
Granville

Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. 35.

August 30, 2026

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



As the month of August draws to a close, we contemplate Our Lady under one of her most comforting titles: Mary, Mother of Grace and Refuge of Sinners. Having reflected upon her Immaculate Heart, her glorious Assumption, and her royal Queenship, it is deeply fitting that we conclude by turning to her ongoing, compassionate presence in our everyday lives. As the month draws to an end, this final Sunday offers a golden opportunity to pause, give thanks for the spiritual graces received, and entrust our ongoing trials into the maternal hands of the Mother of God.

Throughout Catholic tradition, Our Lady has been invoked as the sanctuary for those who are burdened, tired, or struggling against temptation. This maternal role is exquisitely reflected around this time in the liturgical calendar through saints such as St. Monica, whose legendary persistence in prayer brought about the conversion of her son, St. Augustine. Like St. Monica, the Blessed Virgin Mary teaches us the quiet power of unwavering faith

and tearful intercession. Yet, while earthly mothers pray with human limitations, Mary's intercession possesses a unique efficacy because of her perfect closeness to her Son. She does not look upon our human frailty with judgment or disdain; rather, as the Refuge of Sinners, she gazes upon us with eyes of infinite mercy, gently coaxing us back to the Sacraments and into the forgiving arms of her Son.

To call Mary our "Mother of Grace" is to acknowledge that God, in His sovereign wisdom, chose to dispense His divine gifts to humanity through her *fiat*, that is her "Yes". Just as the Author of all grace entered the world through Mary, so too do the fruits of His Redemption continue to flow into our hearts through her maternal mediation. She is the channel through which Christ's healing power reaches our brokenness. When our prayers feel dry, when family burdens weigh heavily upon our shoulders, or when we feel overwhelmed by the distractions of the world, flying to Our Lady's patronage restores our

spiritual strength and anchors our souls in divine peace.

As we look ahead to the coming months, let us carry the fruits of this season of devotion into our daily routines. Practicing devotion to Our Lady is not intended to be a temporary effort, but a lifelong posture of the heart. By praying the Rosary, maintaining our trust in her Immaculate Heart, and seeking her intercession in all our endeavours, we ensure that our homes remain sanctuaries of faith and grace. May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Grace and Refuge of Sinners, wrap her protective mantle around our families, guard our parish, and lead us ever closer to the Sacred Heart of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.*

*Blessed art thou amongst women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen*

THE PARISH OFFICE

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.

Parish Administrator

Rev. Fr. Galbert Albino

Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

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.

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Sam Eid, Sharlene Eid, Annette Akkary,
Paulo Lasalo

Flower Arranging

Ana Brown and Latu Manu

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

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, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.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, 7:15 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

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

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 1

D. Portelli, L.Toman, W. Krasinski,
J.Galea, A.Quinlan, N. Begley

Readers

Vigil Rosette Chidiac, Sisters, Gerry Pinto

10:00 a.m. Mary Georges,
Jasmine Miranda, Armani Barakat

Children's Liturgy

Elmo and Shanthi Xavier

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, Vincenzo
Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline
Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins,
Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro,
Zoe Mrzljak, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo,
Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provost, Ricardo Tognini, Sam
Wardan, Gerard Watts.



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.

IN MEMORIAM

Geoff Armstrong, Norma Armstrong, Victor Azzopardi, Joseph
Baini, Carmen Bonello, Charlie Bonello, John Borg, Dick
Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Alan Frost, Carmen Galea,
Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech, Sam
Grech, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki, Paul Karam, Nouhad
Khoury, Kaye King, Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe,
Mouna Malkoun, Bette McGrath, Roy McDonald, Aileen
McIntyre, Jack McIntyre, Lindsay McIntyre, Nancy McIntyre,
Mary McIntyre, Marie McDonald, Anthony Newell, Jack
Newell, Jean Newell, Jessica Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen,
Michael O'Brien, Peter Olsen, Zackary Orenshaw, Jack
Pickering, Samuel Pickering, Edward Pidgeon, Robert Pidgeon,
Sheila Pidgeon, Flory Pinto, Peter Robertson, Grace Saliba,
Louis Saliba, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Kerry Savvas, Alex
Taktak, John Toye, John Vella, Graham Wales, Carmel Watts,
Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe, Noelene Yott,
William Yott, Jessie Zammit, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter

First Thursday Holy Mass in Latin

This Thursday, being the first Thursday of the month, **Holy Mass in Latin will be said at Holy Trinity Church at the new time of 7:15 p.m.**

The first Thursday of the month is traditionally offered as an act of reparation to the wounds of Our Lord and in honour of the Blessed Sacrament and as a day to pray for Priests in honour of Our Lord Jesus Christ, High and Eternal Priest.

First Friday Mass, Rosary and Adoration

Join us this Friday at Holy Trinity Church for our regular First Friday of the month devotions in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Confessions will be heard from 6:15 p.m., the Rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m., Holy Mass will be offered at 7:00 p.m. followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 p.m.

Parish Office Closure

Please be advised that the Parish Office will be closed from Friday 21st August and will reopen for normal business hours on Tuesday, 15th September.

This extended closure is to allow our Business Manager, John Portelli, to take annual leave following his wedding which took place last weekend. We appreciate your understanding and ask that you keep John and his new wife, Natalie, in your prayers as they begin married life.

For any urgent enquiries, emergency pastoral care, or sacramental support while the office is closed, please contact 0499 033 392.

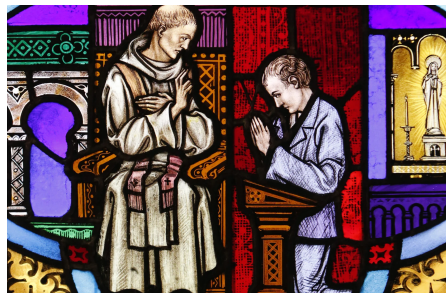
Normal office operations will resume on Tuesday 15th September.

Fr. Galbert Attending Religious Education Conference in Belgium

Fr. Galbert has been selected by the Diocese to attend an international Religious Education Conference in Belgium. He will travel alongside fellow Diocesan clergy and Religious Education Coordinators from our Catholic schools to discuss Religious Education and Catechises.

Fr Galbert leaves later this week and will return to the parish in mid-September. In his absence, Fr. Joseph will be available for any sacramental needs.

We ask Almighty God to grant Fr Galbert a safe journey and abundant grace. May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Seat of Wisdom, protect all delegates attending the conference.



Sacrament of Penance at Holy Cross Parish

Parishioners are encouraged to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Penance for the sanctification of their souls and spiritual renewal. Through humble confession and the priest's absolution, we receive God's mercy, purifying our hearts and restoring our union with the Church.

Confessions are heard each Wednesday at Holy Family Church from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and every Sunday from 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. At Holy Trinity Church, the Sacrament is available every Saturday from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Come and experience the peace of Christ's mercy.

Reminder for Mobile Phones to be Switched Off Before Commencement of Holy Mass

Before the Holy Mass begins, parishioners are reminded to turn off or switch their mobile phones to silent upon entering the church.

The church is the house of God and a place of sacred silence. A ringing phone directly disrupts the solemnity of the liturgy and distracts others from prayerful devotion before the Blessed Sacrament.

Please leave the noise of the world outside the church doors, offering our Lord your undivided attention. Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining quiet reverence and sanctity in our churches.

Holy Trinity Church Audio System Upgrade Appeal

A sincere thank you to everyone supporting the audio system upgrade at Holy Trinity Church. To help fund this next vital step in our parish refurbishment, we have applied for a NSW Government Community Building Partnership Grant.

If you would like to make a contribution toward this project, please contact the Parish Office or donate securely online at holycrossgranville.org.au/donate or by scanning the QR code below.

Thank you for your enduring stewardship and care in preserving our sacred buildings.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Volunteers Needed!



Help pass on our Holy Faith to the youngest members of our parish through the Children's Liturgy ministry!

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO VOLUNTEER TODAY
0497 190 444 - GRANVILLE@PARRACATHOLIC.ORG





HOLY MASS IN LATIN

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

7:15 P.M.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
Cnr. Randle St. and Bennalong St. Granville





AN EVENING WITH THE LORD

6:15pm - 6:45pm: Confession

6:30pm: Holy Rosary

7:00pm: Holy Mass followed by Adoration

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Holy Trinity Church

Cnr. Randle St. and Bennalong St. Granville

Saints & STUFF

St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

In today's Gospel, Our Lord reveals that He must suffer and die in Jerusalem, telling His disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." A profound modern witness who embraced this radical calling is St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), a 20th-century philosopher, convert, and Carmelite nun.

Born into a Jewish family in Germany, Edith was a brilliant scholar who sought truth through philosophy before encountering the writings of St. Teresa of Ávila. Converting to Catholicism, she eventually entered the Carmelite monastery, choosing a religious name that reflected her deep conviction that embracing the cross with Christ is the pathway to salvation. When Nazi persecution intensified, she refused to evade her spiritual mission. In 1942, she was arrested and martyred at Auschwitz, offering her suffering for her people.

St. Teresa Benedicta's life demonstrates that taking up our cross is not a burden to be feared or avoided, but the highest expression of divine love. Her courageous witness reminds us that by willingly losing our earthly life for Christ's sake, we discover the ultimate gift of eternal joy.

St. Teresa Benedicta, pray for us!

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Deny Self, Follow Him

540 Jesus' temptation shows how the Son of God is Messiah, but in the way contrary to the way Satan proposes and which men wish to attribute to him. That is why Christ vanquished the Tempter for us... Jesus anticipates the great victory of his Passion, the supreme act of obedience of his filial love for the Father.

599 Jesus' violent death was not the result of chance in an unfortunate combination of circumstances. It belongs to the mystery of God's secret plan, as Saint Peter explains to the Jews of Jerusalem in his first sermon on Pentecost: "This Jesus [was] delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God."

618 The cross is the unique sacrifice of Christ, the "one mediator between God and men." But because in his incarnate divine person he has in some way united himself to every man, "the possibility of being made partners, in a way known to God, in the paschal mystery" is offered to all men... In fact Jesus desires to associate with his redeeming sacrifice those very ones who are to be its first beneficiaries.

CATHOLIC Trivia

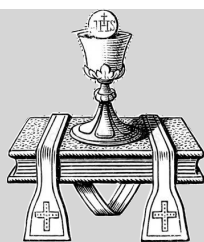
Why Do We Say "Bless You?"

Have you ever wondered why it is standard courtesy across the world to say "God bless you" whenever someone sneezes? This polite everyday habit actually originated from a papal decree issued during a sixth-century health crisis.

In A.D. 590, a devastating plague struck Rome. Sneezing was one of the earliest and most fearful symptoms of the mortal illness, often indicating that a person had contracted the disease. Recognising the grave danger facing his flock, Pope Gregory the Great requested that Christians immediately offer a short, heartfelt prayer whenever anyone sneezed. He asked citizens to respond to a sneeze with "God bless you," invoking divine protection and mercy for the sufferer. Additionally, if someone sneezed while alone, they were encouraged to pray "May God help me."

The practice quickly spread throughout Europe as a pious response to contagion. Over fourteen centuries later, the plague has receded into history, but the custom remains rooted in our language.

Next time you automatically utter "Bless you" after a sneeze, remember its sacred roots—a simple, timeless reminder of our calling to pray for the health, protection, and well-being of those around us.



MASS MATTERS

~ The Fraction Rite and Lamb of God ~

As we prepare to receive Holy Communion, the priest performs two ancient actions filled with deep theological symbolism. First, he breaks the consecrated Host. This Fraction Rite recalls Jesus breaking bread at the Last Supper and His Body broken for us on the Cross. Next, the priest drops a small piece of the Host into the chalice. In ancient understanding, death meant the separation of body and blood; uniting them again in the chalice symbolises Christ's glorious Resurrection—He is alive! Meanwhile, we pray the *Agnus Dei* ("Lamb of God"), recognising Jesus as the true sacrificial Passover Lamb who takes away the sins of the world. Finally, acknowledging our deep need for God's mercy, we echo the humble faith of the biblical centurion: "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof..."

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Readings

Introit

(Cf Psalm 85:3,5)

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

First Reading

The Prophet Jeremiah

(Jeremiah 20:7-9)

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be
seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.
I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'
The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.
I used to say, I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.
Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.
The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm

(Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2)

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **R.**

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**

For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. **R.**

Second Reading

Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

(Romans 12:1-2)

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation

(See Ephesians 1:17-18)

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.
Alleluia!

Gospel

The Gospel of Matthew

(Matthew 16:13-20)

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

Communion

(Psalm 30:20)

How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

"To take up the cross means bearing with whatever is troublesome...

*When you begin to follow Christ, you will find many people
contradicting you—not only pagans outside, but even those who
appear to be inside the Church. Tolerate sinners without yielding to
them, and do not let the false happiness of the wicked corrupt you.*

- St. Caesarius of Arles