-Ann Snudden (ex-officio)

BUNGENDORE PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Greg Darmody (Chairperson)
Michele Murdock
Richard Konarski
Ian Cusack
Ed Cory
Stephen Dunkerley
Julie-Ann Snudden (ex-officio)

Reflection

The Word of Eternal Life

I remember seeing a James Bond film in which the Voodoo priest could summon the Living Dead – called Zombies – people hovering between life in the grave and life above ground level, but ultimately trapped as human beings living a grave-dominated existence.

There are billions of the Living Dead around the world. People, apparently like you and me, but in fact living with the belief that the grave will mark the extinction of their life.

But *our* ears are attuned to pick up words which sound the possibility of a different destiny, a different reality. We have heard a voice which speaks the truth, a voice which speaks of a more beautiful reality. That voice says that you and I, individually, personally, are star dust with a marvellous destiny: a destiny that will see our ensouled bodies transformed, transfigured, translucent with Divine Light and energy.

The voice is that of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We hear that voice from within the Church, which has transmitted the tradition of 'The Voice' for twenty centuries.

Heeding that Voice, I move from the company of the Living Dead to the companionship of the Conqueror of Death. I am no longer a 'Dead Man Walking' but a man alive with the reality of eternal life already within me.

That is why when I hear the challenge: 'Do you also wish to go away?' I enter into that tradition and answer with St Peter, I answer in the company of billions of others over twenty centuries: 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.'

We could pause for a moment and pray that, living in the tradition of the Church, I may hear the Word in the Gospel and take that Word within myself in Holy Communion so that I might be no longer a 'Dead Man Walking', but a human being alive with the reality of eternal life already within me.