

# St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year A | Sunday 19th 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:

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

## Safeguarding Officer/Secretary:

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

## Parish Website:

[www.smgh.org.au](http://www.smgh.org.au)

## Parish Facebook:

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



## Parish School:

Ph: 9727 0000  
[www.stmgeorgeshall.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmgeorgeshall.catholic.edu.au)



## A Message from Fr Joseph

These two parables in today's Gospel challenge our imaginations while encouraging our faith. Jesus again uses simple everyday things to invite a response of faith from His followers. The first parable is somewhat similar to last week's parable about the sowing of good seed. In this first parable Jesus explains things clearly, but only to His closest friends. Seeds and weeds are growing together while the sower planted only good seed: some enemy has planted the weeds. At harvest time, the crop of wheat and the disordering-weeds will be collected: one for the burning and the other for union and life. The question about whether God will deal with us from a stand of justice or from a posture of mercy is huge in the human mind and heart. We would like the "big answer" right now so that we can relax. As with the yeast and mustard seed, our spiritual experience of God as God is; mysterious and infinite, begins with sacred touches,

whispers, and simple human encounters. We are not saved by big ideas and concepts such as the "Kingdom of Heaven" but through the simple little events of life, the Kingdom of Heaven can grow. For those who can live through their own experiences of their own weediness and wheatiness, the Kingdom begins to make sense. Those who live through the weediness and wheatiness of others grow in the leniency and clemency of God. The "seed" sown in the field of the earth is not the total package of Jesus' teachings. The "seed" is Jesus embedded in the soil, the "humus" of our humanity. There is a part of our earthliness which wants to be left alone. It desires not to be tilled and cultivated and of course, weeded. The Kingdom of Darkness loves confusion and doubt. The "enemy" has taken part ownership of the field, or at least has taken out a lease. Each of us feels the tension of ownership, to whom do we belong? That very tension allows us to grow patiently into persons of true faith who know mercy is at the centre of God's Kingdom.

## 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

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am  
Rosary // 8.45am

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

### Wednesday 22nd:

Feast of St Mary Magdalene  
St Charbel Mass // 7pm

### Saturday 25th:

Feast of St James

### Sunday 26th:

Ephesus Youth Group // 5.30pm  
Feast of Sts Anne and Joachim



***"Surprises are everywhere in life.  
And they usually come from  
misjudging people for being less  
than they appear"***  
**- Brownell Landrum**

**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:**

Alberta McHugh, Melvyn Daly  
Wladyslaw Bellach  
Mary Elizabeth Hepples  
Michael (Mick) O'Neill (2013)  
Abraham Abraham, Barbara Graf  
Peter Corkeron (2015)  
Arthur Faulkner, Mary Howley  
Olga McHugh, Addolorata Rega,  
Kathleen "Grace" McNamara,  
Robert James Tankard  
Mary Balbi, Sana Akouri (2017)  
Ottavino Forner, Clem Reed

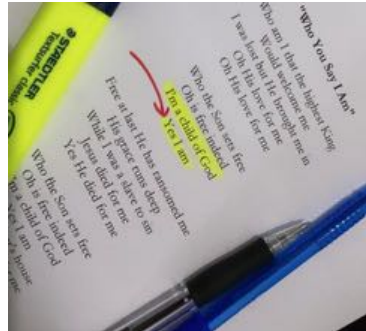
**For the Souls of the Faithful Departed:**

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)**

Last Sunday we concluded our Encounter series, by providing opportunities to encounter God. The encounter series began with exploring biblical encounters: Paul's thunder crashing encounter with Jesus at his conversion, the Samaritan woman's encounter with Jesus at the well, and Elijah's encounter with God in the simple and gentle breeze. We then explored our own encounter stories through testimony and sharing experiences, before taking the opportunity to encounter God: through music, through scripture and through the Eucharist. **Our next Ephesus night is next Sunday (26th July) after the 5pm Mass in the hall.**



**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**

**Wheat from Weeds.**

The wheat and weeds are symbols of good and evil. While Jesus invites everyone to believe in Him, not all will. Some will be won over by the devil's empty promises. Such temptations might be things like cheating, being greedy, not sharing, or lying to avoid responsibility. *What are some of the temptations that you face in your life?*

**WHAT'S IN YOUR PRAYER SPACE?**

**Weeds**

Lord Jesus,  
You invite us to believe in you and trust you.  
Help us to turn away from temptation.  
Amen.



**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 living in the same household 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](http://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

This Sunday would have ordinarily been Children's Liturgy Sunday. A huge hello to all of our parish children. Included in the bulletin email and [HERE](#) are the Children's Liturgy Activity sheet for this Sunday as well as discussion questions.

Parents are invited to read the Gospel and discuss its message with their children and assist them to complete the activity sheet. Have fun!

## Another Octogenarian!!

Happy 80th Birthday to Kerry Gibbons who is presently recovering from Heart Surgery. One of the founding members of St Mary's. A labourer on the property, builder of BBQ's, Parish Council President, Acolyte, Reader. As well as a loving husband, father to five, Grandfather to nine and a golf fanatic. *Best wishes from all your mates.*



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com)

## When Words Fail

*One loves someone so much – a child, a parent, a spouse or partner – yet when one tries to pray for that person the words seem only a pale shadow of the intensity of feeling and total love one feels. Stop! Simply put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.*

*One's heart is breaking with grief for someone close who is very ill or dying. Or one feels a terrible anxiety or anguish. Words don't come easily even though one wants to pray. Stop! Put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.*



*Perhaps accentuated by the constant messaging of social media, when trying to pray we can get anxious when there is a lull in the noise and no words come. We could pause for a moment to relax and to allow the Spirit to express our plea in a way which could never be put into words.*

## St Mary Magdalene - 22 July

A faithful disciple of Christ, Mary ministered to his needs after having seven devils cast out from her, witnessed his crucifixion, was present at his burial, and was the first to see the risen Lord. She was also commissioned by Christ to proclaim the good news of his resurrection to the apostles (John 20:17-18). Remembered in the East as the "Apostle of Apostles".



## 5th Sorrowful Mystery: Crucifixion

Jesus arrives and is nailed to the cross. As he hangs, slowly dying, he is comforted by the presence of Mary, her sister, John and Mary Magdalene. Mary is strong. She has watched him suffer and now die and she never leaves him. I imagine her heartache. In his words to Mary, "Woman, behold, your son" all of us are entrusted to her love. I pray in thanksgiving for Christ's suffering and sacrifice so that I may be saved.



## Children's Corner



The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat.

Help the farmer scatter the seed by finding the path to the wheat. Keep a look out for weeds!



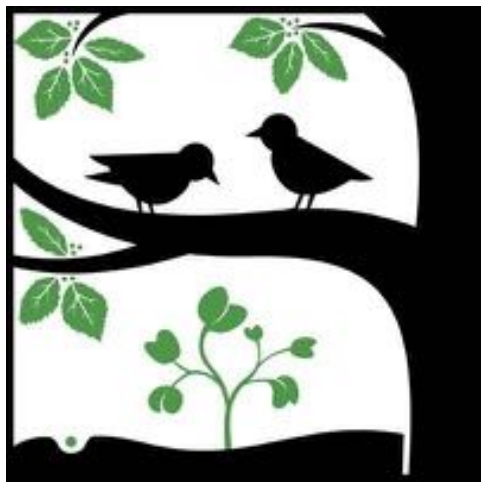
First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p><b>Wis 12:13.16-19</b> A reading from the book of Wisdom <i>In the place of sin, you give repentance.</i></p> <p>There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.</p>	<p><b>(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.</b></p> <p>1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call. Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)</p> <p>2. All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God. (R.)</p> <p>3. But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. (R.)</p>	<p><b>Rom 8:26-27</b> A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans <i>The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.</i></p> <p>The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.</p>
	<p><b>Next Week's Readings</b></p>	<p><b>Gospel Acclamation</b></p>
	<p><b>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>1st Reading:</b> 1 Kgs 3:5.7-12 <b>2nd Reading:</b> Rom 8:28-30 <b>Gospel:</b> Mt 13:44-46 - Jesus describes the kingdom through images.</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 13:24-43**  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
*Let them grow together until the harvest.*

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.' He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.' In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy: I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world. Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'



**Reflection by Dianne Bergant**

Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us, helping us in our weakness. The presence of sinners in the kingdom of God is often a stumbling block to good people. There will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means that the righteous will have to live with the sinner and, even more challengingly, show them the same kind of concern that they show to others. The presence of sinners does not necessarily erode the quality of the kingdom. Rather, it provides disciples an opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness.