



# Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo ACT

Supporting and supported by Holy Spirit, Good Shepherd,  
Mother Teresa Primary Schools and St John Paul II College

30-31 October 2021

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year B



## Upcoming Events

### Monday 1 November All Saints Day

No Mass  
Office closed

### Tuesday 2 November All Souls Day

9:15am Mass  
7:00pm Mass  
Office closed from  
12 noon

### Wednesday 3 November

7:00am Mass

### Thursday

9:15am Mass  
5:00 Eucharistic Adoration

### Friday

7:00am Mass

### Saturday 6 November

4:30pm Reconciliation  
5:00pm Vigil Mass

### Sunday 7 November

8:00am Mass  
9:30am Mass (in person and  
via Zoom, please see parish  
app for meeting details.

## Close to the Kingdom

Play the Scripture game. Name a person in the gospels you would like to be. For me, the unnamed scribe in the gospel passage this week is a great choice. Of all the things that Jesus says to anyone in the four gospels, this is the one thing I want him to say to me: "You're almost there, right on the border of God's kingdom".

This anonymous scribe hits the jackpot. Like so many people of his generation, he heard about this great teacher and decided to check out the story. Being a student of Scripture, he wanted to see if Jesus was more learned than he was. Scholarship makes some people arrogant, but this man had come to be humbled by his education. If Jesus knew more about God than he did, he was ready to learn from him.

So he asks his question, which may well have been the guiding principle of his entire career. Which law is first among the commandments? What does God want most from us? If you have only one chance to ask a question, you want to be sure it's the most important one. And the man is so impressed by the clear answer Jesus gives, he responds with sincere praise. For his part, Jesus finds himself in the presence of a rare understanding disciple. So he in turn praises the man with those thrilling words: you're almost there. May each of us hear those words someday!

If you boiled down the mission of your life to one question, as the scribe in the gospel did, what would it be?

Write a spiritual mission statement for your life. It can be one sentence, or a manifesto if you prefer. Reflect on steps you can take to make your mission a reality.

"So lucid and accurate - that God is one and there is no other. And loving God with all passion and intelligence and energy, and loving others as well as you love yourself".

[www.gpbs.com.au](http://www.gpbs.com.au)

## TODAY'S READINGS

**Readings:** Deuteronomy 6:2-6, Hebrews 7:23-28, Mark 12:28-34

**Entrance Antiphon:** Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

**Responsorial Psalm:** I love you Lord, my strength.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! All who loves me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

- Liturgy Help

God listens to all your  
spoken and unspoken  
prayers, and grants the  
ones which are the best  
for you. Have faith.

[PictureQuotes.com](http://PictureQuotes.com)

# Ministry Marvels

**Name:** Matthew Allen

**Time in the parish:**

I have been at Holy Spirit Parish all my life. I got my first Eucharist and Confirmation here. I started being an Altar Server on the Christmas nativity in 2014 and continued ever since.

**Ministry:** Altar Server, Mass Coordinator

**What do you enjoy about your ministry?**

I enjoy making sure the masses run smoothly and working with other amazing people.

**What do you like about our parish?**

I like the welcome atmosphere.

**Fun fact about yourself:**

I can solve a Rubik's cube.

**Favourite quote or prayer:**

Matthew 18:21-22: 21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" 22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

**Comments:**

Thank you for all the work everyone does for the Parish.



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## Chapter 6 - Never let a chance go by!



jayrockanocka

Ten weeks or seventy days. The seasons of the year only total around thirteen weeks each! Opportunities have come and gone and we have let this mini-minor slip through our fingers. It reminded me of playing schoolboy cricket. One day a catch came my way. An absolute dolly! Dropped him on naught! All I caught was the gasp of the aah! as it echoed around the field. I heard a little more later as the batter left the field unbeaten on a hundred and fifty. Life teaches us all you must take your chances.

'Mega-Mouse had more breaks than a shattered windscreen. With the trail of droppings all through the Priests residence, you'd think it was a portable toilet centre. Yet, there was only one. Why? A lone traveller. A rare species? With a secret camera set in the TV room a great piece of detective work discovered 'Mega-Mouse' had a yellow spot on top of his head. This was no local everyday mouse. He or she had found their way to us from far away. Maybe a fall off a hay-truck travelling from the West on its way to a dairy-farm down the South Coast.

We all like a good catch and that is priority here. Fathers Thonn and

Mark went back to what priests specialise in, prayer: 'Restore our drooping Spirits Lord!' Alias Detective Thonn analysed the data gathered over the ten-week chase. Studies say that the offender at some stage returns to the scene of the crime. The amount of mouse droppings testify to this. We could fertilise the roses during spring and still have reserves.

# Please come back to Mass in person

Difficult times demand courage, and we have certainly needed much of that over recent years during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Not being able to attend Mass in person for many months across 2020 and 2021 has been difficult for a lot of Catholics. It's meant we couldn't experience that deep encounter with Christ in the Eucharist the source and summit of our faith. But now is time to thankfully return to Mass in person and invite family members and friends to join you since Covid restrictions have been lifted.



On the 22 of October, we celebrated the feast day of a modern saint, who we can learn a great deal from, especially on the need for personal courage in the face of difficult challenges in our lives. Pope Saint John Paul II, the Great who was an apostle of the new evangelisation, who established World Youth Day and took the gospel to the ends of the earth. In so doing he has inspired Catholics of today to embrace our faith with great courage and share it with others in the love of Christ which conquers all.

As we emerge from the challenges of this pandemic, let us draw on the courage of Pope saint John Paul II who was like you and I, an ordinary human being, who by God's grace was able to achieve extraordinary things.

An excerpt from Fr Sam Lunch's message.

## Do I need to book to attend Mass?

Seats at Mass will be available on a 'first come, first served' basis. We encourage you to come early and grab a spot!

## Parish Office

Hooray we are back in business! The parish office operating hours are as usual from Tuesday to Friday - 9am to 3pm.

Afterhours please leave a voicemail or send an email and we will respond to you as soon as possible.

## Parish news and activities



### Saturday 30 October at 8am—9:30am Garden Maintenance Working Bee.

Please come along and help out if you can. Bring gardening equipment especially whipper snippers and a few mowers wheelbarrows, buckets, brooms and weeding gear.

Also it is scientifically proven that gardening, working outside provides substantial health benefits. Coming to Saturday's working bee you not only will help your amazing parish but also improve your health!  
You are welcome!



Please keep the following individuals in prayer.....



### For those who are sick

Baby Aarya  
Katie Charlton  
Jane Honess  
Bill Honess  
Sue and Ebel Bierman  
Margaret Woods  
Ronald Robles  
Patricia Lebon  
Glenn Mowbray  
Gabrielle Eagles  
Judi Darlington  
Roland Zocchi  
Rita Augustine  
Maria Tran  
Neil and Sharon Henderson  
Maria, Peter & Baby  
Norma Pridgeon  
Sophia Vamvakaris  
Sienna Brady  
Heather Hickey  
Paz Pinilla

### Recently Deceased

Cyrus Casiano  
Wilfredo Riosa  
Hedda "Eden" Riosa-Serafica  
Sammy Escano  
Angela Ritchie  
Barbara Rose  
Oscar Armando Melhado  
Paul, Marie  
Paul Trinh Ho  
Angel Natividad  
Stephen Hickey

### Anniversaries

Sheila Hancock  
Gerard Michel  
Teresita Villena

We include those who are members of our Parish or relatives. Please email contact the parish office or click here to request prayers.

[Prayer Requests](#)

Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of hope and love to those who need it most...

This is a very rewarding experience and a great way to give to people in our community who need our support this Advent and Christmas season.



◆ **Take a tag from the Giving Tree**

Support our St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers by taking a tag and returning your item to the specially marked baskets in the Church foyer. Please donate **ONLY** non-perishable food donations (not toys).



## Parish Calendar Orders

Our beautiful calendar is now ready and we are taking orders! The calendars are A4 size and will fit in an envelope if you want to post them to family and friends.

Cost per calendar **\$10**

Click here to order or email [office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au)

[\*\*Order Now!\*\*](#)



## Thank you for your generosity!

We're taking  
**ONE FOOT FORWARD**  
this October

Mental illness can be debilitating and can have a devastating impact on not only those living with it, but those around them.

This October the parish team was putting one foot forward to make a difference to the lives of people touched by mental illness and suicide. Together we walked over 361km! Thanks to your generosity together we raised \$ 4.351 for life-changing research into treatment and prevention of mental illness, as well as vital support services.

## You kept us employed! Thank you!



A very big thank you to all those who have financially supported our Parish during the lockdown. Our regular contributors, as well as those who have made direct deposits to the Parish Bank Account, through the website or Parish App. We are really appreciate it!

We received a donation with the reference of **“Defence budget” “Surveillance of mouse intrusion”**. This description put a smile on our faces.

## Income & Expenditure (9 months) to 30/9/2021

|  | Budget          | Actual             | Variance           |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b><u>Income</u></b>                         |                 |                    |                    |
| Planned Giving/Second Collection             | 215,994         | 217,509            | \$1,515            |
| Weddings, Baptisms & Funerals                | 5,900           | 10,380             | \$4,480            |
| Sacramental, Chaplaincy & Pastoral Programs. | 21,000          | 18,165             | (\$2,835)          |
| Other Revenue                                | 21,720          | 17,331             | (\$4,389)          |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>264,614</b>  | <b>263,385</b>     | <b>(\$1,229)</b>   |
| <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>                    |                 |                    |                    |
| Administration                               | 26,825          | 20,868             | \$5,957            |
| Priest's Cars and Superannuation             | 17,109          | 16,840             | \$269              |
| Salaries, Super, A Leave & LSL               | 106,806         | 103,068            | \$3,738            |
| Insurances                                   | 21,220          | 22,696             | (\$1,476)          |
| Other Expenses                               | 4,650           | 4,142              | \$508              |
| Appeals/Donations/Quotas                     | 20,000          | 17,454             | \$2,546            |
| Capital Items                                | 8,000           | 67,269             | (\$59,269)         |
| Overall Property Expenses                    | 25,650          | 2,176              | \$23,474           |
| Repairs & Maintenance                        | 6,000           | 2,093              | \$3,907            |
| Loan Repayments                              | 9,000           | 115,897            | (\$106,897)        |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>245,260</b>  | <b>372,503</b>     | <b>(\$127,243)</b> |
| <b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>                 | <b>\$19,354</b> | <b>(\$109,118)</b> | <b>(\$126,014)</b> |

### A Sunday Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for blessing of seeing another day.  
 We lift up to you all who love and care for and ask you to bless them and meet their needs.  
 May your peace and joy fill our cups to overflowing and may your grace sustain us.  
 Thank you for being our healer, protector and provider and.  
 Thank you for everything that comes from your hands.  
 We commit this day to you and ask you to go before us.  
 In Jesus' precious name we pray.

AMEN

# Sacraments of First Eucharist and First Reconciliation



## First Reconciliation Dates:

- ◆ Tuesday 2 November (during school hours) - Good Shepherd School
- ◆ Wednesday 3 November (during school hours)- Holy Spirit School
- ◆ Thursday 4 November (during school hours) - Mother Teresa School
- ◆ Thursday 4 November at 6:00pm - Parish Program



## First Eucharist Dates:

| Holy Spirit School and Parish Program | Mother Teresa School           | Good Shepherd School and Parish Program |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday 10 November at 6:00pm       | Thursday 11 November at 6:00pm | Friday 12 November at 6:00pm            |
| Wednesday 10 November at 7:15pm       | Thursday 11 November at 7:15pm | Friday 12 November at 7:15pm            |
| Wednesday 17 November at 6:00pm       | Thursday 18 November at 6:00pm | Friday 19 November at 6:00pm            |
| Wednesday 17 November at 7:15pm       | Thursday 18 November at 7:15pm | Friday 19 November at 7:15pm            |

For more information please contact Katrina - [sacraments@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:sacraments@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au).



## All Saints' Day

All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1. The day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. It should not be confused with All Souls' Day, which is observed on November 2, and is dedicated to those who have died and not yet reached heaven.

## All Souls' Day

All Souls' Day, celebrated on Tuesday 2 November, is a day of remembrance for friends and loved ones who have passed away.

**Mass on Tuesday 2 November at 9.15am and 7:00pm**



The Book of Remembrance will be available in the Church foyer. Please record the names of loved ones who are to be remembered throughout November.

**November Mass Offering** envelopes will be available in the foyer of the Church where you might like to name your departed friends and family. Masses will be celebrated throughout November in their memory. You can leave your envelope in the box at the front of the Altar or in the collection bag at any Mass.

# Social Justice Matters



## **Laudato Si' and the Glasgow COP26 Conference on Climate Change**

With the Glasgow COP26 Conference on Climate Change about to happen, it is timely to bring to notice the encyclical of Pope Francis of May 2015 entitled *Laudato Si'*, on the topic of Care for Creation and Climate Change.

This document is specifically addressed to all humanity rather than to the Catholic faithful; to that end, Pope Francis deliberately circumscribes theological aspects within one Chapter, but provides a dimension of faith for the enrichment of the faithful reader.

Pope Francis has recently convened a meeting on Climate Change in the Vatican of leaders of major world faiths including the Anglican, Orthodox, Muslim, and Buddhist communities and dozens more. There is a possibility that he might address Glasgow.

The term *Laudato Si'* is drawn from St Francis, in whose honour Pope Francis names his papacy. *Laudato* has English derivations including Applaud or Applause, and the St Francis canticle upon creation is entitled *Laudato Si'*, mi Signore, or Praise to you My Lord.

As Australians, a phrase such as 'Good on You, Mate' runs surprisingly close to the overall sentiments, and we are being asked to work with the rest of humanity in restoring Creation which we have sullied.

We could also think of a spinning globe, and the named countries passing under an arbitrary cursor. We could also think of an orthogonal view of say all Catholics, distributed across many of these countries.

*Laudato Si'* is freely available - just Google '*Laudato Si' pdf*'. Study it, read it, skim it but pass it on to your mates.

Note: The UK will host the 26 th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow on 31 October – 12 November 2021.

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## **Missing by a Little Bit**

Melissa gave herself plenty of time to get to the airport. But she didn't figure on the heavy traffic or the long line at the rental car desk. And the shuttle must have stopped a hundred times for more passengers headed home for the holidays.

At the check-in desk she had to wait behind a mob of people with tons of baggage. When she got to the counter, the ticket agent was alarmed, "You don't have time to check your bag," he said. "You'll have to carry it on. Hurry or you'll miss your flight". She raced to security, but her cosmetics, toothpaste, and manicure scissors set off all the alarms. It took forever, but they finally let her go, and as she raced down the concourse, she could hear her name being called on the public address system. Breathless, she arrived at the gate only to see her plane being pushed back from the gateway. She was crushed. So close, yet so far.

The young man who'd followed all the commandments all his life ended up "not far" from the kingdom of God, too. Imagine having that kind of moral track record and missing out. God's kingdom, you see, isn't a matter of being perfectly good, because no one is. Salvation can never be earned. It must be accepted in faith, allowing the gracious gift of God to work its divine transformation in the human soul.

## A REFLECTIVE AFTERNOON FOR WOMEN

# WIDENING OUR GAZE:

CALLING FORTH  
NEW COURAGE  
AND COMPASSION IN  
A TIME OF CRISIS

*"Is this drama just a virus pandemic and an economic meltdown, or is it about widening our gaze, the way we take in all these human dramas?"*

p.17 Pope Francis, Let Us Dream

**NOVEMBER 6**  
**VIA ZOOM**  
**3 PM TO 4.30 PM**



**REGISTER [HTTPS://BIT.LY/WIDENGAZE](https://bit.ly/widengaze)**

### 'Widening our gaze'

**Reflection afternoon to be offered on Zoom by Archdiocesan Women's Taskforce**

'Widening our gaze' is the title of the next reflection being offered by the Catholic Women's Taskforce on Saturday 6 November from 3.00-4:30pm.

The session, which will use art, poetry, music and conversation, recognises that the pandemic, like any crisis, can be an opportunity for reflection and for renewal.

The interactive 90-minute reflection is open to all women (and men) from the Archdiocese and beyond. These Reflections have been popular and women from across Australia have been participating – especially during lockdowns.

The title and key themes are inspired by Pope Francis' recent book called 'Let Us Dream'. This book really speaks clearly to us about hope and the opportunities to grow and change which a crisis always offers. Before we leap into the Christmas period please grab your coffee and join us for an enjoyable experience.

The event is free - however registration is essential.

Use this link <https://bit.ly/widengaze> or visit <https://womenstaskforceacg.org> to register.

Thank You!

Alison Weeks ([alisonmweeks@bigpond.com](mailto:alisonmweeks@bigpond.com))

# Time for laughter...

As Proverbs 17:22 declares, "a joyful heart is good medicine." There's something about laughter that can restore the soul and provide some much-needed relief from stress and pain.

## Marriage and Coffee

Shortly after tying the knot, a young married couple started arguing over who should make the coffee. Being a good Christian woman, the wife went to the scriptures for her answer. She said that the Bible specifically stated that men should be the ones to make the coffee.

Puzzled, the husband asked her where in the Bible it said that. Very confidently, the wife opened up her Bible and said: "It's right here—HEBREWS."

I got a real tough penance from the priest. He told me to do a decade of the rosary. The good news is I only have one more year to go.



## WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Secure Online Payments

### Online Mass Contribution (First and Second Collections combined)

We encourage you to continue to support our parish by making contributions to our First and Second Collections online. Follow the steps below to make a secure online donation.

1. Click on <https://www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au/donations-payments/secure-online-payments/>
2. Select Biller Code 1002872 – Mass Contribution
3. Enter your payment details.

### Parish Bank Account Details

BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00010701 Acc Name: Holy Spirit Parish

## CONNECT WITH US

**Parish Priest:** Fr Mark Croker

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Anthony (Fr Thonn) Riosa, SSS.

### Parish Office and Presbytery

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**Youth Minister:** Paris Morris

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**Parish Pastoral Council (PPC):** Alison Weeks

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## Parish App and Parish Facebook Page



*Pocket Parish*  
Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

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with you where  
ever you go!

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now from

