



Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall

Parish Priest: Fr. Lawrence Cauchi



Thank you to the priests celebrating Mass with us this weekend.

Morning friendship group

This is an open invitation to anyone who might want to socialise, knit, sew, play cards or a game of scrabble to come along to the Emmaus Room in the school on the first Tuesday (not in school holidays) of the month between 10 am and 2pm. Morning tea is provided. Just bring your lunch and your own cup. Enquiries: Pauline 9791 0098



15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall

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www.smgh.org.au

parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com

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 this week:

Thurs-9am (Rosary 8.45am)
Friday 9am (Rosary 8.45am)

Vietnamese Masses:

Sat. Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 5.30pm



Reconciliation:
Saturday 4-4.30 pm
or by appointment

Feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius - 14 February

Cyril, born about 826 in Thessalonica, Greece, he died at Rome in 869. His brother, Methodius, born about 815, he died in Velehrad, Czech Republic in 885. With papal approval they preached the gospel in Moravia using their own translations of the scriptures and the liturgy in the local language. These translations into Slavonic were based on an alphabet they invented, now called Cyrillic. Honoured as apostles of the Slavic peoples and remembered together for their contribution to Slavic culture, for their missionary inculturation of the faith, and for establishing links between East and West.

Thankyou

We are deeply grateful for the love, prayers & support extended to us during Vic's illness. It is much appreciated & will always be remembered. *With love, Jan Ryan, Jayne, Michael & Families.*

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

12 February 2023



Lent - Preparation and Reflection Ash Wednesday - 22 February

Spirit and Truth: The Power of Christ Revealed

This Lenten companion for 2023 has been prepared by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney and provides a great opportunity for Catholics to prepare themselves, through prayer, reflection and discussion, to experience Christ's Passion.

Pick up your free copy of this beautiful resource from the church..

Fr Laurie will be starting as Parish Priest at the parish of St Anthony of Padua Clovelly on 1st March 2023
Special collection at each Mass this weekend for a farewell gift for Fr Laurie

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**

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@syd.catholic.edu.au

Weekday Masses this week: Thursday - 9.00am and Friday - 9.00am

Hospitality this weekend.

Hospitality will be held after all Masses this weekend. All are invited to bring food to share and stay for a while after Mass - have a chat with that new friend you meet.

If you would like to join the roster please chat to one of the hosts this weekend.



Altar Servers

In recent weeks we have trained five new servers to serve at our Masses. They include Nicholas, Gabriel, Harry, Lucas and Anthony. Congratulations to these young parishioners for wishing to contribute to our Masses. Thanks also to their parents for their encouragement and support. If there are any other boys or girls wishing to become altar servers, please contact Bernie Freeburn on 0412227554.



Choir Practice

There will be choir practice on Thursday 16 February at 7.00pm in preparation for the 5.00pm Mass on Saturday 18 February. New members are always welcome. Please ring Pat Falvy on 0425-219-660.

+Please Remember in your prayers:

Sick: Patrick Carroll, Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Kerry Gibbons, Kathleen Gibson, Christine Hughes, Roger Luck, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, David Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio

Recently Deceased: Sandor Toth, Margaret McHugh, Eleanor Vereesen, James Mancini, Margaret Ward, Cardinal George Pell, Pope Benedict 16th, Jennie Falvy, Vic Ryan, Marlene Drew, Garry Czimmer, John Kolodziej

Anniversaries: Margaret Boyle, Rita Lawler, Michael Pace, Fr Kevin English, Dennis Cochrane, Karim Hanna, Lina Strambio, Monsignor Ian Burns, Raymond Williamson

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.

Safeguarding UPDATE

The Safeguarding and Ministerial Office January 2023 Quarterly Newsletter is available to view in the folder at the back of the church. Everyone is welcome to take a look. If you'd like a copy, please email parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com

The Living Word

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

12 February 2023



Gospel Mt 5:20-22. 27-28. 33-34. 37 (or longer form Mt 5:17-37)

Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

We have just heard the least observed command of Our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount. Referring to oaths he taught, 'Do not swear at all ... instead let your "yes" mean yes and your "no" mean no. Whatever goes beyond these simple words is from the Evil One.'

This is strong language. Why does Our Lord say this?

In the same Sermon on the Mount, he teaches us the proper use of God's name: 'Our Father'. It is our privilege as adopted children of God to use God's name in that way. The use of God's name for oath-swearing is an abuse.

Our Lord was trying to establish a new sort of society (The Kingdom) within which truth-telling was of paramount importance, where there is no two-tiered way of speaking the truth.

Truth telling should issue simply from the character of the person – the truthful person truthes.

We know this at the very private level of intimate relationships. As a Church, we need to heed this passage and listen to the epistle of St James recalling this passage almost verbatim. (James 5:12-13)

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Church herself heeds the Great Commission: 'Teach them to keep all that I have commanded you.' (Matthew 28:20)

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First Reading Eccl 15:15-20

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)
2. You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. (R.)
3. Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. (R.)

4. Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 2:6-10

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;

you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!