

## PARISH OFFICE

Curran Centre, 12 Gordon St, Coffs Harbour

Phone: 6651 0000

Open Monday to Friday 8:30am - 3:30pm

Administrator: Fr Joe DSouza OCD

Assistant Priest: Fr Joy D'Souza OCD

Assistant Priest: Fr Peter Rebello OCD

General enquiries: parish@coffscatholic.com

Accounts/Rosters: coffsadmin@coffscatholic.com

Parish Business Manager: Debbie Willoughby  
dwilloughby@coffscatholic.com

Youth & Young Adults Leader: Amber Scanes  
ascanes@coffscatholic.com

## MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

### Saturday Vigil

5:30pm Coffs Harbour

### Sunday

9am Coffs Harbour

9am Woolgoolga

11am Coramba

5:30pm Coffs Harbour

**Monday** - 9am Coffs Harbour

**Tuesday** - 7:30am Coffs Harbour

PRESENTATION OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**Wednesday** - 7:30am Coffs Harbour

ST CECILIA

- 9:30am Woolgoolga

**Thursday** - 5:30pm Coffs Harbour

**Friday** - 9:15am Coffs Harbour

STS ANDREW DUNG-LAC & COMPANIONS

**Saturday** - 9am Coffs Harbour

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

Located at the Curran Centre

(ramp access via Parish Office)

Open 8:30am - 3:30pm Mon to Fri

Guardians are needed to fill vacant hours:  
Mon 11am, Tues 9am, 11am, 3pm, Thurs 12.

For details please contact Doreena  
0481764164 or Maurice 0407934088.

## CONFESSION TIMES

Saturdays, Coffs Harbour

after 9am Mass (9:30am - 10:30am)

& before 5:30pm Mass (4:45pm - 5:15pm)

Sundays, Woolgoolga

before 9am Mass (8:30am - 8:50am)

## NEWS & EVENTS

Scan QR Code to visit our parish website

[www.coffscatholic.com](http://www.coffscatholic.com)



## NOTICES

- **Playgroup** - 9am Tues 21 Nov Curran Centre
- **Church Cleaning** - 2:30pm Tues 21 Nov at St Augustine's Church
- **RCIA & Adult Faith Formation** - 5:30pm Tues 21 Nov at Curran Centre
- **Women's Bible Sharing** 7:30pm Tues 21 Nov at the Curran Centre.
- **Remembrance Mass for deceased Children** 5:30pm Thurs 23 Nov St Augustine's Church.
- **Defibrillator training** - 11:30am Thurs 7 Dec at Curran Centre. Defibrillators will soon be at St Francis Xavier Church and the Curran Centre, in addition to the one we already have at St Augustine's Church. Training is open to all. Please RSVP to Parish Office.
- **Community Christmas Carols** - 5:30pm Thurs 7 Dec at St Augustine's Church. Please note Mass will start earlier at 5pm that day. Kids come dressed as a Nativity character. Supper & games in Curran Centre afterwards.
- 2024 **Columban Calendars** \$10 & **Advent Booklets** \$5 available at office & gift shop.
- Coffs Liturgy Roster (Nov & Dec 2023) is now on our website [www.coffscatholic.com](http://www.coffscatholic.com) under the **News & Events/ Rosters** page
- **Instagram** with Parish News & Events on **Instagram** at [parishcoffsharbour](https://www.instagram.com/parishcoffsharbour)

## PRAYER GROUPS St Augustine's Church

**Rosary** 2:30pm Wednesdays

**Divine Mercy** after 9:15am Friday Mass

**Rosary** after 9am Saturday Mass

**Rosary** 8:30am Sunday (before 9am Mass)



Welcome  
St Augustine's  
Catholic Parish

33rd Sunday Ordinary Time, Year A, 19 November 2023

### Parish Church

St Augustine's, Gordon St, Coffs Harbour

### Station Churches

St Francis Xavier, Scarborough St, Woolgoolga

St Therese, Gale St, Coramba

## REFLECTION

### The Reward of a Faithful Disciple

*'Man born a being of action found confused, lacking direction*

*A seed sprouted, yet struggling Yearning in the direction of the eternal sun '*

When was the last time you created something? With your hands, you moulded a piece of dough perhaps, or even wrote your name on a piece of paper. Notice how when children build sand castles, it reflects a perfect innocence. An aeroplane leaves its smoky mark behind in the clouds, creating a trail in the sky. The creator leaves a part of themselves in their creation.

In this context, let us take a closer and kinder look at ourselves today. Made in the pure image and likeness of the omnipresent, omnipotent, mighty wonderful creator, each of us was made with a quality of his ingenuity. The creator has a plan and will bring it to fruition, for he is proud of and in charge of the work of his hands. Like the second reading of today tells us, 'The day of the Lord shall come like a thief in the night'. And who will merit to see the maker face to face?

We are guided well in the Word of God about the qualities of a faithful and radiant Church. She is compared to a wife who is 'excellent', one who can be trusted in 'all' things. She has a charitable heart and reaches out to help others. Her beauty comes from within, unlike the worldly charisms of grandeur and pretence. Her real goodness comes from submission and fear of the Lord.

We are the Church - the bride, the wife, the jewel in the eyes of Christ. When He presents us to God the Father, we become acceptable to Him, we are purified and transformed. To be presentable, Christ must recognise us as his faithful disciples. We are measured both, by our faith and faithfulness. Our faith makes God give us the hopes and dreams of our hearts. Our faithfulness is our response to his plan for us. In the Gospel of today, Jesus tells us that even the little faithfulness that we show does not go unrewarded. We are each gifted according to our ability. What we make of these gifts, how we use them and multiply them is the evidence of our faithfulness to Him.

As human beings, right from the moment we exist, we are seeking the light of God, the nourishing light of our creator. In Romans 7:18, Paul says, "For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is

*To be continued inside*

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good, but I cannot carry it out." Therefore, the question man faces is, "How can I overcome the struggle to be a faithful disciple?" We struggle every day, with the temptation of the world pulling us in different directions. We yearn in the direction of God and yet seek to find comfort in temporary pleasures. The Lord invites us to find solace in His word - "The LORD makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the LORD upholds him with his hand." (Ps 37:23-24). Paul reminds us today, that we are not of the night, or, of the darkness. Yes, the good news is that struggles are part of life, but as long as God - your creator is in your life, he will provide comfort and strength.

God has given each person a wide variety of gifts, and he expects us to employ those gifts in his service. The Lord is not going to ask us how much we have done for him but how faithful we have been to that which he wanted us to do. The return God expects of us is commensurate with the gifts we have been given. The gifts we receive from God include skills, abilities, family connections, social positions, education, experiences, and more. For us, the children of God there are two important things: (1) Finding out what God wants us to do; that is, determine what is the talent that he has given us, and then (2) be faithful in the use of it. To some of us God may have given only a few things, and that may be upsetting to us; but if we are one-talent people, God expects us to be faithful with only that. Let us be grateful for our opportunities and use them for the greater glory of God.

Source: Springs of Living Water Carmelite Reflections

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - CHRISTMAS APPEAL

St Vincent de Paul Society, Coffs Harbour and Woolgoolga, will be commencing the Christmas Appeal at all Masses next weekend. We will be seeking **cash donations**, **electronic transfer of funds** (in Coffs Harbour only) or **store gift cards** so we can help those in our community needing assistance. If you want to purchase gift cards to donate, these could be from any gift store, department store or supermarket in the Coffs Harbour / Woolgoolga area. More to come next week



### DIGITAL DONATIONS

Please scan for digital donations to our parish



### DIOCESE OF LISMORE

**Safeguarding Office** If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Diocese of Lismore, we ask you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss options you have available to you. Contact Safeguarding Office Phone: 66219444 or Email: [safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)

**Diocesan Investment Fund** This Bulletin is sponsored by the Diocesan Investment Fund. Our Parish Office is the Coffs Harbour Agent for the DIF. Effective 1 November 2023, the interest rate on investments will be 4.15%. For information call 1800 802 516 or [www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au)



## MASS RESPONSES & GOSPEL READING

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me , and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Psalm 127 .**RESPONSE: Happy are those who fear the Lord**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30 (shorter version)

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

'Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Recently deceased:** Judith McFarland, Hank Brinkman, Rama Chandran, Conception Molino, Eileen Atkins, John Regan, Josie Hyde, Milan Zdrilic, Declan Hampsey, Amalia Feltrin, Drago Bandur

**Anniversaries:** Mary McCullough, Marlene Therese Griffin

**Sick:** Ivan & Barbara Barisic, Bernie Higoe, Zita Borsato, Fr Robert Bossini, Fr Peter Henry, Breanna Charles, Judy Brooks

COFFS ROSTER	25 Nov	26 Nov	26 Nov
	Sat 5.30pm Vigil	Sun 9am	Sun 5.30pm
Co-ordinator	G. McCann & D. Barrett	M. Lill	Gary McCann
Commentator	A. Sercombe	N. Loader	T. Baker
Reader 1	E. Hartley	J. Breach	B. Hackett
Reader 2	R. Sercombe	A. Pius-Usiobaifo	S. Brennan
Extraordinary Minister	O. Higgins	M. Woods & N. Feltrin	K. Kachel
Screen Operator	J. Sercombe	A. & R. Mott	G. Sroyphet
Gifts	W & L Murphy	M & H Delfin	Vacant
Altar Servers		Regina, See, Angela, Sabia	
Morning Tea		D Garcia	
Home Communion	E Holmes	D Weller, A Robertson	