

St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year A | Sunday 30th August 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:

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Parish Website:

www.smgh.org.au

Parish Facebook:

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



Parish School:

Ph: 9727 0000
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A Message from Fr Joseph

'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

Jesus tells his disciples that he is going to Jerusalem, and that he will be rejected and killed there. It must have been an incredible shock to those who thought they were following someone who would usher in the "Reign of God." They had just assumed that meant success. And, they must have assumed that their own sacrifices, in leaving home to follow him, would lead to some rewards. They were sure that the honour and glory he would receive would be something they'd share in, although not the suffering and the cross.

Peter takes Jesus aside and argues with him. It just can't happen this way. Jesus must be wrong about what will happen or must resist it, if the opposition is that strong. But certainly, his mission will succeed and not end in death for him. In perhaps the strongest language Jesus has used, he tells Peter how he is acting.

This was just like the Satan he encountered in the desert, as he began his mission. It was an obstacle in the path of his mission. Peter is thinking only in worldly terms, and not the way God thinks. Then Jesus turns to his disciples and takes them to the centre of the mystery of life and their discipleship. Following Jesus means being with him in the pattern of who he is - total gift of self for us. It involves taking up a mission - a mission given and borne out of loving self-sacrifice.

Our instinct for self-preservation is deep within all of us. However, we don't have an instinctive ability to discern what choices will preserve our life and which will not. We all want to live and thrive and succeed and be happy in every moment of our lives, yet we make bad choices all the time. What 'appears' to make us happy, often doesn't. We do self-defeating things, develop unhealthy patterns, finding our way into un-happiness over and over. We know this to be true about our everyday lives. Jesus can't love us without wanting us to be happy and truly alive. So, he surrenders his life, to show us the way to preserving ours. Jesus opens our eyes to see our lives from a transformed perspective - with eternal life as our central focus and desire.

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

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Saturday 29th:

Feast of the Passion of St John the Baptist

Saturday 30th:

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Social Justice Sunday

Monday 31st:

Feast of St Joseph of Arimathea
Confirmation Lesson // 4.00pm
First Communion Lesson // 6.00pm

Tuesday 1st:

World Day of Prayer for Creation

Thursday 3rd:

Feast of St Gregory the Great

Saturday 5th:

St Teresa of Calcutta

Sunday 6th:

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Father's Day

"Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier." - Mother Teresa

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Sick:

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

Recently Deceased:

Giuseppe Versace, Bruno Riga
Phyllis Totterdell, Cole James
Deidre Prentice
Salvatore Albane
Baba Luca, Dusanka Jurcevic

Anniversaries:

Kevin Freeman
Vera Knox
Rose Lange
Jozef Idzik(1999)
Father Clive Magill (2013)
Anna Mantoszko (2012)
Ivan Matthew Dening
James Jeffcoate
Ellen Josephine Russell
Alan Walker
Noel Daniel Sanders
Rev Stephen Hogan
Eugene Bugden (2008)
Marwood Moore (1987)
Clair McHugh - Broome (2018)
Sophie Kraan
Mary Metcalf
Rodolfo Calamparnan
Peter Gosses
Loreto Cabigao
Jozef Mikus
Lorraine McDermott
Ross Hinton
Grazia Brancatisano
Edward Owens
Agnes M Rout
David Hurworth (2014)
Helena Kolodziej (2018)
Johnny Ward
Oreste Azzopardi
Serge Nohra

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.



St Mary's Primary School



Utilising our beautiful natural resource, Lake Gillawarna, to engage field trips for students from Kindergarten to Year Six. Students have been utilising Lake Gillawarna to deepen their learning in Science and Geography in a real world setting. We are blessed to be surrounded by God's great creation at St Mary's Georges Hall.

Social Justice Sunday



This Sunday is Social justice Sunday and in the current COVID-19 pandemic many people are not sure of a way forward. Many people are suffering during this time and as a church we need to think about mental health. The Archbishop's Conference of Australia has developed a social justice statement "Mental Health in Australia Today". This document is available at <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/> and parishioners are encouraged to read and respond to this vital and growing need in our society, and please see the prayer below.

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.

First Communion	Confirmation
Lessons for First Holy Communion for children who do not attend St Mary's Primary school will be held on Monday @ 6pm, and will be celebrated on 12/19 Sept.	Lessons for Confirmation for children who do not attend St Mary's Primary school will be held on Monday @ 4pm, and will be celebrated on 26 Sept.

Should you have any other enquiries, please contact Nadia 0414849569

These celebrations will be live streamed for friends and family, please see the links below:

- First Holy Communion (12th Sept, 11am): <https://rb.gy/tprbvr>
- First Holy Communion (12th Sept, 1pm): <https://rb.gy/ts1hni>
- First Holy Communion (12th Sept, 3pm): <https://rb.gy/zkzq6o>
- First Holy Communion (19th Sept, 11am): <https://rb.gy/tzuviv>
- First Holy Communion (19th Sept, 1pm): <https://rb.gy/sy06kk>
- First Holy Communion (19th Sept, 3pm): <https://rb.gy/m9n0ci>
- Confirmation Mass (26th Sept, 11am): <https://rb.gy/ursno1>
- Confirmation Mass (26th Sept, 1pm): <https://rb.gy/vsn4nn>

Family & Faith

Did You Know...

Is the cross you wear around your neck just a nice piece of jewellery?
In Jesus' time, crosses were instruments of torture and death!!
The cross is the key to understanding the awesome message of the Gospel. That Jesus' life led to suffering and death, but it is precisely because of this self-sacrifice, that the resurrection was possible. Christians are called to take up our cross and follow Jesus.

What is in your Prayer Space??

A Cross.

Lord Jesus, you call us to love.
Help us to love others and not be selfish.
Amen.



Parish Notices

Dempsey Medals

The Dempsey medals were recently awarded by the Archbishop of Sydney to Michael Smith and Laurie Simpson in recognition of outstanding contributions and service to our parish community. **Thank you and Congratulations** on your outstanding service to our community.



"I would like to thank Father Joseph and all who took part in my Nomination to the archdiocese for the Dempsey Medal. It was a great honour and pleasure to be presented this medal by Father Joseph last Saturday night. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation that I was chosen for this honour. May God bless Father Joseph and all..." - Laurie

Father's day Appeal next weekend

This Father's Day, please consider donating to the Priests' Retirement Foundation. Your donation will assist our retired Priests to live with dignity, and support their basic needs like meals, accommodation and medical expenses. Please support those who have been there for us and donate today. Envelopes will be left at the back of the church next weekend.

**PRIESTS'
RETIREMENT
FOUNDATION**

Ephesus Update

A big thank you to the teens and leaders who joined us over the last few weeks for our Faith and Arts Series!



We decided to postpone our next night 6th September (Fathers Day) and will be back on the **20th of September**. Stay up to date via our [Instagram @smghephesus](#).

Planned Giving and cashless donations

Planned giving - if you would like to assist by contributing to the planned giving please complete the [attached form](#) and add to collection plate or contact Michael on 0414889731.

Cashless donations - there are two tap donation devices at the entrance of the church for people who want to use Credit Cards. Note - donations cannot be refunded and no receipts are issued.

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 Teresa of Calcutta - 5 September

Agnes Bojaxhiu, the future Mother Teresa, was born on 26 August 1910, in Skopje, Macedonia. Her mother planted the seed of faith and raised Agnes after the death of her father. After spending her adolescence deeply involved in parish activities, she joined the Loreto Sisters in Ireland and was transferred to India. She took the name Teresa after her patroness, St Therese of Lisieux. After some time working as a teacher, the widespread poverty of Calcutta made a deep impression on her, leading her to start a new order "The Missionaries of Charity" with the primary objective to serve the poor. In 1979, she received the Nobel Peace Prize. In 2016, she was canonised by Pope Francis and today her work continues with over 700 missions operating in 130 countries worldwide.



It's not about how much you do, but how much love you put into what you do that counts - Mother Teresa

Reflection by Mother Teresa:

People are often unreasonable, irrational and self-centred. Forgive them anyway. If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway. If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. Succeed anyway. If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway. What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway. If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway. The good you do today will often be forgotten. Do good anyway. Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway. In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.

Social Justice Sunday: Mental Health

Lord, may we support one another to flourish in body, mind and spirit. Strengthen our commitment to ensure that nobody falls through gaps. Help us to recognise you in those who suffer mental illness today. Show us how to eliminate stigmatisation of mental illness from our parish and community. As you drew near to those who were suffering, may we too feel your nearness when we struggle with anxiety. May we be one as members of Your Body. May we be empowered by your Spirit to reach out to all people in need and build communities of welcome and inclusion. Amen



Children's Corner

Find the way through the maze. As you pass through the letters along the correct path, write them in the boxes below to discover what Jesus said to his disciples.



First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>Jer 20:7-9 A reading from the prophet Jeremiah <i>The word of the Lord God has meant derision (a mockery) for me.</i></p> <p>You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.</p>	<p>(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.</p> <p>1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)</p> <p>2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. (R.)</p> <p>3. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)</p> <p>4. For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. (R.)</p>	<p>Rom 12:1-2 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans <i>May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.</i></p> <p>Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.</p>
	<p>Next Week's Readings</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation</p>
	<p>23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Ez 33:7-9 2nd Reading: Rom 13:8-10 Gospel: Mt 18:15-20 - Find ways to win others over; prayer shall be answered.</p>	<p>Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!</p>

Gospel

<p>Mt 16:21-27 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew <i>Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.</i></p> <p>Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'</p> <p>Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? 'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'</p>	
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Reflection by Brendan Bryne

Peter has just given expression to his God-given insight concerning the identity of Jesus and received in response blessing and appointment to a leading role in the church that Jesus will build. But when Jesus goes on to announce that, Son of God though he may be, he is destined to go to Jerusalem to suffer and die, Peter, who had so conspicuously got it right, equally conspicuously stumbles at the truth now being revealed: the more closely as '(beloved) Son' Jesus is related to God, the more closely he must be aligned with the divine will to enter into the pain and suffering of the world, to be the Son of Man who came 'not to be served, but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many' (Matthew 20:28).

Ironically, the 'Rock' has become a 'stumbling block'; the recipient of divine revelation is now setting (his) mind not on divine things but on human things. Once again, then, we see combined in Peter insight and leadership, on the one hand, and capacity for failure, on the other. His understandable human desire to preserve the Master from suffering would actually thwart the entire mission. It is no kindness to Jesus – or to the world that he has come to save – to deflect him from the path the Father has set before him. Speaking more generally to all the disciples, Jesus goes on to lay down the conditions for any who want to follow him: it means taking up one's own cross and losing one's life in order to find it.