



**FIRST READING:** Sirach 15:15-20

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34. R. v.1 (R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law! They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)
2. You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care. May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. (R.)
3. Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word. Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. (R.)
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end. Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. (R.)

**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** See Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 5:20-22, 27-28, 33-34, 37

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.  
'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.  
'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.  
'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

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The Community of the Goulburn Mission works hard to ensure we are a Safe Community for all our parishioners, visitors and residence. Healthy inclusion and safeguarding practices are at the heart of our administration. Please read the information regarding inclusion and accessibility on your church notice boards as we strive to be compliant and compassionate.

**GOLBURN MISSION CONTACTS**

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Office Hours: Tues - Fri. 9.00 -1.00pm  
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**WEEKEND MASSES**

- Saturday - 9am OLOF Goulburn  
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: 9.30am -10am
- Taralga: \*5.30pm (1st Sat)
- Crookwell: 8.30am (2nd Sun)
- \*An hour earlier from May to September

**ADORATION & BENEDICTION**

SPP 11am Fridays  
Syra Malabar- Mass: 1st & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 5.30pm OLOF  
Guided Adoration Friday: 5.30-6pm OLOF

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

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

Mass Offerings: Please send to office, or central Collection boxes.  
ROSTER Coordinator- [judith.stuart11@gmail.com](mailto: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**

- FEB 18: ASH WEDNESDAY
- FEB 18: Taralga Prayer Group 10am Sacred Heart School
- FEB 19: Lenten Study Group 10am Bishops Dining Room
- FEB 20: Stations of the Cross CTK 10am SPP 5.30pm
- FEB 21: Men's Breakfast 7.30am Tatts
- FEB 25: Ex Students of St Josephs: K&GZ 10 for 10.15
- MAR 06: World Day of Prayer 10am St Saviours Cathedral
- MAR 06: World Day of Prayer 2pm Christ the King Taralga
- MAR 09: Monday 7pm Cologne Philharmonia
- MAR 23: 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation 6pm SPP
- MAR 24: 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite Taralga 5pm
- MAR 29: PALM SUNDAY

**REFLECTION:**

The audience for Matthew's Gospel was a community of Jewish and Gentile people who had become Christians. Matthew is anxious to assure both groups that the Christian community is respectful of their traditions and that Jesus did not come to abolish the Law and the prophets but to complete them.

The Gospel writer, Matthew, shows a respect for the old Law but he is also enthusiastic for the new vision that Jesus has brought to its interpretation. He shows Jesus as the true Messiah, the new Moses who will fulfill God's promises to Israel. Today we hear Jesus confirming the Old Law in thought as well as in action. It is not just about how we do this or that, it is more about why we are doing it. With the psalmist I pray: *Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law.*

***'I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than the scribes and the Pharisees, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven.'***



Goulburn Mission Notice board

**SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2026**

**RECONCILIATION:** *Enrolment and Session 1*

*STM- Wednesday February 25<sup>th</sup> 3.30-5pm*

*SPP-Thursday February 26<sup>th</sup> 4-5.30pm*

*Retreat- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 9.30-2.30 St Brigid's*

*1<sup>st</sup> Rite- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 6pm SPP & STM*

**COMBINED WITH PARISH 2<sup>ND</sup> RITE**

QKR! App is ready to receive applications.

Please download the APP and choose:

*Please email the office or call for any enquiries.*

**Ex- Students of St Josephs**

**Morning tea at K&GZ**

**Last Wednesday of the**

**month**

**10 for 10.15am**

Taralga prayer meeting  
18th February 10am  
Sacred Heart School

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

March 6<sup>th</sup>

**St Saviours Cathedral 10am**

**Christ the King Taralga 2pm**

Afternoon tea will follow in the Sacred Heart School.

Ladies a plate please.

Your offering on the day will support internally displaced people and slum residents in Nigeria

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:**

*3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday: February 21<sup>st</sup> 7.15 for a 7.30 start:*

*the Tatts. Guest Speaker is Stephen Armstrong,*

*discussing on his personal spiritual journey.*

*Please RSVP Michael Lamarra on 0419 019 304.*

**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

Tuesday between 10-11 am at the presbytery.  
The Sunday Gospel discussion group we warmly welcome you.

R.C.I.A

RITE OF ELECTION

February 22<sup>nd</sup> St Christophers Cathedral.

**MQA MINISTRY:**

Dear Parishioners, There is a deep need in our community for younger members to step up and continue the tradition of the parish by assisting and then taking on duties long serving members have carried out faithfully for many years. Please give once or twice a year, month or week to help in church groups, church services and events to allow them a respite.

**Recently Deceased:** Colin Lewis, Elaine Plumb, Herbert Leong, Lorna Barnett, Connie Staunton, Sheila Bornia, Thomas Longhurst, Derek Rego, Erina Bill, Greg Thornton, Karin Ambrosios, Margaret Rippon,

**Anniversaries:** Alice Bogg, Bill Murphy, Les Murphy, Maureen Doherty, James Doherty Noel Elliott, Nita Price, Ron McEntee, Graeme White & Tony Gardener, Robert Taylor, Lorna Lyons, Ellen Writer, Wilma Hewitt, John Hall, Elsie McLaughlin, Kevin King, Natalie Misfud,

**Prayers:** Maryanne Lewis, Deidre Dorsett, Antipas Ojwang, Cecil Lewis, Baby Sunny Flannery, Tony McCormack, Cathy & Gerry Conroy (Wedding Anniversary) Fr Michael Mullen, Sr Eileen Driscall RSM 60yrs, Sr Loretta Corrigan RSM 60 yrs, Sr Ellen Higgins RSM 70 yrs, Sr Rosarii O'Connor RSM, 70 yrs. Brendan Walsh, John Murrell, Christopher White, Martin Walsh, Leslie King,

**Entrance Antiphon:** Cf Psalm 30:3-4

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

**Communion Antiphon:** John 3:16

God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES**

**GOULBURN:**

7.30am OLOF

10am School SPP

6pm SPP

**CROOKWELL**

9.30am STM

**TARALGA**

5pm CTK

**Stations of the Cross Friday during Lent**

**Christ the King Taralga, 10am.**

**Sts Peter and Paul's Goulburn 5.30**

**Lenten study group**

10am Thursday's Bishops Dining Room

6.30pm Monday's OLOF Meeting room

**(entry via OLOF Carpark Side door)**

A Time for Everything: Speech for the Closing of the St Joseph Convent  
There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven."<sup>1</sup>  
The words of Ecclesiastes remind us that our lives unfold not by accident, but within the mystery of God's time. There is a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time for joy and a time for sorrow. These seasons are not always easy to accept, yet Scripture assures us that each one has meaning when held in trust before God.  
Today, we stand at such a moment—a time of transition, a time of closure, and also a time of quiet thanksgiving.  
This convent has lived its season faithfully. Like a mother welcoming her children, it has received generations of women discerning religious life. Within these walls, vocations were nurtured, prayer was sustained, and hearts were formed for service in the Kingdom of God. In the spirit and charism of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, this house fulfilled its purpose with humility, perseverance, and trust in divine providence.  
Ecclesiastes also teaches us that time is experienced on more than one level. There is chronos—the measurable time we all share: days, years, seasons that pass. But there is also God's time—kairos—the moment when grace is at work, often unseen. This convent has been rich in such moments of grace. Its influence cannot be measured simply by calendars or buildings, but by lives quietly shaped in fidelity and love.  
Many of you gathered here today know this personally. You have prayed in this chapel, shared meals and cups of tea, exchanged stories and laughter, and carried one another through times of struggle and hope. My own memories of this place are filled with gratitude and affection. It has been a house of welcome, prayer, and gentle faithfulness.  
In the Gospel, Jesus tells us, "You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world."<sup>2</sup> Salt and light are never the centre of attention. They do not draw notice to themselves. Yet without them, life loses flavour and direction. Once they have done their work, they often disappear from sight. So it has been with this convent. Its mission was not to impress, but to serve; not to shine for itself, but to reflect the light of Christ. Every person who passed through these doors was, in some way, seasoned by its spirit—quietly strengthened, enlightened, and encouraged in faith.  
Today, we mark the closing of these doors. But we do so with hope, not regret. For when one door closes, the Lord opens others. The charism entrusted to Saint Mary of the Cross does not end here; it changes form. The Spirit who has worked so faithfully in this place is not confined to bricks and mortar. That same Spirit goes forward into new places, new ministries, and new hearts.  
We pray that those who now take stewardship of this property may be enriched by all that has been lived here before them. May the grace that has shaped this place continue to bear fruit—like salt for the earth and light for the world—beyond anything we can imagine.  
For everything, there is a season. And in every season, God remains faithful.  
Amen.  
Footnotes  
1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NRSV). 2. Matthew 5:13-16 (NRSV).  
3. Cf. Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Letters and Writings, on trust in divine providence.