

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF TAREE & WINGHAM

Two Parishes One Faith, Committed to Stewardship. Good Stewards sharing the God-given Gifts of Time Talent and Treasure

TAREE PARISH & WINGHAM PARISH - DIOCESE OF MAITLAND NEWCASTLE

Mass centres of Cundletown, Harrington, Lansdowne & Old Bar

PARISH PRIEST: Fr George Anthicadu ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr James Odoh

PARISH OFFICE: Mon CLOSED Tues - Thurs 9am - 3pm Fri 9am - 3.30pm

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3rd Sunday of Lent- Year A

19th of March, 2017

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:3-7

The Israelites complain to Moses
in the desert.

SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-2,5-8

Christ laid down his life for us.

GOSPEL

John 4:5-42

Jesus meets the Samaritan
woman.

REFLECTION

All people thirst for meaning, but of what does that meaning consist? The people in the desert thirsted for water, but they misunderstood their thirst. The woman of Samaria thirsted. Her conversation with Jesus showed that she thirsted for understanding and insight as well as water. For what do we thirst in this world of such great excess and unmeasured need? Life has not become simpler with all of our advances. We still thirst for more – for the newest, the fastest and the best. How much is enough, and when do we cross the line into 'too much'?

The gospel readings for the scrutiny Sundays very clearly lay out the choices that are placed before the catechumens and the rest of the believing community as well. This Sunday it is between water that quenches thirst and water that does not. Jesus identifies himself as the source of water that guarantees eternal life. He places before the Samaritan woman a choice that requires a step of profound faith. She knows the thirst-quenching quality of the water from Jacob's well, but she is not acquainted with the water promised by this stranger who is also an enemy of her people. The choice is not an obvious one. A similar choice is placed before us. We know the demands of our culture and the circumstances of our lives. Are we able to acknowledge the sins of which we are guilty, recognise the grace that is being offered to us, and make the right choice?

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts!



IF TO - DAY YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, HARDEN NOT YOUR HEARTS!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DEADLINE FOR ALL BULLETIN NOTICES IS WEDNESDAY 3PM. NOTICES RECEIVED AFTER THIS TIME WILL BE PLACED IN THE FOLLOWING WEEKS BULLETIN. THANK YOU.

SUPPLY OF PALM LEAVES

If there are any parishioners that could supply palm leaves prior to Palm Sunday on the 9th April, could you please contact the Parish Office. Even if you can supply a few, it would be very much appreciated, as it is a lot to ask one person to supply on their own.

HOLY WEEK MASS VOLUNTEERS

Required for Our Lady of the Rosary Mass services. If you are able to assist, please add your name to the rosters in the front foyer of the Church, or by calling the Parish Office on 6552 1084. Volunteers on the normal weekend rosters have been added to the Holy Week rosters, if you are unable to do your rostered duty please find an alternative person.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent the Following Mass Centres will meet for the Stations of the Cross.

- 9.30am:** Star of the Sea, Harrington
- 10am:** Lady of Perpetual Help, Wingham
- 6.30pm:** St Patrick's, Cundletown
- 7pm:** Our Lady of Fatima, Old Bar

CHURCH PARKING

Please be aware this is a shared area so it would be appreciated if people could park only in the car spaces provided to ensure safe entry and exit of all visitors.

CATECHISM CLASSES

Will be cancelled for Sunday 19th March due to the RCIC Sacramental workshop to be held after Mass on that day. Normal classes resume Sunday 26th March.

WINGHAM PARISH - MUSICIANS NEEDED

In urgent need of skilled musicians for the Easter Ceremonies. If you can assist please ring Helen Scriven on 6550 8062.

CHRISM MASS

The annual Chrism Mass will be held at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 7pm on Tuesday 11th April, to receive the holy oils. Thank you to those who have already volunteered, however Wingham & Harrington is still in need of 2 representatives to attend. If you are able to travel to this mass please contact the Parish Office ASAP.

EASTER MASS TIMES 2017

Palm Sunday – 9th April 2017

- Vigil Mass Saturday 6pm Taree
- Vigil Mass Saturday 6pm at Harrington
- Mass Sunday 7.30am at Old Bar
- Mass Sunday 8.30am at Wingham
- Mass Sunday 9.30am at Taree
- Mass Sunday 6pm at Cundletown
- Mass Sunday 6pm at Lansdowne

Holy Thursday – 13th April 2017

- Reconciliation 10am at Taree
- Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm at Taree
- Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm at Wingham

Good Friday – 14th April 2017

- Stations of the Cross 10.30am at Taree
- Mass of the Lord's Passion 3pm at Taree
- Mass of the Lord's Passion 3pm at Wingham

Holy Saturday – 26th March 2016

- Easter Vigil Mass 7pm at Taree
- Easter Vigil Mass 7pm at Wingham

Easter Sunday – 27th March 2016

- Mass Sunday 7.30am at Old Bar
- Mass Sunday 7.30am at Harrington
- Mass Sunday 9.30am at Taree
- Mass Sunday 9.30am at Wingham
- Mass Sunday 6.00pm at Cundletown
- Mass Sunday 6.00pm at Lansdowne

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN THE TAREE & WINGHAM PARISHES:

Patricia Wolfenden, Mary and Helen Trapple, Bev Crouch, Julie Rice, Tom Berryman, May and Terry Bailey, Teresa Harvey, Kelvin Cowan, Sue Davis, Judy Nies, John O'Keefe, Barry Armitage, Mary McCaffrey, Maree Dunne, Ken Campbell, Linda Norris, Margaret Barrett, Gloria Ellis, Helen Wooster, Mikala Corben, Emma Matheson, John Longden, Bernice Revill, Sandra Baker, Joy Schneider, Rita Joyce, Sonia Pinkerton, Monica Moy and Fred Wisemantel.

ANNIVERSARIES: Kathleen Sullivan, Bernard Casey, Sister Rita Casey, Mary Joseph.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Gustav Debono.

May they rest in peace.



ST. JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY

19TH MARCH

St. Joseph was an ordinary manual labourer although descended from the royal house of David. In the designs of Providence he was destined to become the spouse of the Mother of God. His high privilege is expressed in a single phrase, "Foster-father of Jesus." About him Sacred Scripture has little more to say than that he was a just man - an expression which indicates how faithfully he fulfilled his high trust of protecting and guarding God's greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary.

The darkest hours of his life may well have been those when he first learned of Mary's pregnancy; but precisely in this time of trial Joseph showed himself great. His suffering, which likewise formed a part of the work of the redemption, was not without great providential import: Joseph was to be, for all times, the trustworthy witness of the Messiah's virgin birth. After this, he modestly retires into the background of Holy Scripture.

Of St. Joseph's death the Bible tells us nothing. There are indications, however, that he died before the beginning of Christ's public life. His was the most beautiful death that one could have, in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Humbly and unknown, he passed his years at Nazareth, silent and almost forgotten he remained in the background through centuries of Church history. Only in more recent times has he been accorded greater honour. Liturgical veneration of St. Joseph began in the fifteenth century, fostered by Sts. Brigit of Sweden and Bernadine of Siena. St. Teresa, too, did much to further his cult.

St. Joseph is invoked as patron for many causes. He is the patron of the Universal Church. He is the patron of the dying because Jesus and Mary were at his deathbed. He is also the patron of fathers, of carpenters, and of social justice. Many religious orders and communities are placed under his patronage.

GENERAL INSTRUCTION OF THE ROMAN MISSAL

SACRED IMAGES

In the earthly Liturgy, the Church participates, by a foretaste, in that heavenly Liturgy which is celebrated in the holy city of Jerusalem toward which she journeys as a pilgrim, and where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God; and by venerating the memory of the Saints, she hopes one day to have some part and fellowship with them.

Thus, images of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the Saints, in accordance with the Church's most ancient tradition, should be displayed for veneration by the faithful in sacred buildings and should be arranged so as to usher the faithful toward the mysteries of faith celebrated there. For this reason, care should be taken that their number not be increased indiscriminately, and that they be arranged in proper order so as not to distract the faithful's attention from the celebration itself. There should usually be only one image of any given Saint. Generally speaking, in the ornamentation and arrangement of a church as far as images are concerned, provision should be made for the devotion of the entire community as well as for the beauty and dignity of the images.

DO CATHOLICS WORSHIP STATUES OR IMAGES?

No. Catholics use statues, paintings, and other artistic devices to recall the person or thing depicted. Just as it helps to remember one's mother by looking at her photograph, so it helps to recall the example of the saints by looking at pictures or statues of them. The Church absolutely recognizes and condemns the sin of idolatry. What non-Catholics fail to recognize is the distinction between thinking a piece of stone or plaster is a god and desiring to visually remember Christ and the saints by making statues in their honour. The making and use of religious statues is a thoroughly biblical practice, and a beautiful way to deepen your faith and grow closer to Christ.

MASS SCHEDULE & MEETINGS

Monday 20th		<u>St Josephs Feast Day</u>	10.00am 1.45pm	Meditation Group- Old Pres Taree Hr of Prayer for Priests
Tuesday 21st	9.30am 5.30pm	Harrington Lit of Word + Comm +Exp Taree Mass - Fr James	9.30am-11am 10.00am 10.30am-11.30am 1.00pm-3.00pm	T&W Library open - Old Pres Women's Prayer Grp -Old Lib Old Bar Church open for Prayers and Rosary Men's Bible Study Grp-Old Pres
Wednesday 22nd	9.10am 9.30am 2.30pm	St Clares Mass - Fr George Taree Mass - Fr James St Pauls Hostel Healing Mass - Fr George	8.50am	Taree Marian Movement of Priests
Thursday 23rd	10.30am 9.30am	Taree Mass St Josephs School Taree - Fr George Taree Mass OLR - Fr James	5.30pm	T&W PPC Mtg - Res C
Friday 24th	9.00am 11.00am	Taree Mass - Fr James Wingham Mass - Fr George	9.30am 11.30am 3.00pm	Taree Exposition Wingham Liturgy Team Mtg Old Bar Exposition and Marian Movement of priests
Saturday 25th		<u>The Annunciation of the Lord</u>	10.30am 11.00am - 12pm 5.30pm	Couples for Christ - Res C Taree Reconciliation - Fr James Taree Rosary
Sunday 26th	7.30am 8.30am 9.30am 6.00pm	<u>4th Sunday of Lent</u> Old Bar Mass - Fr George Wingham Mass - Fr James Taree Mass - Fr George Cundletown Mass - Fr James	7.00am 7.50am 8-8.20am 9.00am 10.30am	Old Bar Rosary Wingham Rosary Wingham Reconciliation Taree Rosary Catechism Class - Res C

NEXT WEEKS READINGS

26th of March 2017

First Reading: 1 Sm 16:1,6-7,10-13

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel

Second Reading: Eph 5:8-14

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel : . John 9:1-41

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.