



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

*Copmanhurst & Cowper*

*Grafton & South Grafton*



## **Cowper**

**Parish Office:** 2 Clarence Street  
**Phone:** 66439017 **Fax:** 66431388  
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[admin@clarencevalleyparish.com.au](mailto:admin@clarencevalleyparish.com.au)  
**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, Clarence  
**Phone:** 02 66431434  
**Email:** [grafs@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:grafs@lism.catholic.edu.au)

**St. Mary's Primary School**  
 Turf Street, Grafton  
**Phone:** 02 66422262  
**Email:** [grafp@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:grafp@lism.catholic.edu.au)

**St Joseph's Primary School**  
 Hyde Street, South Grafton  
**Phone:** 02 66422899  
**Email:** [sgrafp@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sgrafp@lism.catholic.edu.au)

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



**Copmanhurst**

**Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy) - Year B**

**11th April 2021**

## **Parish Family News**

### ***Opening our hearts***

Walking around a shopping centre and it's easy to find a shop or a stall that sells scented candles, incense, burners and diffusers along with essential oils. Often there is a strong scent of lavender which for many people has an immediate calming effect. As one breathes in the lavender, a sense of peace can consume our bodies.

Quite a few people also have these items at home or at their workplaces to help them relax and bring a sense a calm and peace. Many also like to escape to spas and seaside resorts to help them recover from the stress of their daily lives.

However, even after a few days in the most tranquil resort, there must be a return to the grind and sometimes harsh reality of daily life. The joyous peace, unfortunately, has to end. One cannot stay in paradise forever.

But that's exactly what is being offered to us every day and, in fact, every moment. Not in scented candles or lavender oil, and not in an expensive resort but in the middle of the harsh reality and struggles of our everyday lives. And what is being offered is not a fleeting feeling of peace but a deeper, more grounded peace. A peace that goes beyond the sense of sight, smell and sound to the very core of our living and our very being.

Jesus appears to his disciples in the midst of their deepest and darkest fears. The disciples had locked themselves in a room, just as we can sometimes lock ourselves up when we feel threatened or afraid. The disciples had closed themselves off from the rest of the world out of fear.

But Jesus walks through the locked doors and walls of that deep, dark fear and says to the disciples, "Peace be with you." Likewise, Jesus walks through the locked doors and walls of our fear and anxiety and says to us, "Peace be with you."

And just as Jesus showed his hands and his feet to the disciples after his crucifixion, so too he is showing and telling us that he understands our fears and anxieties. He knows our deepest pains and struggles for he experienced those very feelings himself.

We are not alone in our struggles. Jesus has come to walk with us. Just as Good Friday became Easter Sunday, we too will overcome our worst fears and pain. Jesus is with us to open up the door of our fears and to break down the walls that have locked us in and kept others out.

Life is not meant to be lived in fear and anxiety. There is a greater reality to life that reaches beyond our daily struggles. The reality is that if we open our hearts, Jesus will be with us always. "Peace be with you."

*Mark Chia CSsR © 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 10th April**

**NO 9.00am Mass**

**5.00pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

### **Sunday 11th April - Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)**

**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 12th April**

**NO Mass**

**Parish Office CLOSED  
Monday, 12th April**

### **Tuesday 13th April**

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

### **Wednesday 14th April**

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

### **Thursday 15th April**

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

### **Friday 16th April**

**11.30am—11.55am Reconciliation and  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

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

### **Saturday 17th April**

**NO 9.00am Mass**

**4.00pm—4.45pm Reconciliation at St Mary's Church**

**5.00pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

### **Sunday 18th April - Third Sunday of Easter**

**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**

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

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

especially Josh Brown, Valda Hodges, Bette Madden, Susan Paine, Pat Connelly, (Taxi)- Tony Cameron, Chris Small, Tony O'Connor, Peter Newby, Kathryn Martin, Evonne Coutis, Cletus Moran, Brian Haynes, Bev Reilley, Dan Moran, Cheryl Kinnane, Dot Dougherty, Sandy Beadman, Gwen Haynes, 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 Jan & Brian Harris (Tweed Heads), Jan Moss, Olga O'Meally, Bishop Bede Heather, Barry Blakeney, Fr Michael O'Callaghan, Sr. Loretta Maher, RSM, Peter Robson, Ken Robson, Maisie Wu.

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

including Fr John Dougherty, Fr George Cranney, Fr Charles Cullen, Fr Mattias Walshe, Fay O'Grady, Charles Pidcock, Pat Hackett, Hilda Pensini, Kathleen Sullivan, Mick Gillett, Irene Hynes.

**Other Mass Intentions:** including all the Holy Souls, Deceased members of O'Donohue, Tarrant, Smith & Nicholson families, Michael Bourke, Victor Gibbs, Peter Kennedy, Kathleen & Theo Hogg.

### **Divine Mercy Sunday - 11th April, 2021**

**You are invited to a Holy Hour in honour  
of the Divine Mercy 2pm to 3pm  
at St Patrick's Church, South Grafton.**



The first way to pray for someone is to speak to God about him or her. If we do this frequently, each day, our hearts are not closed, but open to our brothers and sisters. To pray for others is the first way to love them and it moves us toward concretely drawing near.

#Prayer

Pope Francis Pontifex 8/4/2021



Welcome **Mia Golden** and  
**Ariella Maria Rene Cassidy**  
to the Catholic Community  
through the Sacrament of Baptism.



**Thank you!**

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2021.

Please return your Project Compassion envelopes as soon as possible or visit [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au) to make your donation online.

Through your generosity you will be empowering the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

**[www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) #projectcompassion 1800 024 413**



## MASS Attendance

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

**Places of Worship - Church services are still subject to the 2 square metre distancing rule.**

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.
- ◆ **Congregational singing is NOW permitted.**
- ◆ **MASKS are not mandatory but are recommended.**

**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.*

## Flood Appeal

The March 2021 floods in the southern part of the Diocese of Lismore have has a devastating impact on residents and farmers. I am launching a flood appeal, and am kindly call on your support. The Diocese has already contributed \$10,000 towards hay for affected farmers and in addition we will give financial and practical support in the Diocese. If you are able to, please consider a donation to the Appeal.

With prayers and good wishes, *Most Revd Gregory Homeming, OCD Bishop of Lismore*

To donate go to [lismorediocese.org](http://lismorediocese.org) or by

**Direct Deposit:** BSB: 037 889 A/C No: 1061 5829

Name: DIF Flood Appeal

**St Carthage's Cathedral—Sunday 18 April 2021**  
at 3pm join us in a **Thanksgiving Mass** to celebrate **500 years of Christianity in the Philippines!**

**Celebrant:** Bishop Greg Homeming, OCD

For registration, please phone (02) 6626 0200

**Email:** [office@stcarthages.org.au](mailto:office@stcarthages.org.au)

Please register **before 13th April.**

## Parish Notices

**Annual Parish 200 Club - First Draw This Monday.**

**Tuesday 13th April—9am St Vincent De Paul**  
**St Mary's Conference Meeting** at Webber's Arcade rooms. *New members welcome.*

**Saturday 17th April - 10.30am Cassie Family Group**  
are meeting at Ulmarra to enjoy morning tea and 'a look through' the Art Gallery.

## Planned Giving

Planned Giving contributions can be made using your envelopes or 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.**

For contributions towards the priest's, deposits can be made to:

**BSB:** 062546 **Account Number:** 00800535

**Name:** RC Lismore Presbyterium Grafton

*Thank you for your continued support of the Parish.*

Come to our  
**Open Night at McAuley.**

**Tuesday 27 April 2021 from 4.00pm**

McAuley Catholic College encourages every child to grow confidently, with supportive teachers and modern teaching facilities.

Come to our Open Night to see how McAuley will bring out the best in your child.

**Enquiries 02 6643 1434**  
[grafslism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:grafslism.catholic.edu.au)

**McAuley Catholic College**  
• Grafton •

spirit pride wisdom



Weekend Apr 17/18	St Mary's Church Saturday 5.00pm	St Mary's Church Sunday 8.00am	St Patrick's Church Sunday 9.30am	Mary Immaculate Sunday 8.00am
Commentator	Joseph Golden	Monica McTaggart	Lynne Higham	Basil Moran
Reader	Jim Muldoon	Barry Whalley	Nancy Crook	Ellen Moloney
Extraordinary Minister	Roz Houlahan	Mark Dougherty	Colleen Scurrah	

### Entrance Antiphon:

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 4: 32-35

*The whole group was united, heart and soul.*

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117

**R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.' **R.**

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, but not doomed to die. **R.**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

### A reading from the first letter of St John 5: 1-46

*Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.*

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is - keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world - our faith. Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness - since the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

**Alleluia!**

### Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 20: 19-31

*After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.*

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book.

These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### Communion Antiphon:

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

### Next Week's Readings: (3rd Sunday of Easter, Year B)

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 2:1-5; Luke 24:35-48



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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.*