



HOLY CROSS PARISH ✦ HELENSBURGH

Parish Administrator – Fr. Patrick Vaughan
Parochial Vicar – Fr Paul Clark

PO Box 9 • Helensburgh NSW 2508

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▲ 14 January 2024 ▲ 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time/B



WEEKEND MASS

HOLY CROSS
HELENSBURGH

Sunday 8:30am

RECONCILIATION

Sunday 8-8:20am



Of service and witness to Christ since

Parish Secretary: Kerrie Halloran

Office Hours: Tue Wed,
Thurs

9am to 4pm

Parish Office ☎: (02) 4294 1009

Parish School ☎: (02) 4294 1588

Holy Cross Parish Community acknowledges the **Dharawal Nation** as the traditional custodians of the land on which this church & school are built.

WEEKDAY LITURGY THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY, 9.00AM ROSARY AND HOLY COMMUNION



Please Note...The Parish Office will be closed until Tuesday, 23 January.

PARISH ROSTERS...

ACOLYTE

Jan 21 Greg Greening

GREETERS

Jan 21 Sue Clark & Therese Harris

READERS

Jan 21 Kai Wallace & Harvey Mack

CLEANERS

Jan 20 Nicole & Paul Hoffmann

ROSARY STATUE

Jan Trisha Dalton

MORNING TEA

Feb 11 Michael & Kerrie Halloran &

Michael & Therese Harris



Please pray for the sick:

Bishop Peter Ingham, Pat Brown, Jan Burn,
John Green, Hilton King & Luis Veas.

For those who have died:

Grace Baldacchino (Malta) (2024), Marie & Jack
Higgins (2023), Gwendoline Rodgers (2011), Alice
Wood (2009) & Tom Evans.

The Nicene Creed or Symbol of Faith was originally formulated at the Ecumenical Council of Nicaea in AD 325 and amended at the Ecumenical Council of Constantinople in 381. It is based on the Apostles Creed and was agreed to by all the Bishops at the Council who held the common teaching of the Church that Jesus is the divine Son of God, begotten not created, who became fully human in the person of Jesus, and at the same time remained truly divine, that is “consubstantial” or “of one being with” and not less than God the Father. It is still the fundamental statement of our Catholic faith.

**I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,**

maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,**

born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us all and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,

(Bow your head for the following words)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate

of the Virgin Mary and became man.

(then continue)

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,

and rose again on the third day

in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory

to judge the living and the dead

and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is adored

and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins

and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Today's readings provide us with a great opportunity to begin this new year discerning how Jesus calls each of us and together as Holy Cross parish to take up his mission to make disciples of others. Late last year, Bishop Brian sent a letter to the Catholic community of Wollongong Diocese. His message presents us with a summary of his vision for every parish and community of the Diocese. Bishop Brian hopes that every parish will have as its “beating heart” the person of Jesus.

Bishop Brian has also provided resources to encourage us to spend some time discerning how we might listen more intently to the word of the Lord as Samuel did, “come and see” as the disciples did, and “go and make” disciples as Jesus commands us to do. Bishop Brian is encouraging us to see this way of the Lord that we all share in this mission of Jesus. It is my hope that through this year, we have opportunities to discern together the call of Jesus to each of us follow him. Fr Paul.

26 November 2023

My dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On this blessed solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, I wish to give to you the vision for parishes in the Diocese of Wollongong that I have been prayerfully discerning over the past 12 months.

It is almost six years since I was ordained the Bishop of Wollongong, and as we approach the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the diocese, I believe now is the time to pause and reflect on the life, health, and direction of our parishes. Our parishes are far more than lifeless buildings or mere meeting places. It is in our parishes that we gather together to celebrate, hear the Good News of Jesus, and live our calling to love as God loves with good works and care for one another (cf. CCC 2179).

The beating heart of the parish is the person of Jesus, made present in Word, Sacrament, and the living community of believers. This heart beats with the words “**come and see**”, and “**go and make**”. Come and see! Encounter the person of Jesus, be transformed and renewed, and become disciples. Go and make! Share the joyous Good News with a world that does not know, or has forgotten Christ—our Lord Jesus is King, not by violence, force, or coercion, but by an invitation of love, mercy and grace!

It is no secret that there has been a decline in Catholic practice in our parish communities over recent decades. Some may argue that this is clear evidence that the world has left our model of community and the Catholic Faith behind, but thankfully, this is not the case! Pope Francis boldly proclaims: “The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 28). We must exercise the flexibility that our parish communities possess, calling on the Holy Spirit to challenge us in our openness and to draw forth missionary creativity, not just for our own sake, but for the sake of the world that needs us.

To this end, **you will be receiving the following documents today:**

- *Come & See, Go & Make: A Vision for Parishes*—the vision I have developed which I now invite you to prayerfully read.
- *Principles and Foundations*—a short explanation of key principles described in the vision document.
- *Go Deeper*—a short compendium of additional reading on key concepts discussed in the vision document.

Additionally, in December, your parish will receive several worksheet documents that will support communities in the process of prayer, reflection, and discernment in the New Year. Your engagement with these activities will be a crucial part of the renewal process in your community.

We embark on this journey together, trusting in the goodness and mercy of God who promises, “I know the plans I have for you ... plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope” (Jeremiah 29:11). I encourage you to pray for your communities and your pastors, and please pray for me as we follow the Good Shepherd to where he leads us. Let us make this our prayer:

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust;
Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation.
(Psalm 25:1–2, 4–5)

With every blessing,

+Brian Mascord

Most Rev Brian G Mascord DD

BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG