

To Know, love and serve Jesus by sharing our gifts through our baptismal mission

193 St Andrews Rd Varroville NSW 2566 W: varroville.dow.org.au E: varroville@dow.org.au T: 96037373 / 0434705176

We acknowledge and respect the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand, the elders, past and present and all the Dharawal people. May we too be good stewards of this land.

29 SEPTEMBER 2024 TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

Entrance Antiphon

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

First Reading from the book of Numbers 11:25-29

Responsorial Psalm Ps 18:8. 10. 12-14. R. v.9 (R.) The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart

Second Reading from the letter of St James 5:1-6

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel according to Mark 9:38-43. 45. 47-48

Communion Antiphon

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope.

Refugee and Migrant Sunday



As we celebrate our Refugees and Migrants both in our community and worldwide on this Sunday, Pope Francis reiterates his call to us to open our hearts and doors to our brothers and sisters on the move, reminding us that "the encounter with the migrant, as with every brother and sister in need, is also an encounter with Christ."

"Christ himself has said so many times," Pope Francis noted, "and the Scriptures are full of references to this reality." Recalling the 2019 Message for the *World Day of the Poor*, the Pope says: "Every encounter along the way represents an opportunity to meet the Lord; it is an occasion charged with salvation, because Jesus is present in the sister or brother in need of our help. In this sense, the poor save us, because they enable us to encounter the face of the Lord."

Pope Francis concludes his Message with a prayer: God, Almighty Father, we are your pilgrim Church journeying towards the Kingdom of heaven. but as if we were foreigners. Every foreign place is our home, yet every native land is foreign to us. Though we live on earth, our true citizenship is in heaven. Do not let us become possessive of the portion of the world You have given us as a temporary home, together with our migrant brothers and sisters, toward the eternal dwelling you have prepared for us. Open our eyes and our hearts so that every encounter with those in need becomes an encounter with Jesus, Your Son and our Lord. Amen.

Worship: Mass and Devotions				
Sunday Mass	Weekday Mass	Devotions		
Saturday Vigil: 6pm	Mon, Tues, Wed Mass at 9am	Adoration with the Rosary: Saturday 9.30am		
Sunday: 9.30 am and 5pm	Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm	Divine Mercy Devotion: Third Sunday at 3pm		
Filipino Mass: Third Sunday at 11.15am	Fri and Sat Mass at 9am	Alliance of the 2 Hearts Mass and Devotion: First Friday of each month from 7.30pm		
Samoan Mass: First Sunday at 12 noon	Healing Mass on the first Saturday of each month at 9am	Reconciliation: Saturday 11 am—12		
	Contact us Parish Priest: Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD Parish Associate: Sr "Jill" Girlie Sudario, CM	Office Hours Tuesday-Friday: 9.30am-12.30pm Phone: 9603 7373 / 0434 705 176 Email: varroville@dow.org.au Website: varroville.dow.org.au		

Prayer intentions

For the sick and homebound: Reg Bucknell, Mary Ponnapalam, Peter Presdee, Matthew Johnson, Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Amanda and John Meredith, Reg Gardner, Sr Heather Burke, Marie and Barry Atkins, Carol and Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Joe Spinnato, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys, Pat Stewart. Catherine, Elizabeth & Monika May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain and affliction.

For our recently dearly departed: Agnes Spooner, Neil Goodhew.

<u>Those whose anniversaries occur at this time</u>: John McDermott, Mary Carmel, Tracey Bautovich Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.

Our Community: Rosters

6 October 2024	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm	
Welcomers				
weicomers	Paul Q, Lori Q & Myra C	Martin H, Violeti H & Paul T	Beatrix R & Michael S	
Altar Servers	Ryan P, Amana P, Elijah P & Eliana	Orly S	Stuart L & Nathan S	
Readers	Loretta B & Gerard B	Irene R & Lee S	Tim S & Fev S	
		Steve L, Sarah L, Tereza Canoy		
Refreshments	Estela M & Myra C	& Tess Valesini	Margaret A, Geoff A & Danni M	
Altar Linen	Berna P	CLOTW:		
Flowers	Maree R & Asinate M	Church Vacuuming	Tess Vergara & Effie D	
Counters	Richard K & Michael R	Foyer Cleaning	Patricia W & Parish Office	
Meetings and Gatherings				

Friendship Group meets on the first Tuesday of each month after the 9am Mass for morning tea. All are welcome and bring a friend.

Readers Ministry Meeting meets on the last Tuesday of every 2 months at 7.30pm via zoom.

Holy Family Fellowship meets on the 4th Saturday at 7pm.

Book Club meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 10am.

Children's Mass is on the 5th Sunday of the month:

Wrap with Love Knitting group meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 11am

Faith Circles meets every Monday via zoom at 2pm & 7.30pm.

Bible Reflection group meets every Monday at 10am.

Children's Choir will meet on 3rd Friday at 7.30pm.

Children's Ministry Gathering will meet on the 4th Sunday from 3– 5 pm.

"Ascent" Youth Ministry All 13-17 years old are invited to join every fortnight on the 2nd & 4th Friday at 6:30 pm.

Pastoral Care Team meets on 27 September at 9.30am.

ALPHA meets every Tuesday at 7pm and Friday at 5pm.

Our Parish Notices	Community Notices	
Major Cash Raffle: We still have 45 books of tickets available so if you haven't already taken home a book of tickets please take one today. The draw will be held on Sunday 13 October. Remember to return your books before the draw. ****** A day retreat: Benedictine Values – fertile soil for an integral ecology, Saturday 5 October 2024 Time is moving on and the cry of the earth and the poor is intensifying. The appeal of Pope Francis in "Laudato Si" and "Laudato Deum" is now an imperative. There is a wisdom in the Rule of St Benedict that can provide fertile soil for an integral ecology for our time. Come, let us listen to Mother Earth during this day of retreat. Presenter: Sr Mechtild Crawford; Register at https:// www.jamberooabbey.org.au/events/2024-10-05/ ****** Blessing of Animals, Monday, 7 October at 9:30am As usual, the Blessing of Animals will take place on the Monday of the long weekend, 7 October at 9:30am at the Parish of Saint Michael, 325 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul. The blessing takes place in the courtyard next to the church. All animals under 900kg and their carers are welcome, though please keep fleas well-muzzled. The feast of St Francis of Assisi is on Friday, 4 October, with Mass at 9:30am – All animals are welcome. ******	miss this life-changing father and son weekend! Spots are limited to just 25 fathers with their sons aged between 12 and 17 years. This is a unique opportunity for dads and their sons to embark on a quest of discovery with Robert Falzon and the team from menALIVE. Register online: https://dow.sh/ggm24 ****** Want Netflix for Catholics? Get 'FORMED' Free for DoW Parishioners; Join hundreds of other families around the Diocese of Wollongong in nurturing your faith at home, in your own time and at your own pace? FORMED is a fantastic Faith Formation Resource library website containing thousands of faith formation documentaries, courses, movies, audio, and books covering all aspects of our Catholic faith. Materials for both adults and children. To register for FORMED: Go to www.formed.org Click 'Sign up' button Click 'Sign Up as a Parishioner' Type Catholic Diocese of Wollongong into the box on the left	
Springtime Creative Retreat, 11 - 13 October 2024 Come and experience the healing power of creativity as we step into the blossoming wonders of Spring. Nurture your inner self and watch the boundless possibilities that emerge from spending time co-creating with God. Venue: Carmel House, 345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW; Bookings: http://www.trybooking.com/CNSWN (by 27 September); Contact: Judy - mglsisters.sydney@gmail.com	***** A vocation view: The Kingdom of Heaven is built by mutual cooperation, not competition. Work together to build the Kingdom, regardless of when God calls. (Matthew 20:1-16) If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au	
Marriage Encounter Weekend: We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on 25-27 October, 2024 at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a Covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville. Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au. If you would like more information about Worldwide Marriage Encounter, please see the WWME website at www.wwme.org.au. ******	Social Justice Points Today, in a culture where people struggle against one another for dominance and become obsessed with what is visible, the Church is called to echo the words of Jesus, to bring them to life again in all their potency 'XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS' (Synod on Synodality) Synthesis Report. ****** The Journey, 29 September – Your Diocesan Weekly Podcast On The Journey This Week: Fr Bernard Gordon says that the readings highlight embracing generosity and rejoicing in the gifts of others. Mother Hilda has the story of Dom Columba Marmion. Plus, Fr Tony Percy, FrDave Callaghan MGL, and Fr Mike Delaney. The Journey podcast available at www.jcr.org.au.	
Growing Good Men Father and Teenage Son Weekend Experience 25–27 October 2024 Cataract Activity Centre, Appin One of the most important influences in the lives of men is the relationship they had with their father or significant father figure. The encouragement and affirmation that this relationship could, and should, provide, is a key ingredient for how young men view themselves and embrace their faith and gifts as they take their place in the world. Don't		

Get Connected with what is on around the Diocese Every week, there are many great opportunities to be part of special events, courses, free resources and to nurture and encourage you and your family in your faith. Stay informed by subscribing at dow.sh/stayingconnected or visit dow.sh/weeklybulletin to see a full list of notices sent to Parishes.

Holy Gospel according to Mark 9: 38-43, 45, 47,-48

Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off.

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel Reflection by Diane Bergant

The question of legitimacy of ministry is not a new one. There is a certain amount of tension between the institutional and the charismatic aspects of the church. To say that one is Spirit-driven and the other is not is to misunderstand Jesus' promise to remain with the church until the end of time. God normally calls ministers through the structures of the community. The authorities of the church are usually the ones who make the ultimate decisions about the needs of the church, how these needs are to be met, and who is to meet them. That is one of the responsibilities of their office.

However, God calls in other ways as well. A solid biblical tradition maintains that the Spirit is not confined to human structure or custom. We see this in the judges, the prophets, and even the early kings. The Pentecost story describes the coming of the Spirit upon all people – sons and daughters, young and old, slaves and free. When God calls it is up to us to recognise that call and to test its spirit. Perhaps the primary criterion we have for judging is the biblical measure: By their fruits you shall know them.

Today we also see that those who benefit from exploitation of the vulnerable will reap the fruits of their sin. This warning stems from the belief in the justice of God. Just as we believe that God will not allow the righteous to go unrewarded, so we are confident that neither will the wicked escape punishment.

