

The Parish Overview

Parish of St Mary & St Joseph
Orange

Parish of the Sacred Heart & St Lawrence
O'Toole Molong

St Mary's (Orange), St Joseph's (Orange), Sacred Heart & St Lawrence O'Toole (Molong),
St Michael's (Manildra), St Brendan's (Mullion Creek), St Patrick's (Cargo), St Columbanus' (Cudal)

Address 84 Hill Street (P.O. Box 44) Orange 2800

Office Hours **Monday** 11.30am - 4.30pm

Tuesday - Friday 8.45am - 4.30pm

Phone (02) 6362 2378

Email office.orange@cdob.org.au

Facebook www.facebook.com/CatholicOrangeNSW

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Year B – 15th August, 2021

REFLECTION

On this feast, we praise God who has taken the sinless Virgin Mary, body and soul, into His glory.

In our first reading, from Revelation, we find God's temple in heaven opened and the Ark of the Covenant revealed. The most sacred item in Israel's history, the Ark had been missing since the Temple's destruction in 586 B.C. Thus, John reports some startling news. Even more startling is his revelation that the sacred vessel is now a woman, who is mother of the royal Son of David, the Messiah.

Of this woman, then, we sing to God as the ancient Israelites sang: "The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold." In the court of King Solomon, we glimpse Israel's traditional arrangement: Solomon's mother, Bathsheba, takes her place at the king's right hand (see 1 Kings 2:19).

At Mary's Assumption, as we see in Revelation, the queen once again takes her place at the right hand of the Son of David.

Our second reading shows us why this is fitting: "in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order." What is implicit in St. Paul's statement is revealed in Revelation. The consummation of Christ's work has begun, as is proper, with the Assumption of the queen mother.

John's Apocalypse shows also the fulfillment of our Gospel. There, Mary, pregnant with Jesus, retraces the steps of David as he brought the Ark to Jerusalem (see 2 Samuel 6). Mary "arose and went" into the hill country, just as David "arose and went" to that region. Upon Mary's arrival, Elizabeth is awestruck, just as David was before the Ark. The encounter causes the baby John to leap with excitement, as David leapt before the Ark. And Mary stayed in the "house of Zechariah" for "three months," as the Ark remained in the "house of Obed-edom" for the same period.

Mary is the vessel of God's presence, and she is queen mother. She reigns now in splendor with Jesus in the heavenly Jerusalem.

Today's Scripture: Apoc 11:19, 12:1-6, 10; 1 Cor 15:20-26; Lk 1:39-56

Response to the Psalm: The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
Mary is taken up to heaven,
and the angels of God shout for joy.
Alleluia!

Next Week's Scripture: Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69

DAY BY DAY

Monday 16th August

Weekday, Ordinary Time 20

- 5.00pm Exposition at St Mary's
- 5.45pm Mass at St Mary's

Tuesday 17th August

Weekday, Ordinary Time 20

- 9.30am Mass at St Mary's

Wednesday 18th August

Weekday, Ordinary Time 20

- 5.00pm Exposition at St Joseph's
- 5.45pm Mass at St Joseph's

Thursday 19th August

Weekday, Ordinary Time 20

- 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's

Friday 20th August

Bernard, abbot, doctor

- 5.00pm Exposition and Reconciliation at St Joseph's
- 5.45pm Mass at St Joseph's

Saturday 21st August

Pius X, pope

- 8.00am Mass at Cudal
- 9.30am Mass at Cargo
- 11.30am Baptism at St Joseph's
- 4.15pm Reconciliation at St Mary's
- 5.00pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's
- 5.00pm Vigil Mass at Manildra

Sunday 22nd August

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8.00am Mass at Mullion Creek
- 8.30am Mass at St Joseph's
- 10.00am Mass at St Mary's
- 10.00am Mass at Molong

THE PARISH OVERVIEW



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PANDEMIC

Major denominations and prayer networks across Australia will unite in prayer on Sunday 22nd August 2021, for a National Day of Prayer in response to the need and distress caused by the current COVID-19 pandemic. The theme is "Lord have mercy".

To sign up for daily devotions, nightly prayer calls (16 to 22 August) and/or Zoom Prayer on Sunday 22 August, anytime between 9am and 9pm, visit www.nationaldayofprayer.org.au/LordHaveMercy/

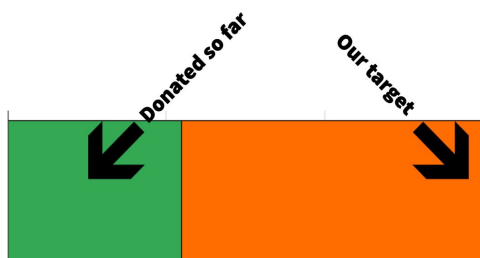
ST MARY'S PARKING

There have been a number of security issues at St Mary's School for several months, including bomb threats and break-ins. To do our part to ensure the security of St Mary's School over the weekend, only the gates closest to the church will be unlocked/opened to allow access to the playground for parking during Mass times. This parking is accessible via the north driveway of the church on Park Street and will not be accessible via Byng Street. Thank you for your understanding.

ALTAR SERVER ROBES

Thank you to those who have already donated altar servers robes. We are more than one third of the way towards our target of 30 robes, which will help our altar servers when they re-commence their ministry.

If you would like to donate an altar server robe, forms are available at the cross aisle at St Joseph's, the gathering space at St Mary's or this month's edition of The Joyful Commission.



SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2021-22

The Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2021-22: **Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor**, affirms that "we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour". The Statement provides theological foundations to ground and inspire efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded. The Statement reflects on creation in and through the Trinity; the sacramentality of all created things; the wonder and beauty available to the contemplative eye; and the need for conversion and change of life.

We are invited to join a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability, guided by seven *Laudato Si'* Goals: response to the cry of the earth; response to the cry of the poor; ecological economics; sustainable lifestyles; ecological spirituality; ecological education; and community engagement and participatory action.

You can download the statement here: <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Social-Justice-Statement-2021-22.pdf>, or we can print a copy for you at the parish office.

SEASONS FOR PEACE

Come to Shalom on Wednesday 1 September (9:30am to 2:30pm) for a quiet, reflective day of ecumenical prayer for world peace. Visit shalomcaroar.com for more info.

THIS WEEK IN SYMBOLON

This week in Symbolon our session is "The Paschal Mystery". This week's challenge: Take a few minutes to thank Jesus for the great gift that he gave you by dying for you and paying the price for your sins.

A FRANK QUOTE

Holiness doesn't mean doing extraordinary things, but doing ordinary things with love and faith.

- Pope Francis



OUR PRAYERS & MASSES

POPE'S INTENTION FOR AUGUST

Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

OUR PARISH INTENTIONS

That God will protect the human family from COVID-19, particularly our parish and the people of Sydney currently in lockdown; that God will strengthen the faith of Christian communities throughout the world, especially St Catherine of Siena Parish, Caroline Springs.

RECENTLY BAPTISED

Jorgia Mclean.

RECENTLY DECEASED

James Gavin, Sister Marie Joanne Graham.

ANNIVERSARIES

Brian Bevan, Jack (Chikka) Carney, Mary Cassey, Fr Pat Creed, Bob Lindsay, Noni McAneney.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ruth Fitzgerald, Sharron Kassoutas, Katherine Twomey, Celestina Vardanega, Amanda Walker-Peers.

OUR DEPARTED LOVED ONES

Adrian Berney, Noel Bacigalupo, Agatha Emily Carney, John Coulston, Alfina Cosentino, Des & Daphne Dawson, Chris Duff, Charlotte, Logan & Lacey Gallagher, Russell Hayden, David Hanrahan, Mary Johnston, Santo LoFaro (Italy), Santo & Alfia LoFaro, Joe Leone, Bernie & Josie Livermore, Ian Livermore, Mario & Alfio Lizzio, Venera Maccarone, Rita and Jack Maroney, Clare Maude Neilsen, Reg, Eric & Gerard Paul, Gaetano Torrisi, Salvatore & Venera Torrisi, Harry Taylor, Mike & Erika Twomey (S.Africa), Anton & Erich Twomey (S.Africa), Mario Vardanega, John & Jean Walker, Pat Walker, Jack & Mavis Whitehouse, Ian Wilson, members of the Clancy and Paul families.