

St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year A | Sunday 8th November 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:

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Parish School:

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A Message from Fr Joseph

The Gospel passage this Sunday is the very well known story of the ten bridesmaids waiting for the arrival of the bridegroom. This parable comes in the context of a string of parables all dedicated to the same theme or similar teaching on a similar theme: that of being watchful as we wait for the return of the Messiah.

Most of us will agree that a wedding is a very exciting celebration - but there is a lot of waiting around on the day! We wait for each other as we get ready to go to the wedding. We wait for the bride to arrive at the church. We wait for hours and hours as the photographer gets everyone lined up properly. We wait until all the photos are taken. We wait at the reception for the bride and groom to turn up. We wait in line to welcome them. We wait for the food to arrive. We wait through all the speeches - some longer and more boring than others. We wait until someone else goes home first - and take our cue to leave. Weddings are great occasions, but there is a lot of waiting around. So it's not surprising that, when Jesus tells a story about a wedding, it includes a lot of waiting.

Perhaps preparing for the return of Jesus, what we should be thinking about is how we can help others be ready to meet with Christ. Perhaps it is more about sharing Christ with others in word and in deed. Perhaps it is more about modeling a relationship with Jesus to our children, or to those we work with, or to those who work for us. Perhaps it is more about reaching out to those in need so that they can experience the redeeming love of God in their own lives through our compassion and our care. Again, this is an idea we are not very comfortable with these days. Waiting is so hard, especially in a society which stresses the importance of **the instant**. We have fast food. We have internet connections that need to be faster and faster to satisfy us. Instagram, Snapchat - the very names of these apps mitigate against waiting. The bridegroom will return and he wants to find us with our lamps full, ready and prepared to greet him. "And Jesus concluded, 'Be on your guard, then, because you do not know the day or hour'". That is the task that lies ahead for each one of us. May we spend this Sunday - preparing for the return of the Bridegroom - Jesus Christ - so that we may spend all eternity in the wedding banquet to which we are all invited.

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:

Monday 9:

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Tuesday 10:

Saint Leo the Great

Wednesday 11:

St Martin of Tours
Remembrance Day



Thursday 12:

Saint Josaphat

Saturday 14:

Saint Callistus 1

Sunday 15:

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Lord, if your people need me, I will not refuse the work. Your will be done"
- St Martin of Tours

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Sick:

Bourke Gibbons
Christina Apolinario
Daniel Matesic, Daniel Clarke
David Sanders, Denis Kin
Eddie Marks, Eileen Ellery
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,
Elaine Boys

Remembrances:

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

Anniversaries:

Roy Handley, John Tankard
Russell Bullen, Vera May Morley
Mate Pavela, Giovanni Catalano,
Rose Malenica (2001)
Annette Brooks, Arthur Walker
Bunny Towers, Cecilia James
Maria Antonia Pagano
Michael Mallia, Ivy Clements,
Renata Brankstone
Frederico Buoro
Margaret Plowman
Anne McGee, Nina Nicholson
Muriel Hishion
Luigi Ciallella (2017)
William Joseph Whitehall (2010)

For the Souls of the Faithful Departed:

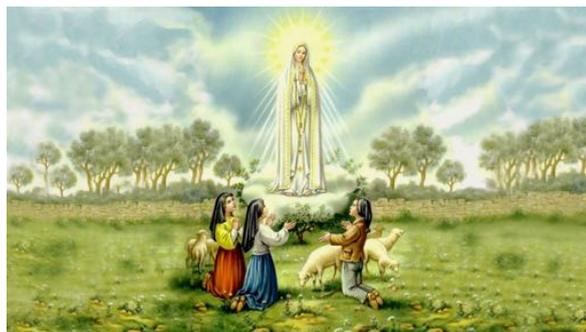
Eternal rest grant unto them
O Lord and let perpetual light
shine upon them.

May all the souls of all the faithful
departed, through the mercy of
God, rest in peace.
Amen.



Youth Corner (Ephesus)

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Faith and Arts Series! Our next night will be on the 15th of November in the school hall after the 5pm Mass. There'll be food, games, and prayer, and we'll be looking at different Marian Apparitions! Join us and bring a friend!



St Mary's Primary School

Student Leadership

Faith

Stewardship

Hospitality

Kindness

Generosity

Wisdom

This week we have been listening to speeches from students in Year 5 hoping to become our leaders for 2021.

I had the privilege of listening to the students who discussed with me their role models. The significant people in their lives that represent the values of faith, wisdom, kindness, generosity, hospitality and stewardship were named as their parents, Father Joseph, Mary MacKillop and many special saints.

It made me proud to hear our students discuss their passion to be disciples of Jesus, responsible citizens and inspiring learners.

Sacraments

- **Baptism:** Any weekend Mass or Sundays at 11am; bookings via Parish office.
- **Marriage:** At least 6 months notice is needed, a preparation course is required.
- **Reconciliation:** Sat @ 4.00pm or by appointment, please contact Fr Joseph.

Family & Faith

LOOK CLOSER...

Wise Maidens.

Most of us go through life putting off doing the things we know we should when we believe that we have lots of time left. But what if we don't? Jesus tells us that we do not know the day nor the hour when he will come to meet us. Will you be like the wise maidens and be ready to greet him when he comes?

Talk about it: If you had only one year left on earth, what would you do with your time and talents?

Are you ready?

WHAT'S IN YOUR PRAYER SPACE?

A Lamp.

Lord Jesus,
You are the lover of our souls, the bridegroom who belongs to be close to us. May we be watchful and ready to greet you when you come. Amen.



MILK FOR MATES

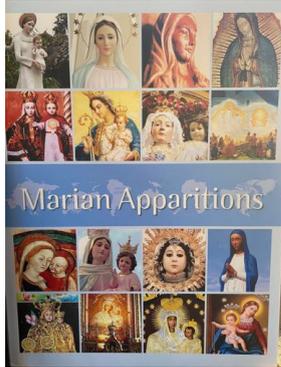
We are collecting 1 litre cartons of long life milk again for our mates at the House of Welcome. Please leave your donations in the milk crate at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity. Last year we donated 1,582 litres. Our goal is 1,600 litres. So far we have collected **415** litres!!



Our lived streamed masses are available from <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>



Parish Notices



Marian Apparitions Display

For the next three weeks, we have displays around the church of the many apparitions of Mary. You are invited to come, read and reflect on the places around the world where Our Mother has appeared. We thank Fr. Joseph for organising such a beautiful display.

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. If you missed the appeal last weekend, it's not too late. Donations can be made by using the envelopes available in the church or by donating online at <https://www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-cwf/> Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



Sacramental & Youth Coordinator (Fairfield)

The primary purpose of this full-time role is to serve as an active member of Our Lady of the Rosary's Parish Pastoral Team. This service requires contributing cooperatively and collaboratively with the Parish's clergy, staff and volunteers under the direction of the Parish Priest and Parish Operations Manager. For further information and full position details please contact Priscilla (priscilla@olrfairfield.org.au). Applications are to be submitted in writing to Parish Operations Manager including a CV and cover letter by 16th November 2020.

Pope's Intention for November

Artificial Intelligence - We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

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



November Masses

Remembrance Masses at St Marys

All Masses this weekend will be a Mass of Remembrance - you are invited to bring a photo of your loved ones and place them at the altar prior to Mass. The month of November is dedicated to praying for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. The Church commemorates all her faithful children who have departed from this life, but have not yet attained the joys of heaven.

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

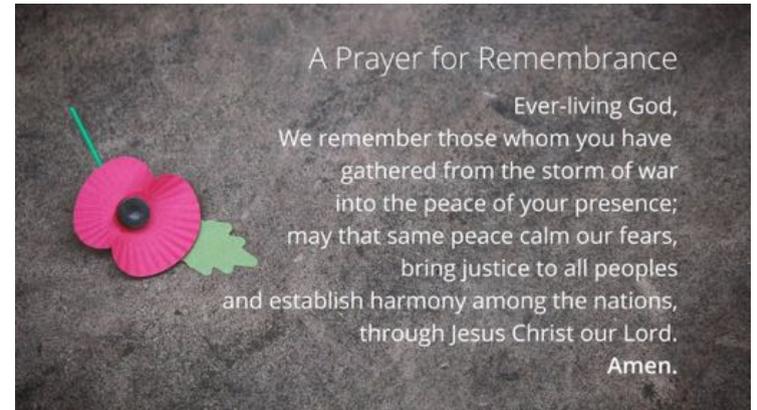
To include your loved ones name in the Remembrance Book, complete the form in the folder at the back of the church.

Be watchful and ready:

you know not when the Son of Man is coming (Mt 25:1-13)

Remembrance Day 11 November

On Remembrance Day, we acknowledge those who have served and continue to serve our country. All Australians can think about why they pause to reflect, attend their local Remembrance Day services and stop for 1 minute's silence. The Australian War Memorial in Canberra hosts the [Remembrance Day National Ceremony](#). This event will be televised in Australia. You can attend the Australian War Memorial's [Last Post Ceremony](#) - via live stream - every day at 4:55pm AEDT. You'll hear the story of one of the fallen service men or women listed on the Roll of Honour. You might like to do this as part of your commemoration on Remembrance Day. *Lest we forget!*



Children's Corner

What words would you use to describe the wise girls and the foolish girls?

The wise girls



The foolish girls

First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>Wis 6:12-16 A reading from the book of Wisdom <i>Wisdom is found by those who look for it.</i></p> <p>Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.</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. On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. (R.)</p>	<p>1 Thes 4:13-18 A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians <i>Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.</i></p> <p>We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord forever. With such thoughts as these, you should comfort one another.</p> 
Gospel Acclamation	Next Week's Readings	
<p>Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!</p>	<p>33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Prv 31:10-13 2nd Reading: 1 Thes 5:1-6 Gospel: Mt 25:14-30 - The rich man, his servants and the talents.</p>	

Gospel

Mt 25:1-13
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

As the end of the liturgical year draws to a close the Gospel message becomes one of urgency. Time is running out. Be alert. Stay awake. Are *you* ready for the arrival of God's reign?
At the same time, a feature of Christian faith is an approach to life that views the future with hope. In our world today many people look to the future with distrust and even fear. As Christians, we look forward with hope. When change occurs, some allow that change to happen *to* them whilst others engage in the change process and approach it with hope and expectation. Today's gospel reminds us to be ready for what the future holds; to look with hope towards what lies ahead but to ensure that we've prepared ourselves properly. The future can only be viewed with expectant hope if we've done the proper preparation!