

St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



30th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year A | Sunday 25 October 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

Our God has once again put together a set of holy texts for today which address precisely what we as His people need. This message speaks directly to our current frustrations and perhaps even to our fears and hopelessness. It challenges us to step back and view our world as God sees it and then to respond as he would respond.

The Jewish people had been going through incredible hardships in Egypt and the Lord was now providing deliverance for them. As they left Egypt, however, their troubles did not all of a sudden come to an end. There continued to be challenges, each of which resulted in many losing their focus upon God and His many blessings. Their focus turned to themselves, complaining about how unfair their circumstances seemed to be. With Covid and everything else that we are encountering today, it certainly seems that we have much in common with those Israelites.

So how did God choose to respond?

He simply, patiently reminded them how they should be living their lives – by focusing on the needs of others. Those others, perhaps that might translate to those in our lives with differing viewpoints, those facing crises today both medically and financially, and those with basic food, clothing, and shelter needs. God reminds them and us that He hears the cries of those in need and that there are consequences if we fail to show compassion. Should we question our ability to respond with love and compassion when we ourselves might be facing similar challenges? The Responsorial Psalm reminds us from where our strength is derived – our Lord who is our rock, and our strength. The Alleluia goes on to promise that if we keep the Lord's word, then the Father will love us and will come to us – we will never be alone as we seek to follow Jesus. May God Bless us...

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 // 7am
Mass // 8am & 7pm Memorial

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 24:

Mass of Virgin Mary

Sunday 25:

Monday 26:

XX

Tuesday 27:

7pm Memorial Mass + Filemona

Wednesday 28:

Feast of Saints Simon and Jude

Thursday 29:

XX

Friday 30:

XX

Saturday 31:

XX

Sunday 1:

Feast of All Saints

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that." - Martin Luther King Jr.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Sick:

Bourke Gibbons
Christina Apolinario
Daniel Matesic, Daniel Clarke
David Sanders, Denis Kin
Eddie Marks, Eileen Eller
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:

Peter McMartin
Dawn (Lawrence) McHugh
Franco Calligaro
Eunice Davis
Giuseppe Versace

Remembrances:

Paul Loc Van Phan
Maria Thi Tuu Nguyen
Rosario Ivan Kucic (2017)
Sylwester Szatan (2019)
Joseph Schembri
Wassim Noujaim (2014)

Anniversaries:

Pierina Giordan
Bronislawa Bellach
Ivy Dadich (2016)
Julia Fitzpatrick
Betty Bowditch
Janlna Kaufeldos
Brother Cletus Howley
Dolores Fidel
Paz St Teresa
Paul Bouchier
William Mitchell
Ellen Smith
Muriel Brown
Mary Patricia Small
John Curran
Dianne Joan Behan
Benito D'Amico
Nadia Gamra
Stella Maria Bonnici
Kim Kerin (2013)
Jack Hopwood (2013)

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)

Hey guys! A big thank you to all the teens and leaders who joined us last week for our first night back since lockdown!

Our next night will be on the 1st of November after the 5pm Mass.

It will be the last night of our Faith and Arts series and we'll be looking at the role of social media in our faith!

There'll be food, prayer and a chance to make your own Ephesus Tik Tok (that may or may not go viral!)

Follow us on Instagram (@smghephesus) and stay tuned for more details!



St Mary's Primary School

This week we celebrated Book Week and engaged in activities to show appreciation of books, authors, illustrators and the wonderful language they use. On Monday we had a visit from an author, we enjoyed a character dress up day on Thursday and celebrated with an art competition related to prize winning picture books.



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

Did You Know...

Saintly Trifecta.

November is a special month dedicated to praying for the dead. Beginning with All Hallows' Eve (Halloween) and celebrating all the saints who have gone before us, whether they are officially titled 'saint' or not!

The following day is All Souls day where we take some time to pray for our loved ones who have died. It is a profoundly hopeful month where we dedicate time to remembering that Jesus conquered death and we will have new life with him in heaven as saints.



Milk For Mates

We are collecting 1 litre cartons of long life milk again for our mates at the House of Welcome. Please leave your donations in the milk crate at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity.



What's in your Prayer Space?

The Letters "LGLO".

Lord God,
You call us to love you and love others. Help us to always remember this commandment.
Amen.

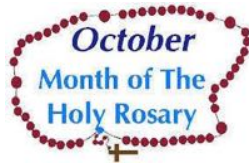


Parish Notices



October - Month of the Rosary

Free Rosary beads and Prayer cards are available at the back of the church. Pray the Rosary at St Mary's - before every weekday Mass and a decade of the Rosary will be prayed before every weekend Mass during October.



Altar Linen, Cleaning and Counting Rosters

Volunteers are needed for the Altar Linen, Cleaning and Counting rosters which run out at the end of November. To volunteer please add your contact details to the lists at the back of the church. If you are already on one of these rosters and want to remain on it, you still need to put your name on the list. Details by 1 November would be gratefully appreciated. Enquiries: Altar Linen: Mary Gibbons
Cleaning and Counting: veronica.smgh@bigpond.com



World Mission Appeal

World Mission Appeal was held last weekend to raise much needed funds to assist the most needy. The Catholic Mission is the Australian agency of the International Pontifical Mission Societies. It's not too late to donate - Envelopes are available in the church or you can donate online at: <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/donate>

Charitable Works Fund Appeal next week

The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) is a centralised fund that supports the charitable and pastoral activities of the Archdiocese of Sydney. It is your charity, the charity of the Sydney Catholic community and your local parish. The last Charitable Works Fund Appeal for the year will be held next weekend to raise money for the six agencies that rely on your generosity. Donations can be made by using the envelopes will be available in the church or by donating online at <https://www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-cwf/>
Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

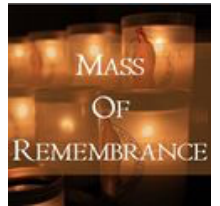


Safeguarding our Parish

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

All Saints and All Souls - 1 & 2 November

It is a good and wholesome thing to pray for the dead and November is dedicated to praying for the deceased, especially our relatives and friends.



Remembrance Masses

All Masses next weekend will be a Mass of Remembrance - you are invited to bring a photo of your loved ones next weekend and place them at the altar prior to Mass.

November Offerings

To include your loved ones in the November Mass devotions, envelopes are available in the church and in your set of planned giving envelopes.

Remembrance Book

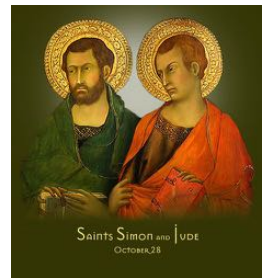
To include your loved ones name in the Remembrance Book, complete the form in the folder at the back of the church.

Memorial Mass for Deceased Priests

6 November at 12.00pm at Mary Mother of Mercy Chapel, Rookwood Catholic Cemetery. Or, view the Mass online via - https://catholiccemeteries.com.au/cemeteries/special-events/#ch_form

Feast of Saints Simon and Jude

Today's Saint Jude (or Judas) was often confused with his evil contemporary. Since Judas Iscariot was so despised and ignored, and since he shared a name with the good Jude, a tradition gathered over the centuries of petitioning today's saint only when all other saints had failed to answer one's prayers. Saint Jude became the Patron Saint of Hopeless Causes. Saint Simon the Apostle is called the "Zealot" in Saint Luke's Gospel. This may describe his zeal for the house of the Lord, a virtue. As Apostles, they were key in laying the deep foundations of the Church in the rock-solid substrata of the Middle Eastern culture in which they lived. Their feast day is celebrated on 28 October.



Saints Simon and Jude, we ask for your intercession in heaven as members of the Twelve Apostles. Approach the Lord Jesus with our needs in your hands. Answer the prayers we present. Fulfill the petitions we seek. Amen.

Children's Corner

Fill in the missing words to complete the story.

love
second
God
answered
yourself
teacher
heart
first
test
commandment

An expert in the Jewish law tried to _____ Jesus. He asked, "_____ , what is the most important _____ ?"



Jesus _____ : "Love the Lord your _____ with all your _____ , soul and mind." This is the _____ and most important commandment. The _____ is like it : " _____ your neighbor as much as you love _____ ."




First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>Ex 22:20-26 A reading from the book of Exodus <i>If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.</i></p> <p>The Lord said to Moses, ‘Tell the sons of Israel this, “You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans. “If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him. “If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”’</p>	<p>(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.</p> <p>1. I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour. My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. The Lord is worthy of all praise: when I call I am saved from my foes. (R.)</p> <p>2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! Praised be the God who saves me. He has given great victories to his king and shown his love for his anointed. (R.)</p> <p>Next Week’s Readings</p> <p>All Saints Day 1st Reading: Rv 7:2-4. 9-14 2nd Reading: 1 Jn 3:1-3 Gospel: Mt 5:1-12 - The Beatitudes.</p> <p>Gospel Acclamation</p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia</p>	<p>1 Thes 1:5-10 A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians <i>You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.</i></p> <p>You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.</p>

Gospel

Mt 22:34-40
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’



Reflection by Greg Sunter

The question and response that we see in this gospel passage was a common form of scholarly debate in the Jewish tradition. The Pharisees ask Jesus which of the commandments is the greatest. Jesus responds by directly quoting the commandment from the ancient scriptures. His reply, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind,’ comes directly from Deuteronomy 6:4. Further, Jesus’ followup, ‘you must love your neighbour as yourself,’ comes from Leviticus 19:18. Deuteronomy and Leviticus are two of the first five books of the Bible that make up the Jewish Torah, or Law. Jesus’ words call us to love our neighbour as ourselves. We are called to treat others as we would like to be treated ourselves. To be able to do this, we need to picture ourselves in their place – experiencing all that they are experiencing; not imposing our own values and circumstances. To see ourselves in the place of another is the key to responding with compassion. The origin of the word ‘compassion’ means experiencing with. If we are able to truly ‘experience with’ another person perhaps then we can genuinely recognise and respond to their needs.

