



Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

Parish Priest: Fr. Lawrence Cauchi



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Office hours: Wed: 9.30am-4.00pm

Facebook: fb.me/smgh2

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

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

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: 5.30pm



Reconciliation:
Saturday 4-4.30 pm
or by appointment

First Sunday of Advent

27 November 2022

The Advent Wreath

The candles and the light remind us of the light Jesus brought into our world. The waiting for the four candles to be lit symbolizes the long years of waiting for the Saviour. The greenery suggests life, growth, and hope.

STAY AWAKE! Prepare for the Coming of Christ - Advent Companion 2022

Advent is here. Let us make the most of this precious time to gather in our parishes and communities to prepare for the coming of Jesus. Pick up your free Advent Companion at the back of the church or download on the *Go Make Disciples* website at www.gomakedisciples.org.au.



First Holy Communion this weekend

Congratulations to the children who will receive the Blessed Eucharist for the first time this weekend. We pray for their families that they will give them the best example in having reverence and appreciation for the Blessed Eucharist.



Catholic Missions - thank you

Thank you to all who donated to the Catholic Missions last weekend. Please donate this week if you missed out.

Parish / Family BBQ

This Thursday December 1, at 5pm. In the school yard.

We are inviting all parishioners of all ages to join us in getting together to connect with our school children and parents. Food will be provided. BYO drinks.

Enquiries: Bernie 0412 227 554

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

Donations of long-life food and gifts for adults and children should be placed in the decorated tub at the back of the church

House of Welcome - Milk for Mates

Thank you for your generosity in donating milk for our mates at the House of Welcome.

A total of 381 litres of milk were collected.

COVID-19 is still around - Please use sanitiser when you enter our church.

Safeguarding our Children

Please let us all be always aware of the safety of our children.

St Mary's Primary School - 9727 0000 Principal: Monica Palmer

Playgroup - Thursday during school term in the iCentre, meet at 8.45am out the front of the church near Our Lady's statue. Enquiries: natalie.goetz@svd.catholic.edu.au

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)



Sydney Catholic Early Childhood Services operate an OSHC facility to provide before, afterschool and vacation care for our primary school children.

please contact the OSHC on 0438 118 864 or veenita.chand@svd.catholic.edu.au

New Altar Linen and Cleaning Rosters are available from the back of the church.

Thank you to all our volunteers

November - is the month of the Holy Souls. We are praying for our Faithful Departed.

Charitable Works Fund Appeal - next weekend

CWF is funded through three parish appeals each year (May, August and November). Donations - \$2 or more are 100% tax-deductible.



+Please Remember in your prayers:

Sick: Paul Ahad, Patrick Carroll, Kate Cheney, Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Paul Evans, Jennie Falvy, Kerry Gibbons, Kathleen Gibson, Christine Hughes, Barbara Kains, John Kolodziej, Rosemary Levack, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, Vic Ryan, Jenny Tankard, David Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio, Cornelius Van Baardwyk, Margaret Ward, Ross Williamson, Sandor Toth

Recently Deceased: Maddelena Manea, Hilda Freeburn, Ron Roberts, Margaaret Holmes,

Anniversaries: Albert Gotz, Doreen Cary, Vito Fogolin, Jill Newton, Antonio Impala, Giuseppe Strambio

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. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. Our parish has a folder (with Safeguarding information including quarterly newsletters) in the church - parishioners are welcome to view. A link to the Archdiocese's Child Safeguarding Policy is available from the homepage of our parish website and on display in the folder. Enquiries: Veronica via parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com



Gospel Mt 24:37-44

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Our Lord loved to unfurl the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah in his local synagogue. The poetic image of swords being hammered into ploughshares reverberated into his renouncing violence against the Roman occupying army in his own time. When will this picture come true for all human beings for all time?

Only God knows! We don't know any more than we know when a burglar might target our home. But our ignorance of God's timetable is no excuse for being fatalistic and sleepy. We have our own span of life providing the timetable for our own contribution to the hammering of swords into ploughshares.

Recent Popes, especially St John Paul II, have taken up this theme for our times, teaching more restrictive criteria for using armed force, even dropping the term 'just war' to very small print in the Catechism.

We could pause for a moment to pray to be awake to our opportunities to shape society in the light of the vision of Isaiah and the practice of Jesus the Prince of Peace.

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The Living Word

First Sunday of Advent, Year A

27 November 2022

First Reading Is 2:1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R. see v.1.

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R.)

2. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. (R.)

3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!' (R.)

4. For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!' For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 13:11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

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