

Please pray for the sick in our Parish: Aurelia Sotomayor, Father Joshua, Maia Torner, Barbara Greer, Felicia Lyons, Robert (Ned) Vodovic, Mirella Wakim, Thomas,

Baptism: Nixon Wright

Marriage: Elizabeth Thompson and Matthew Hansen on 21 September

Prayers and Intercessions

Priest: Let us pray to God who never deserts those who trust in him.

Reader: Pour out your Spirit on the Church.

R. May all men and women see in her the greatness of your loving kindness.

Be with the priests and ministers of your Church.

R. What they preach to others, may they practise in their lives.

Teach us to understand one another more deeply.

R. By your presence, free us from prejudice and fear, and any form of discouragement.

Give married couples constancy and mutual understanding.

R. May their difficulties help to deepen the love they have for each other.

Be with the sick and the lonely.

R. May we reach out to them with the love of Christ, which conquers all things.

Pardon the sins of all our departed brothers and sisters.

We pray for the recently deceased including Alan Patrick Buggy, Fr Brian Ebert, Mimmi Velona, Michael Flynn, Francis Barry, Domenico Morabito, Maureen Hillard, John Sirola, Lino Tadiello, Ivanka Dugandzic, Nicola Bono, John O’Kane

And for Bruna Dal Santo, Antonio Lopez, Gina Spiteri, Charles and Tessa Bugeja, Joan and Michael Vella, Lin Milton, Giuseppina Messina, Nicola Gagliardi whose anniversaries occur at this time

R. May they enjoy new life in the company of your saints.

Priest: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, hear our prayers and come to us again with your all-powerful and merciful love. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

St. Gregory’s Charity Collection 2024, The total we have collected for the Queanbeyan Respite Centre is \$2030.75.

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Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

21 and 22 September 2024

Dear Parishioners,

We have the joy of witnessing two young couples enter upon the journey of matrimony in these next two weeks. We wish them all the best, and pledge them our prayers and support.

The marriage rate is the lowest in our country’s history – not just Church weddings, but civil ones too. Deciding to get married takes courage, as does the added decision to get married in a Church. How do we understand the mystery of marriage? Three perspectives are helpful.

Couple

Falling in love is surely one of the most important human experiences. It is something we **do**. It is something that **happens** to us. It is within our control – so to speak. It is out of our control – so to speak. Sexual attraction is one thing, but **‘emotional delight’** is quite another (John Paul II). The experience of falling in love is meant to blossom into the *supreme* friendship of marriage, according to St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), but of course difficulties do arise.

Community

All great societies are built on the **rock** of marriage. We say that marriage is the basis of family and family is the basis of community. There is no more important institution than marriage and family since it holds the treasure of **love** and **life**. We surely must support those who experience difficulty in their relationships, particularly if they break down, and we can do this while speaking of the beauty and importance of marriage and family.

God

The Bible is insistent that God creates us to share in his love and life and entrusts the **deepening** of his creation to man and woman in marriage. When we stop and think about this truth, we are struck by the **trust** that God has in us. By being faithful in love and in nurturing human life, man and woman participate intimately in the desire God has for us.

The **Catechism of the Catholic Church (1601)** gathers these three perspectives together and teaches:

The **matrimonial covenant**, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a **partnership** of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the **spouses** and the procreation and education of **children**; this covenant between baptised persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a **sacrament**.

Thanks to all of you for participating in the Parish Working Bee. We have a wonderful parish, cause for thanksgiving each day.

Father Tony

Entrance Antiphon

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

First Reading

A reading from the book of Wisdom

The godless say to themselves,

‘Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing.

Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have.

If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.’

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord upholds my life.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St James

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires

fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, ‘The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.’ But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, ‘What were you arguing about on the road?’ They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, ‘If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.’ He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, ‘Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.’

Communion Antiphon

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

© Liturgy Help.

Parish Notices - Recurring Events

- ◆ **Monday Men's Group** Gathers together using SOAP (Scripture, Observe, Apply, Pray). Mondays 6.30-7.30pm Parish Meeting Room (Macquoid St Campus, St. Gregory's School) Contact Pat Lang (0400 466 276)
- ◆ **Parish Youth Group.** First Wednesday of every month 5.30-8pm in the undercroft at St Raphael's.
- ◆ **Parish Playgroup next** on 2nd October in Parish Room at 1030
- ◆ **RCIA** on Tuesday 24th September at 6.15pm in the Parish Room at Macquoid st. Topic this week is “The Essence of Catholic Morality”.
- ◆ **Meditation** - Encounter the Holy Spirit-Tuesday 7pm & Wednesday 12.30 after Mass. Meeting Room at St. Raphael's All warmly welcome - Tony 0455231057 or Rose 0466661006
- ◆ **Christian Life Program** Facilitated by Couples for Christ continues on 22 September every Sunday after mass morning tea. Open to all married Christian couples and single adults. Come as you are and be prepared to encounter God's love in a profound and personal way. For more details Contact Benjie/Sheryl at 0418616720/ 0430077022. Lunch provided.
- ◆ **Women's Breakfast** Sat 5 October 0830 Suppetto's Jerrabomberra - sign sheet at back of church

Parish Notices - Non- Recurring

- ◆ **Grateful thanks from the Bereavement Team** to everyone who contributed to making our annual Bereavement Service held last Monday a great success and appreciated by so many.
- ◆ **Blessing of the Animals** will be happening on the feast of St. Francis of Assisi at 11am on 4 October in the carpark at St. Raphael's. WELL BEHAVED pets very welcome!
- ◆ **Ordination to the Priesthood of Father Mark Ha will be celebrated on 17 October 2024 at 5pm at St. Christopher's Cathedral.**
- ◆ **St Vincent de Paul** need cordial, juice, roll on deodorant, shampoo, conditioner and school snacks please. Save the date BBQ after Mass on Sunday 22 September.
- ◆ **Home in Queanbeyan** Raffle tickets are \$25 scan their QR code to enter



Diocesan Assembly Details



Where Canberra + Narooma + Cooma + Young + Goulburn
When Friday 18th October - Sunday 20th October 2024
Info Detailed information, registration and formation materials available online at cgevangelisation.org.au/assembly