
Granville

Catholic Church Record

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September 6, 2026

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



HOLY CROSS MONTH

The Wood of Salvation: Old Testament Typology of the Cross

As September unfolds, our parish of the Holy Cross begins a sacred season of grace and reflection. In these weeks leading up to and following our Patronal Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on 14 September, our hearts and minds are drawn to the supreme symbol of our redemption. Yet the story of the Cross did not begin on the hill of Calvary; it was woven into the fabric of creation from the very beginning of time.

In Catholic theology, this divine arrangement is known as *typology* - the way real persons, events, and symbols in the Old Covenant foreshadowed the full revelation of Jesus Christ in the New. God, in His infinite wisdom, prepared humanity across centuries so that when the Saviour died upon the Cross, His sacrifice would be recognised not as an unforeseen tragedy, but as the deliberate fulfilment of salvation history.

The early Fathers of the Church frequently pointed to the striking contrast between the Garden of Eden and the hill of Golgotha. In Genesis, humanity fell through the fruit of a

tree. Tempted by the serpent, Adam and Eve grasped at equality with God, bringing spiritual death and disorder into creation. God chose to restore what Adam lost through the exact instrument of the fall. As St. John Chrysostom observed, Satan conquered by a tree, and by a tree he was ultimately overcome. Where the first wood brought condemnation, the Wood of the Cross brought eternal life. Through this ancient patristic insight (the early teachings of the Church Fathers) - "*from the wood*" - we see that the Cross is the true Tree of Life, planted at the centre of the world to nourish hungry souls with the medicine of immortality.

Throughout the Old Covenant, the mystery of the Cross continually broke through the darkness of human history. Amidst the cleansing waters of the flood, a vessel made of wood preserved righteous humanity, prefiguring the Church saved through the Wood of the Cross and the grace of Baptism. Centuries later, Moses wielded a wooden rod to strike the Nile, divide the Red Sea for Israel's liberation, and draw forth living

water from the rock - foreshadowing the blood and water that flowed from the pierced side of Christ. Furthermore, when the Israelites suffered from venomous serpents in the wilderness, God commanded Moses to forge a bronze serpent and raise it upon a pole so that all who looked upon it were healed. Our Lord explicitly claimed this image in St. John's Gospel, reminding us that just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life.

These sacred prefigurations demonstrate that God's design for our salvation is seamless and unwavering. The Cross was never a defeat, but the eternal throne of our King. As we embark upon Holy Cross Month here in our parish, let us reverence the Crucifix not merely as an ornamental emblem, but as the living tree whose blessed fruit continues to nourish us at every Holy Mass. May we always look to the Holy Cross confidently knowing that it is our sure salvation.

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

Tuyet Duong, Savelina Sikimeti

Flower Arranging

Samar Rjeily and Maroun Rjeily

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 2:

P. Zaiter, N.Chidiac, C.Buultjens

Readers

Vigil Gerry Pinto, Rebecca Hanson,
Racquel La Rosa

10:00 a.m. Jasmine Miranda, Merlin
Sandhiya, Sisters

Children's Liturgy

Armani Barakaet and Victor Liu

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

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.

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.

Visit our Church Piety Shops

Are you looking for a holy gift for an upcoming Sacrament, or a devotional aid for your own spiritual life? Our parish piety shops offer a beautiful selection of sacred items to deepen your faith and assist your daily prayers. Stop by after Holy Mass this weekend to browse our stock.

Find the perfect sacramental keepsake or religious item to inspire devotion.



*Make frequent visits to Jesus
in the Blessed Sacrament
and the devil will be
powerless against you.*

—St. John Bosco

WEDNESDAYS

Holy Family Church at 6:30 p.m.



FIRST FRIDAYS

Holy Trinity Church at 7:30 p.m.

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 to switch off Mobile Phones Before Holy Mass Commences

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.

Online Donations in Support of the Parish

Online donations can be made through the Holy Cross Parish website (holycrossgranville.org.au) using our BPoint facility by visiting the website 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 and allows us to continue to undertake the many works of the parish and to look at what other works we can achieve, including the continuing restoration and maintenance of our two parish churches for generations to come.



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





SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

SUNDAY
4:15PM TO 4:45PM

WEDNESDAY
6:30PM TO 7:00PM

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

SATURDAY
5:00PM TO 5:45PM
FIRST FRIDAY OF MONTH
6:15PM TO 6:45PM

*Confession heals, confession justifies,
confession grants pardon of sin,
all hope consists in confession;
in confession there is a chance for mercy.*

- St. Isidore of Seville





WEEKDAY HOLY MASS

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

TUES, THURS, FRI, SAT
9:15AM

WEDNESDAY
6:00PM

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

TUES
6:30PM

WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY
8:15AM

*"It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun
than to do so without the Holy Mass."*

~ St. Pio of Pietrelcina

Saints & STUFF

St. Hugh of Lincoln

In today's Gospel, Our Lord provides a clear blueprint for fraternal correction, instructing us to address a brother's fault privately, with humility and love, in order to win them back. A lesser-known master of this gentle, personal admonition is St. Hugh of Lincoln, a 12th-century Carthusian monk who reluctantly became an English bishop.

St. Hugh possessed a legendary gift for correcting powerful rulers—including Kings Henry II and Richard the Lionheart, — without provoking malice or public scandal. When King Richard was furious with Hugh over royal taxes, Hugh travelled to France to confront the monarch face-to-face. Approaching the enraged king in a chapel, Hugh disarmed him by courageously shaking Richard's cloak until the monarch smiled, embraced him, and accepted the bishop's private, honest rebuke.

Rather than publicly shaming others, harbouring bitterness, or backing down out of fear, St. Hugh corrected even the most intimidating figures with disarming humour, patience, and genuine Christian charity. His life beautifully reflects the spirit of Christ's teaching, reminding us that true fraternal correction seeks not to condemn or defeat our neighbour, but to lovingly win them back. *St. Hugh of Lincoln Pray for us!*

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Gathered in His Love

1373 "Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us," is present in many ways to his Church... in his word, in his Church's prayer, "where two or three are gathered in my name," in the poor, the sick, and the imprisoned, in the sacraments of which he is the author... But "he is present... most especially in the Eucharistic species."

1444 In imparting to his apostles his own power to forgive sins the Lord also gives them the authority to reconcile sinners with the Church. This ecclesial dimension of their task is expressed most notably in Christ's solemn words to Simon Peter: "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

1829 The fruit of charity is joy, peace, and mercy; charity demands beneficence and fraternal correction...it fosters reciprocity and remains disinterested and generous; it is friendship and communion: "Love is itself the fulfilment of all our works. There is the goal; for it we run, we run toward it; once we reach it, in it we shall find rest."

CATHOLIC Trivia

The Friar that Unlocked Genetics

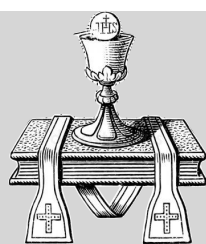
Did you know that modern genetic science was not born in a high-tech corporate laboratory, but in the peaceful garden of a 19th-century Augustinian monastery?

Gregor Mendel, a devout friar with a keen scientific mind, spent eight years carefully cultivating and cross-breeding over 28,000 pea plants. By meticulously tracking specific physical traits across generations—such as plant height, seed texture, and flower colour—Mendel uncovered the fundamental rules of heredity. He demonstrated that traits are passed down through distinct units, now known as genes, introducing the groundbreaking concepts of dominant and recessive characteristics.

Though his findings were largely ignored by the scientific community during his lifetime, Mendel's work was rediscovered decades later, cementing his historical status as the "father of modern genetics".

Father Mendel saw no contradiction between his religious vocation and his scientific pursuits, viewing his botanical research as a humble way to marvel at the order of God's creation.

His enduring legacy remains a brilliant testament to how faith and reason harmoniously flourish together to illuminate the truth.



MASS MATTERS

~ Receiving Holy Communion ~

Approaching the altar to receive Holy Communion is the intimate climax of the Mass. Walking in the Communion procession is not simply waiting in line; it symbolises our journey together as a pilgrim people, moving toward our true home in heaven. As we step forward, we bow our heads in reverence before the real presence of Christ.

When the minister says, "The Body of Christ," we respond, "Amen." This profound word means far more than "thank you"—it is our personal declaration of faith: "I believe, I assent, and I stake my life on this truth." Receiving Holy Communion intimately unites us with Our Lord Jesus, nourishing our souls and transforming us into the very Body of Christ we are called to be.

The Readings

Introit

(Psalm 118:137, 124)

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

First Reading

The Prophet Ezekiel

(Ezekiel 33:7-9)

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Responsorial Psalm

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

℟. O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. ℟.

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. ℟.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' ℟.

Second Reading

Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

(Romans 13:8-10)

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation

(2 Corinthians 5:19)

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

The Gospel of Matthew

(Matthew 18:15-20)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

Communio

(Cf Psalm 41:2-3)

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

"In correcting your brother, do not seek your own victory, but his healing. If you neglect to correct him, you become worse than he is. He has done wrong, and by wounding himself, he has inflicted a severe injury upon himself. Do not disregard your brother's downfall... Correct him between yourself and him alone, aiming for his amendment and sparing his shame."

- St. Augustine of Hippo