

## NEWS OF WAGGA WAGGA DIOCESE

**95 YEARS OF LCMS IN WAGGA:** On Monday 30 August we had the 95th anniversary of the arrival of the sisters of the Little Company of Mary in Wagga. The life of Wagga without them and Calvary is almost impossible to conceive. We are indebted and deeply grateful. The COVID restrictions meant that celebrations were subdued. Among the things that could be done was a tree being planted. We hope that more elaborate celebrations can occur in late November when we celebrate 95 years of the hospital being in existence. The Diocese sent flowers to each of the sisters still in Wagga.

**SPIRIT WEAVERS:** Spirit Weavers Wagga Wagga Diocese, formerly the Council for Australian Catholic Women (CACW), launched its website on 28 August 2021. I invite you to explore this excellent site at <https://spiritweaverswagga.com.au/> Spirit Weavers "aims include spiritual growth, learning together, friendship, connecting, community building, challenging ourselves and others, guiding our journey, praying and celebrating" and its website "promote activities and events of, by, and for women across the Diocese and provide a range of useful resources to foster creative action in spirituality and growth."

**ORDINATION:** Connell Perry will be ordained priest on Saturday 11 September. It would be wonderful and important for us all to gather, if possible, on this happy day for the diocese and for Connell and his family. We have contingency plans for conducting the ordination in a COVID safe and lockdown compliant way should the lockdown orders still be in place. The live streaming link is: <https://www.thestreamingguys.com.au/production/rev-connell-perry/>

**COVID-19:** The community of Wilcannia is suffering as COVID-19 continues to spread throughout the community. As of the 31st of August there were 75 active cases of COVID-19 in Wilcannia. 11% of the population are now infected with COVID-19. Please keep people of Wilcannia in your prayer.



### LAST WEEKS DIRECT GIVING

1st Collection \$35 — 2nd Collection \$695  
Thank you for your much needed continued support.



## Sacred Heart Parish Koorungal 4th/5th September, 2021

*Pastor:* Fr John Baptist Pham

*Presbytery:* 71 White Avenue, Koorungal. 2650

*Phone:* 02 6922 6057

*Parish Sec:* Roxy Locke

(Mob 0408332559 10am to 2pm weekdays)

*Email:* koorungalchurch@sacredheartparish.net.au

### Sunday Mass Times:

Sat. Vigil: 5:30pm Sunday: 8am and 10am

### Daily Mass Times:

Monday, Wednesday: Friday 5:45pm

Tuesday-Thursday 7am.

Saturday: 9.30am

*Changes of Mass times on Chapel door.*

Reconciliation: Sat. 10.00am-10.30am

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sacredheartkooringal/>

**Web Site:** <https://kooringalchurchsacredheartparish.net/>

**Parish Council Sec:** Marsha Reilly

**Parish Council Email:** shkparishcouncil@gmail.com

**Safeguarding Officer:** Anne Brown Phone 6926 2937 Email annie1.temple@gmail.com

### **PRAY FOR:**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Dorothy Waterford, Frances Melloney Wade, Peter Koth, Sharon Taylor, Norm Corbett, Sr. Carmel Clancy pbvm, Steven Bourke, Joan Druett (Marian Pitura's mother), Dorothy Castle, Edmond Dearn, Debbie Cox, Mary Kennedy (Trish Goonan's sister in law) and Andrew Winslett (Marg and Harry Edmonds' grandson), Francis B. Conlan., Margaret Matthews (SHP Principal's mother), William Longmore, Lyle McPherson (Nola Baker's Brother-in-law), Ron Terry, Mike Fogarty, Sr. Barbara Hallam pbvm, David Pulver, Merle Simpson.

**ANNIVERSARIES/ REMEMBRANCES:** Eileen Gaynor.

**SICK:** Ilona Gortva, Laurence Roche, William Trist, Miriam McCoy, Joanne Huckel, Mary Condell, Shivaun Clifton, Barry Parnell, Hayden O'Callaghan, June Kimber, Denise Goonan, Adam Horsley, Shirley Gabriel, Brianna Papworth, Harry Edmonds, Jeff Edwards, Gwen Castle, Margaret Casey, Fran Ellis, Stephen Buchanan, Ian Buchanan, Liam Hatt (Claire Baker's grandson), Fr. Luke Fongi (Singapore), Jack Bradnam (David Pattison's Nephew), Bruce Price.

### **SEASON OF CREATION Sept 1st — Oct 4th**

"God of love, as we remain in your presence, make us capable of grasping the infinite beauty of what you have created, of all that comes from you, of your inexhaustible compassion. Increase our attention toward others and toward all creation. Teach us to discover the value of everything and make us bearers of peace in the human family." (Taizé)

## TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YR B

To prepare for next Sunday's Mass go to St Louis Jesuits – The Centre for Liturgy website: <http://liturgv.slu.edu> and/or Jerusalem Bible Translation of Readings: <http://www.universalis.com/>

**FIRST READING:** A reading from prophet *Isaiah 35:4-7*

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** *Ps 145:7-10*

*Praise the Lord, my soul!*

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger.

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan, but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age.

*Praise the Lord, my soul!*

**SECOND READING:** A reading from the letter of *James 2:1-5*

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats;' then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *Mt 4: 23*

**Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL:** *Mark 7:31-37*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of

Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.**

### GOSPEL CONNECTION

#### Poor in the World, Rich in Faith

A young man got up to speak at the local Newman Community Centre last week. At first, I thought he was speaking a language unknown to me; then gradually I realised he was speaking my language. But his ability to make himself understood was nearly strangled by an impediment that made him repeat himself in a loop, over and over, until he could complete a single sentence. I felt sad and frustrated for him.

When he finished speaking, an attractive young woman translated his message for him, emphasising his main points. And the crowd of adolescent students cheered his name, over and over. I realised that this young man, though impaired, was practically a cult figure among his peers. They knew him, liked him, accepted him. Though his tongue was bound, his spirit was free.

Many of us labour under impediments to love that seem insurmountable. They may be physical, mental, or spiritual in nature, grounded in past injury or present dysfunction. However impossible it seems that we may be freed from what hold us bound, the appearance is deceiving. Jesus cured a deaf mute with his spit. He holds the power to open hearts too.

*What part of your life is closed and bound?*

Embrace downward mobility in the world, upward mobility in the Kingdom. Find ways to share what you have with the materially and spiritually poor.

*Isn't it clear by now that God operates quite differently?*  
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