



St Mary Immaculate & St Patrick's PARISH OF THE CLARENCE VALLEY

Copmanhurst & Cowper *Grafton & South Grafton*



Cowper

Parish Office: 2 Clarence Street
Phone: 02 6643 9017
Email:
admin@clarencevalleyparish.com.au
P.O. Box 577, Grafton NSW 2460
Website: cvcparish.org.au

Office Hours:
8.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday

St. Mary's Church, Grafton
Victoria Street, Grafton

St Patrick's Church
Skinner Street, South Grafton

Mary Immaculate Church
Cowper

St John of the Cross
Copmanhurst

McAuley Catholic College
Hennessy Drive, Clarenceza
Phone: 02 6643 1434
Email: grafs@lism.catholic.edu.au

St. Mary's Primary School
Turf Street, Grafton
Phone: 02 6642 2262
Email: grafp@lism.catholic.edu.au

St Joseph's Primary School
Hyde Street, South Grafton
Phone: 02 6642 2899
Email: sgrafp@lism.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest: Fr Felix Ekeh
Assist. Priest:
Fr Emmanuel Okparanaku



Copmanhurst

Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

19th October 2025

Parish Family News

In solidarity with Jesus

The determined widow in this week's parable encourages us to persist in prayer. She was not deterred by the judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. Instead, she demonstrates what St Therese of Lisieux described as a "surge of the heart": a trust and confidence in God who knows what we need and who draws close to us.

Indeed, when we pray, we need not speak much at all; but merely let ourselves be still before God and let God nourish us. St Alphonsus Ligouri advised us to "speak with familiarity and confidence as to your dearest and most loving friend. In return, God will speak to you – not that you will hear audible words in your ears, but words that you will clearly understand in your heart."

But the gift of prayer goes beyond intercession. In prayer, we discover a clear vision of our deepest identity – both of who we are and whose we are – and of who we are called to be and what we are called to do. Being aware of how God is at work in our lives awakens within us a response to be a prophetic presence in the world. We are not content to act within the limits of our current reality, but are inspired to move towards that vision of who we are called to be.

We are invited to enter ever more deeply into the mystery of God – into a divine presence and purpose larger than our finite frames of reference. We are drawn into the ongoing work of God within us, throughout the world and, indeed, in the whole of creation. In this way, prayer awakens us and inspires us to act, to make a difference by bringing about justice, mercy and wholeness.

As a sixteen-year-old, Monsignor Enrique (Kike) Figaredo, a Spanish Jesuit who has spent his life working with victims of landmines in Cambodia, once prayed on a Holy Thursday at a Taize monastery for God to enlighten him with his life's direction. He said he was "looking for Jesus, like a madman". He heard within his heart Jesus saying to him, "Don't go crazy. If you want to know me, I live with others. My face is that of people. If you look for me, look for me in people." This realisation inspired him to dedicate his life to victims of landmines.

Known as the Bishop of the Wheelchairs, Monsignor Figaredo wears a crucifix which he describes as the wheelchair crucifix. One of the legs of the crucified figure is shorter than the other. This wheelchair crucifix is a symbol of the victims of landmines; of Jesus in solidarity with people who suffer from landmines; and of God entering into the suffering of his people and illuminating their lives. Kike, as Monsignor Figaredo is affectionately known to Cambodians, says the wheelchair is his sacrament. It is where human suffering meets the beauty of God's love.

God is intimately present with his people and his love transforms every human experience.

Sophie Clements © Majellan Media 2025

Television Free to Air—Channel Ten—Sunday Mass at 6am

Mass Sunday—Livestreamed on Lismore Diocesan You Tube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/c/LismoreDioceseAU>

Also the following has Mass on demand.
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYRq7AjiVimr-hcHFJD_HVaQ



DIARY OF THE WEEK: LITURGIES, DEVOTIONS ETC

Saturday 18th October - St Luke, evangelist

9.00am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton

5.15pm—5.45pm Reconciliation at St Mary's Church

6.00pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton

Sunday 19th October - Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton

8.00am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church Cowper

9.30am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton

11.00am Mass at St John of the Cross Copmanhurst

Monday 20th October - NO MASS

Tuesday 21st October

5.15pm Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton

Wednesday 22nd October

8.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton

Thursday 23rd October

9.15am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton

Friday 24th October

11.30am—11.55am Reconciliation and

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

12.00noon Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton

Saturday 25th October

9.00am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton

5.15pm—5.45pm Reconciliation at St Mary's Church

6.00pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton

Sunday 26th October - Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton

8.00am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church Cowper

9.30am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton

Please remember in your prayers:

Those who are sick and frail: especially Sally Beresford, Marg Perry, Marie Fitzgerald, Ezra Rutherford, Edward Morley, Matthew Bertalli, James Irwin, Allan Albert, Billy Eckersley, Marlene Cain (Hervey Bay), Margaret Gallagher (Cessnock), Lleyton Roughly, Veronica Graham, Gayle Owens, Paul Murphy, Derek Lentfer, Shane Lewis, Peter Cochrane, Paul Gallagher, Ian Huxley, Mary O'Brien, Rod Hughes, Dr Anselm Okechukwu, Alfred Morris, Lee Denton, Fr Anthony Lemon, Jeannette Davies, Margaret Knight, Bev Merrick (NZ), Eamon McLaughlin, Chris Small, Cheryl Kinnane, Dot Dougherty, Sandy Beadman, Gwen Haynes, Sonya Moore, Moya Ellem (Melb), Fay Ellem, John McAnally, Darcy Patricks, Eli Hagar, Shona Owens, Jacinta Frawley-Werger, Amanda Crawford, Aileen Whalan, Bree Brossman, & all those in hospital & Aged Care facilities.

The Recently Deceased: including Michael Best (Lismore), Thomas Muir (Sydney), Dorothy Henry, Joan Knox, Peter Hartley, Dr Bill Costello, Bishop Pat Power (Canberra), Fr Frank Mulcahy, Ray O'Shea.

Those whose Anniversaries are at this time: including +Norman Gilroy, Card. Archbishop of Sydney, Fr John Dalton, Fr John Curran, Fr John FitPatrick, Laurie & Dinny Moran, Dennis Reilly, John Moran, Keith Ellem, Marie Murnane, Kevin Holmes, Gordon & Mary Solomon, Rene Pidcock, Marie Small, Elsie Sebbens, Julius Jongko, Nance Rathborne.

Other Mass Intentions: including Don Bellamy,

Mass Attendance

*Anyone who is unwell **should not** attend Mass.

*Hand sanitiser will continue to be available.

Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Parish Notices

Friday 24th October - Charismatic Prayer

Group Meeting at McCarthy Centre.

12.45pm to 3pm.



Welcome
Evie Graham
and

Shepherd Graham

to the Catholic Community
through the Sacrament of Baptism.

November Mass Intentions



NOVEMBER
THE MONTH OF ALL SOULS

November is dedicated to the Month of Holy Souls.

Envelopes are available to submit Mass Intentions.

Please ensure all names are clearly printed.

Envelopes can be placed in the Sunday Mass collections or dropped into the Parish Office.

Meeting at the McCarthy Centre

All Readers are requested to attend a meeting on **Wednesday, 22nd October at 5.30pm.**

You're Invited:

Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibition

You're warmly invited to a remarkable Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibition, created by St. Carlo Acutis and featuring over 130 scientifically documented Eucharistic miracles from around the world — some dating back to the 8th century.

Hosted by St Brigid's Primary School and Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Kyogle, the exhibition will be open all week from **20–26 October. The official opening and talk will take place on Monday 20 October at 9am.**

Special events throughout the week will include Adoration and a Jubilee Mass. The exhibition will also include the opportunity to venerate a relic of St. Carlo Acutis. (See poster for more details)

Venue: Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall

Entrance: St Brigid's Primary School, Wiangaree Street entrance, Kyogle

Come and experience this inspiring witness to the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. **All are welcome.**

Contacts: Lauren 0414 640 431 | Jo 0407 706 454

2025 TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Clarence Valley Catholic Parish Trivia Night,
Saturday 15th November
7.00pm Questions start 7.30pm
in Cowper Catholic Church Hall.
\$10.00 per head—tables of 8



Organise your table for a fun night.

To book your table or for more information
phone : Ellen Moloney 0401021227 or Marie at
the Parish Office 66439017

BYO drinks and nibbles, supper will be provided.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming Catholic or completing their sacramental journey, please contact the **Parish Office on 6643 9017** or Email: **admin@clarencevalleyparish.com.au** with your details.

Schoolzine eNewsletter!

McAuley Catholic College

<https://mcaulcgrafton.schoolzineplus.com/archive>

St Mary's Primary School

<https://grafplism.catholic.edu.au/schoolnews?nid=118>

St Joseph's Primary School

<https://sgrafplism.catholic.edu.au/enews?nid=128>

Or View/Download a PDF copy from the websites.

MISSIONARIES OF

HOPE

among all peoples



In two weeks, we'll share with you the story of two inspiring missionaries, Sr Jane and midwife Kayula, who are helping to lift women like Sharon out of poverty and provide life-saving care to mothers like Grace and their newborn babies.

You have the opportunity to partner with this life-giving work, as your prayers and support are crucial in ensuring these programs can move forward.



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mission



Weekend October 25/26	St Mary's Church Saturday 6.00pm	St Mary's Church Sunday 8.00am	St Patrick's Church Sunday 9.30am	Mary Immaculate Sunday 8.00am
Commentator	Margaret Lee	Chiara Hassett	Jim O'Donohue	Ellen Moloney
Reader	Sr Colleen	Barry Whalley	Nancy Crook	Barry Walker
Extraordinary Minister	Ray Cavanagh	Monica McTaggart	Paul McCabe	
Morning Tea				All Parishioners

A reading from the book of Exodus 17: 8-13

As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage.

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses' arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm until sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 120

R: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes to the mountains: from where shall come my help? My help shall come from the Lord who made heaven and earth. **R.**

May he never allow you to stumble! Let him sleep not, your guard. No, he sleeps not nor slumbers, Israel's guard. **R.**

The Lord is your guard and your shade; at your right side he stands. By day the sun shall not smite you nor the moon in the night. **R.**

The Lord will guard you from evil, he will guard your soul. The Lord will guard your going and coming both now and for ever. **R.**

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy 3: 14 - 4: 2

This is how the people of God become equipped and ready for every good work.

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures - from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience - but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

Alleluia!

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 18: 1-8

God will see those who cry to him vindicated.

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."

And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon: Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Next Week's Readings: (30th Sunday of Year C)

Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-18; Psalm 32;

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

Safeguarding Children and Young People?

We ask that parents are accompanying and supervising their own children at all times. Your child's safety is our priority, please ensure you can always see them whilst on Parish grounds.

Safeguarding Office:
P: 02 6621 9444 (Chancery)
E: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

Planned Giving - Details for electronic funds transfer (EFT).

Banking details are:

Second Collection - for support of our Parish, including maintenance of our churches and parish buildings, parish office wages and administration expenses.

BSB: 062546 Account Number: 00800690

Name: Grafton Catholic Church.

First Collection - for the support of our clergy locally and in the Diocese.

BSB: 062546 Account Number: 00800535

Name: RC Lismore Presbyterium Grafton

In the details section of your online deposits please record your surname or Planned Giving number eg **Smith or PG500.**



Diocesan
Investment
Fund

Interest Rate—3.65%

For further information and our current interest rate, please visit our website.

The DIF contributes to the printing of the weekly newsletter.