



FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10
Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
let it rejoice and sing for joy.
The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
they shall see the glory of the Lord,
the splendour of our God.
Strengthen all weary hands,
steady all trembling knees
and say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.
'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.
They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
everlasting joy on their faces;
joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4
(R.) Lord, come and save us.
1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds
the widow and orphan. (R.)
3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10
Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming.
Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the
precious fruit of the ground until it has had the
autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have
to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's

coming will be soon. Do not make complaints
against one another, brothers, so as not to be
brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is
already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your
example, brothers, in submitting with patience,
take the prophets who spoke in the name of the
Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Isaiah 61:1 (Lk 4:18)
Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11
Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait
for someone else? John in his prison had heard
what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to
ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have
we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered,
'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the
blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are
cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are
raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to
the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose
faith in me.' As the messengers were leaving, Jesus
began to talk to the people about John: 'What did
you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed
swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go
out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no,
those who wear fine clothes are to be found in
palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a
prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a
prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says:
Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;
he will prepare your way before you. I tell you
solemnly, of all the children born of women, a
greater than John the Baptist has never been seen;
yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater
than he is.'

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WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday - 6pm SPP Goulburn
6pm Taralga
Sunday -8am (OLOF), 10 am (SPP)
9am (Crookwell)
Binda -10.30am (1st Sunday)
Marulan -8.30am (2nd Sun)
Tarago -8.30am (3rd Sun)
Bungonia:7pm, Thurs Rosary

CONFESSIONS

SPP: 11.30 -12 (Fri), Sat 5.15pm
OLOF: Sat. 9.30am -10am
Taralga: 4.30pm (1st Sat)
Crookwell: 8.30am (2nd Sun)

ADORATION & BENEDICTION

SPP 11am Fridays
Holy Hour: 2nd & 4th Tuesday 5.30pm OLOF
Guided Adoration Fridays, 5.30-6pm OLOF

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday -5pm (OLOF),
Wednesday, Thursday 7.30 am OLOF,
Friday-9.30am St Mary's Crookwell
Friday -12 noon (SPP)
Sat -9am (OLOF)

Mass Offerings: Please send to office, or central
collection boxes.
ROSTER Coordinator- judith.stuart11@gmail.com

BAPTISMS: QKR, WEBSITE OR OFFICE
PLEASE USE THIS QR CODE FOR
PARISH INFORMATION

We are a safe Church.
We have committed to zero
tolerance of abuse, and the
Protection of all our people.

our website:



MISSION CALENDAR DATES

DEC 16: 2nd Rite STM Crookwell 7pm
DEC 17: 2nd Rite CTK Taralga 7pm
DEC 18: 2nd Rite SPP Goulburn 7pm
DEC 22: Christmas carols in the Cathedral 6.30-8pm
DEC 25: CHRISTMAS DAY 9am Mass SPP & STM
DEC 24-JAN 6th OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS
JAN 01: Adoration 11pm Mass 12am OLOF (MIDNIGHT)
JAN 01: 9.30am Mass SPP
JAN 3: Men's Rosary Crusade OLOF Forecourt 10am
Jan 7: Indian Community mass 5.30pm OLOF

REFLECTION:

John laboured diligently preparing the people to
welcome the Messiah who, he believed, was
coming as a judge to punish the wicked and
reward the good. However, languishing in his
prison cell, John hears of the healing and
forgiving ministry of Jesus. He is perplexed and
filled with doubt, because Jesus does not
conform to his expectations. So, John sends his
disciples to ask Jesus if he is the long-awaited
Messiah. Jesus answers simply: Go and tell John
what you see and hear. Clearly in Jesus ministry
the prophecies of Isiah (29:18-19, 35:5-6;61:1) are
being realised and the kingdom of God is being
inaugurated. And so, Jesus declares blessed
those who can see the connection between his
ministry and the kingdom of God. These are the
ones who keep faith in him.
Although Jesus holds John in the highest regard,
as the greatest born of Women, he nevertheless
adds rather surprisingly: yet the least in the
kingdom of Heaven is greater he is. Who are the
least? They are those who have had the privilege
of knowing and accepting Jesus as their Saviour.
Today, we, the disciples of Jesus, are blessed to
be the least in the Kingdom.

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Goulburn Mission Notice board

Christmas Mass Timetable

6pm

Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral Goulburn

St Mary's Church Crookwell

Christ the King Taralga

8pm

Sts Peter and Pauls Old Cathedral Goulburn

12am

Our Lady of Fatima Church Goulburn

Thursday December 25th- The Nativity of the Lord

9am

Sts Peter and Pauls Old Cathedral Goulburn

St Mary's Church Crookwell

St Joseph's Tarago

*

New Year's Day Mass

Adoration 11pm and Mass at 12am -Our Lady of Fatima Church

9.30 am Mass- Sts Peter and Pauls Cathedral NO 7.30am OLOF MASS

Archbishops Christmas appeal
Please remember the Retiring
Collection at
ALL CHRISTMAS DAY/VIGIL
MASSES

Retiring Reverend Joy Harris: last service at
St Bartholomew's Church Crookwell
11.00am on 28th December 2025
Everyone welcome & morning tea afterwards.

Advent books available from the office

All children invited to come to 6pm SPP
mass as dressed as Angel and
shepherds.

Third Sunday in Advent

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Saviour of the world, we ask you to bless all who gather round this Wreath which we honour as a remembrance of your first coming at Bethlehem, and your final coming in Glory and of your coming in grace among us. Strengthen our hearts with the example of your love that we may receive you with joy and gladness on the day of our redemption, when you will come to reign as King for ever and ever.

All: Amen

Priest: Son of the Most High, who's coming the Angel Gabriel announced to the Virgin Mary.

All: Come and reign over your people.

Priest: Holy One of God, the Precursor greeted you by leaping in Elizabeth's womb.

All: Come and give the joy of salvation to the whole world.

Priest: Jesus, Saviour, whose name was announced to the just man, Joseph, by the angel.

All: Come and give your light to those who dwell in the shadow of death.

(Two purple candles and the rose candle are now lit)

Priest: Light from Uncreated Light, be present to all of us gathered in your name.

All: Let us rejoice in your coming now, and at the hour of our death.

Priest: During this Advent Season, may

Almighty God let the light of his Son shine upon us. May he fill our hearts with joy at his coming and lead us to life everlasting.

All: Amen.



Recently Deceased: Agnus Casey, John Lowe, Ida Jarvis, Marjorie Avery, Lee Clune, Richard Cromack, Elaine Sharman, Mark Pincott, Sr Aileen Wailes RSM, Christakis Antony, Murray Scott, Marie O'Brien, Mary White, Dorothy Brewer, Despina Delany, Nicholas Chetcuti, Peter Croker, Erica Jones, Darcy Orford, Margaret Tozer,

Anniversaries: Betty & Deb Burgess, Kevin Bogg, Geoffrey Bogg, Patrick fisher, Agnes McGann, Patrick Hart, Henry and Beatrice Putsey, Thomas and Ivy Cooney, Matthias and Elizabeth Ench, Spen & Edith Read, Ruth-Kirsten Read, Clare Jasek, Natalie Misfud, McMahon & Byron Families, Boleslaw Peplowski & Kazimierz Brawata, Kit McCabe, Tom & Margaret Walsh, Leo & Doris Clear, Bill Clear, Anne & Noel Honeyman, Patrick & Edna Mcaleena,

Prayers: Denise Duck, Jo Pugh, Di Smith, Peg McEntee, Dulcie & Charles Millyn, Dorothy & Winston Selmes, Emilio & Leonardo Zalapa, Gardner & White Families, Tommy Marinovic, Sr Celine Marie, Carolyne Cassisdy, Antonia McGarity, David Edginton, Brendan Walsh, John Murrell, Bernadette Flannery, Brendan Bott, Gerard Doodeman, Sr Marie Kearns, Ruth Read, Mark Taylor, Marilyn Mullen, Chelsea Martin, Christopher White, Leslie King,

Entrance Antiphon: Philippians 4:4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Communion Antiphon: Cf Isaiah 35:4

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Third Sunday of Advent, Year A: Article from Fr Dominic:

From behind bars John asks the odd question, "are you the one who is to come." If anyone was going to recognise Jesus it would have been John, but even he needs some assistance. He needs to be given some reassurance and clarity. He has proclaimed that there is one to come who is going to be severe in his judgement. Instead, Jesus is healing people, instructing them with parables emphasising the need for mercy and compassion because man's ways are not Gods. It is here that we find true power for overcoming evil, this is at the very depth of love itself. And it is to these works that Jesus points to answer John's question. These are the blessings of the messianic age, which we see in the first reading. God's plan is aimed at the needy, for they must surely feel most distant from him. Jesus' baptism brings with it citizenship with the kingdom, for his baptism gives us the Holy Spirit. This is why John's baptism of repentance is so important as a first step. His baptism wiped away with water, but Jesus restores with water giving us the Spirit. John's time is about promise; Jesus' time is about fulfilment. For us today the kingdom is here, let there be no more waiting. It is lived in the Spirit, reliant on God's grace, and grows through prayer. When Pope Benedict was a Cardinal he said that the "word 'rejoice' begins the history of Christianity." He was speaking of when Mary hears the words, "rejoice you who enjoy God's favour" (Lk. 1: 28). Being a Christian does mean we should be living an enjoyable life but also a life that grows or changes. Can you imagine the person who has the opportunity to grow but does not want to work at it, instead ducks and weaves their way out. This person keeps running away only so that they can stay the same. At times our life can offer challenges that can allow hope to grow through experiencing growth in our faith, changing the very person we are. The greatest joy we can achieve here on earth is based on the inner harmony of spirit. However, this harmony does not come easily when life does challenge so often.

