



# 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](https://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

## Third Sunday of Advent

11 December 2022



### Christmas Mass Times

**Christmas Eve 6pm**

Carols 11.30pm

**Midnight**

**Christmas Day 8am and 10am**

(Vietnamese 5.30pm Christmas Day)

**Reconciliation during Advent.**

Sat.17 Dec. 1pm to 1.30pm

Tues. 20 Dec.6.30pm to 7.30pm

Sat.24 Dec. 11 to 12noon and 1pm to 1.30pm



## Charitable Works Fund Appeal *last weekend.*

Thank you to those who donated last weekend.

We collected well under our quota which is \$4225.

(The shortfall will have to come out of our parish savings).

It's not too late. Please use the special envelopes.

Money raised will assist the many agencies of the Church.

Donations over \$2 are 100% Tax deductible.



### Working Bee - 17 December - 11am

Our church and parish site need some loving care. Jobs to be done prior to Christmas: washing church windows, mowing grass, edging lawns, cleaning out gutters, weeding gardens. If you can spare some time, please come along, bring your own tools - Sat. 17 Dec. at 11am.

### Altar Server Training

Children in Year 3 or older who have made their First Holy Communion are invited to volunteer to be trained as Altar Servers. Parents, if your child is interested, please contact: Bernie (8am Acolyte) on 0412 227 554

### Hospitality this weekend

A chance to catch up after Mass this weekend over coffee and cake. All are welcome to bring a plate of food to share and stay after Mass to catch up.



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

### Safeguarding our Children is our priority.

### 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](mailto:veenita.chand@svd.catholic.edu.au)

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](mailto:natalie.goetz@svd.catholic.edu.au)

### +Please Remember in your prayers:

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

**Recently Deceased:** John Kolodziej, Michael Slattery, Elizabeth McVean, Hilda Freeburn, Margaret Holmes

**Anniversaries:** Ian Urquhart, Barry Hishion, Maria Sabella, Monica Fitch, Michael John Hughes, Eleanor Fitch, Gordon King

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

**Christmas Rosters** - Greeters, Commentators, Readers, Acolytes - if you can assist at any of the Christmas Masses, please put your name on the sheet on the church main door.

**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.



## Gospel Mt 11:2-11

*Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?*

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

## Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

John was languishing in prison, held captive by the local agent of the Roman Empire. Perhaps he was looking for evidence that Jesus was the One who would throw off Roman despotism. In answer to his questing, Jesus replied that John should rather look at what was happening on the ground in His healing ministry and orientation to the poor. *Those* are the signs that the reign of God has begun.

I admire John the Baptist because he was prepared to seek and accept the answer to the question which was crucial to him, even though the answer might upset his preconceptions. He was a true seeker after Truth.

All our activities as a parish in building community, forming faith, serving the poor, participating in the liturgy, should be undertaken so that a seeker after Truth might see and hear the evidence of the presence and mission of the risen Lord Jesus Christ amongst us.

We could pause for a moment to simply pray in the spirit of Advent: 'Come, Lord Jesus' to satisfy the restlessness of the questing heart.

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# The Living Word

Third Sunday of Advent, Year A

11 December 2022

## First Reading Is 35:1-6, 10

*God himself will come and save us.*

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,  
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,  
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,  
let it rejoice and sing for joy.  
The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,  
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;  
they shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the splendour of our God.  
Strengthen all weary hands,  
steady all trembling knees  
and say to all faint hearts,  
'Courage! Do not be afraid.  
'Look, your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,  
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.  
They will come to Zion shouting for joy,  
everlasting joy on their faces;  
joy and gladness will go with them  
and sorrow and lament be ended.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4**

*(R.) Lord, come and save us.*

or

*(R.) Alleluia!*

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)

3. It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

## Second Reading Jas 5:7-10

*You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.*

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!*