

**Please remember in your prayers**

**Recently deceased:** Leith Watkin, Annette Riordan, David Forrester, Margaret "Peggy" Plunkett, Christopher Brown, Bernadette Simpson, James "Patrick" Wilson, Paul Mulhearn, Patrick Dalton, Helga Jones, Patricia Tight, Alan Davies, Jenny Davis, Helen Basco, Ana Skolan, Teresa Borsato

**Anniversary:** Mary Elizabeth Smith, David Croxon, Benjamin Shepherd

**Sick:** Isabella Mauri, Michael Fenton, Peter Kinnear, Darcy Hetherington, Jan O'Brien, Leonie Owens, Connie de Dassel, Maria Moran, John McCain, Pauline Cahill, Joan O'Brien, Gregory Shield, June Foster, Georgio Franco, Judy Brooks, Val Browning

**Baptisms:** Ella Ivy Ware, Mary & Mabel Gale

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

**Mass Times**

<b>Monday 12 September</b>	9am	St Augustine's, Coffs Harbour
<b>Tuesday 13 September</b> <small>St John Chrysostom</small>	7:30am	St Augustine's, Coffs Harbour
<b>Wednesday 14 September</b> <small>The Exaltation of the Cross</small>	7:30am	St Augustine's, Coffs Harbour
	9:30am	St Francis Xavier, Woolgoolga
<b>Thursday 15 September</b> <small>Our Lady of Sorrows</small>	5:30pm	St Augustine's, Coffs Harbour
<b>Friday 16 September</b> <small>Sis Cornelius</small>	9:15am	St Augustine's, Coffs Harbour
<b>Saturday 17 September</b>	9am	St Augustine's, Coffs Harbour

<b>Vigil Saturday 17 September</b>	5:30pm	St Augustine's, Coffs Harbour
<b>Sunday 18 September</b> <small>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time YrC</small>	8am	St Augustine's, Coffs Harbour
	5:30pm	St Augustine's, Coffs Harbour
	9am	St Francis Xavier, Woolgoolga
	10:30am	St Therese's, Coramba

**Confession Times**

**SATURDAYS, St Augustine's Church, Coffs Harbour**

*after 9am Mass (9:30am—10:30am) and before 5:30pm Mass (4:45pm - 5:15pm)*

**SUNDAYS, St Francis Xavier Church, Woolgoolga**

*before 9am Mass (from 8:30am)*

Confessions are also available at any time by appointment by calling the Parish Office on 6651 0000

**Groups & Events**

**Tuesday** 9am Parish Playgroup, Curran Centre

**Wednesday** 2pm - *Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help*, St Augustine's Church

7pm *Men's Spiritual Formation*, Curran Centre

**Thursday** 7am *Rosary for life*, St Augustine's Church

**Saturday** 9:30am *Rosary* (after Mass), St Augustine's Church

**Sunday** - *Children's Liturgy at the 8am Mass*, St Augustine's Church & 9am Mass, St Francis Xavier Church, Woolgoolga  
6.30pm - Youth Group (teenagers), Curran Centre

**Looking for a Confirmation gift?**

Extended Catholic gift shop opening hours this **Thursday 15 September from 2:30- 3:30pm**

Our Catholic Gift Shop is located on the northern side of the main entrance to St Augustine's Church. The shop is open after Mass on Saturday night and after the Sunday morning Mass.

Our Catholic gift shop will open extended hours this Thursday 15 September, to make it easier for parents, grandparents, sponsors, family members to visit our shop. *Pop in for a browse.*



**FROM LISMORE DIOCESE**



**Safeguarding Sunday**

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place where people feel safe and supported. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at:

[www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday)

**Adult Faith Formation**

The Diocese has just completed a 'closed' course for 15 participants, *Images of Jesus*, through the *Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation* (VLCFF). This was a wonderful opportunity for people from the parishes of Our Lady of the Rosary (Alstonville), St Agnes (Port Macquarie), and Macleay Valley (Kempsey) to interact with and learn from each other. Registrations for Cycle 7 Courses with the *Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation* (VLCFF) are now open. Close on October 19. (Courses begin October 24.) [See Course offerings for Cycle 7.](#) Courses are five weeks in duration and cost \$US 50. The Diocese has had over 60 people access various courses over the last two years. If anyone is interested in pursuing any of the listed courses or wishes to organise a 'closed' course, don't hesitate to contact Tony Worner at

[VLCFF.LismoreDiocese@stagnesparish.org.au](mailto:VLCFF.LismoreDiocese@stagnesparish.org.au).

Learn more about the VLCFF at <https://vlcff.udayton.edu/about/> or by clicking the link.

**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 on 66219444 or [safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)

**Diocesan Investment Fund**

This Bulletin is sponsored by the **Diocesan Investment Fund**. Agents: Parish Office & Good Price Pharmacy Warehouse, Bailey Centre. Current interest rate 1.05%. For information call 1800 802 516 [www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au)

**VOLUNTEER HUB**

**St Augustine's Roster**

	17 September	18 September	18 September
	Sat 5.30pm Vigil	Sun 8am	Sun 5.30pm
Co-ordinator	G. McCann & D. Barrett	G. Luchetti & M. Lill	B. Van Ryswyk
Commentator	<b>Vacant</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	T. Baker
Reader	E. Hartley	C. Hancock & E. Holmes	B. Hackett & M. Walsh
Extraordinary Minister	O. Higgins	M. Lill & D. Gooley	E. Garvey
Screen Operator	J. Sercombe	M. Miller	G. Sroyphet
Altar Servers		Regina & Veronica	
Children's Liturgy		Tim, Jamie & Dan	
Morning Tea		Italian family Group	



We are looking for new volunteers to join our next liturgy and Mass roster - commencing Saturday 5th November. **Training will be provided for all new volunteers.**

**LITURGY**

- Readers (Saturday & Sunday night only)
- Commentators
- Screen Operators
- Altar Servers
- Children's Liturgy Leaders

**OTHER GROUPS YOU MAY LIKE TO BE A PART OF:**

- Guardians for the Eucharistic Adoration Chapel
- Church Cleaning
- Home Communion to the Sick and Elderly
- Church linen laundering
- Choir member

Please contact the parish office 6651 0000 for more information. Dates for training and workshops will be in the bulletin.



**CHURCH REMINDERS**

**Junior Youth Group** is on TODAY

**4pm Sunday 11 September at the Curran Centre**

For children aged 9-12 years (grade 4-6)

For further info phone Fran & Tim Davis on 0409597866. *We look forward to seeing you there!*

**Youth Group** (for teenagers) is on this Sunday *after the 5:30pm Mass at the Curran Centre*. Dinner provided. Contact Amber for details: [ascanes@coffscatholic.com](mailto:ascanes@coffscatholic.com)

**Parish Playgroup** **9am Tuesdays** at the Curran Centre *We warmly invite families with babies, toddlers, pre-school age children/grandchildren to join our parish playgroup.* For details contact the parish office on 66510000.

**Men's Formation group - 7pm Wednesdays** (during school term) at the Curran Centre. Their 12 week study of *The Early Church Fathers and the Bible* from the St Paul Centre commenced last week. The group warmly welcomes all men from our parish to join them.

**ALL ARE WELCOME, ALL BELONG**

## BIBLE READINGS & MASS RESPONSES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

**READING 1** Exodus 32: 7-11, 13-14

The Lord spoke to Moses, 'Go down now, because your people whom you brought out of Egypt have apostatised. They have been quick to leave the way I marked out for them; they have made themselves a calf of molten metal and have worshipped it and offered it sacrifice. "Here is your God, Israel," they have cried "who brought you up from the land of Egypt!"' the Lord said to Moses, 'I can see how headstrong these people are! Leave me, now, my wrath shall blaze out against them and devour them; of you, however, I will make a great nation.' But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God. 'Lord,' he said 'why should your wrath blaze out against this people of yours whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with arm outstretched and mighty hand? Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, your servants to whom by your own self you swore and made this promise: "I will make your offspring as many as the stars of heaven, and all this land which I promised I will give to your descendants, and it shall be their heritage for ever." So the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

RESPONSE: **I will rise and go to my father.**

Lector: Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. R.

Lector: A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. R.

Lector: O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. My sacrifice is a contrite spirit; a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

**READING 2** 1 Timothy 1: 12-17

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, and who judged me faithful enough to call me into his service even though I used to be a blasphemer and did all I could to injure and discredit the faith. Mercy, however, was shown me, because until I became a believer I had been acting in ignorance; and the grace of our Lord filled me with faith and with the love that is in Christ Jesus. Here is a saying that you can rely on and nobody should doubt: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them; and if mercy has been shown to me, it is because Jesus Christ meant to make me the greatest evidence of his inexhaustible patience for all the other people who would later have to trust in him to come to eternal life. To the eternal King, the undying, invisible and only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Luke 15: 1-32

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them: 'What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," he would say "I have found

my sheep that was lost." In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance. 'Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," she would say "I have found the drachma I lost." In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.' He also said, 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. 'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening." 'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

### READINGS THIS WEEK

**Mon 12 Sept:** 1Cor11:17-26,33, Ps39:7-10,17, Lk7:1-10

**Tues 13 Sept:** 1Cor12:12-14,27-31, Ps99, Lk7:11-17

**Wed 14Sept:** Num21:4-9, Ps77:1-2, 34-38, Jn3:13-17

**Thurs 15 Sept:** Heb5:7-9, Ps30:2-6,15-16,20, Jn19:25-27

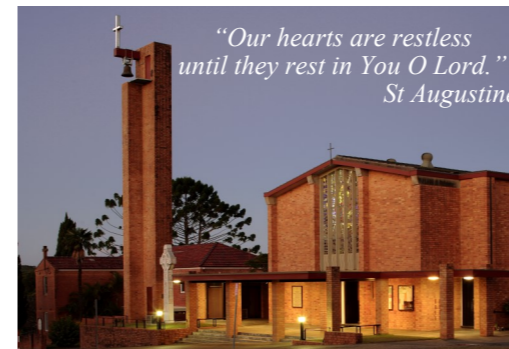
**Fri 16 Sept:** 1Cor15:12-20, Ps16:1,6-8,15, Lk8:1-3

**Sat 17 Sept:** 1Cor15:35-37,42-49, Ps55:10-14, Lk8:4-15

**Sun 18 Sept:** Amos8:4-7, Ps112:1-2,4-8, 1Tim2:1-8, Lk16:1-13



# St Augustine's Catholic Parish



### Parish Church:

**St Augustine's**, Gordon St, Coffs Harbour

### Station Churches:

**St Francis Xavier**, Scarborough St, Woolgoolga

**St Therese**, Gale St, Coramba

**Administrator:** Fr Joe DSouza OCD

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Joy D'Souza OCD

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Peter Rebello OCD

### Parish Office

Phone: 6651 0000

parish@coffscatholic.com (parish enquiries)

coffsadmin@coffscatholic.com (administration)

**Parish Business Manager:** John Walker

jwalker@coffscatholic.com

**Pastoral Associate:** Bill van Ryswyk

bill.vanryswyk@lism.catholic.edu.au

**Youth & Young Adults Leader:** Amber Scanes

ascanes@coffscatholic.com

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

### Catholic Schools Office

School fee enquiries: Phone: 6653 1655



**St John Paul College**

Hogbin Drive, Coffs Harbour

Ph: 02 6653 3155

[www.cofhslism.catholic.edu.au](http://www.cofhslism.catholic.edu.au)



**St Augustine's Primary School**

Gordon Street, Coffs Harbour

Ph: 02 6652 1204

[www.cofhplism.catholic.edu.au](http://www.cofhplism.catholic.edu.au)



**St Francis Xavier Primary School**

Queen Street, Woolgoolga

Ph: 02 6654 1981

[www.woolplism.catholic.edu.au](http://www.woolplism.catholic.edu.au)

A warm *welcome* to visitors and parishioners (who are new or returning) to our church. If you would like to receive our Church bulletin via email on Friday afternoons please email: [parish@coffscatholic.com](mailto:parish@coffscatholic.com)

**Coramba Church:** new pew cushions are now available at Coramba Church

# Welcome

11 September 2022  
24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, YrC

**MASS TIME CHANGE - St Augustine's Church Sunday morning Mass**  
After feedback from parishioners, please be advised, that commencing on **Sunday 25 September 2022**, morning Mass at St Augustine's Church will start at 9am.

## God is the Source of Mercy

The liturgy today reflects on God's mercy and compassion. In the first reading, we see God is always faithful to his promises. Exodus is the book of God's mercies to the children of Abraham, who were mercilessly oppressed by the Egyptians for several centuries. God had immense pity on them and raised up Moses and made him a mighty leader to be feared by Pharaoh and the Egyptians. With many signs and wonders, God led his people out of the land of Egypt. Through Moses, the Lord gave the ten commandments to His people.

However, the reading today describes how they broke God's commandments by falling into idolatry, worshipping a calf of cast metal. With great ingratitude and perversity they attributed the calf, to their liberation from Egypt. Even human hearts recoil at such a heinous degree of perversity. God felt like blotting out that race from the face of the earth. But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self..." And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people. Moses the friend of God pleads on behalf of that sinful and rebellious people, just like Abraham pleaded on behalf of Sodom and Gomorrah (Ref. Gen 18:22-33). Those chosen by God are full of mercy and compassion. Their friendship with God makes them that way. Like Moses, Jesus also intercedes for humanity. In the second reading, Paul reminds us how God's salvation was made possible for us through intercession and mercy. We all should be grateful to God for showing us his mercy through Jesus Christ.

Though Jesus showed much friendliness to tax-collectors and sinners, the Pharisees were tempted to judge him. On the other hand, the Pharisees also recognized his stature, and sometimes invited Jesus to dine with them. And Jesus accepted their invitation also. His mercy embraced sinners as well as Pharisees. Though the Pharisees supposed themselves to be ok, Jesus knew that they too were sick and in need of compassion. That is why he tells them the three parables: In the first parable of the Lost Sheep, the shepherd finds the lost sheep and rejoices. The second parable tells us of the joy a poor woman experiences in finding her lost coin. God also rejoices over every sinner who repents. In the third parable of the Prodigal Son, in the three characters, we see first the weak and stray younger son, then the jealous older son, and the compassionate and outreaching Father. The message for all of us is to become like a forgiving father, not to be jealous and to learn what love means. We are called to be compassionate and caring people of God.

The parable also shows that nobody is meant to be lost, and encourages sinners by fostering their self-assurance and by showing them God's goodness. While the younger son represented those who went away from God, the elder son represents the scribes and pharisees, who were self-righteous and judgemental. This parable not only invites those who most certainly need conversion, but also those who think they do not need it. Its beneficiaries are not only publicans and sinners, but also the Pharisees and scribes; not only those who decidedly live by turning their back to God, but, maybe, all of us, who, having been blessed by him, despite everything, conform ourselves to what little we give him in exchange, and skimp our generosity either with him or with our fellow men.

How often do we go away from God? Like the prodigal son; it happens because of our weakness. We often ignore God. We often go away from God because of our own limitations. Jesus in this parable teaches us that God is our loving Father stretching his hands on us to forgive, to be compassionate, loving without limits and to comfort Let us all be grateful to God for His love and come to him with a humble heart and change our life by doing God's will every day in our life.

Source: *Springs of Living Water Carmelite Reflections*