



# St Mary Immaculate & St Patrick's PARISH OF THE CLARENCE VALLEY

*Copmanhurst & Cowper*      *Grafton & South Grafton*



## ***Cowper***

**Parish Office:** 2 Clarence Street  
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**P.O. Box 577, Grafton NSW 2460**  
**Website:** [cvcparish.org.au](http://cvcparish.org.au)

**Office Hours:**  
 8.30am to 4.00pm Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri  
 9.30am to 4.00pm Thursday

**St. Mary's Church, Grafton**  
 Victoria Street, Grafton

**St Patrick's Church**  
 Skinner Street, South Grafton

**Mary Immaculate Church**  
 Cowper

**St John of the Cross**  
 Copmanhurst

**McAuley Catholic College**  
 Hennessy Drive, Clarenza  
**Phone:** 02 66431434  
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**St. Mary's Primary School**  
 Turf Street, Grafton  
**Phone:** 02 66422262  
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[smpgraf@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:smpgraf@lism.catholic.edu.au)

**St Joseph's Primary School**  
 Hyde Street, South Grafton  
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**Email:** [sjprgraf@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sjprgraf@lism.catholic.edu.au)

**Parish Priest:** Fr Joe Holloway  
**Assist. Priest:**  
 Fr Emmanuel Okparanaku



## ***Copmanhurst***

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B**

**24th January 2021**

## **Parish Family News**

### ***Leaving a better world***

St Paul's advice for Christian living seems alarmingly negative: life is very short, so don't get too caught up in things of the world, whether relationships, politics, economics or cultural pursuits. His reason is simple: "the world as we know it is passing away".

In fact, the passing nature of the world in which we live today is occurring at an increasingly rapid pace due to the technological revolution which impacts on jobs, communications, travel, climate, habitat, lifestyle, business, recreation, to name a few. Time seems to be moving faster and the experiences of life more fleeting.

In other terms, we recognise increasing threats of terrorism, global warming, nuclear war and what is fast becoming the largest mass migration of human beings in history. While the biblical destruction of Nineveh did not come to pass, we must wonder if the destruction of peoples, cultures and entire eco-systems in our current world is not the impending Nineveh disaster of our own times.

Clearly, it is now our time to listen to the voices of the prophets ably summarised in the words of Jesus: "The time has come; the kingdom of God is close at hand; repent and believe in the Good News". Or in the words of Pope Francis: "It is we human beings who need to change" if we are "to safeguard our common home" (planet earth), enact justice for all people, especially the poor and marginalised, and provide a world that will be habitable for future generations.

Jonah, John the Baptist, Jesus and Francis are at one in challenging human greed and corruption which threaten us and our world. However, no matter how things may appear, there is no cause for despair. We have genuine human, spiritual and practical options. Like Simon, Andrew, James and John, we too are being "called by name" to leave behind the things that bind us, and to become missionary disciples of God's justice and mercy. This is what Jesus calls "the Good News" and what Francis calls "The joy of the Gospel".

To be sure, we are not capable of saving ourselves or our world. The great teaching of Christianity is that only God brings reconciliation, healing, final hope and salvation. But God calls us to be partners in this work of creation and salvation. Like the prophets and apostles before us, we too are called to be co-workers with Christ and the Holy Spirit in enabling the "reign of God" to come about.

We must pray for the courage of the first disciples to give ourselves wholeheartedly to our relationship with Jesus and to his mission of mercy. Likewise, we pray that the Church, its leaders and ourselves will not shy away from the radical demands of the gospel and discipleship.

*Gerard Hall SM © Majellan Media 2021*

**Television Free to Air—Channel Ten—Sunday Mass at 6am**

**For those who have access to the Internet: Bishop Greg—Mass at 8am Sunday—**  
 Livestreamed on Lismore Diocese YouTube channel or follow the links at  
[lismorediocese.org](http://lismorediocese.org)

Also the following has Mass on demand. [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYRq7AjVimr-hcHFJD\\_HVaQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYRq7AjVimr-hcHFJD_HVaQ)

## **DIARY OF THE WEEK: LITURGIES, DEVOTIONS ETC**

### **Saturday 23rd January**

**NO 9.00am Mass**

**5.00pm—5.45pm Reconciliation at St Mary's Church**

**6.00pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

### **Sunday 24th January - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**8.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

**8.00am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church Cowper**

**9.30am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton**

### **Monday 25th January - The Conversion of St Paul, apostle**

**NO Mass**

### **Tuesday 26th January - Australia Day**

**5.15pm Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

### **Wednesday 27th January**

**9.15am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton**

**2.30pm School Staff Commitment Mass at**

**St Mary's Church Grafton**

### **Thursday 28th January - St Thomas Aquinas, priest, doctor**

**8.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

### **Friday 29th January**

**8.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

**8.00am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church Cowper**

**9.30am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton**

### **Saturday 30th January**

**9.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

**5.00pm—5.45pm Reconciliation at St Mary's Church**

**6.00pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

### **Sunday 31st January - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**8.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

**8.00am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church Cowper**

**9.30am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton**

**11.00am Mass at St John of the Cross Copmanhurst**

### **Parish Notices**

**Thursday 4th February—Ladies lunch recommences.**

**Friday 5th February—Catholic Women's League Meeting** at the McCarthy Centre—1pm. Membership fees are due. All welcome.



### **Positions Vacant**

**St Augustine's Parish, Coffs Harbour**

is seeking applications for the following:

**Schools' Revenue Manager**

**Schools' Revenue Officer (part-time, fixed-term)**

Please refer to the advertisements on Seek.com or email [jobs@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:jobs@lismore.catholic.org.au) for further information on each role.

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE: Sunday 7 February 2021**

### **Please remember in your prayers:**

#### **Those who are sick and frail:**

especially Peter Newby, Kathryn Martin, Evonne Coutis, Cletus Moran, Brian Haynes, Bev Reilly, Dan Moran, Cheryl Kinnane, Bill & Dot Dougherty, Sandy Beadman, Gwen Haynes, Michael Halligan, Sonya Moore, Maureen Endean, Moya Ellem(Melb), Fay Ellem, John McAnally, Darcy Patricks, Eli Hagar, Allan Ryan, Kevin Burns, Shona Owens, Sue Jackson, Jacinta Frawley-Werger, Amanda Crawford, Aileen Whalan, Bree Brossman, and all those in hospital.

#### **The Recently Deceased:**

including Archbishop Philip Wilson, Barbara Deegan (Casino), Athol Arandale, John Reynolds, Cristita Bajan, Elmar Quante, Bill Wood, Barbara Miller, Geoff Power, Dennis Smith.

#### **Those whose Anniversaries are at this time:**

Including Fr Louis Bean, Fr Henry van Riel, Carmel & Kevin Handsaker, John Handsaker, Fr Brian Murphy, Gerard Reynolds, Damian Johnson, Mildred & Bill Rowe, Faustino B Demecillo, Monica Bentulan, Fr. Blitz Cavan S.J., Lance Cavanagh, Marie Cavanagh, Ernest, Laurel Cuskelly, Judith Nilon, Agnes Fitzpatrick.

**Other Mass Intentions:** including all the Holy Souls, Michael Bourke, Fran Kelly.

### **Australia Day**

Tuesday 26 January is Australia Day and Mass will be celebrated at **5.15pm** at St Mary's Church.

Please join us to pray for our parish, our community, our nation Australia.

#### **A Prayer for our Nation:**

Grant we pray O God,  
that as the southern cross shines in our skies,  
so may Christ bring light to our nation,  
to its peoples old and new,  
and by your saving grace,  
transform our lives through our  
Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever and ever. Amen

**Mary Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia  
Pray For Us**

## MASS Attendance

*Currently Dispensation from Sunday and Holy Day Mass obligations continues.*

**As from Monday, 7 December 2020, restrictions which apply in Places of Worship have been lessened. Church services are determined by the 2 square metre distancing rule and even with this limitation, our churches can accommodate more than the usual congregation numbers prior to COVID-19 restrictions.**

As we know there are certain directives that must be followed to enable us to come together and celebrate as a community, please familiarise yourselves with the following:

- ◆ Hand sanitising on arrival and departure
- ◆ Recording name and phone number on arrival
- ◆ Sit in allocated pews, 3 or 2 as indicated (*household may sit together*)
- ◆ 1.5m social distancing at all times on entering and leaving the church.
- ◆ Single file for receiving communion (on hand only) - observe social distancing.
- ◆ Government advice is that **congregational singing is not permitted**, and with the potential of more people in our churches, the government recommends that **members of the congregation wear masks** if they are over 12 years of age.

**Anyone who is unwell or who have been in COVID-19 hotspots should not attend Mass.**

Those most vulnerable to the virus include those people 70 years and over are reminded to carefully consider whether they should attend Sunday Masses at this time.

*Thank you for your co-operation.*

Those who are unable to attend Sunday Mass are encouraged to spend some time in prayer that might include reading the scriptures, joining in a screen Mass (details in this bulletin) or praying a rosary.

The Parish Bulletin is a single use product-**please take it home.**  
*Please keep praying for the end of this pandemic & keep safe.*

School Communities start returning from their holidays this week.

Please pray for all associated with our Schools during 2021.

## YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

Pope Francis has proclaimed a special "*Year of St Joseph*," beginning on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 2020 (December 8) and extending to the same feast in 2021. The Holy Father wrote *Patris corde* against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of "ordinary" people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble Saint Joseph, "the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence," who nonetheless played "an incomparable role in the history of salvation."

At the conclusion of his letter, he adds another prayer to St Joseph, which he encourages all of us to pray:

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became flesh.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,  
courage, and defend us from every evil.  
Amen.

Each month, a reflection on the various aspects of St Joseph's life and character will be published.

Reflections are available on the following website:

<https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

For those who don't have access to the web and would like a copy of the reflection please contact the Parish Office.

**Parish Rosters are now available.**

Weekend Jan 30/31	St Mary's Church Saturday 6.00pm	St Mary's Church Sunday 8.00am	St Patrick's Church Sunday 9.30am	Mary Immaculate Sunday 8.00am
Commentator	Tania Disson	Chiara Hassett	Colleen Scurrah	Marie Moran
Reader	Jim Muldoon	Bernadine Solomon	Jim O'Donohue	Basil Moran
Extraordinary Minister	Lorrain Hughes	Lynne Dougherty	Stephen Summerell	

### Entrance Antiphon:

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

### A reading from the prophet Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

*The Ninevites renounced their evil ways.*

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### Responsorial Psalm: Ps 24

**R:** Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **R.**

Remember your mercy, Lord and the love you have shown from old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

### A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 7: 29-31

*The world as we know it is passing away.*

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near: believe the good news.

Alleluia!

### Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1: 14-20

*Repent, and believe the Good News.*

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake - for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets, he called them at once, and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

### Communion Antiphon:

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

**Next Week's Readings:** (4th Sunday Year B) Deuteronomy 18: 15-20; Psalm 94; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1: 21-28



Jesus invites us to abide in Him so as to bear much fruit (see John 15:5-9). Abiding in the Lord means finding the courage to step outside of ourselves to take care of other's needs and give a Christian witness in the world.

*#Prayer #Unity of Christians.*

*Pope Francis - Pontifex 20/1/2021*

### Planned Giving Program

If you wish to pay electronically, banking details are:

**BSB: 062546 Account Number: 00800690**

**Name: Grafton Catholic Church.**

**In the details section please record: PG followed by your envelope number eg PG500.**

*Thank you for your continued support.*



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*The DIF contributes to the printing of the weekly newsletter.*