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# Granville

## Catholic Church Record

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Vol. 8. No. 37

September 17, 2023

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

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SAINT  
MATTHEW  
*The Apostle*

On Thursday the Church celebrates the Feast of St. Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist. There is little known about St. Matthew, except that he was the son of Alphaeus, and was likely born in Galilee. He worked as a tax collector, which was a despised profession during the time of Our Lord. According to the Gospel, St. Matthew was working at a collection booth in Capernaum when Our Lord came to him and said, "Follow me" (Mt. 9:9). With this simple call, St. Matthew became a disciple of Christ.

Many years following the death and resurrection of Our Lord, around A.D. 41 and A.D. 50, St. Matthew wrote his gospel account—the first of the four Gospels in the New Testament. He wrote in Aramaic, the language of the people at that time, in the hope that his account would convince his fellow people that Jesus was the Messiah.

It is thought he left Judea to escape persecution sometime after A.D. 42. According to various accounts he fled to Parthia and Persia, or Ethiopia. Nothing is recorded of St. Matthew's death, and so it is not known how he died but tradition accords him death as a martyr.

St. Matthew is often depicted as the man of the four living creatures of Revelation 4:7, which says, "The first living creature was like a lion (St. Mark), the second like a bull (St. Luke), the third living creature had a human face (St. Matthew), and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle (St. John)."

As St. Matthew was a tax collector he is held by the Church to be the the patron saint of bankers, as well as accountants, civil servants, and perfumers.



*O God, who with untold mercy  
were pleased to choose as an Apostle  
Saint Matthew, the tax collector,  
grant that, sustained by his example  
and intercession, we may merit  
to hold firm in following you.  
Through Christ our Lord.*

## THE PARISH OFFICE

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### Address

200 The Trongate,  
South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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### Parish Priest

Rev. Fr. Andrew Bass PP

### Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

### Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

### Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

### Online and Social Media Co-ordinators

Rosette Chidiac

John Portelli

### Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi

Annette Wirz

### Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

### Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

### Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

## HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

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### Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

### Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, 5:45 p.m.

### Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,

11:00 a.m.

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### Rosters

#### Readers

**4:30 p.m.** readers needed

**8:30 a.m.** Rose Succar

**5:00 p.m.** readers needed

## DONATIONS

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**BSB:** 067-950

**Account:** 00007247

**Name:** Granville Catholic Parish

## SOCIAL MEDIA

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HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

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### Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

### Confessions

Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

### Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

### Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

### Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,  
11:30 a.m.

### Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

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### Rosters

**Church Cleaning** Group 4: A. Quinlan,  
G. Pinto, M. Asiedu, M. Moses,  
G. Dankwah, S. Martin, M. Magpayo,  
C. Elegado, J. Puni, J. Osei-Yamoah,  
A. Osei-Yamoah, L. Tordilla, J. Fili,  
J. John, A. Abosh, O. Ifeanyi, J. Raj,  
S. Joseph

### Readers

**Vigil** Ingrid Bifulco, Racquel La Rosa,  
Rosette Chidiac

**10:00 a.m.** Reanne Chidiac,  
Wadzi Mushiningam, Sisters

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton, John Augustus,  
Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, Vincenzo  
Colosimo, Marcus El-Khoury, Lucy Farrugia, Carmel Galea,  
Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek,  
Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Therese Khalil, Kay King,  
Ruth La Rosa, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Ester Matos,  
Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Tony Moussa, Ben Nursoo,  
Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Flory Pinto, Don Provest, Therese  
Smeal, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine Vella, Sam Wardan.



*Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,  
by the grace of your Holy Spirit  
cure the weaknesses of your servants,  
and mercifully restore them to full health.  
St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.*

## IN MEMORIAM

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Therese Akkary, Nieves Arribas, Najibeh Malkoun Assaad,  
Victor Azzopardi, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin, Basil Benjamin,  
Betty Borg, Alice Boustani, Yousseph Boustani, Kathleen  
Bradbery, Paul Bradbery, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent  
Cahill, Michael Collins, Nazirah El-Hallal, Salim El-Hallal,  
Alan Frost, Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, Joe Grech, Mary  
Grech, Sam Grech, Chahid Habib, Salim Karaki, Paul  
Kassis, Nouhad Khoury, Jim Mackie, Frouzine Malkoun,  
Jacob Malkoun, Mouna Malkoun, Ofimia Malkoun, Paul  
Mathews, Sam Munro, Joseph Nammour, Jack Newell, Jean  
Newell, Tony Newell, Haydee Nursoo, Clair O'Sullivan,  
Herbert Pidgeon, Raffaele Scaturchio, Emanuel Tabone,  
Alex Taktak, Joseph Vella, Phyllis Webb, Dib Zaiter.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

## **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Every Sunday Evening at Holy Family Church**

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Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, which was introduced as a part of the Holy Cross Parish Year of the Blessed Sacrament, continues each Sunday evening at Holy Family Church, following the 5:00 p.m. Mass.

Join us as we pray before the real presence of Our Lord—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—seeking the abundant graces that flow from the Blessed Sacrament and in reparation for the many sins committed against the Blessed Sacrament.

By spending this short time before Our Lord we show our love for Him and we receive His abundant graces to strengthen us for the week ahead.

So do not abandon these moments of grace before Our Lord, for at a time when the Church is under terrible attack, we must cherish these moments where we can pray freely before Our Lord and ask that He guard His holy Church from all assaults.

## **Important Holy Mass Intentions Reminder**

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A reminder that if you would like a particular Mass offered for an intention, please speak with Fr. Andrew at least 4 weeks in advance. There are many intentions requested and it is not always possible to fulfill a request for a particular Mass unless there is sufficient time allowed.

Please also note that the Mass offered is the Mass of the day and not a memorial Mass. The Priest offers the sacrifice of the Mass for the intention of the donor but celebrates the Mass of the day, including Sundays, so the Masses remain parish Masses.



## **HOLY CROSS WEEK**

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Last week we celebrated Holy Cross Week in honour of our parish's feast day on September 14, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Thank you to all those who participated in the life of the parish by joining in these celebrations.

Thank you to those who assisted with the Parish retreat day on Saturday at Holy Family Church. In particular, thank you to John Portelli and Chloe Zaiter for arranging the music, to Elvis, Paul, Patrick and Patrick for serving the solemn sung Mass, to Robyn Rich for reading, to Joe Chidiac for cooking the BBQ lunch, to all those who helped to prepare and serve the lunch, to Richard Zaiter for taking the photographs, and to Tony Wehbe for mowing the lawns in preparation for the day. Thank you, also, to all those who joined us for this day as a way to meditate upon the Holy Cross of Our Lord and to enjoy a social day with other parishioners and visitors.

Thank you, also, to those who assisted with the Holy Mass on Thursday, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, at Holy Trinity Church. We owe our thanks, in particular, to John Portelli and Maryanne Takchi for the music, to Alvin, Elvis, Jeevan, Paul, Patrick and Patrick for serving the Mass, and to Claudette Takchi for reading. Thank you, also, to those who joined us for this Mass.

Thank you to those who joined us on Friday evening as we prayed the Stations of the Cross and the Litany of the Holy Cross at Holy Family Church to close the week.

## **Please Help the Alphones Family to Stay in Australia**

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The Alphones family are asking for your help. They are dedicated parishioners of our parish and they are asking for you to help them to remain in Australia.



The family are petitioning the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs so that they may be granted permanent residency. The family have lived and worked in Australia for the past fifteen years and their three children have grown up here and go to school in our parish. Please help this family to stay in Australia by signing the online petition at <https://tinyurl.com/mrv28hny>. Please pray for this family that Our Lord may always guard them and keep them close.

## **Online Donations in Support of the Parish**

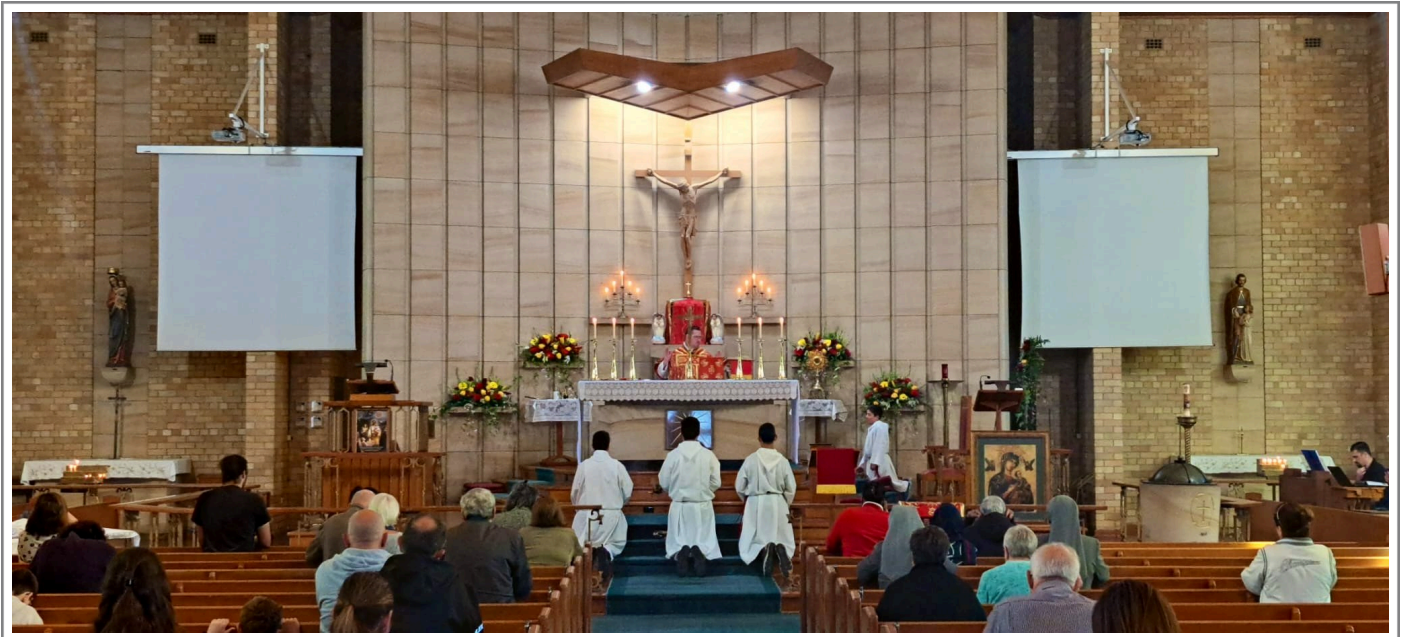
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Online donations can be made through the Holy Cross Parish website ([holycrossgranville.org.au](http://holycrossgranville.org.au)) or scanning the QR code below. Thank you to all those who regularly support the parish by your contributions. Your regular support of the parish is greatly appreciated.



# UNDER THE HOLY CROSS

## HOLY CROSS PARISH RETREAT DAY





Behold the Cross of the Lord!  
Begone, all you evil powers!  
The Lion of the tribe of Judah,  
the Root of David, has conquered.  
Alleluia!

O Crucified Lord, Who for the redemption of the world,  
were pleased to be born in a stable and to die upon a Cross;  
O Lord Jesus Christ, by Your holy sufferings,  
which we, Your unworthy servants, call to mind:  
by Your Holy Cross,  
and by Your death, deliver us from the pains of Hell,  
and vouchsafe to conduct us to the place  
where You conducted the good thief  
who was crucified with You,  
Who live and reign eternally in Heaven.  
Amen.

Sweet the wood, sweet the nails,  
sweet the Burden which You bear,  
for you alone, O Holy Cross,  
were worthy to bear the King and Lord of Heaven.  
Amen.



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Let us care for those who have cared  
for us through their lifetime of service



Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day  
Appeal supporting our retired and sick clergy

[parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal](http://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal)



**\$25**

Can supply **fresh food and provide nourishing meals** for a retired priest.



**\$50**

Can help **fill a retired priest's petrol tank, supporting active independence.**



**\$100**

Supports **transport costs to take unwell priests to medical appointments.**



**\$250**

Can support a retired priest's **medical care, mental health, and wellbeing.**



**\$500**

Can help fund **specialist medical consultations.**



**\$1,000**

Can help support our retired priests' **day-to-day living needs and home comforts.**



**\$2,500**

Provides our priests with **fifty hours of professional care** from our Clergy Health and Wellbeing team.



**\$5,000**

Can help fund **aged care and nursing home accommodation.**

# Saints & STUFF

## ST. HELENA

St. Helena (c. A.D. 250-330) was an Empress of the Roman Empire, and mother of Emperor Constantine the Great. In her final years, she made a religious tour of Jerusalem, during which she allegedly discovered the True Cross. Pious beliefs also associate her to the foundation of the Vatican Gardens with earth brought from Golgotha by Helena to symbolically unite the blood of Christ with that shed by thousands of early Christians, who died in the persecutions of the emperor Nero.

On the site of the discovery of the Cross now stands the Church of the Holy Sepulchre which also honours the burial place of Our Lord.



## CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

### *The Desire for Happiness*

**1718** The Beatitudes respond to the natural desire for happiness. This desire is of divine origin: God has placed it in the human heart in order to draw man to the One who alone can fulfill it: We all want to live happily; in the whole human race there is no one who does not assent to this proposition, even before it is fully articulated. How is it, then, that I seek you, Lord? Since in seeking you, my God, I seek a happy life, let me seek you so that my soul may live, for my body draws life from my soul and my soul draws life from you. God alone satisfies.

**1719** The Beatitudes reveal the goal of human existence, the ultimate end of human acts: God calls us to his own beatitude. This vocation is addressed to each individual personally, but also to the Church as a whole, the new people made up of those who have accepted the promise and live from it in faith.

**1720** The New Testament uses several expressions to characterise the beatitude to which God calls man: the coming of the Kingdom of God; the vision of God: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God"; entering into the joy of the Lord.

# CATHOLIC Trivia

## *Bleeding Host in Poland Confirmed to be the True Body and Blood of Christ*

In Poland a consecrated host fell on the floor and picked up and placed in a container with water, according to the report by the Bishop of Legnica. The falling of the host and its preservation occurred on Christmas day of 2013. After the host was conserved in a container with water by the Parish Priest, it gradually began to turn to change colour, possessing red-bloody stains.



The final medical statement by the Department of Forensic Medicine found that "in the histopathological image, the fragments (of the Host) were found containing the fragmented parts of the cross striated muscle. It is most similar to the heart muscle. Tests also determined the tissue to be of human origin, and found that it bore signs of distress."

The Vatican in April approved the findings and reports of the case.

# MT

V C A L S

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The Readings

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**Introit** (Cf. Sir. 36:18)

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.

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**First Reading**

**The Book of Ecclesiasticus (27:30-28:7)**

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,  
and both are found with the sinner.  
He who exacts vengeance  
will experience the vengeance of the Lord,  
who keeps strict account of sin.  
Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,  
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.  
If a man nurses anger against another,  
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?  
Showing no pity for a man like himself,  
can he then plead for his own sins?  
Mere creature of flesh,  
he cherishes resentment;  
who will forgive him his sins?  
Remember the last things, and stop hating,  
remember dissolution and death,  
and live by the commandments.  
Remember the commandments,  
and do not bear your neighbour ill-will;  
remember the covenant of the Most High,  
and overlook the offence.

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**Responsorial Psalm** (Ps. 94:1-2, 6-9. R.v. 8)

R. The Lord is kind and merciful;  
slow to anger and rich in compassion.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings. R.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion. R.

His wrath will come to an end;  
he will not be angry for ever.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults. R.

For as the heavens are high above the earth  
so strong is his love for those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins. R.

**Second Reading**

**The Letter of St. Paul to the Romans (14:7-9)**

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

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**Gospel Acclamation** (Jn. 13:34)

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I give you a new commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you.  
Alleluia!

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**Gospel**

**The Gospel of St. Matthew (18:15-20)**

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

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**Communio** (Ps. 35:8)

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