

# St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year B | Sunday 24th January 2021



## 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 Denning  
[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://www.facebook.com/smgh2)



## Parish School:

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



## A Message from Fr Joseph

In our life the invitation to "Come after me." happens every day. Once again the Gospel guides us to the Sea of Galilee where John the Baptist is calling us and guiding us towards the Messiah. John the Baptist is very sensitive. He noticed in Jesus who was passing by, a God who reveals himself as someone who passes. God is not a figure. God is not recognised as a theological concept that can be easily recognised in us every day.

John the Baptist has the experience of God; he knows him in Christ as he passes by. The early Christians called this moment Kairos.

Abraham knew that God, God is crossing through his life. Abraham recognised the God who is passing and draws him to believe next year you will have a son. Everything comes as a surprise when God passes through, nothing is wasted. We get used to constant habits and

routines, unlike the fishermen responding to the carpenter. God longs for us to articulate the hopes and dreams residing in the deepest recesses of our soul and then listen for our invitation.

As he is passing by today, where might God's invitation take us?

God invites us to move into a new and deeper relationship that includes deep conversion with God our Father. This daily invitation is to trust in Him as God is passing and is dynamic. We know that the fishermen might have been wondering -What is this Kingdom of God like? Maybe they prayed 'Our Father, your Kingdom Come'. St. Ignatius would call the immediate choice of Simon, Andrew, James and John's 'election of the first kind'. When God our Lord so moves and attracts the will without doubting or being able to doubt, dedicated souls follow what is shown; just as St. Paul did when he followed Christ.

## 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  
Prayer Group in the Chapel // 5pm

### TUESDAY

Holy Hour and Rosary // 8am  
Mass // 9am

### WEDNESDAY

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

### THURSDAY

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

### FRIDAY

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

### Sunday 24:

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Monday 25:

Conversion of Paul of Tarsus

### Tuesday 26:

Australia Day  
Mass // 9am

### Wednesday 27:

Sts Timothy and Titus

### Thursday 28:

St Thomas Aquinas

### Friday 29:

**Thanksgiving Mass // 8am**

### Sunday 31:

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

***"To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible."***

**- St Thomas Aquinas**

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Sick:**

Bourke Gibbons  
Christina Apolinari  
Daniel Matesic, Daniel Clarke  
David Sanders, Eileen Ellery  
Heather Graham, Irma Buoro  
John Sanders Kerry Gibbons  
Margaret Ward, Marie Reic  
Mary Strambio, Paul Roughley  
Phillip Nehme  
Romela Onkowidjaja  
Rosa Agostino, Tamara Kalass  
Tony Strambio, Vic Ryan  
Warren Clarke

**Recently Deceased:**

Arthur Hodson  
Bishop Geoffrey Robinson  
Samira Charbel, Dennis Graham  
June Ryan, Eddie Marks  
Luisa Ius

**Remembrances:**

Olive Boyle, Joseph Wehbe  
Paul Loc Van, Phan Maria Thi  
Tuu Nguyen  
Rosario Ivan Kucic (2017)

**Anniversaries:**

Ennio Fattore, Patricia Wilson,  
Leslie Raymont  
Paul Broderick  
Raymond William Evans  
Basia Idzik (2009)  
Susan Pavela (2014)  
Jan Brodx, Paul Kempton  
Gloria Lewington  
Peter Burgess (2013)  
Albert Bottrill  
Ennio Fattore (2015)  
Alex Kosabundsky  
Neta Rimmer, Jacob Spicak  
Elizabeth Anne (Beth) Jackson  
(2019)  
Patricia Dening  
Kevin John Murray  
Beryl MacDonald  
Rhonda Seddon (2016)  
Antimo D'Amico  
Tony De Sousa  
Father Peter Neville (2018)

**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)**

**Are you looking for a way to serve the Church?**

We are looking for enthusiastic and committed leaders to join the Ephesus Youth Group!  
If this sounds like something you'd be interested in please contact Grace on 0450 757 377, or find one of the leaders at the 5pm Sunday Masses.



**St Mary's Primary School**



Happy New Year to the St Mary's community.  
We welcome Year 1 to Year 6 on Thursday 28 January for the start of the 2021 school year.  
We welcome Kindergarten on Friday 29 January for their first day of school.  
Details for families about current COVID restrictions and updates will come through on the school Compass app and 2021 Kindergarten Website next week. We look forward to an exciting year ahead as Catholic Schools celebrate 200 years of Catholic education in Australia.

**Sacraments**

- **Baptism:** From February Baptisms will be held at 10am Mass on the 4th Sunday of the month; 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.

**Go Make Disciples**

**1st Foundation for Spiritual Renewal: Evangelisation**

Jesus gave witness to the purpose for which He was sent; His mission was to proclaim the Good News (Luke 4:43) and He calls us as His disciples to continue that mission today. Inspired by his or her encounter with the Lord, the missionary disciple seeks to witness and proclaim Christ to all people, including those who do not know Him and those who may no longer practise their faith or participate in the life of the Church. Evangelisation is a natural expression of this discipleship, as Pope Benedict XVI observed: "discipleship and mission are like the two sides of a single coin: when the disciple is in love with Christ, he cannot stop proclaiming to the world that only in Him do we find salvation (cf. Acts 4:12). In effect, the disciple knows that without Christ there is no light, no hope, no love, no future." The vitality and future of our parishes and communities depend on our desire and ability to be faithful to Jesus' call, by cooperating with the Holy Spirit to bring others into an encounter and friendship with Jesus Christ..

**Family & Faith**

**LOOK CLOSER...**

**God has a plan for each of us.**

God's plan is sometimes different to our own plans. Some people try to hide from God because they don't trust God. God's plan can involve doing things we don't like or don't understand. When God's plan is challenging or hard to understand it takes great faith to trust in him.

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

**A Big Fish!**

Lord,  
Help us to trust in your plan for us.  
Teach us your ways and help us to walk in your truth. Amen.



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



# Parish Notices

## New Appointments

Fr. Lawrence Cauchi has been appointed as the new Parish Priest of St Mary's Parish, Georges Hall. Fr Joseph Kolodziej has been appointed to All Hallows Parish, Five Dock from 29/01/2021. Please pray for our priests so that they can be faithful servants for the people.

## Dear Parishioners

"...So my ministry as Parish Priest is coming to an end on the 29th January. God's providence made me come to Georges Hall on my priestly journey and serve as a pastor. I express my gratitude to God for this time and all God's blessings. I would also like to thank you all for your cooperation during the more than 13.5 years of ministry. God sends countless blessings to our Parish Family. I would like to thank the Parish Council, and the Finance and Liturgy Committees. They supported and led the parish in spiritual renovation and financial stability. I will keep the deceased members of the parish and every soul of the faithful departed in my heart and memory. I thank everyone involved in the various pastoral groups. This is the only way to make a community like Georges Hall one big family.

A big thank you to our school community which works with great joy. I would like to thank the teachers, retired staff and all school employees.

Thank you to all the people of Georges Hall, including those who say hello every morning during our morning coffee. You live the life of our parish always connected with us and each other. I would like to thank all of you for your kindness, true love and faith. Together with God, we have managed to do a lot of good.

I am aware that in everyone's life mistakes can be made. If I have offended anyone, I sincerely apologise. Our future is to continue to evangelise with great zeal and power of the Holy Spirit.

As new challenges await me at my new parish, All Hallows, Five Dock, from 30th January, please remember my ministry in your prayers." - Fr. Joseph Kolodziej

## The Bible in a Year

If you've struggled to read the Bible, this podcast is for you. Ascension's Bible in a Year Podcast, hosted by Fr Mike Schmitz, guides Catholics through the Bible in 365 daily episodes. Each podcast includes a scripture reading, reflection and prayer. Listen on spotify or online here:

<https://ascensionpress.com/bible>

## 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 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)

## Australia Day - 26 January

This is the date of the arrival in 1788 of the first European settlers in Australia. The liturgy marks Australia's national day with prayers seeking God's blessing on all its peoples and commending its destiny into God's hands.



## Australia Day Mass - 9.00am

We pray for our country,  
that God continue to bless  
and guide us all so that we will  
always be united in love, friendship and respect for each other  
and gratitude for the blessings received living in this Great  
Southern Land. Amen

## Saint Thomas Aquinas - 28 January

Born near Aquino, Italy, in 1225, educated at Monte Cassino, Naples, Paris, and Cologne, he became a Dominican in 1244. Regarded as one of the greatest theologians in the history of the church. Despite ecclesiastical opposition at the time, the substance of his life's work has endured as an authentic exposition of Christian teaching and carries unique official approval. Remembered for his modesty, the prayerfulness of his personal life, and the abiding influence of his thought. Thomas died on his way to the Council of Lyons in 1274. Saint Thomas Aquinas is the patron saint of students and universities. He was a brilliant theologian, philosopher and a Doctor of the Church. When he was a student, his nickname was the 'dumb ox' because he was very tall and very quiet. Saint Thomas Aquinas - Pray for our students.



## Children's Corner

Z J C P G I K V M A B L H C C J N  
E I T O W X H Y H G P W H U A W E  
K V B R D A O C U M A E L R C N Z  
T A C L N Z J X U N I L P U E P R  
E J A M E S A T T V U A I M N R Q  
N V G K T K S A N Q A W R L N F T  
A Y N Z P N O L E H P E E C E B E  
E K Z L A B N F F A H W V Q B E L  
P G Z H E V Q S P S E F A T H E R  
X T S R G E E H I R L S A T G T U  
I M V Z M P I F D N U A W T A N C  
B E L I E V E N I I D J K E E E P  
S I M C P N A T S S S I H E N W E  
J H S Z T Y I Y V I C Y I D H T N  
C G P C Q M T B X M Y N V Q M C C  
H D O S E P H T R O W M S D K V I

Andrew | Believe | boat | father | fishermen |  
Galilee | James | lake | net | news | time | went

First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p><b>Jon 3:1-5. 10</b>            A reading from the prophet Jonah  <i>The Ninevites renounced their evil ways.</i></p> <p>The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least. God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.</p>	<p><b>(R.) Teach me your ways, O Lord.</b></p> <p>1. Lord, make me know your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. (R.)</p> <p>2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)</p> <p>3. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)</p>	<p><b>1 Cor 7:29-31</b>            A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  <i>The world as we know it is passing away.</i></p> <p>Brothers, our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.</p>
	<p><b>Next Week's Readings</b></p> <p><b>4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>  <b>1st Reading:</b> Dt 18:15-20  <b>2nd Reading:</b> 1 Cor 7:32-35  <b>Gospel:</b> Mk 1:21-28            Jesus commands an unclean spirit.</p>	<p><b>Gospel Acclamation</b></p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia!            The kingdom of God is near:            believe the Good News!            Alleluia!</p>

## Gospel

**Mk 1:14-20**  
 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark  
*Repent, and believe the Good News.*

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.



## Reflection by Greg Sunter

One of the features of this week's gospel is the immediate response that Jesus inspires from the fishermen as they give up all that they previously knew to follow him. We will see throughout this year of readings that this is characteristic of the Gospel of Mark. This gospel is sometimes referred to as the gospel in a hurry as the writer uses a lot of language that implies haste – 'straight away'; 'immediately'; 'that day'; 'at once'. Such language is used to describe the movement of Jesus around Galilee but it is also used to describe the powerful reactions people have to him.

This week's gospel marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry in the Gospel of Mark. The gospel writer has Jesus clearly announcing his message in plain, simple language: 'The kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.' That message is as true for us today as it was when those words were first spoken. The kingdom is still close at hand if we would only recognise it in our midst rather than pinning our hopes on some future reward. The call to repent and believe the Good News is as relevant for us as it was for the first believers.