



### Gospel Mt 15:21-28

*Woman, you have great faith.*

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

### Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The overarching theme derived from today's readings is the question of insider-outsider. We see here that the divisions and barriers that emerge out of human experience have been shattered by the graciousness of God. Jesus' openness to 'the other' finds a precedent in the prophetic tradition. Isaiah spoke of a time when outsiders would join insiders in worshipping God, thus dissolving the categories of insider and outsider. He was, of course, referring to the age of eschatological fulfilment. This age dawned with the coming of Jesus. Jesus himself moved out of the constraints of his own cultural worldview, and he directs us to do the same. People are either excluded because of gender, culture or religious perspective, or included only because they are able and willing to conform to discriminatory standards. In the reign of God, this should not be the case. People are accepted along with their own cultural profiles.

God's embrace first enclosed even those who rejected Jesus, and then God's plan of salvation unfolded in a new way. An invitation to enter the kingdom was issued to the Gentiles, those who had been considered outsiders. If outsiders are now insiders, what has happened to the former insiders? Paul insists that they are still insiders. God has not simply shifted the identifying boundaries; God has dissolved them. In the interim between the dawning of the eschatological age and the end of time, the invitation to be included remains open to all.

# The Living Word

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

20 August 2023

### First Reading Is 56:1.6-7

*I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.*

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4**

**(R). O God, let all the nations praise you!**

1. O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

### Second Reading Rom 11:13-15. 29-32

*The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.*

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

### Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:23

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom**

**and healed all who were sick.**

**Alleluia!**

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc.(ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

© 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd  
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.



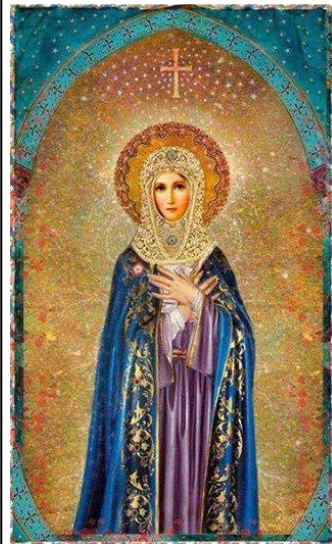
# Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

**Parish Priest:** Rev. Peter Krigovsky  
**Secretary:** Mrs. Zenna Azar (Tuesday 9.30am—5.30pm)  
**Address:** 15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall NSW 2198 **Telephone:** 9727 3759  
**Website:** <http://www.smgh.org.au> **Email:** [parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com)  
**Facebook:** [fb.me/smggh2](https://www.facebook.com/smggh2) **Streaming:** <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Georges Hall**

*God and us Together*

**Principal:** Mrs Monica Palmer **Website:** [www.stmgeorghall.syd.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmgeorghall.syd.catholic.edu.au)  
**School Tel:** 9727 0000 **School email:** [info@stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au)



## SUNDAY, AUGUST 20 OUR PARISH FEAST DAY THE QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SPECIAL 10AM FEAST DAY MASS

**FAMILY PICNIC FOLLOWS: BBQ SIZZLE, LEBANESE AND VIETNAMESE FOOD, COFFEE, TEA, CORDIAL, (DESSERTS AND/OR SALADS—BRING A PLATE TO SHARE).**

**THIS WILL BE A COMBINED ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE AND SCHOOL COMMUNITY CELEBRATION. ALL WELCOME.**

**PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO 8AM MASS ON THAT DAY.**

**MASS TIMES (English):**  
 Vigil Mass 5 pm (Saturday)  
 Sunday 8.00 am & 10.00 am  
 Weekdays: Wednesday 6 pm  
 Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. Sat. 9.00 am

**VIETNAMESE MASS**  
 Vigil Mass 6.30 pm (Saturday)  
 Sunday 5.30pm

**RECONCILIATION**  
 Saturday 4.30pm-4.55pm  
 or anytime on request

**ADORATION OF THE  
BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
 Wednesday 5.00pm—6.00pm  
 Friday after Mass 9am-10.30am

**SACRAMENT OF THE  
ANOINTING OF THE SICK**  
 Offered to those in need on  
 1st Tuesday at 9.00am Mass

**Baptisms:** Sunday 11.00am  
 Bookings are necessary

**Children first Sacraments:**  
 Please contact Elaine Nehme email:  
[nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au)

**Parish site maintenance:**  
 John Impala Phone TBA  
 Ivan Leskur Phone TBA

**Parish Pastoral Council:**  
 Bernie Freeburn, Veronica Dening,  
 Elaine Nehme, Zenna Azar,  
 Paul Abdul Ahad, Natalie Goetz,  
 Monica Palmer, Linh Bui,  
 Jannette Samawi, Grace Mokdassi

**Finance Committee:**  
 Bernie Freeburn, Michael Anderson,  
 Ted Goetz, Veronica Dening, Eileen  
 Stevenson

**Golden oldies:**  
 Lorraine Impala

**St Vincent de Paul:**  
 Mary Scott

**Scripture:**  
 Lorraine Corkeron

**Music Ministry:** TBA

**Youth Ministry:** TBA

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

**ADDITIONAL NOTICES** If you  
 are interested in any diocesan events,  
 please collect a copy of additional  
 bulletin at the back of the church.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES**  
 The new envelopes have been  
 received and are available at the back  
 of the church. We invite all  
 parishioners that would like to be  
 included in the planned giving  
 register to contact the Parish office to  
 arrange a box of envelopes. Up to  
 30% of your Planned Giving is tax-  
 deductible. Thank you for your  
 contributions which are absolutely  
 necessary for keeping our church  
 doors open. May God reward you  
 hundredfold.

**2023 FIRST RECONCILIATION**  
 A big Thank You to Ms. Elaine  
 Nehme, our parish Sacramental  
 Coordinator, all the Catechists,  
 School Teachers and Parents who  
 assisted the children to prepare for the  
 First Sacrament of Reconciliation and  
 celebration of God's love and mercy.  
 May God reward you hundredfold.

**2023 FIRST HOLY**

### COMMUNION

Registration and Information night  
 will be held on Wednesday 13  
 September at 6:30pm in the School  
 hall. All enquiries via email:  
[nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au)

### WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023

One of our very  
 own young  
 parishioners,  
 Jesse Azar, has  
 returned safely  
 from her  
 pilgrimage for  
 World Youth  
 Day in Lisbon,  
 Portugal. Jesse will give a short talk  
 about her journey at next Saturday's  
 Vigil mass.



**PARISH CENTRE** Last Wednesday  
 another meeting with Leaf  
 Architecture took place. The quotes  
 from two Surveying companies and  
 two Town Planning companies should  
 be available this coming week. At the  
 moment it looks like the earliest time  
 for Survey is in October. We are  
 hoping for an earlier term. Once the  
 Surveyor provides the data, which  
 shouldn't take more than two weeks  
 after survey, a Spatial Sketch of the

design can be produced which will be forwarded to the  
 Archdiocese for approval. Any further action will  
 depend on the response from the Archdiocese.

**OPPORTUNITY TO DONATE** - At our Parish  
 Pastoral Council Meeting a decision was made that the  
 requests to honour our founding parishioners are best  
 fulfilled through an "active" choice rather than a  
 "passive" choice, which would inevitably lead to  
 divisions and complaints (Why him and not her). An  
 "active" choice is through a donation for a church item  
 which would bear the name of the person honoured.  
 Eight new vestments, Thurible + stand, six candlesticks,  
 celebrant's table (next to the celebrant's chair) and a  
 new church laptop (to assist with PowerPoint  
 presentation, were added recently to our church items  
 collection. All these new items are available for a  
 donation. The inscription such as "Please pray for ..." or  
 similar will be sown on the vestments or inscribed on  
 other items. The items will be reserved for donation on  
 first come first serve basis. The life expectancy of a  
 vestment is up to 20 years, candlesticks 100+ years,  
 Thurible 10+ years, Thurible stand 100+ years. The  
 candlesticks are offered on individual basis, which  
 means that each candlestick will have an inscription. Of  
 course the reason for a donation does not have to be only  
 honouring and remembering of a founding parishioner,  
 but also could be remembering of any of your deceased  
 loved ones, or remembering the donor him/herself. The  
 "remembering" refers to the celebration of the Sacrifice  
 of the Holy Mass for the repose of the soul of the  
 deceased or blessing for the living. Each Sunday the  
 Parish Priest celebrates one Mass for the welfare of the  
 parishioners living and dead including all donors. 100%  
 tax deduction is available. Please see Fr. Peter for the  
 cost and/or reservation of the items and information on  
 tax deduction.

### FATHER'S DAY APPEAL – 3 SEPTEMBER 2023

Every year our Archdiocese conducts the Father's Day  
 Appeal to assist our retired priests who have served us  
 so faithfully. The 2023 Father's Day collection takes  
 place on Sunday 3 September. We are indebted to our  
 priests. When they retire usually at age 75, often after  
 giving fifty years or more of service, they are no longer  
 supported by a Parish. It then becomes our duty to look  
 after our priests in respect of their years of selfless  
 service to generations of our families. While retired  
 priests will receive a government pension, and/or  
 superannuation income, most will require support with

their accommodation needs, once they move from a  
 parish presbytery. Renting or jointly purchasing a  
 property is the primary demand on PRF funds.  
 Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has generously agreed  
 the Archdiocese will match every donation two-to-one.  
 For example, if the parish raises \$9,500, the  
 Archdiocese will add another \$19,000.

**RETREAT DAY FOR PARISH STAFF** - The Spring  
 of Eternal Life (Jn 4:14) to encounter Jesus and to be  
 refreshed and renewed in your work of serving His  
 Church. You give so much – this is your time to  
 receive! Select the date that suits you.

Option 1: Wednesday 8 November 2023

Option 2: Thursday 9 November 2023

Time: 9:30am – 2:30pm

Venue: St Martha's (formerly Sydney Catholic Schools)

Location: 38 Renwick Street, Leichhardt, NSW 2040

Cost: \$10 per person (plus booking fees)

Registrat: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1085284>

Programme includes Mass, talks, prayer, quiet time and  
 reflection, morning tea and lunch.

**MENTION MY NAME** Please join us for this special  
 Prayer Service to remember those who have lost their  
 lives through suicide and pray for their grieving family,  
 friends, caregivers and first responders.

7.30pm Tuesday

12th September 2023

All Saints Catholic Church

48 George Street, Liverpool

For further information please contact the Grief Care  
 Team on

02 9646 6908 or email [team@griefcare.com.au](mailto:team@griefcare.com.au)

**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 in  
 the church for parishioners to view. Check out the latest  
 safeguarding newsletter. A link to the Archdiocese's Child  
 Safeguarding Policy is available from the homepage of our  
 parish website and on display in the folder.

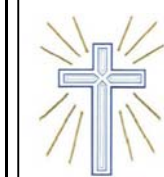
Enquiries:

Veronica via email: [parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com)



*Please Remember In Your Prayers Our Sick*

Beryl Moran, Paul Tonkli, Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Paul Evans,  
 Kerry Gibbons, Kathleen Gibson, Christine Hughes, Sue James, Barbara Kains, Daniel Matesic,  
 Phillip Nehme, David Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio, Cornelius Van Baardwyk



*Rest In Peace*

*Let us Pray For All Those Who Have Died*

John Kolodziej, Giuseppe Versace, Tom Counihan, Josephine and Alojzy Pientka, Jamilie Zaouk, Ed-  
 die Counihan, Jean Graham, Fr. Ignatius McNamara, Sam Cilia, Trevor Newton, Irma (Ziff) Buoro

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
 May they rest in peace. Amen.*