

St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year A | Sunday 26th 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

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/smgh2



Parish School:

Ph: 9727 0000

www.stmgeorgesshall.catholic.edu.au



A Message from Fr Joseph

This Sunday in the first reading from Kings, Solomon humbly asks for "an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong." He did not pray for a specific outcome but put his trust in God to give him the wisdom to be a servant leader. This challenges us to go back to every family and look for the pattern from our parents. How might the future look? We ask God to help us to see ways to build authentic connections with others, rather than wishing for a specific social event to take place. We can calm ourselves in these Covid 19 unsettling times by contemplating Paul's letter to the Romans: *We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.* Rather than be nostalgic for the days before the pandemic or consumed by worry about the health and livelihood of my family, Paul invites us to explore disordered attachments, thoughts and responses that stand in the way of us choosing the best way to serve God. We trust if we can "loosen our grip" God will invite us to explore ways we can live our faith that we had never before imagined.

Jesus continues his teaching through parables in today's gospel from Matthew. We still wonder why Jesus used three distinct images of a buried treasure, a valuable pearl and a net full of fish to describe the kingdom of heaven. We think about how Jesus had disrupted so many long standing belief systems and ways of being. We are very thankful and appreciate his teaching style as we grapple to make meaning in these turbulent times and work to find a way forward. As we look to a future in the uncertainty created by the pandemic we are called to face the reality of Christian love. We cannot face these challenges without God's steadfast love. And as God helps us accept the reality of pandemic life, we find enough energy to strive for unity and social justice in St. Mary's Parish community

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
10.30am Funeral +Salvatore
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
10.30 Funeral + Dusanka Jurcevic

FRIDAY

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

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Saturday 25th:

Feast of St James

Sunday 26th:

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

Wednesday 29th:

Feast of St Martha

Friday 31st:

Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola

Saturday 1st:

Feast of St Alphonsus Ligouri



"Let go. Let God"
- Unknown

**ST MARY'S COVID SAFETY PLAN IS AVAILABLE
ON THE PARISH WEBSITE ([LINK](#))**

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:

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

Anniversaries:

Giovanni Porreca (2017)
Greg Willoughby
Emma Götz
Denise Anne Byrnes
Mary Herne
Elizabeth Neville
Syd Millyard
Emerita Manalad
Geoffrey McHugh
John Wosik
John Goodwin

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)

With the changing nature of COVID and new guidelines, Ephesus will take place via ZOOM on Sunday 26th July.

Join us at 6pm this Sunday as we begin our Faith and Art Series! We'll be looking at the different ways that we can express our faith through art, film, music and social media. This week we'll be taking a tour of The Virtual Gallery and exploring different artworks!

Meeting ID: 862 1272 7431

Ask your parents to give you permission to join cutt.ly/ephesus-zoom



St Mary's Primary School



We completed some painting over the holidays to freshen up the bathroom spaces and undercroft area. Bright colours were used to bring joy to the children.



We extend our love to all the grandparents in our community as we approach St Joachim and St Anne's Feast Day.

Sacraments

- **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

Top 5 Things Grandchildren love to Share with Grandparents...

HISTORY - "I loved hearing about how my grandparents grew up and how it was different from my childhood."

LISTENING - "My grandparents always listen to me when I tell them stories and I love to listen to their stories too."

HUMOUR - "My grandparents always make me laugh when they tell me funny things."

GAMES - "I love to play the old games my parents played when I go to visit my grandparents."

WISDOM - "Knowing how my grandparents dealt with problems in their lives and knowing that they got through everything just fine makes me feel that I will be ok too."



Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions, Playgroup is not running at this time.

Parish Notices

COVID Safe

Our Parish is now a COVID Safe business and has a COVID Safe Plan in place. We request that upon entering the church that you:



- sanitise your hands
- register your attendance
- respect yourself and fellow parishioners when it comes to physical distancing.

We also recommend that you download the COVID Safe app on your mobile phones to assist with contact tracing. If you are feeling unwell, please stay at home.

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 **Tuesday 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.



Confirmation

Will be celebrated in Term 3 on Saturday 26 September. Parents and guardians are advised that an information night will be held on **Tuesday 11 August** at 7.00pm in the church. One parent only is to attend this information night. Children are not to attend. Enquiries: Nadia 0414849569.

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 contributing to the planned giving please complete the [ATTACHED FORM](#) and add to collection plate or contact Michael on 0414 889 731



The Charitable Works Fund

Appeal: 1st - 2nd August. The CWF is a centralised fund that supports the charitable and pastoral activities of the Archdiocese (including: CatholicCare, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD), Ephpheta Centre, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Seminaries and Chaplaincies), You can also support the CWF Online: www.donatesydneycatholic.org. Phone 1800 753 959 for enquiries.

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

Feasts of Sts Joachim and Anne - 26 July

Scripture does not tell us much about the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Tradition tells us that their names were Joachim and Anne. The name Anne means "grace," while Joachim means "the Lord will judge." Tradition also says that Joachim and Anne took their daughter to the Temple in Jerusalem when she was very young. They understood that Mary was a special child, so they dedicated her to God. Whether or not Joachim and Anne are the real names of Mary's parents, the couple were the holy, heroic ones who faithfully prepared for the coming of the Messiah. Because Joachim and Anne were the grandparents of Jesus, they are the patrons of grandparents. Happy Grandparents Day to all the grandparents at St Mary's!



A Message from the Parish Council

The Parish Council wishes to thank all parishioners for the patience, understanding and cooperation shown during these uncertain times. It seems that the rules are constantly changing and it is a challenge to keep up with them while endeavouring to provide opportunities for worship. Special thanks to all the volunteers who organise lists, mark names off, take details, provide hand sanitiser, ensure seating is socially distanced and sanitise the pews after Mass. Special commendations also to the musicians who have ably adapted to the new reality. Together we will get through this!



1st Glorious Mystery: Resurrection


Jesus did as he foretold, he rose from death, thus securing for us everlasting life in heaven with him and his father. The women who went to visit him are greeted by an angel who gives them this good news. They see him on their way to Galilee and he tells them to tell the disciples of his resurrection. I imagine the joy they feel when they see the one they love living again, the celebration of the disciples and Mary when they are able to touch him and talk to him. I pray for faith that I too may one day be with Jesus in heaven.



Children's Corner

What did the man do after he found the treasure hidden in the field? Use the key below to decipher the code.


A B D E F G
H I L N O
R S T U V Y

First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>1 Kgs 3:5.7-12 A reading from the first book of the Kings <i>You have asked for wisdom.</i></p> <p>The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'</p>	<p>(R.) Lord, I love your commands.</p> <p>1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word. The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. (R.)</p> <p>2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant. Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. (R.)</p> <p>3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold. That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. (R.)</p> <p>4. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it. The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. (R.)</p>	<p>Rom 8:28-30 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans <i>He predestined us to become true images of his Son.</i></p> <p>We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.</p> 
	<p>Next Week's Readings</p> <p>18th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Is 55:1-3 - Come to the water 2nd Reading: Rom 8:35. 37-39 Gospel: Mt 14:13-21 - Jesus feeds 5000</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation</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 13:44-52
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant

The treasure is the kingdom of heaven. It is the prize that gives meaning to the present, and its fullest delight draws us into the future. The reign of God is the fulfilment of our deepest desires and our fondest hopes. Nothing in the world can compare with it, and that is why we are willing to sacrifice everything to attain it. The treasure that we find is really a gift that is given. We need not work to attain the kingdom, nor can we earn it in any way. It is given to us by God. All we have to do is accept it.

Solomon (in the first reading) chose to be of service to others. In this he is a model for disciples to follow. We have discovered the treasure in the field; we have found the pearl of great price. What we have been given, we must now give to others. In giving we will lose nothing. In fact, we gain an abundance of blessings. All things work for good, and God is glorified in all. Such is the character of the kingdom of God.

