




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

*Copmanhurst & Cowper*  *Grafton & South Grafton*



## **Cowper**

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



## **Copmanhurst**

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

**7th February 2021**

## **Parish Family News**

### ***Healing for the broken-hearted***

This year, Year B of the Church's three-year liturgical cycle, we focus on the gospel of Mark, the earliest and the shortest of the four gospels. Today's reading comes from the introduction to Mark's gospel. It tells of Jesus' miracles at the start of his public ministry.

Last week we had the story of the Jesus's first miracle, according to Mark: Jesus, after teaching with authority in the synagogue, heals a man who is possessed of an evil spirit, casting out the devil that afflicts the man.

Today we have the story of a second miracle, later that same day in Mark's account, this time in the home of Simon and Andrew, where Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law who was sick. Mark's story of Jesus' two miracles on that one day in Capernaum exemplify the pattern of Jesus' ministry and teaching. They throw into sharp relief the nature of his mission and the authority with which he conducts himself. In these few verses from Mark's gospel, we also see the hallmarks of Jesus' ministry. He does not confine himself to the synagogue and Temple but goes out and into the places where the people live and work. He meets them where they are and he responds to their needs.

We see his boundless compassion for those who are suffering. We also see his unfailing hospitality. Mark tells us that, later that evening on that same day, the crowds flocked to Jesus, bringing him all who were sick or possessed, and that he cured many! No one was turned away or barred from his presence.

All who would listen and believe in his preaching, teaching, and in his miracles are welcome in his presence. It is no surprise that the suffering flocked to him. Suffering is one of the great challenges of our lives. It comes to each one of us, custom-made, be it in the death of loved ones, broken or damaged relationships, the dashing of our hopes and plans, or the loss of what is precious to us.

It is never easy. In today's first reading from the Scriptures we are reminded of the suffering of Job - and of the reality of suffering in our own lives. Now Job, though a good and upright man, experienced great - and entirely undeserved - suffering, losing all that was precious to him, his children, his possessions, his health. Like us, when faced with suffering, he questioned why innocent people suffer, why bad things happen to good people, while wicked people prosper, and the injustice of it all.

By way of response, Mark's account of Jesus' miracles highlights God's steadfast love and compassion, especially for those who are suffering. And today's reading from the Psalms offers us some of the most consoling words of all: God heals the broken hearted. So, have faith! Hold on in times of trial! God does not desert us. God's delays are not God's denials.

Anne Hunt © 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 6th February**

**9.00am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton**

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

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

### **Sunday 7th February - Fifth 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 8th February**

**NO Mass**

### **Tuesday 9th February**

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

### **Wednesday 10th February - St Scholastica, virgin**

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

### **Thursday 11th February**

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

### **Friday 12th February**

**11.30am—11.55am Reconciliation and**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**12.00noon Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

### **Saturday 13th February**

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

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

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

### **Sunday 14th February - Sixth 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**

### **Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Our lives these days are governed by many calendars - the school or university calendar - the sporting calendar and the calendar of the seasons, to name but a few. The liturgical calendar - the Church's annual cycle of seasons and celebrations - has plenty of competition. This part of Ordinary Time may struggle to stay on our radar. Not only is it sandwiched between the seasons of Christmas and Lent, but it is prone to be overshadowed by the end of summer holidays and the resumption of the school and working year.

*Break Open the Word © 2020 Liturgy Brisbane*



### **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 Chris Small, Tony O'Connor, Peter Newby, Kathryn Martin, Evonne Coutis, Cletus Moran, Brian Haynes, Bev Reilly, Dan Moran, Cheryl Kinnane, 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 Roma Brotherson, Bishop Luc Matthys, Archbishop Philip Wilson, Barbara Deegan (Casino), Athol Arandale, John Reynolds, Cristita Bajan, Elmar Quante, Bill Wood.

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

Including Fr Edward O'Gorman, Fr James Kelly, Fr James O'Rourke, Fr Joachim Hennessy, Aub, Helen & Pat Gillespie, Grace Pidcock, 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.

**Other Mass Intentions:** including all the Holy Souls.

### **YEAR OF ST JOSEPH**

*"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"*

#### **St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church**

WITH A FATHER'S HEART: that is how Joseph loved Jesus, whom all four Gospels refer to as "the son of Joseph".

Matthew and Luke, the two Evangelists who speak most of Joseph, tell us very little, yet enough for us to appreciate what sort of father he was, and the mission entrusted to him by God's providence.

We know that Joseph was a lowly carpenter (cf. Mt 13:55), betrothed to Mary (cf. Mt 1:18 Lk 1:27). He was a "just man" (Mt 1:19), ever ready to carry out God's will as revealed to him in the Law (cf. Lk 2:22.27.39) & through four dreams (cf. Mt 1:20; 2:13.19.22). After a long and tiring journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, he beheld the birth of the Messiah in a stable, since "there was no place for them" elsewhere (cf. Lk 2:7). He witnessed the adoration of the shepherds (cf. Lk 2:8-20) and the Magi (cf. Mt 2:1-12), who represented respectively the people of Israel and the pagan peoples.

(Excerpt from 'Patris corde' - Pope Francis)

Reflection for February is now available on the following website:

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

Copy of the reflection available at Parish Office.

## 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.*

The season of **Lent** begins on **Ash Wednesday, 17th February, 2021** and concludes on Thursday, 1st April, 2021 of Holy Week.

## Lent and Easter Octave Resource Book

*Look to Jesus* will nourish and nurture prayer each day during Lent and into the first week of Easter.

The daily reflections will invite the reader to contemplate a verse from the Scripture reading of the day. This reflection will be followed by a quote from Pope Francis and a simple prayer.

The daily reflections will only require a few minutes for a person to read, reflect and pray. This Lenten practice will lead the reader into a deeper reflection on their daily life. As they 'look to Jesus' - in their families, workplaces and the community - they will walk as 'missionary disciples' on the path to Easter, and beyond.

**Donation** to assist in covering the cost of the books can be placed on the second collection.

## YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

*"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"*

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.

## McAuley Catholic College

Welcome to the latest edition of our Schoolzine eNewsletter!  
Visit the link below to view your newsletter:  
<https://mcaulcgrifton.schoolzineplus.com/schoolnews?nid=19>  
Or View/Download a PDF copy from our Website.

**Parish Rosters** are now available at the Parish Office. Please send an email if you would prefer to receive an electronic version.

Weekend Feb 13/14	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	Jacki Moore	Monica McTaggart	Lynne Higham	Basil Moran
Reader	Cathy Danaher	Janet O'Shea	Nancy Crook	Barry Walker
Extraordinary Minister	Joseph Golden	Marie Small	Colleen Scurrah	



### Entrance Antiphon:

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

### A reading from the book of Job 7: 1-4, 6-7

*I am filled with sorrow all day long.*

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than  
pressed service,  
his time no better than hired drudgery?  
Like the slave, sighing for the shade,  
or the workman with no thought but his wages,  
months of delusion I have assigned to me,  
nothing for my own but nights of grief.  
Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'  
Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'  
Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.  
Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have  
passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind.  
Remember that my life is but a breath,  
and that my eyes will never again see joy.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm: Ps 146

**R: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving: to him our praise is due. **R.**

The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds. He fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. **R.**

Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured. The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust. **R.**

### A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23

*Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.*

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak.

I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering.

**Alleluia!**

### Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1: 29-39

*He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.*

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was. In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Communion Antiphon:

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

**Next Week's Readings:** (6th Sunday Year B) Lev 13:1-2, 44-46; Psalm 31; 1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1; Mark 1: 40-45



The Lord does not call us to be soloists, but to be part of a choir that can sometimes miss a note or two but must always try to sing in unison.

#ConsecratedLife

Pope Francis - Pontifex 27/1/2021

### Planned Giving

**Planned Giving contributions may be made by electronic funds transfer. If you would like to make contributions by EFT, 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 of the Parish.*



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[www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au)

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