

# St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year A | Sunday 9th February 2020



## Mission Statement:

We the St Mary Queen of Heaven parish, are called to be a strong, loving, caring family united in faith. Guided by the Spirit of Jesus we desire to use our diverse talents to reach out and encourage others. We cherish the living tradition of our Catholic church and will seek to heal misunderstandings and hurt in our midst so that Jesus' prayer may be realised, "Father may they be one, as you and I are one."

## Parish Priest:

Fr Joseph Kolodziej

## Parish Office:

Monday - Friday ph: 9727 3759  
[parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com)

## Safeguarding Officer/Secretary:

Veronica Denning  
[veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com)  
(Please email to join our Bulletin mailing list)

## Parish Website:

Under Redevelopment

## Parish Facebook:

Follow: [fb.me/smgh2](https://fb.me/smgh2)



## Parish School:

Ph: 9727 0000

[www.stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au)



## A Message from Fr Joseph

We as true Christians we give flavour to the life of others, not to be tempted to shine light upon themselves but to bring the light of faith to their neighbours and to mankind. We are all drawing inspiration from the Gospel reading of this Sunday when Jesus told his disciples "you are the salt of the earth", "you are the light of the world". Christians, must be salt and light, but never self-serving: salt must add flavour and light must illuminate the other.

"What must we do as Christian in order for the salt not to run out, so that the oil to light the lamp does not come to an end?" The "battery" a Christian uses to generate light, is simply prayer and many works of charity.

Prayer is what lights up Christian life, that prayer is a "serious" matter: "a prayer of adoration to God the Father, a prayer of praise to the Holy Trinity, a prayer of thanksgiving, a prayer to request to God... prayer must come from the heart".

As regards the salt that Christians are called to be: it becomes salt when it is given to others. Salt is something to be used, not to keep for oneself – but to give to others. "It's curious – both salt and light are for others, not for oneself: salt does not give flavour to itself; light does not illuminate itself". Of course, you may be wondering how long salt and light can last without running out if we continue to give of ourselves relentlessly.

"That's where the power of God comes in, because the Christian is salt given to us by God during Baptism, it's a gift that never ends".

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

### SATURDAY 8th (St Josephine Bakhita)

Mass // 9am  
Reconciliation // 4pm  
Mass (English) // 5pm  
Mass (Vietnamese) // 6.30pm

### SUNDAY 9th

Mass (English) // 8am, 10am, 5pm  
Mass (Vietnamese) // 3pm  
Ephesus Youth Group // 5.30pm

### MONDAY 10th (St Scholastica)

Mass // 8am  
Nursing Home Mass // 10.30am  
Prayer Group in Chapel // 5.00pm

### TUESDAY 11th (Our Lady of Lourdes)

Holy Hour and Rosary // 5pm  
Mass // 6pm  
Parish Council Meeting // 7pm

### WEDNESDAY 12th

Rosary // 7.45am  
Mass // 8am  
Playtime // 8.45am

### THURSDAY 13th

Rosary // 7.45am  
Mass // 8am  
Nursing Home Mass // 10.00am

### FRIDAY 14th (Saints Cyril and Methodius and St Valentine)

Rosary // 7.45am  
Mass // 8am



### SATURDAY 15th

Mass // 9am  
Reconciliation // 4pm  
Mass (English) // 5pm  
Mass (Vietnamese) // 6.30pm

### SUNDAY 16th

Mass (English) // 8am, 10am, 5pm  
Kindy Welcome Mass // 10am  
Mass (Vietnamese) // 3pm

***"Be the beacon of light in someone's darkness." - Randi G Fine***

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Sick:**

Daniel Matesic,  
Christina Apolinario,  
Romela Onkowiedjaja  
Pam Schmidt, Joan Romeo,  
Bronwyn Kolodziej,  
Daniel Clarke, David Sanders,  
Eileen Ellery, Eunice Davis,  
Heather Graham, John Sanders,  
Tamara Kalass, Warren Clarke

**Recently Deceased:**

Piotr Januchta, Joan Pasa,  
Halina Donarska, Ryan Lynch,  
Elizabeth May Batley,  
Vincent Thai Nguyen,  
Doug Shedden

**Anniversaries:**

Tom Crook, Incenzo Tripodina,  
Carla Strambio, Margaret Boyle,  
Margaret Tierney,  
Bertha Martin, Peter Comforti,  
Dennis Regan, Eileen Harris,  
Bonafacia Mendez,  
Joseph Nguyen,  
Rita Mary Lawler,  
Lilian Fitzgibbon,  
Michael Pace (2014)

**For the Souls of the Faithful Departed:**

Eternal rest grant unto them  
O Lord and let perpetual light  
shine upon them.

May all the souls of all the faithful  
departed, through the mercy of  
God, rest in peace.  
Amen.



**Youth Corner (Ephesus)**



Ephesus youth group will meet on Sunday 9th February in the school hall after 5.00pm Mass. All high schoolers are welcome for an evening of hospitality, teaching, discussion groups and prayer. The evening will focus on the theme for youth set by Pope Francis, based on the Gospel of Luke "Young man, I say to you, *Arise!*" (7:14). The evening will look at waking up from the holidays and getting ready for a new school and liturgical year!

**St Mary's Primary School**

This week we celebrated our Beginning of School Mass. At this Mass we reflected on the summer holiday period and the bravery and resilience of the volunteers. We also badged our 2020 Student Leadership Representatives. Our leadership roles reflect the values of Mary MacKillop: faith, generosity, kindness, hospitality, wisdom and stewardship.



**Sacraments**

- **Baptism:** Any weekend at a Mass or at 11.00am on Sundays. Please contact the Parish Office to make a prior booking.
- **Marriage:** Couples need to provide at least six months' notice. A marriage preparation course is required.
- **Reconciliation:** Saturdays at 4.00pm or any other time by appointment, please contact Father Joseph.

**Family & Faith**

**Children's Liturgy**  
Sunday 23 February  
10.00am Mass

Children's Liturgy Masses are held once each month during the 10.00am Mass. The children will reflect on the Gospel message and do an activity that relates to the Gospel.



**All children are welcome.** Parents & guardians too

**Dates for 2020:**

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 23 February | 19 July      |
| 15 March    | 16 August    |
| 19 April    | 20 September |
| 24 May      | 18 October   |
| 28 June     | 22 November  |

**Enquiries:** Gill 0407413376 or  
Veronica 0407 231 262

**PLAYGROUP**

Wednesday @ 8.45am in the school hall.  
Toys, books and puzzles are available for children; as well as an opportunity to listen to a bible story.

Coffee and tea is provided for adults.  
Please bring any food & drinks for your children.



**Safeguarding our Parish (A message from the Archdiocese)**

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 93905810. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. Enquiries: please contact Veronica on 0407231262 or email: veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com





## Parish Notices

### Parish Council Meeting

The first Parish Council meeting for 2020 will be this Tuesday 11th February at 7pm.

### Choir Practice

There will be choir practice on Thursday 13 February at 7.30pm in preparation for the 5.00pm Mass on Saturday 15 February. New members are always welcome.

Enquiries Pat Falvy: 0425219660

### Sacramental Program 2020

In 2020, enrolment for both the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be on Tuesday 25th February at 7pm. Enrolment forms are available at the back of the church. Any parent or guardian wishing for their children to make these sacraments must attend the enrollment night. Please bring your child's Baptism certificate and registration fee: \$80 (\$30 - Reconciliation and \$50 - First Holy Communion) to the enrollment night.

Enquiries: Nadia Dore on 0414849569

Parishioners who are interested in assisting with the sacraments are welcome. If you can assist there is always room in the following ministries:

- Lesson facilitators - Helpers at lessons
- Church decorating and tidying
- Help on registration night
- Help on Day of the Sacrament

Please contact: Nadia Dore on 0414849569

### First Reconciliation Dates

- Enrolment: 25 February 7.00pm
- Commitment: 29 February & 1 March
- Sacrament: 28 March

### First Communion Dates

- Information Night: 12th May 7.00pm
- Retreats: 12 & 19 June
- Sacraments: 13 & 14 June
- Sacraments: 20 & 21 June

### Confirmation Dates

- Enrolment: Tuesday 4th August 7.00pm
- Retreat: 25 September
- Sacrament: 26 September

### Social Outing - 19th February

Immerse yourself in history by visiting the North Head Quarantine Station.

Date: 19 February

Cost: \$40 (bus and tour)

Morning tea and lunch: bring your own or purchase at the venue

Pick up: 9.00am at church

Payment: Envelopes are available near the sacristy – write your details on and put exact money in envelope and place in box near sacristy by Sun 9 Feb. Numbers are limited so please book quickly. Enquiries: Lorraine 9724 9519



## 14 February – Saints Cyril and Methodius



Cyril was born in about 826 in Thessalonica (Greece) and died in Rome in 869. His brother, Methodius was born about 815 and died in Velehrad (Czech Republic) in 885. With papal approval they preached the gospel in Moravia using their own translations of the Scriptures and the liturgy in the local language. These translations into Slavonic were based on an alphabet they invented now called Cyrillic. The success of their preaching aroused jealous Frankish opposition. Honoured as apostles of the Slavic peoples, they are remembered together for their contribution to Slavic culture, for their missionary inculturation of the faith, and for establishing links between east and west.

## Pope Francis on HOPE

Sometimes we can all feel that 'there is nothing but bad news'. Pope Francis has spoken extensively, especially to young people, about the importance of **hope**. Here are some of his pointers:

- Enemy No 1 is not out there somewhere, but inside oneself. Don't make room for bitter or dark thoughts.
- When life gets hard and you have fallen, get up! Never stay down. Get up and let people help you to your feet.
- Work for peace among people.
- Wherever you are, build!
- Love people. Respect everyone's journey - whether it be troubled or down the straight and narrow because everyone has a story behind them.
- If you're bored stiff, crush (boredom) with good works.
- Ask God for courage every day.
- Hold onto ideals and live for something greater than yourself, even if it comes at a high price.
- Jesus has given us a light that shines in the darkness; defend it, protect it. This unique light is the greatest richness entrusted to your life.



## Feb 8th - Day of Prayer Against Human Trafficking

Heavenly Father, intercede for victims of human trafficking, modern slavery, those suffering silently, their captors and our society. May they be released from the chains of captivity and given the courage to find healing. Help us to be thankful for our freedom and to know that we are only truly free through faith. We pray for the men and women working tirelessly to be the voice and advocate for all those suffering in slavery, may they be blessed. Amen.

First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p><b>Is 58:7-10</b> A reading from the prophet Isaiah <i>Your light will shine like the dawn.</i></p> <p>Thus says the Lord: Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here.' If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.</p> 	<p><b>(R) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.</b></p> <p>1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright: he is generous, merciful and just. The good man takes pity and lends, he conducts his affairs with honour. (R.)</p> <p>2. The just man will never waver: he will be remembered for ever. He has no fear of evil news; with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. (R.)</p> <p>3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear; open-handed, he gives to the poor; his justice stands firm for ever. His head will be raised in glory. (R.)</p> 	<p><b>1 Cor 2:1-5</b> A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians <i>I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.</i></p> <p>When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.</p>
	<p><b>Next Week: 6th Sunday Ord Time</b></p> <p><b>First Reading:</b> Sir 15:15-20 <b>Second Reading:</b> 1 Cor 2:6-10 <b>Gospel:</b> Mt 5:17-37 (Jesus comes to fulfil the law.)</p>	<p><b>Gospel Acclamation</b></p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!</p>

## Gospel



**Mt 5:13-16**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
*You are the light of the world.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

## Reflection by Michael Tate

You are the salt of the earth, you are the light of the world. 'You' is in the plural. So these descriptions are meant to apply to us as a Christian community. Salt in the ancient world was a preservative for food. So, we are the ones who are to preserve the earth, to prevent its deterioration, to keep it life-giving. Salt has to penetrate food to have an effect. We have to penetrate the world with our "Sermon on the Mount Values". Staying self-contained as a perfect little band of Christians is about as useful as salt remaining in the saltshaker. In Our Lord's scary opinion we would quite rightly be trampled underfoot.

How are we light for the world? By 'good works'? No, a truer translation is by 'beautiful works'. These are those things we do which have grace, elegance and proportion and are therefore pleasing to observe: beautifully-good-works. The job of faith is to enable us to live out and build Christ's reign of justice and love in this world as a foretaste of what awaits us in heaven. May this Eucharist enable us to seek out the people and places that will see the saltiness of our faith remain fresh and interesting so that we will have every chance of preserving our faith in the dryer times, and of our faith in Jesus preserving us in the face of the trials and tests that come our way.