

St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



15th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year A | Sunday 12th 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

Parish Office:

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Safeguarding Officer/Secretary:

Veronica Denning
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Parish Website:

www.smgh.org.au

Parish Facebook:

Follow: fb.me/smgh2



Parish School:

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A Message from Fr Joseph

The Kingdom of God is God Himself. It is a place in the sense it is where He is and where He is adored and where He is loved and where He is cared for and where He is listened to. In other words, the Kingdom of God means that the listener to the parable has to have faith. You have to put your faith into the words. And, of course, the one who is giving these words and telling us these stories is Jesus, the Son of God. This Sunday's story is very simple. The sower prepares the field. He prepares the field to receive the seeds which are the word of God. The sower now sows the seed and here's where it begins. Jesus leaving a lake-side, addressing people from a boat in "parables."

It is clear what the parables represent. Jesus speaks of seeds carried off birds, scorched by the sun, choked by thorns, but then some of them take root in deep soil, yielding abundantly. What better news could come to a group of puzzled, frightened, disciples, self-quarantined people with their prophetic Teacher, who has just informed us that we have already been given what we need for understanding future, conversion, healing, commitment and fruitful collaboration in Jesus' mission every day. All we need is to wake up to who we are and what we have in Jesus our Lord and to ask our questions straight on. *God help us every day with the great battle to plant new seeds to produce rich crops.*

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
Nursing Home Mass // 10.30am (fortnightly)
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
Nursing Home Mass // 10.00am (fortnightly)

FRIDAY XX

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Saturday 11th:

Feast of St Benedict of Nursia

Sunday 12th:

Ephesus Youth Group // 5.30pm

ephesus

Tuesday 14th:

Feast of Kateri Tekawitha

Wednesday 15th

Feast of St Bonaventure



"The human spirit always seeks the light. The human spirit always seeks out signs of hope. The human spirit by its very nature looks for the reassurance that only God can bring."

- Kevin Bates sm (Glimmers of Grace)

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 Onkowitz
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:

Bill Grech, Terry Neville
David John Huskinson (2017)
Cliff Tierney,
Eddie O'Reilly (2011)
Jules Menson Stanislas
Spero (Charlie) Wallace
Edward W Rout
Mary Donovan-King
Walter James, Zofia Ziolkowski
Fr. John McCaffery
Maria Peacock, Alberta McHugh
Melvyn Daly

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)



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 share opportunities to encounter so be sure to join us!

St Mary's Primary School



Thanks St Mary's families for your thoughtful cards, snacks and donations to the Vinnies Winter Sleepout. Out of 152 Catholic Schools in Sydney, we have raised the third highest amount. Thanks for your generosity (\$2902)

Sacraments

- **Eucharist:** The 4sqm metre rule still applies for public worship. Please see COVID directives. Live streamed Masses are available online: Fr Rob Galea ([link](#)) and via the Sydney Archdiocese ([link](#)) or Chan. 10 (Sun. 6am) or later on 10Play ([link](#)).
- **Baptism:** Any weekend Mass or Sundays at 11am; bookings via Parish office.
- **Marriage:** At least 6 months notice is needed, a preparation course if required.
- **Reconciliation:** Sat @ 4.00pm or by appointment, please contact Fr Joseph.

Family & Faith

WHAT'S IN YOUR PRAYER SPACE?

A plant or shoot

Lord Jesus,
May we be like good soil, ready to hear your word and understand it. Give us courage to follow you. Amen.



Take part in epic city adventures these school holidays, as you race to locations, complete challenges and crack codes as you seek out the finish location.

All Sydney races are 100% free these school holidays. You just need to [download the app](#) to get started. <https://weclueapp.com/>

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. **1.5 meters** from other parishioners
- We are still operating on a **first come, first served** basis.
- We are still required to **register the name** and contact details of attendees for the purpose of contact tracing.
- At each attendance, you must sanitise your hands.
- Due to the need for registration and regular cleaning, private worship inside the church is still unavailable.

- **The Archdiocese has advised that congregational singing is suspended (to prevent droplets from becoming airborne), a cantor is permitted with 3 metre distancing.**



- The faithful can continue to keep their Sunday obligation at home in personal prayer or watching Mass online (please see links above). Please note, we are no longer streaming Mass from St Marys.
- Printed bulletins are for single use only
- 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!
- More information: www.smgh.org.au

Parish Notices

First Holy Communion

Will be celebrated in Term 3 on Saturday 12 and 19 September. Parents and guardians are advised that an information night will be held on **Thursday 4 August** at 7.00pm in the church. One parent only is to attend this information night. Children are not to attend. Enquiries: Nadia 0414849569.



Children's Liturgy

It's been a while since we held Children's liturgy and although it is due to be held on 19 July, it won't be. Subject to coronavirus restrictions Children's Liturgy will return on 16 August.

St Vincent de Paul update

Mary Gibbons joined the Queen of Heaven Conference, Georges Hall 10 years ago as a Member and then in 2015 agreed to become President. During this time she most capably led the Conference and continued the work of past Presidents in forging relationships with both the Parish and School.

She has now elected to stand down from all Conference activities to spend more time with family. We thank her for her valuable contribution over these past 10 years and wish her health in the future.

*Yours sincerely, Tony Corkeron
President, Queen of Heaven Conference, Georges Hall*

Planned Giving

Tax receipts for 2019-2020 and new sets of planned giving envelopes for 2020-2021 are both available for collection from the church. We all have an obligation to assist meet the parish's financial commitments - if you would like to assist by contributing to the planned giving please contact Michael on 0414 889 731



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 guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. Safeguarding resources are available in the sacristy. Enquiries: veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com

St Bonaventure - 15 July

Born at Bagnoregio (Italy) about 1218. Died at Lyons (France) on this day in 1274. He joined the Franciscans when studying in Paris and eventually became minister general of the order. Later appointed cardinal-bishop of Albano and died assisting Pope Gregory X during the Council of Lyons. Known as the "Seraphic Doctor". Remembered as a teacher, for his extensive biblical and mystical writings, and for his holiness, gentleness and compassion.



4th Sorrowful Mystery - Carrying the Cross

Jesus' humiliation continues as he carries the Cross he will be crucified on through the town and people continue to mock him. I imagine the pain of the heavy wood against his back, rubbing against the open wounds from the scourging, the hot sun on him, the thirst, and hunger. I imagine his grief at seeing Mary, knowing she is watching her son die. Jesus is patient in enduring this suffering for us. I pray for more forgiveness, knowing my sins add to the weight of that Cross. I pray for patience in my own times of difficulty.




Something to Ponder

Am I good news?

Jesus proclaimed the Good News and we are called to do the same. Am I and other Christians preachers of good news or preachers of something else? Has my reaction to the pandemic been that of a bearer of good news? Is Jesus' message good news to me? Only then will I be able to transmit it as good news to others.

Children's Corner



First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>Is 55:10-11 A reading from the prophet Isaiah <i>The rain makes the earth fruitful.</i></p> <p>Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'</p> 	<p>(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.</p> <p>1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. (R.)</p> <p>2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. (R.)</p> <p>3. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)</p> <p>4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)</p>	<p>Rom 8:18-23 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans <i>All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.</i></p> <p>I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.</p>
Next Week's Readings		Gospel Acclamation
<p>16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Wis 12:13.16-19 2nd Reading: Rom 8:26-27 Gospel: Mt 13:24-43 - Parables of the weeds in the field and the mustard seed</p>		<p>Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live forever. Alleluia!</p>

Gospel (Shorter Form)

Mt 13:1-9
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

Matthew's Gospel has five major 'discourses' or teachings. Chapter 13 consists entirely of a collection of parables and is the central discourse of the five. The teaching of the parable of the sower is as true for us today as it was in its original context. The word of the kingdom continues to fall on people who are at various stages of readiness to receive it. What Jesus suggests to his disciples – and to us – is that the 'good soil' can't always be predicted. Jesus doesn't tell his disciples to only sow the word in people who are receptive. Rather, he wants them – and us – to scatter the word everywhere and to rejoice when it does find good soil and yields a rich harvest.

What is suggested by the final line of the parable, 'Listen, anyone who has ears'? What experiences of pathways, rocky ground, thorns and rich soil have you had in your life? What might it mean to receive the word and produce a rich harvest? What opportunities exist in your life to be the sower who scatters the seed?