

**+Please Remember in your prayers:**

**Sick:** Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Eileen Ellery, Bourke Gibbons, Kerry Gibbons, Daniel Matesic, Robert Moran, Vic Ryan, David Sanders, John Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio, Margaret Ward and for those infected with COVID-19.

**Recently Deceased:** Dick O'Reilly, Michael Smith, Jean Graham and all who have died from Covid-19.

**Anniversary:** Frank Calligaro, Marjorie Moore, Agnes Merle Corkcron, Mary Gili, Mary Isabel Kurrle, Georgett Nouné, William Moore, Judith Anne Hurworth, Andrew Howley, Angelina Micallef, Maria Gatto, Marlene Lee, Olga Wilkin, Rod Simpson, David Fitch, Benjamin Bonnici, Ivan Kucic, Illuminada Fidel, Arthur Cordeiro, John Di Giordio, James Hoken, Alexander Kerr, Joyce Davies, James Hanley

### Updated Sick List

The sick list has been 'cleared' and only those names notified to the office have stayed on the list. To include the name of your loved one on the sick list, please email: [parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com)



### Keeping in touch

If you can drop the bulletin into other parishioners' letter boxes when going for some exercise, please pick up some bulletins from the front of the church.

We will print extra ones if needed, just let us know.

**Please remember not all parishioners have access to the internet.**

### Our Lady of Sorrows - 15 September

This commemoration originated in the medieval devotion to the seven sorrows of Mary. Approved for the Servite order in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, it was extended to the whole Western church in 1814 by Pius VII in thanksgiving for his release from captivity under Napoleon. In the light of Simeon's prophecy about a sword piercing Mary's soul, the feast celebrates Mary, first disciple and first to share in the pain and triumph of the cross.



### Catholic Weekly

This week's online addition of the **Catholic Weekly** is free due to COVID lockdown. Check out the [online Catholic Weekly](#)



### Supporting our Parish -

The parish is also incurring financial loss, yet the bills still need to be paid. Please think about how you can help. **Special donations will be greatly appreciated.**

Please click on this link to [Support Us](#) or ring the parish office for information re making a donation

### 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

Email: [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **St Mary's Safeguarding Officer:** Veronica Dening - 0407 231 262



### St Mary's Primary School

Ph: 9727 0000

Principal: Monica Palmer

[www.stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au)

<https://www.facebook.com/stmgeorghall/>

### Reflection

Ask God to show you who can you help and bless today



# Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall

Parish Priest: Fr. Lawrence Cauchi



15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall

Ph: 9727 3759

[www.smgh.org.au](http://www.smgh.org.au)

[parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com)

Office hours: Wed: 9.30am-4.00pm

Facebook: [fb.me/smgh2](https://fb.me/smgh2)

Streaming: <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>

**Sunday Masses:**

Saturday Vigil: 5pm  
Sunday: 8 & 10am, 5pm

**Weekday Masses:**

Tuesday: 6pm  
Preceded by Rosary/Novena - 5.30pm

Wednesday - Friday: 9am  
Preceded by Rosary - 8.45am

**Vietnamese Masses:**

Sat. Vigil: 6.30pm  
Sunday: 3pm



**Reconciliation:**

Saturday 4-4.30 pm  
or by appointment

## 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

12 September 2021

### Safeguarding Sunday, 12 September 2021

This week the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney celebrated **National Child Protection Week** and today is **Safeguarding Sunday**. This past week has provided us with an opportunity to reflect on how we can improve the ways we care for, protect, and listen to the Children and Young People in our communities.

To help us reflect, the Safeguarding Office has developed two new resources; the *Children's Activity Book* and *A Guide for Young People to Better Understand their Wellbeing*. Additionally, the Safeguarding Offices of the Archdiocese of Sydney, the Diocese of Parramatta and of Broken Bay, have developed a resource: *Children and Young People's Participation in Catholic Communities*, this guide promotes community awareness to support, engage, listen to and communicate with Children and Young People.

These resources are accessible from: <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/safeguarding-and-child-protection/>



### Exaltation of the Cross -14 September



Originally his day commemorated the dedication of Constantine's Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre in the fourth century; after the celebration, the wood of the cross was venerated. The feast spread in the West after the recovery of the relics of the cross from Persia in the seventh century. A feast of the Lord, it celebrates the 'lifting up' of the son of Man on the cross, into glory, and the paradox of the cross as a sign of humiliation and death, yet the source of victory and life.

### Covid Restrictions

Masses and other meetings are suspended during this time. The church is kept closed and no one should enter without permission. **Please think of those who may be very lonely.**



# Praying the Word

Week of the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

## First Reading Is 50:5-9

*I gave my body to those who struck me.*

The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance,  
neither did I turn away.  
I offered my back to those who struck me,  
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;  
I did not cover my face  
against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help,  
so that I am untouched by the insults.  
So, too, I set my face like flint;  
I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand.  
Does anyone start proceedings against  
me?

Then let us go to court together.  
Who thinks he has a case against me?  
Let him approach me.  
The Lord is coming to my help,  
who dare condemn me?

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 114:1-6. 8-9. R. v.9**

*(R.) I will walk in the presence  
of the Lord,  
in the land of the living.*  
or

*(R.) Alleluia!*

1. I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him. *(R.)*

2. They surrounded me, the snares  
of death,  
with anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's name.  
O Lord my God, deliver me! *(R.)*
3. How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me! *(R.)*
4. He has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears  
and my feet from stumbling.  
I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
in the land of the living. *(R.)*

## Second Reading Jas 2:14-18

*Faith without good works is dead.*

Take the case, my brothers, of someone  
who has never done a single good act but  
claims that he has faith. Will that faith  
save him? If one of the brothers or one of  
the sisters is in need of clothes and has  
not enough food to live on, and one of you  
says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself  
warm and eat plenty,' without giving them  
these bare necessities of life, then what  
good is that? Faith is like that: if good works  
do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind:  
'You say you have faith and I have good  
deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith  
by showing you my good deeds - now you  
prove to me that you have faith without any  
good deeds to show.'



## Gospel Acclamation Gal 6:14

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus  
Christ,  
which crucifies the world to me and me to  
the world.*

*Alleluia!*

## Gospel Mk 8:27-35

*You are the Christ ... the Son of Man was destined to suffer much.*

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round  
Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question  
to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And  
they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others  
Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,'  
he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up  
and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave  
them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man  
was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by  
the elders and the chief priests and the scribes,  
and to be put to death, and after three days to  
rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then,  
taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate  
with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he  
rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me,  
Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way  
but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and  
said, '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, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

## Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Here in our Australian democracy we  
hardly feel the force of the famous gospel  
passage in which Jesus forewarns his  
disciples of the high cost of following him.  
We trivialise the meaning of taking up the  
cross to make it refer to bearing a chronic  
ailment, or putting up with a particularly  
irritating family member or work colleague:  
'It/he/she is the cross I have to bear.'

No, our Lord was referring to the terrible  
reality which could be inflicted on his  
followers, as even happens today: the  
beheadings by ISIL in Iraq, the rape and  
enslavement of women in Nigeria, the  
displacement from homelands in Syria.  
The True Cross is not to be found in  
splinters of wood but in the various means  
by which suffering is inflicted on those  
whose allegiance to Jesus Christ does not  
waiver.

Peter could not, would not, grasp this. His  
head was full of political fantasy, easy  
sovereignty. Jesus rebuked Peter quite  
savagely: 'Satan, get behind me.' Only  
after the resurrection, believing that our  
Lord had conquered the worst that death  
could do, did Peter follow Jesus to  
crucifixion, upside down at the base of the  
Vatican Hill.

We could take a moment to pray for and,  
where possible, give appropriate political  
support to, our fellow Christians wherever  
they are persecuted, forced to bear the  
true cross of suffering. May God give those  
Christian martyrs victory in the embrace of  
the resurrection power of Jesus Christ.

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