



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:

Tues-6pm (Rosary 5.45pm)

Wed-Fri 9am (Rosary 8.45am)

Vietnamese Masses:

Sat. Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 5.30pm



Reconciliation:

Saturday 4-4.30 pm
or by appointment

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

19 February 2023



LENT

Ash Wednesday 22 February
Ash Wednesday Masses: 9am and 7pm
Stations of the Cross: 7pm Fridays during Lent



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 resource from the church..**



Project Compassion

Please take home a Project Compassion box to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **For All Future Generations**. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable

communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all. Please donate through Project

Compassion donation boxes available from our parish,

by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Turkey-Syria Earthquake Disaster

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake has unleashed devastation on Turkey and Syria, leaving thousands of people dead. After 12 years of war, Syria is at breaking point and desperately needs assistance.

We must act NOW and help those affected by this catastrophe.

Your generous donation means our partners in Turkey and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy.

Visit: www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.

Fr Laurie's Farewell

Next weekend will be Fr Laurie's last weekend with our parish. All are invited to bid him farewell after each of next weekend's Masses. Hospitality will be served after each Mass and all are invited to bring a plate of food to share.

Fr Laurie commences as Parish Priest at Clovelly parish on 1 March 2023.



Palms Australia

Mission: Change their lives ... and yours.

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know:

RING: 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567. WEB: www.palms.org.au



Metropolitan Schools and Youth Engagement Team from St Vincent de Paul

Check out the Metropolitan Vinnies Schools and Youth Newsletter Term 1 2023: <https://bit.ly/Term-1-Vinnies-Metro-Schools-News>

The 2023 edition of the **Mini Vinnies Formation Program (MVFP)** for students in Years 4 - 6 is available for those who wish to undertake Social Justice Formation in their own time.

For more information please go to <https://bit.ly/VinniesMVFP>

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

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@svd.catholic.edu.au

+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: Bertha Smith, Les Bayley, Sandor Toth, Margaret McHugh, Eleanor Vereesen, James Mancini, Margaret Ward, Cardinal George Pell, Pope Benedict 16th, Jennie Falvy, Vic Ryan, Marlene Drew, Garry Czimmer

Anniversaries: Joseph Webb, Rosario DiGiorgio, Max Graham, Katie Enright, Lamaa Sassine, Paul Vasello, Charles Herne, Lisa Gross, Bernard Barlow, Neal Hancock, Jordan Brown, Hazel Faulkner, Denise Jakob, Marjorie Piper

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



Gospel Mt 5:38-48

Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

'Be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect.' Is Jesus advocating rather static fault-less-ness? Not very appealing! No, the Greek word is closer to the idea of a perfect wine – one that has matured and has reached its full potential. So, Our Lord is saying, 'Be a person who is everything you are capable of being.'

Our Lord gives a striking example of the challenge. God does not withhold life-giving sun and rain from people because they are bad or dishonest, nor extinguish the life of human beings because they are evil, because they are enemies.

What are the implications for Church teaching on capital punishment or warfare? Note that Jesus' command: 'You must be ...' is directed to *You* in the plural. It is communal, social. The Church community must listen. Is the Holy Spirit moving us in a direction not experienced since its first three centuries?

We could pause for a moment to pray on behalf of those who want to do us harm, the better to hear: 'Blessed are the peacemakers.'

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The Living Word

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

19 February 2023

First Reading Lv 19:1-2. 17-18

You must love your neighbour, as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)

4. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 3:16-23

All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Jn 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God.

Alleluia!