

St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



4th Sunday of Lent | Year A | Sunday 22nd March 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

Safeguarding Officer/Secretary:

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

Parish Website:

www.smgh.org.au

Parish Facebook:

Follow: [fb.me/smggh2](https://www.facebook.com/smggh2)



Parish School:

Ph: 9727 0000
www.stmgeorgeshall.catholic.edu.au



Dear Parishioners and friends,

Further to recent Federal Government announcements regarding COVID-19 and directives issued by the Archdiocese of Sydney, we advise of the following changes to the celebration of Mass and other celebrations in our Parish.

THESE CHANGES ARE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

No indoor Mass or Church event with more than 100 people in total - this number includes Fr. Joseph and the acolyte.

Mass times are as follows:

- Weekday masses as normal - 8am Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. 6pm Tuesday.
- Saturday morning mass - 9am
- Saturday Vigil Mass - 5pm
- Sunday morning Masses - 8am, **9am (extra Mass for senior parishioners)** and 10am
- Sunday evening Mass at 5pm

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Our pews have been set up with the government policy of 4 square metres distancing. There is an orange dot at each place people are able to sit. Each pew has dots at the end of it showing how many places are available for each pew. Therefore there is only enough seating in the church for 50 people. Additional seats have been placed in the church forecourt and in the area at the side of the church for overflow.

Mass offerings will be collected at the doors of the church before Mass.

A dispensation from Pope Francis has been granted for the Lenten season for those who wish to self-isolate.

There will be only 2 altar servers at each Mass.

Parishioners are asked to depart immediately after Mass and not congregate outside near the church door. This will ensure that the following Mass can start on time.

Your cooperation and understanding is appreciated. ~ Father Joseph

EACH WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

SATURDAY:

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

SUNDAY:

Mass (English) // 8am, 9am (senior parishioners)
10am, 5pm
Mass (Vietnamese) // 3pm

MONDAY:

Mass // 8am
Prayer Group in the Chapel // 5pm

TUESDAY:

Holy Hour and Rosary // 5pm
Mass // 6pm

WEDNESDAY:

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

THURSDAY:

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

FRIDAY:

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Sunday 22nd

St Charbel's Mass // 10am
~~Ephesus Youth Group // 5.30pm - Cancelled~~

Monday 23rd:

First Reconciliation // 6pm

Tuesday 24th

Funeral + Phyllis Zarb // 10am
First Reconciliation // 7pm

Wednesday 25th

The Annunciation of the Lord
Funeral at Outdoor Chapel, Rookwood +
Glenn Carroll

~~Playgroup // 8.45am - Cancelled~~

1st Rite of Reconciliation // 7pm

Friday 27th

Altar Service Thurable Training // 3:45pm
Stations of the Cross // 7pm

Saturday 28th

Baptism // 4pm

"Today let us ask ourselves whether we are afraid of what God MIGHT ask or of what he DOES ask..." ~ Pope Francis

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Sick:

Barbara Kains,
Bronwyn Kolodziej,
Christina Apolinario,
Claudia Tabares,
Daniel Matesic, Daniel Clarke,
David Sanders, Denis King,
Eileen Ellery, Eunice Davis,
Heather Graham, John Sanders,
Pam Schmidt, Paul Roughley,
Romela Onkowidjaja,
Rosa Agostino, Tamara Kalass,
Warren Clarke

Recently Deceased:

Glenn Carroll, Phyllis Zarb,
Anastazja Laniewska Weige,
Mary Grech, Claudia Tabares,
Karl Berner, Fay Frost,
Dominic Nam Nguyen,
Dr. Li. Wienliang,
Piotr Januchta, Joan Pasa,
Halina Donarska, Ryan Lynch,
Elizabeth May Batley

Anniversaries:

Michalina Greczek,
Lucy Patricia Mulholland,
Joe Martin, John David Mayo,
Colin Mills,
Enriqueta De Guzman,
Stanislaw Ziolkowski,
Bill Mitchell,
Donald Scott (2012),
Terese Tripodina, Ivy Dickson,
Petic Spliet (2011),
John Dally McGaurian,
Timothy Patrick King,
Victoria Bonnici,
Antonio Tallarida,
Angela Porreca (2014),
Silverio Toigo (2017),
Waddih Awada, Eileen Pullicino,
Iris Caruana,
Clemintina DiGiorgio,
Ron Brown,
Gweneth Lydia Armstrong,
Josef Pietras

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)

Due to escalating precautions and measures; we have decided to postpone our Ephesus night (22/3/20) until further notice. Please keep up to date via Instagram [@smghephesus](https://www.instagram.com/smghephesus). Enquires: Grace 0449505222

Mary Queen of Heaven,
Under your protection, we seek refuge and entrust to you the health of the sick, may they be consoled and cared for. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, the elderly and most vulnerable in our communities. We pray for those who at this time cannot embrace their loved ones. We pray for medical personnel that as they seek to heal others, they may receive their own healing from your Divine Son. We pray for all industries affected by the virus outbreak, as well as countries and communities that are less equipped to respond to the crisis. Mary, you know our needs, and we are sure you will intercede for us as you did at the Wedding at Cana; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen



St Mary's Primary School



Last week we celebrated Harmony Week which celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. We had a special assembly where we shared petitions in different languages and read books from different cultures. We made origami peace cranes to hang in our undercroft as a symbol of hope & peace.

Sacraments

- **Baptism:** Any weekend at a Mass or at 11.00am on Sundays. Please contact the Parish Office to make 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.

Sacramental Program 2020 – First Reconciliation

Last Sacramental Lessons will be held this Monday 6.00pm and Tuesday 7.00pm
All children enrolled in the program and one parent must attend a lesson each week.
The Sacrament will be celebrated next Saturday 29 March at 2.00pm and 3.00pm.
Please pray for our parish children who will celebrate their First Reconciliation.

Family & Faith

A Child's Prayer to Saint Joseph

St. Joseph,
watch over me and care for me
just as you cared for the child Jesus;
and by your help,
may I come to know
your Son,
and so grow in strength
and wisdom
and the favor of God.
Amen.



As a precaution our St Mary Queen of Heaven Playtime will not be held until further notice. Please check the bulletin each week for further updates.

**Love in the Laundry
Washing Powder Drive
For the House of Welcome**



Thank you to those who have donated.
So far we have prepared 301 serves of
laundry powder totalling 183kgs.

Parish Notices



COVID-19 Update

Click for latest Sydney Archdiocesan Advice here:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/>

OR go to Parish Website www.smgh.org.au

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference would like to take a proactive measure to protect those who are most vulnerable:

- Do not use the Holy Water stoups.
- Wash your hands before and after Mass.
- Make the sign of peace without shaking hands (a smile, nod, wave or bow).
- Receive Holy Communion reverently in the hands.
- If unwell (coronavirus or other condition, or at a particular risk of contracting a virus) you can honour your Sunday obligation at home in prayer and reading the Scriptures (or watching a televised Mass at 6.00am Channel 10).

Full Correspondence: [Click here](#)

Project Compassion Boxes

Caritas' annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal, that supports social justice and sustainability projects in Australia and all over the world. Please collect your Project Compassion box from the back of the Church.

Altar Service Training

Altar Servers in Year 6 or older are invited to receive Training for the thurible (incense burner). Training will take place on Friday 27 March at 3.45pm. This is to be prepared for Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil. Parental approval is required to do the training. Parents to confirm availability for training by Friday 20th March. Enquiries: Michael Smith 9790 5156

Stations of the Cross

Is prayed with a Rite of Holy Communion every Friday at 7.00pm



Parish Council Meeting Postponed

Our apologies but the Parish Council meeting scheduled for last Tuesday evening needed to be postponed at short notice for a variety of reasons. We will let you know when we plan our next meeting.

Prayer Garden

We are looking to create a beautiful prayer garden outside the church (Georges Cres side) with three beautiful statues of the Holy Family, St Charbel and St Francis. To be able to do this we are relying on the generosity of our amazing parishioners. If you would like to contribute, please place a donation in an envelope and write, 'For our Prayer Garden' and place in one of the collection plates at Mass. Or donate directly to Sandrella Ters (0415812324). Thank you for your generosity.

Safeguarding our Parish

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: Veronica on 0407231262 or email: veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com

The Annunciation of the Lord

Wednesday 25th – The Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord originated in the East during the sixth century and gained universal observance in the West during the eighth century. It is a feast of the Lord, commemorating the announcement to the Virgin Mary of the Word made flesh, Mary's acceptance of God's will, and the conception of Christ nine months before Christmas. Its occurrence close to Easter links the incarnation with the whole mystery of human redemption in Christ.



We celebrate Mary's conception and the fact
It is 9 months until Christmas!!!

Lenten Reflection/Easter preparation

Lent is a great opportunity for Catholics to prepare themselves, through prayer, reflection and discussion, to experience Christ's Passion. You are invited to participate in daily Mass and Stations of the Cross on Fridays.

Reconciliation during Lent

The Season of Lent is the most appropriate time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Reconciliation is available at the following times:

- Individual Reconciliation with the Vietnamese community will take place on Wednesday 25th March at 7pm.
- Alternatively, please see Fr Joseph before or after Mass
- The 2nd Rite of Reconciliation will be held on 28/29th March before every Mass.

Palm and Olive Branches

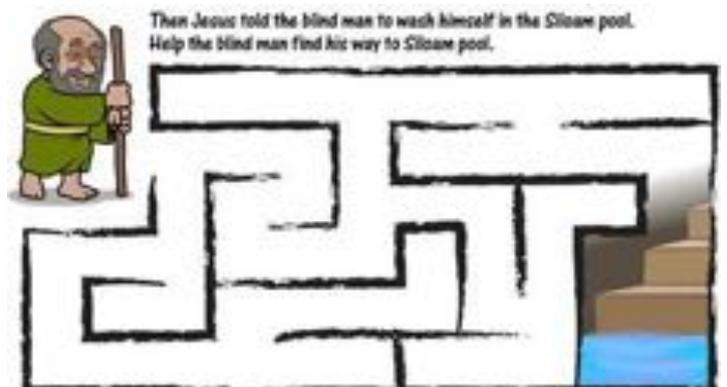
If you have palm trees and olive trees, please cut some branches and bring them to the church on Friday 03 April. Please place them in the chapel.



Easter Ministry Rosters

Greeters, Acolytes, Readers, Commentators, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - if you are available to serve in any of the ministries at Mass during Holy Week and Easter, please write down your details this weekend on the sheets on the table near the main door of the church.

Children's Corner



First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>1 Sm 16:1. 6-7. 10-13 A reading from the first book of Samuel <i>In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.</i></p> <p>The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.</p>	<p>(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.</p> <p>1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)</p> <p>2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. (R.)</p> <p>3. You have prepared a banquet for me In the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. (R.)</p> <p>4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R.)</p>	<p>Eph 5:8-14 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians <i>Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.</i></p> <p>You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.</p> 
	<p>Next Week: Fifth Sunday of Lent</p> <p>First Reading: Ez 37:12-14 Second Reading: Rom 8:8-11 Gospel: Jn 11:1-45 (Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead).</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation</p> <p>Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!</p>

Gospel (Shorter Form)

<p>Jn 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John <i>The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.</i></p> <p>As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'</p> <p>They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.</p> <p>Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.</p>	
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Reflection by Greg Sunter

The story of the man born blind is a perfect choice for the Lenten season. During this season we are invited once again to open our eyes to Jesus; to step out of darkness and into the light; to look towards the future with hope and not despair. When we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus at the Easter vigil, we celebrate the coming of the Light of the World into our lives. This annual call to turn away from darkness and walk in the light is a powerful and poetic call to focus our lives on the way of Jesus.