FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1.4-6
Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whom he has taken by his right hand
to subdue nations before him
and strip the loins of kings,
to force gateways before him
that their gates be closed no more:
It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,
of Israel my chosen one,
that I have called you by your name,
conferring a title though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, unrivalled;
there is no other God besides me.
Though you do not know me, I arm you
that men may know from the rising to the setting
of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7
(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.
1. O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. (R.)

2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise,
to be feared above all gods;
the gods of the heathens are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens. (R.)

3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts. (R.)

4. Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. (R.)

SECOND READING1 Thessalonians 1:1-5
From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ. We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ. We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Philippians 2:15. 16
Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-21
Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's. The Pharisees went away to work out between Them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

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Goulburn Mission Bulletin | 17/18 October 2026 Yr A

GOULBURN MISSION CONTACTS

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ALL SPP MASS CONDUCTED AT OLOF FOR NOW

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday -	*9am OLOF Goulburn*
	6pm SPP Goulburn
	6m Taralga
Sunday -	*8am (OLOF), 10 am (SPP)*
	9am (Crookwell)
Binda -	*10.30am (1st Sunday)*
Marulan -	*8.30am (2nd Sun)*
Tarago -	*8.30am (3rd Sun)*

CONFESSIONS: SPP CONFESSION CONDUCTED AT OLOF

SPP:	*11.30 -12 (Fri), Sat *5.15pm*
OLOF:	*9.30am -10am*
Taralga:	*5.30pm (1st Sat)*
Crookwell:	*8.30am (2nd Sun)*

**An hour earlier from May-August*

ADORATION & BENEDICTION

SPP 11am Fridays
Syra Malabar- Mass: *1st Tuesday 5.30pm OLOF*
3rd Wednesday 5.30pm OLOF
Guided Adoration Friday: *5.30-6pm OLOF*
Bungonia: *Rosary* *7pm, Thursday*
Taralga: *Rosary* *10am 1st Friday of the Month*

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday –	*5pm (OLOF),*
Wednesday, Thursday	*7.30 am (OLOF)*
Friday-	*9.30am (STM) Crookwell*
Friday -	*12 noon (SPP)*
Friday-	*10am 3rd Friday of Month (CTK)*
Sat -	*9am (OLOF)*

Mass Offerings: Please send to office or collection plate
ROSTER Coordinator- judith.stuart11@gmail.com

BAPTISMS/RCIA: QKR, WEBSITE OR OFFICE
PLEASE USE THIS QR CODE FOR PARISH INFORMATION

our website:

We are a safe Church.
We have committed to zero tolerance of abuse, and the Protection of all our people.

MISSON CALENDAR DATES

OCT 24: 10am Gardening Bee SPP Presbytery
OCT 24: The Chosen Screening & Youth Discussion 3.15
OCT 31: Collector Mass ST Bartholomew's 11am Saturday
NOV 01: MARIAN PROCESSION 10am-3pm
NOV 06: Taralga Adoration 10am
NOV 07: Memorial Mass OLOF 9am, Morning tea at 10
NOV 07: Men's Rosary crusade 10.30!!! OLOF Forecourt
NOV 07: Women's Breakfast Bishops dining Room 10am
NOV 08: Children's Liturgy and Parish morning tea.
NOV 11: Crookwell Morning Tea 10.30am Meeting room
NOV 18: Taralga Weekday Mass 10am CTK
NOV 18: Baptism Enrolment Evening 7.30pm

The Community of the Goulburn Mission works hard to ensure we are a Safe Community for all our parishioners, visitors and residence. Healthy inclusion and safeguarding practices are at the heart of our administration. Please read the information regarding inclusion and accessibility on your church notice boards as we strive to be compliant and compassionate.

REFLECTION

by Greg Sunter The gospel writer presents this episode as a deliberate attempt by the Pharisees to trap Jesus and turn the people against him. Their plan was a good one, with no apparent 'safe' answer: is it permissible (within Jewish tradition) to pay taxes to Caesar or not? If Jesus were to answer that it is not permissible to pay taxes then he would be identified as a rebel and a threat to Roman authority– leaving himself open to severe punishment. If he were to answer that it was permissible to pay the taxes he would have alienated a lot of his audience who resented the taxes imposed by Rome. Instead of falling into the trap set by the Pharisees, Jesus approaches the question in a completely different way. He asks them to show him the money with which they pay the tax. Immediately, he has turned the tables on them. He doesn't appear to carry any of the coin in question and yet the Pharisees' disciples carry them as a matter of habit. They are asking if it is permissible to pay the tax and yet freely carry the coin with which the tax is paid. Jesus shows up the hypocrisy of their question by forcing them to reveal their own position in the simple action of producing one of the Roman coins. Jesus then closes the dispute by instructing them to render (give) to Caesar what belongs to Caesar but, more importantly, render to God what belongs to God. In a very simple way Jesus has shown up the Pharisees' disciples as being collaborators with the Roman authority and placing that authority above the authority of God. He reminds the listeners that regardless of earthly authority, the first duty is owed to God.

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Goulburn Mission Notice board

MEMORIAL MASS
SATURDAY 7th NOVEMBER
9am -Our Lady of Fatima
A special Mass to remember our family and friends who have gone before us.
This will be followed by morning tea in the church grounds.
The men's Rosary Crusade will begin at

EARLY RELEASE SCREENING
OF
'THE CHOSEN' (PG)
3.15pm SPP Presbytery
Followed by youth discussion Group
4.30pm
Saturday October 24th

MARIAN PROCESSION
Sunday November 1st 2026
Ecumenical procession from 12.30 pm after the Open air Mass at 11.30am at Our Lady of Mercy Maronite Church, Crn Clinton & Bourke Sts Goulburn

All Parishioners interested in joining the choir for this event please contact Sr Gabrielle Owen on **0400 406 010**

CHOIR PRACTICE
6pm Tuesday 27th October, after mass at OLOF.

For volunteering for this massive undertaking please call the office to register your interest!
USUAL 10AM MASS CANCELLED
Gardening Bee 10am Sat October 24.
Weeding, cleaning & tidy up.
DONATIONS OF MULCH FOR THE SPP GARDEN WELCOME!!

Thank you to the folk that helped clear and tidy the faithful departed at rest in the Windellema Cemetery.
This place will be closed to further interment at a ceremony next month.
Date to be announced.

PARISH PLANTS
PARISH PLANTS is underway: Please donate plant containers etc for use in this endeavour. Plants for sale on Sunday the 15th November. Herb,. Veggie and flower seedlings selling for $2, $3 & $5 . Please bring Cash for sales. ENJOY

All Souls Days Mass
7.30am Monday 2nd November
St Partricks Cemetery Goulburn.
And
Crookwell Cemetery Crookwell.

"**Healing Prayer Masses and ministry in Canberra with Fr Rozo Palić - 5pm to 9pm, Friday 23 October** at **Mary Help of Christians Parish,** Hodgson Crescent, Pearce; and **8:30am to 4pm**, **Saturday 24 October** at **St Peter Chanel's Church**, Weston Street, Yarralumla. Fr Rozo is an internationally renowned healer and exorcist whose ministry has helped thousands of people across the world. He is returning to Australia after a successful visit last year - come with expectant faith! Free events - morning tea and lunch provided on Saturday. To assist with catering, please register for the Saturday event on TryBooking: https://www.trybooking.com/DQKHQ. All welcome, bring family and friends! For more info call Susanna 0419 902 293; Ana 0409 710 312."

SAFE CHURCH. SAFE PEOPLE.

Recently Deceased: Annette Tynan, Fr Sebestian Luistro, Susan Bolton, Majorie Izzard, William Clune, Betty McDonald, Theo Heynis**,** Lesley Marshall-Brown, John Hill (aka Jungle), Gerry McCoy, Denis Gulson, Clancy Branson, John Priora, Nilo Lumnatas, Celestina Aburto de Condezo,
Anniversaries: Melanie McDonald, Tom & Sheila Hogan, Michael & Madge Loughnan, Vonnie Loughlan, Martin & Briget Hogan, Patricia Bourke, Tony Gardner, Patricia Bourke, Nora Trompp, Graham White, Rod Pugh,
Prayers: Sheila Graham (100 yrs old!) Geoff Heffernan, Refugee and Migrant families**,** Adi and Lydia (Married**!**)**,** Peg McEntee, Mike Ryan*,* All Srs of Mercy Worldwide, Michelle Thamani**,** Fiona Williams, John Bowen, Brendan Walsh, Christopher White, Leslie King,

Entrance Antiphon: Cf Psalm 16:6,8
To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

Communion Antiphon: Mark 10:45
The Son of Man has come
to give his life as a ransom for many.

Article provided by Fr Michael Lim:

Mary and the Immaculate Conception

The Immaculate Conception is one of the four Marian dogmas of the Catholic Church. It teaches that the Blessed Virgin Mary, from the first moment of her conception, was preserved by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God from all stain of original sin. This grace was granted in view of the saving merits of Jesus Christ. The doctrine does not refer to the conception of Jesus in Mary's womb, but rather to Mary's own conception in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. The Church solemnly defined this dogma in 1854 when Pope Pius IX proclaimed Ineffabilis Deus.
Although the term "Immaculate Conception" is not explicitly found in Scripture, its foundations are deeply rooted in the Bible. After the Fall of Adam and Eve, God declared to the serpent: "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers" (Genesis 3:15). The Church has long understood this passage as the first prophecy of the Redeemer and His Mother. The complete opposition between the woman and the serpent suggests a total victory over sin.
Another important scriptural foundation is found in the Annunciation. The angel Gabriel greeted Mary with the words: "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you" (Luke 1:28). The Greek term kecharitomene indicates a fullness of grace bestowed by God. The Church sees in this greeting evidence of Mary's unique holiness and her preservation from sin from the beginning of her existence.

The early Church Fathers frequently compared Mary to Eve. St. Justin Martyr and St. Irenaeus of Lyons taught that just as Eve, while still innocent, cooperated in humanity's fall through disobedience, Mary cooperated in humanity's redemption through obedience and faith. St. Irenaeus wrote that "the knot of Eve's disobedience was untied by Mary's obedience." This comparison laid the groundwork for the Church's later understanding of Mary's unique holiness.
During the Middle Ages, theologians reflected more deeply on this mystery. While there was debate about how Mary could be preserved from original sin and still need Christ as Savior, Blessed John Duns Scotus provided a decisive explanation. He taught that Mary was redeemed by Christ in a more sublime way: not by being freed from sin after contracting it, but by being preserved from it altogether through the foreseen merits of Christ's Passion. Thus, Mary was saved by Christ more perfectly than any other human being.
On December 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX solemnly defined the dogma:
"The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, was preserved immune from all stain of original sin."
Four years later, in 1858, the Blessed Virgin appeared to Saint Bernadette Soubirous at Lourdes and identified herself with the words: "I am the Immaculate Conception." This affirmation greatly strengthened popular devotion to the doctrine.
The Immaculate Conception reveals God's saving plan and the power of His grace. Mary was prepared from the beginning to become the worthy Mother of the Son of God. Her sinlessness was entirely God's gift, not her own achievement. She stands as the first and most perfect fruit of Christ's redemption and the model of holiness for all believers.
For Catholics, the Immaculate Conception is a source of hope and inspiration. In Mary, we see what God's grace can accomplish when it is fully welcomed. Preserved from sin and filled with grace, she points all people to her Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world.