

St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



14th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year A | Sunday 5th July 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

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A Message from Fr Joseph

Today's readings are an invitation to humility and meekness. Our world doesn't value humility but instead prizes fame, power and control. Yet St. Teresa always tells us that greater intimacy with Jesus comes through humility and humbleness.

In the first reading; 'See, your king shall come to you.' Our king is one who comes in total simplicity, riding, not the powerful horse, but a humble, young donkey. This saviour promises to banish the weapons and instruments of war and he shall proclaim peace to the nations.

The message is reinforced by the psalm, as we are invited into a relationship with a God who is gracious, merciful, slow to anger and kind.

Matthew's Gospel offers an invitation from Jesus: 'Come to me, all who labour and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest.' The audience for this message from Jesus is the people who follow him each day. Pope Francis describes those listeners as simple people, the poor, the sick, sinners, those who are marginalized. The pope said these humble people always followed him to hear his word — a word that gave hope!"

In the Christian life, "relief and rest" are not the end of the invitation. We are also called by Jesus to take up his cross on our shoulders and to continue the work of caring for those around us, offering support to so many weary people, worn out under the unbearable weight of neglect and indifference. How are we supposed to do that when we may not feel all that strong ourselves?

We can do this together as a community, sharing the cross with others and lifting heavy burdens with the weak, to learn from Jesus how to make our way through it - in small and humble service to others.

We pray that we can place ourselves in the shoes of another to see and begin to understand their world and point of view. We are not in this alone, but side by side with Jesus, doing our part but knowing we are guided and loved by his great love.

Lord make us humble enough to remember that you have everything we need to make us safe and happy, to be secure and healthy.

Help me to take up your cross and share the ministry of life with others.

EACH WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

SATURDAY:

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

SUNDAY:

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

MONDAY:

Mass // 8am
Prayer Group in the Chapel // 5.00pm

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:

Monday 6th:

Feast of St Maria Goretti

Thursday 9th:

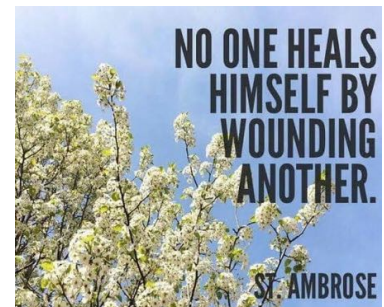
Feast of St Veronica Giuliani

Saturday 11th:

Feast of St Benedict of Nursia

Sunday 12th:

Ephesus Youth Group // 5.30pm



"May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you." ~ St Teresa of Avila

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Sick:

Cole James, Barbara Kains, Bourke Gibbons, Christina Apolinario, Daniel Matesic, Daniel Clarke, David Sanders, Denis Kin, Eddie Marks, Eileen Ellery, Eunice Davis, Heather Graham, John Sanders, Kerry Gibbons, Marie Reich, Paul Roughley, Phillip Nehme, Romela Onkowiedjaja, Rosa Agostino, Tamara Kalass, Vic Ryan, Warren Clarke

Recently Deceased:

Bronwyn Kolodziej, Gyula George Kovacs, Lynne Mullins, Mary Zammit, Mary Ann Weir, Patricia Merchant, Angelina Pagura, Peter Baulma

Anniversaries:

Allan Cuthbertson, Lavina Rowe, Ian Lawler, Carmel Hodges, Paul Pisani, Donald Eldridge, Rev. Father Peter Paul Galligan, Anna Maria Raffin, Marlene Perkins (2017), Elva Strong, Jose Heredia, Danielle Porteus (2018), Rae Mary Watties, Adelina D'Alessandro, Salvatore Moroccu, Patricia "Pat" Shedden (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.



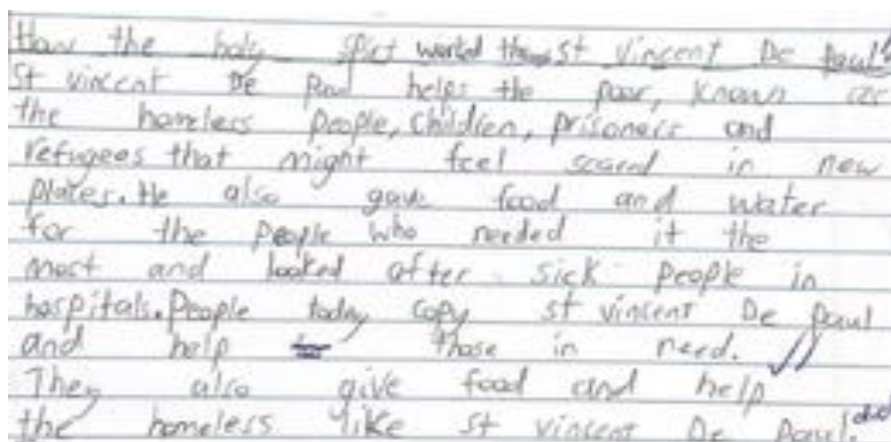
Youth Corner (Ephesus)

Thank you to all the teens who joined us last Sunday as we restarted our Encounter series!

Our next night will be on **Sunday, 12th of July**. We'll be meeting in the hall after the 5pm Mass (around 5:30pm). This is the first time we are able to gather again in the hall, we will share pizza to start off the night, games and then provide the opportunity to encounter so be sure to join us!



St Mary's Primary School



Excerpt from Roman (Year 3) Essay on St Vincent de Paul

Sacraments

- **Eucharist:** The 4sqm metre rule still applies for public worship. Please see COVID directives on the next page. Live streamed Masses as available online: Fr Rob Galea ([Link](#)), Sydney Archdiocese ([link](#))
- **Baptism/Marriage:** Please contact the Parish Office to make a prior booking. These events are subject to physical distancing and relevant directives.
- **Reconciliation:** The faithful are advised on the continuing importance of examination of conscience and making an act of contrition; the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available to parishioners by prior appointment.



Family & Faith

Slow to Anger, Rich in Compassion

We all feel badly about mistakes we have made in the past. Our shame can make us avoid Jesus. Yet Jesus is gentle and full of compassion. He longs to share our burden with us and give us rest.

Talk about it:

Share with a friend something that is a burden to you. Listen carefully to each other with compassion.



First Reconciliation, 2020

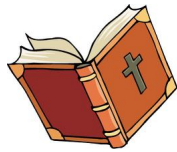
Parish Notices



Covid Update

Recently, the Federal Government announced the lifting of some restrictions concerning indoor venues, with the number of attendees restricted to the 4 square metres social distancing requirement. For our Church, this continues to require an upper limit of 65 parishioners per gathering.

- Families are able to sit together in the same pew
- Please sit approx. 2 meters from other parishioners
- We are still required to register the name and contact details of attendees for the purpose of contact tracing.
- Due to the need for registration and regular cleaning, private worship inside the church is still unavailable.
- The Church has advised that the faithful can continue to keep their Sunday obligation at home in personal prayer or watching Mass online or on Channel 10 (Sunday, 6am) or later on 10play. Please note that links have been made available above to other live streamed masses. With an almost-return to normalcy, we will no longer live stream the 10am Mass from St Marys.
- We are still operating on a first in first served basis.
- We ask that you kindly do not socialise before or after Mass outside the Church or in the carpark.
- Please follow the direction of the ushers.
- If you are feeling unwell - please stay at home!



First Reconciliation

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop; for it is such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." And the little children did come to Jesus to meet Him in the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. Over the past two Saturdays we had 59 children celebrate their First Reconciliation. Thank you to Fr Joseph and the Sacramental Team for assisting and preparing the children. As parents and guardians we always hope that we could guide our children in the Christian faith. The next step on this journey for these children, is to receive Jesus in their first Holy Communion. Please keep them in your prayers.



Lay Ministry Roster 2020-2021

The beginning of July next week marks the start of a new roster, copies of which are available at the back of the church, electronic copies have been emailed out, if you didn't receive an email, please email veronica.smgh@bigpond.com

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 and Ministerial Integrity Office at 93905810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. 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. Safeguarding resources are available in the sacristy. For any enquiries please email: veronica.smgh@bigpond.com

Feast of St Maria Goretti

St Maria Goretti was born in Ancona, Italy. She grew up on a farm with her mother and father and five brothers and sisters. In 1902 when she was only twelve years old, she was attacked by a nineteen year old farm hand. She survived in hospital for two days, forgave her attacker, asked God to forgive him and died holding a crucifix and a medal of Our Lady. She later appeared to her attacker in a vision while he was in prison. This led to his conversion and he later testified at her cause for beatification.



Vale Bronwyn Kolodziej

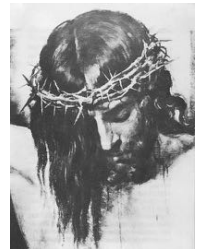


Last Monday we farewelled Bronwyn in a beautiful service conducted by our parish priest Fr Joseph. It was a fitting occasion for an incredible person and I have received countless compliments about the ceremony in our church. There are too many people to thank here personally but my heartfelt gratitude goes to Veronica and Maria for all their support and help at this difficult time. To the rest of the parish community, my children Peter, Dani, Steve and I really appreciate your constant care and concern throughout this ordeal. Your friendship and continual support have been a great source of strength. May the angels lead Bronwyn to paradise. Thank you.

-John Kolodziej

3rd Sorrowful Mystery - Crowning with thorns

Jesus is stripped, re clothed with a scarlet robe and crowned with thorns. He is mocked and spit upon by the soldiers. The people demand his crucifixion. Despite his innocence, he does not defend himself. He is strong in the face of hatred. I imagine his sadness at the people's ignorance, his sorrow at their contempt. I pray for courage to defend God's truth and strength to withstand the criticism and hatred of others.




Children's Corner

Find out what Jesus said to his followers by using the words below to complete the sentences.



----- to me all who -----
I will give you -----
I am ----- and humble of -----
My ----- is easy.
My burden is -----.

heart gentle labor
Come yoke light rest


First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>Zec 9:9-10 A reading from the prophet Zechariah <i>See how humbly your king comes to you!</i></p> <p>The Lord says this: 'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem! See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.'</p> 	<p>(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.</p> <p>1. I will give you glory, O God my King, I will bless your name for ever. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. (R.)</p> <p>2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)</p> <p>3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God. (R.)</p> <p>4. The Lord is faithful in all his words and loving in all his deeds. The Lord supports all who fall and raises all who are bowed down. (R.)</p>	<p>Rom 8:9.11-13 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans <i>If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.</i></p> <p>Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.</p> <p>So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.</p>
	<p>Next Week's Readings</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation</p>
	<p>15th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Is 55:10-11 2nd Reading: Rom 8:18-23 Gospel: Mt 13:1-23 - Parable of the sower.</p>	<p>Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!</p>

Gospel

Mt 11:25-30
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
I am gentle and humble of heart.

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

In today's gospel, Jesus calls to Him all those who labour and are overburdened. The Pharisees interpreted the Law as something that was a burden for people. Trying to maintain the Law was burdensome and complicated for the everyday person. Jesus says, 'Shoulder *my* yoke and learn from me ... my yoke is easy.' The yoke of Jesus *was* easy: Love God and love your neighbour. Compared to the 613 *mitzvot* (commands) set out in the Torah and strictly maintained by the Pharisees, the yoke of Jesus was incredibly easy to understand and adopt.

So simple, in fact, that it required a child-like simplicity to accept this yoke. Jesus invites us to shoulder his yoke and learn from him for he is gentle and humble in heart. The yoke he invites us to shoulder is the deceptively simple teaching: love God and love your neighbour. To love God is to consciously make a place in our lives for God. The busy spin that tends to be characteristic of so many people's lives today does not allow room for God; does not allow room for prayer and quiet; does not allow room for compassionate response to others. To love God and love our neighbour we must first make room for them.