

Parish Bulletin

St Carthage's Cathedral Parish, Lismore



SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

- St Carthage's Cathedral, Lismore
Mass Times
Tues -Thurs 8.00am, Fri 12.05pm.
Sat Vigil 5.30pm, Sun 9am & 11am
Reconciliation-Fri 11.30am-11.50am
Sat 4.45pm-5.15pm
- Carmelite Monastery Chapel,
Goonellabah
Mon-Fri 7am, Sat 8am, Sun 7am
- St Dymphna's Church, Dunoon
Sunday - 8.30am
- St Vincent's Hospital Chapel
Wednesday - 12 noon

PARISH OFFICE

Business Manager: Ray Dunn
Operations Manager: Christine Byrne
Admin. Assistant: Jenny Falls
Doyle House, 6 Leicester Street
Lismore, NSW 2480.
8.30am-4.00pm weekdays
P: 6626 0200

E: admin@stcarthages.org.au

W: www.stcarthages.org.au

Postal Address

PO Box 2, Lismore, NSW 2480

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

St Carthage's Primary School
Janelle Heffernan
Ph: 66215529

St John's College, Woodlawn
Annette Reen - Acting Principal
Ph: 6626 2600

Trinity Catholic College
Jesse Smith
Ph: 6627 6600

COMMUNITY CARE

St Carthage's Community Care

CEO: Ray Dunn

General Manager: Cathy Donnelly
Ph: 6620 0000

W: www.stccc.org.au

PARISH CLERGY

Bishop Gregory Homeming OCD

Bishop of Lismore

Fr Bing Monteagudo
Administrator

Fr Philip Borla
Fr Alexander Munyao
Assistant Priests

Revd Graeme Davis
Deacon

8 December 2024, Second Sunday of Advent Year C

PARISH MULTICULTURAL MORNING TEA

"A heartfelt thank you to the parish Pastoral Council and to everyone who helped make our Multicultural Mass and Morning tea a truly beautiful celebration of faith and unity. Your generous contributions, heartfelt presence, and colourful traditional attire filled our parish with life, joy, and the spirit of togetherness.

This is more than just a parish - it is our home, where Christ's love radiates through each of you.

Let us continue to nurture this home with warmth, hope, and a deep sense of His abiding presence."



VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Every week members of St Carthage's Conference meet at our centre in Conway Street to provide support to those doing it a little tough.



We want to offer our appreciation to the families of students at St Carthage's School, Trinity College and St John's Woodlawn who are busy putting goods together for our Christmas Hampers. As we approach Christmas, we find that there are many families and single people needing our support. This year we have helped 964 families, victims of domestic violence, flood affected residents and those experiencing homelessness.

We ask that you support us in our work by donating to our Christmas Appeal. you can do this by placing your gift in the envelopes provided on the seats or at the back of the Church or placing your donation in the poor box.



PAYS 4.15%

INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND!

Head office: 10 Orion St, Lismore,
1800 802 516.
www.dif.org.au

LITURGY ROSTER

Dec 7/8 - 2nd Week of Advent Year C

Saturday 5.30pm

Reader 1 Suzanne Nichols
Reader 2 Fiona Fennamore
Offertory Terry and Mila Knudson

Sunday 9.00am

Reader 1 Maria Whitney
Reader 2 Cathy Donnelly
Offertory Kaye and Allan Kloiser-Jones

Sunday 11.00am

Reader 1 Oliver Rixon
Reader 2 Cameron Delaney
Offertory Glen and Margaret Amos

Dec 14/15 - 3rd Week of Advent Year C

Saturday 5.30pm

Reader 1 Pauline Celich
Reader 2 Janelle Heffernan
Offertory Amy and Mary Tran

Sunday 9.00am

Reader 1 Pauline Geitz
Reader 2 Alison Cleaver
Offertory Les and Louise Burgett

Sunday 11.00am

Reader 1 Nestor Basio
Reader 2 Gemma basio
Offertory Alwin Antony and Dhanya Devassy

ADVENT PRAYER FOR SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

God of peace, during this Advent Season, keep us from getting caught up in the busyness and chaos of the world around us. Help us to slow down, so that we may find rest in the Prince of Peace, Your Son, Jesus Christ.



As we prepare for his coming, make us instruments of your peace in our homes, in our schools, in our work and in our world. Amen.



BAPTISMS
Our Parish family welcomes into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week
Sophia Valentina Crandon

Holy Rosary

St Carthage's Cathedral Sunday 10.15am.
St Dymphna's Church, Dunoon Wednesday 5.00pm
all welcome

Gospel Sharing

Doyle House, Thursday
3.30 - 5.00pm. All welcome.



Holy Communion at Home

If you know of someone who would like Holy Communion at home please call the office on 6626 0200.

Christmas Dates to Remember

Misa de Gallo

Cathedral - December 15 - 23 at 6.00pm
(except Saturday December 21 at 7.30pm)

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

St Andrew's Anglican Church - December 15 at 7.30pm

CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Cathedral - Sunday December 22 at 7.30pm.

Christmas Mass Times 2024

Christmas Eve

South Lismore - 4.00pm
Cathedral - 5.30pm and Midnight
Dunoon - 7.30pm

Christmas Day

Carmelite Monastery - 7.00am
Cathedral - 9.00am
South Lismore - 9.00am



There will be no 8.00am Mass in the Cathedral from Tuesday December 24. The 8.00am Mass will recommence on Tuesday January 7, 2025.

There will be no Friday 12.05pm Mass on December 27 or January 3. The 12.05pm Mass will recommence on Friday January 10, 2025.

Please remember in your prayers;

THOSE WHO ARE RECENTLY DECEASED: Carmel Mitchell, Ray Condon, John Kinsella, Mary Glynn, Glenna Virtue, Les Edwards, Angiela Dagook, Marjorie Milgate, Gwen McKinley, Nancy Graham, Louene Cummings, June Sharpe, Lorraine Glynn, Pete Kerwick, Peter Donnelly, Peter Cottam, Robin Gilmore.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Carol Ashton, Sheila Bell, Bridget Collits, Helen Escuyos Johnson, Russell Watt, Lisa Ferris, Teresa Almanza, Ian-Christopher Bajo, John Rynne, Esther Todd, Michael Martin.

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE AT THIS TIME: Venusta Fabiani, Rita Conlan, Chaiel Balcombe, Nelia West, Paul Beer,



Reading Reflection

Preparing a way for the Lord

One of British street artist Banksy's famous pictures is *The Flower Thrower*. In this powerful image of peaceful resistance, a figure leans backwards with his arm poised to throw an object. A similar figure in other protest posters would be poised to hurl a violent projectile. Instead, Banksy subverts a potentially violent image with his figure holding a bouquet of colourful flowers.

John the Baptist emerges from the wilderness, clothed in camel's hair, surviving on a diet of locusts and honey. His wild appearance is juxtaposed against his peaceful, steadfast call to repentance and the forgiveness of sins. He calls people to turn towards the One who is coming, the One who will be the embodiment of all that John currently preaches.

Jesus's spiritual kingship subverts and overturns all notions of a powerful earthly leader who dominates his subjects and rules with power. Indeed, the God whom John proclaims not only meets his people in love but also accompanies them all the way to the cross. Jesus embodies a love which is tender and compassionate but which is also fiercely committed to accompaniment and solidarity with us, in the entirety of life's circumstances.

Philosopher Hannah Arendt explained that power is the human ability not just to act, but to act in concert (On Violence, 1969). In contrast to conventional notions of power, she held that power is the ability to communicate and cooperate, not to coerce and dominate.

In contemporary times, John's call to prepare for the Lord's coming, by making rough roads smooth so that humanity will see the salvation of the Lord can perhaps be heard in the voices calling to us from the margins: the voices of women, LBGTIQ+ sisters and brothers, ethnic minorities, victims of abuse, and those fleeing persecution among others. We are invited to welcome everyone with compassion, to collaborate and stand with them. Together, we are witnesses to a community of faith which is united by love.

Building God's kingdom is almost always an uphill struggle, yet it helps to hold fast to the vision that his kingdom is both "now and not yet" and to persist with our efforts for mercy, justice and unity.

In the first reading, the prophet Baruch uses the metaphor of beauty to encourage Jerusalem to hold fast to its vision of God: Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress; put on the beauty of the glory of God forever.

In challenging times, a helpful way to remind ourselves of the presence of God is to notice and rejoice in the beauty which surrounds us, to recognise God's presence, amidst our struggles. French philosopher Simone Weil in *Waiting for God* describes it quite profoundly: The beautiful is the experiential proof that the incarnation is possible ... "Christ is really present in the universal beauty ... the beauty of this world is Christ's tender smile coming to us."

Sophie Clements
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The Catholic Weekly

The Weekly is available at the back of the Cathedral for \$2.00.

Some of the stories in this week's edition are:

- Walking the Aussie Camino
- Sydney's newest priests are on their "Way"
- The engineer building a passion for faith
- A too-easy Christian dessert
- Fidelis: The Dos and Don'ts of relationships
- Holy Innocents Croydon turns 100 years

You can subscribe to the Catholic Weekly by following this link:

<https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/subscriptions-to-the-catholic-weekly/>



COLLECTION TOTALS - 30 November/ 1 December 2024

First Collection - \$ 1117.65

Second Collection - \$ 1070.43

Bank Deposit: Please use Surname and envelope number (if applicable) as a reference e.g. Smith 23

First Collection (Support of Diocese Priests) -

St Carthage's Cathedral Parish Clergy Account BSB 062 565 Acc 10435601

Second Collection (Support of Parish and Ministries) -

St Carthage's Cathedral Parish General Account BSB 062 565 Acc 10435599



FIRST READING

Baruch 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.

Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.

Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory.

For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.

And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125. R. v.3

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. **(R.)**

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened
and rough roads made smooth.
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

NEXT WEEK

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:10-18

