

Parish of St Mary & St Joseph

Orange

Parish of the Sacred Heart & St Lawrence O'Toole

Molong

St Mary's (Orange), St Joseph's (Orange), Sacred Heart (Molong), St Michael's (Manildra),
St Brendan's (Mullion Creek), St Patrick's (Cargo), St Columbanus' (Cudal)

The Ascension of the Lord - 13th May 2018

PARISH TEAM

Fr Greg Bellamy	Parish Priest
Fr Pius Khaoya	Assistant Priest
Diep Nguyen	Seminarian
Michael O'Mara	Business Manager
Sr Helen Saunders rsj	Pastoral Assistant Orange
Sr Frances McAleer rsj	Resident in Molong
Shannon Cain	Sacramental Coordinator
Joanne Doulman & Deb Cantrill	Parish Secretaries
Elizabeth Bowmer & Jermarnie Orge	Youth Ministers

CONTACT DETAILS

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Email: office.orange@cdob.org.au
Address: 84 Hill Street (P.O. Box 44) Orange 2800
Facebook: www.facebook.com/CatholicOrangeNSW

OFFICE HOURS

Mon: 10.00am - 4.30pm **Tues-Fri:** 8.45am - 4.30pm
Closed - Lunch: 12.30 - 1.30pm

We recognise the Wiradjuri, Gamilaraay and Wailwan peoples as the original custodians of the land on which our Parishes stand.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May: Evangelisation - The Mission of the Laity

That the lay faithful may fulfil their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

Response to the Psalm: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Go teach all my people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Reflection

In today's first reading, St Luke gives the surprising news that there is more of the story to be told. The story did not end with the empty tomb, or with Jesus' appearances to the Apostles over the course of forty days. Jesus' saving work will have a liturgical consummation. He is the great high priest, and he has still to ascend to the heavenly Jerusalem, there to celebrate the feast in the true Holy of Holies. The truth of this feast shines forth from the Letter to the Hebrews, where we read of the great high priest's passing through the heavens, the sinless intercessor's sacrifice on our behalf (see Hebrews 4:14-15). Indeed, his intercession will lead to the Holy Spirit's descent in fire upon the Church. Luke spells out that promise in the first reading for the feast of the Ascension: "in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:5). Ascension is the preliminary feast that directs the Church's attention forward to Pentecost. On that day, salvation will be complete; for salvation is not simply expiation for sins (that would be wonder enough), but it is something even greater than that. Expiation is itself a necessary precondition of our adoption as God's children.

To live that divine life we must receive the Holy Spirit. To receive the Holy Spirit we must be purified through baptism.

The Responsorial Psalm presents the Ascension in terms familiar from the worship of the Jerusalem Temple in the days of King Solomon: "God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord" (Psalm 47). The priest-king takes his place at the head of the people, ruling over the nations, establishing peace.

The Epistle strikes a distinctively Paschal note. In the early Church, as today, Easter was the normal time for the baptism of adult converts. The sacrament was often called "illumination" or "enlightenment" (see, for example, Hebrews 10:32) because of the light that came with God's saving grace. Saint Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, speaks in terms of glory that leads to greater glories still, as Ascension leads to Pentecost: "May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened," he writes, as he looks to the divinisation of the believers.

Their "hope" is "his inheritance among the holy ones," the saints who have been adopted into God's family and now rule with him at the Father's right hand. This is the "good news" the Apostles are commissioned to spread—to the whole world, to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem—at the first Ascension. It's the good news we must spread today.



Today's Scripture: Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Mark 16:15-20

Next Week's Scripture: Acts 2:1-11; Galatians 5:16-25; John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

PARISH NOTICES

DAY BY DAY

Monday 14th May St Matthias, apostle

- 9.00am Liturgy of the Word at Molong
- 9.00am 'Craft with Love'
- 5.00-5.40pm Eucharistic Exposition at St Mary's
- 5.45pm Mass St Mary's

Tuesday 15th May 7th Week of Easter

- 9.00am Liturgy of the Word at Molong
- 9.10am Rosary at St Mary's
- 9.30am Mass at St Mary's

Wednesday 16th May 7th Week of Easter

- 9.15am Mass St Lawrence Molong, all welcome
- 5.00-5.40pm Eucharistic Exposition at St Joseph's
- 5.45pm Mass at St Joseph's

Thursday 17th May 7th Week of Easter

- 9.10am Rosary at St Joseph's
- 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's
- 11.00am Mass Cherrywood Nursing Home. All welcome
- 6.00pm Holy Hour at St Joseph's

Friday 18th May 7th Week of Easter

- 9.00am Liturgy of the Word at Molong
- 5.00-5.40pm Reconciliation at St Joseph's
- 5.00-5.40pm Eucharistic Exposition at St Joseph's
- 5.45pm Mass at St Joseph's

Saturday 19th May 7th Week of Easter

- 9.00am Mass Cargo
- 9.00am MC Sisters Silver Jubilee Mass with Bishop McKenna St Joseph's
- 4.15-4.45pm Reconciliation at St Mary's
- 5.00pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's
- 5.00pm Vigil Mass for Molong Centenary + Confirmation
- NO MASS AT MANILDRA

Sunday 20th May Pentecost Sunday

- 8.00am Mass Mullion
- 8.00am Mass at St Joseph's
- 9.30am Mass at St Mary's
- 9.30am Mass Molong
- 11.15am Baptisms St Mary's
- 5.00pm Mass at St Joseph's
- 5.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass St Mary's

OZ Rosary - Feast of Our Lady of Fatima this Sunday 13th May 2018

3.30pm there will be Holy Hour, including Rosary, the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Confessions, and Benediction at St Joseph's Church.



Stay & Play

Morning tea will be on again on 27th May from 10.30am - 11.30am In the cottage behind St Mary's Church. Everyone is welcome.

2 x Vacancies

Abbeyfield House provides affordable housing for 10 people aged 65 and over. Residents live independently in a caring, secure environment. A live in housekeeper provides great home cooking and support for residents. Enquiries welcome to Ronnie Hazelton 63642118 or 0427642118.

Taize Pilgrimage of Trust 'Inexhaustible joy'

Taize Retreat at St Joseph's Conference Centre, Tenison Woods Ave, Perthville.
11.00am Friday 25th May
To 3.00pm Saturday 26th May

Contact: Carmen Beard - 6334 6407
Email: taizeretreatbathurst@gmail.com

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Enrolling now for 2019.
Ph: 6362 7926

stmarysorange@bth.catholic.edu.au
(Still limited spaces available for K-6 for 2018)

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2019 close on Friday 1st June.

Catherine McAuley Catholic Primary School

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2019 are NOW open. Enrolment packs are available at the school office
Phone: 6361 3344
Enrolments close on 1st June.

YOU ARE INVITED

Please join the Missionaries of Charity in celebrating the **Silver Jubilee of Religious Profession of Sr Henrina MC** with Mass celebrated by Bishop McKenna at St Joseph's Church at 9.00am on Saturday 19th May followed by refreshments in Kenna Hall.

Push for Palliative

You are invited to the Orange Palliative Care Forum
Sunday 20th May 2018
Orange Ex-Services Club
1.00pm - 5.00pm

Topics include:
Proposed hospice model, progress in partnership with Dudley Private Hospital and Orange Health Service for identified palliative care beds.

The forum will be chaired by Member for Orange Philip Donato
Cost of Forum is a \$5 Donation to cover cost of afternoon tea

The Centenary of the Dedication of the Molong Church

You are invited to join with

Bishop Michael McKenna, Bishop of Bathurst, and the Catholic Community of Molong

to celebrate the centenary of **The Church of the Sacred Heart & St Laurence O'Toole, Molong**

Commencing with **5:00pm Mass on Saturday 19th May**, followed by supper in the school hall. The celebration will include the sacrament of Confirmation.

Please note: on this weekend there will be **no Mass** in Manildra.

PARISH NOTICES



ALPHA for Youth

What: A great way for young people to get together, share a meal and learn more about faith

Who: Young adults aged 16-20

Where: Kenna Hall Meeting Room

When: Sundays 3:30-6pm (including Evening Mass)

New Parishioner Dinner



6.30pm in Kenna Hall
Thursday 7th June

If you are new to town and have not filled in a census card and would like to join your fellow parishioners, PLEASE contact the Parish Office on 6362 2378.

Shalom House of Prayer Midweek Long Lunch

Father Frank Brennan SJ AO
'Human Rights & Religious Freedom today'
Tuesday 22nd May from 12.00pm - 3.00pm
To book ph 6367 3058
Email: shalomcarcoar@gmail.com or book online: shalomcarcoar.com



Christian Women's Conference Orange

'OneDay'

CWC is an annual, non-denominational Christian women's conference. The aim of CWC is to faithfully teach the Bible so that Christian women are built up and encouraged.

Saturday 26th May 2018 9.00am - 3.30pm
Orange Function Centre
For more information and to Register visit www.onedaycwc.org.au

St Joseph's Retaining Wall Reconstruction Project

Dear friends, last year I let the community know that we could not delay for much longer in addressing the increasingly serious safety concerns relating to the St Joseph's Retaining Wall on Hill Street. A casual glance clearly reveals how much the wall has shifted in the last 18 months.

With the help of our Parish Finance Council and Cook & Roe Structural Engineers we have developed a reconstruction project to ensure the safety of the public and that this important heritage site is preserved into the future.

The existing wall is to be carefully demolished so as to not damage any of the bricks. The wall is then to be reinstated, with a reinforced concrete block wall supported off a peered strip footing. The existing brickwork will be reinstated over the block wall to ensure the appearance of the wall is restored to its current state.

We have sought a heritage grant to help with the expense of this project and are currently awaiting the outcome of our application. A special thanks to those who made donations last year specially for this project. Work should commence before the end of May. When work begins there will be some disruption to the use of the pavement on Hill Street.

May God bless this project and ensure its success. Fr Greg

Happy Mothers Day to all our mums in the parish!

Dear Lord, through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary our Mother, and of all the saints, bless all mothers for whom we pray, whether they still are living in this world or have departed from this flesh into the world to come. Especially, dear Lord, grant the requests I now make of You for my own beloved mother. Amen.

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS & MASSES

RECENTLY BAPTISED:

Ned Hawke, Lara & Nate Keegan

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Cecil Hayes, Peter Thoms

ANNIVERSARIES:

Dot Bevan, Joy Bevan, Stephen Gersbach, Rosaleen Langby, Lana McAneney, Narelle McMillan, Doris Moore, Eric Powell, Michele Ryan, Molly Tracey

OUR DEPARTED LOVED ONES:

Leila Alexander, Christopher Bank, Adrian Berney, Eileen Bowman, Marie Brown, Maria & Charlie Brouwers, Mena Christopherson, Wilma Coyte, William Crayford and William Crayford Snr, Damian d'Arbon, Des & Daphne Dawson, Nadia Dubenec, Shirley Dunne, Chris Duff, Nell & Jack Fitzgerald, Ray Fitzgerald, Ted & Ellen Fitzgerald, Anne & Jim Forde, Norma Griffiths, David Hanrahan, Nadia Hawula, Frank & Joan Hennessy, Helen Johnson, Brian Keegan, Marlene Kendell, Bernie & Josie Livermore, Ian Livermore, Valerie McGee, Nell O'Keefe, May & Jack Parker, Neville Parker, Reg, Eric & Gerard Paul, Catherine Powell, Les Quick, Eileen & Len Ross, Phil & Norman Ross, Drew Russell, Maria Schmich, Roy Smith, Alexandra Sopielnik, Anton, Erich, Erika & Michael Twomey, Jean & John Walker, Mavis Whitehouse, Santo LoFaro (Italy), Gaetano Torrisi, Salvatore & Venera Torrisi, Mario & Alfio Lizzio, Pietra Faro, Alfina Cosentino, Venera Maccarone, Santo & Alfia LoFaro (Orange). Deceased members of the Fardell, Lee, Paul families.

THE SICK AND INFIRM:

Kyle Wickham, Nell Bourke, Gary Alexander, Win & John Bamber, Eric Bowman, Thelma Walters, David Ward, Jovan Knezevic, Greg Gersbach, Anthony Young, Celestina Vardanega, Patricia Crich, Dr Steve Peterson, Michael Higgins, Katherine Twomey, Sandy Ostini, Irene McCaffery

Family Group 9

Luncheon - Sunday 20th May at Kelly's, Mary Jane Restaurant - 12noon for 12.30pm start. If unable to attend please phone 6363 1639.

The New Life established by the Risen Jesus

Over the last three Sundays our Gospel readings have progressively painted a picture of the new life established by the Risen Jesus.

Two weeks ago the Gospel of the Vine and Branches (Jn 15:1-8) highlighted three elements essential to a healthy Church-life. If an individual Christian and an individual Christian community is to be healthy it must be 1. grafted onto Jesus, particularly through the sacraments, 2. Pruned of dead and dying parts by the Word of God, and 3. bear visible fruit through changed lives: people becoming missionary disciples and saints.

Last week our Gospel from Jesus' High Priestly Discourse (Jn 17:11-19) deepened this picture of healthy Church-life. A healthy Christian and a healthy Church community 1. knows that God chooses and seeks us out and so we surrender ourselves to him, 2. lives the commission to love as Jesus loves us by making ourselves into a sacrificial gift to others, and 3. bears fruit by bringing people to Jesus.

This week our Gospel describes Jesus' final instructions to his Apostles on the last occasion that he speaks with them: his ascension into Heaven (Mk 16:15-20). Once again he outlines essential elements of this new Christian life and so what it means to be a healthy Church community: 1. the Risen Christ walks with us through his Holy Spirit and demonstrates this through signs, 2. the primary function of the Church community is to fulfil a mission: to go out to everyone and proclaim the Good News, which is Jesus himself, and 3. the fruit produced by a Church community living its mission faithfully is people coming to believe in Christ and therefore becoming Christian disciple and deciding to be baptised.

The picture that emerges from these Gospels is clear. A healthy Church community is one that produces visible fruit; people's' lives are changed, the number of committed Christian disciples is increasing; all the activities of the community are unapologetically aimed towards mission; and the community is constantly drawing strength from the Risen Christ rather than its own limited resources. Let's pray that Christ will renew our parish community so this may describe us. Fr Greg

Our Daily Parish Prayer

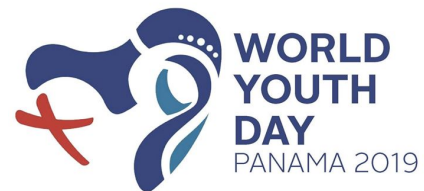
Heavenly Father,

through your Son, you have commissioned us to go out to the whole world and make disciples. You have commissioned us to evangelise and serve the poor. You have commissioned us to worship you and pray constantly for our families, for our community, and for the whole world.

Bless and guide the pastor of our parish community and all our priests. Bless and guide the religious, parish staff, school staff, volunteers, young families, and all our community. Send your Holy Spirit to guide us as we discern Your Will for the spiritual and cultural renewal of our parish. Transform us into intentional missionary disciples who rely on your grace and so have the courage to leave all behind and follow your Son.

We entrust the renewal of our parish mission and community to the maternal care of the Blessed Virgin Mary and ask for her intercession as we strive to do Your Will.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Diocese of Bathurst will be leading a group of over 18s' to Panama for an 18 Day pilgrimage from the 14th January – 1st February 2019. The pilgrimage will include an immersion experience in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, followed by World Youth Day week itself in Panama, concluding with two days post-WYD rest and relaxation at Orange Country, California. The approximate cost of the Pilgrimage will be approx. \$5,199 and will be confirmed in the near future. Expressions of interest are now opened and can be completed online at www.bathurst.catholic.org.au **There are flyers in the main porches of St Mary's & St Joseph's with further information.**

James Sheahan Catholic High School

49 Anson Street, Orange
Principal: Mr Peter Meers
Ph: 6362 1422
www.jschs.nsw.edu.au

Catherine McAuley Catholic Primary School

90 Hill Street, Orange
Principal: Mr Michael Croke
Ph: 6361 3344
www.mcauleyorange.catholic.edu.au

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Cnr Byng & Park Streets, Orange
Principal: Mrs Kerrie Basha
Ph: 6362 7926
www.stmarysorange.catholic.edu.au

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Edward Street, Molong
Principal: Mr Matthew French
Ph: 6366 8306
www.stjosephsmolong.catholic.edu.au

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Loftus Street, Manildra
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