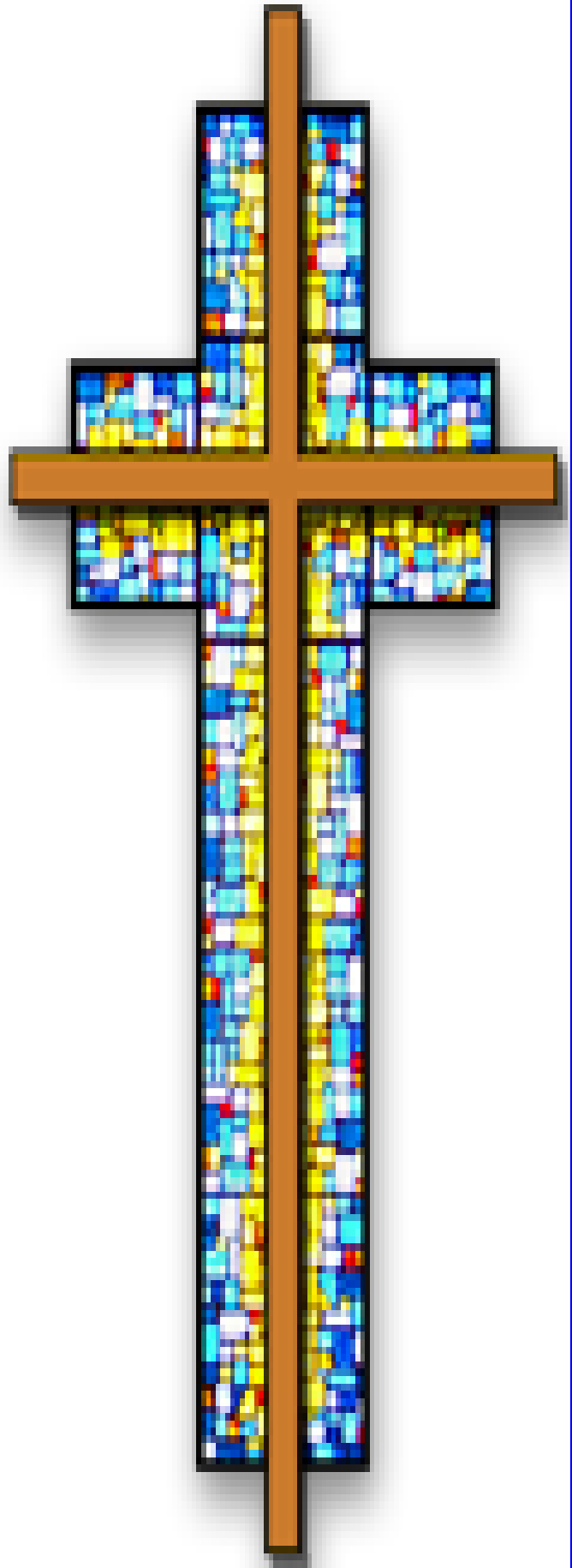


*Mass of Celebration
To acknowledge the
Work Of the
Sisters of Mercy
In the
Bathurst Diocese*

Thursday 8th June 2017

*Celebrated by
Bishop Michael McKenna*



Mass of Thanksgiving

Introduction before Mass – *Mr Michael Croke*

Entrance Procession

Heart of Jesus, Heart of Mercy (*Michael Herry*)

Greeting

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: Peace be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Penitential Rite - Confetior

Kyrie (*Sung-Mass of St Francis*)

Gloria (*Sung-Mass of St Francis*)

Opening Prayer

First Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

Read by Sr Josepha Fish

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time.

This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:1. 14-21. R. v.21

Sung Response: I praise you, Lord, for you have answered me.

Lucy Hayden Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. (R.)

Molly Hayden The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,
but not doomed to die. (R.)

Lucy Hayden Open to me the gates of holiness:
I will enter and give thanks.
This is the Lord's own gate
where the just may enter.
I will thank you for you have given answer
and you are my saviour. (R.)

Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:11

(Sung) Alleluia, alleluia!

Leader: I have told you this, says the Lord,
that my joy may be in you,
and that your joy may be complete.

(Sung) Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 15:9-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Rev Charles Applin: Jesus said to his disciples:

As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you.
Remain in my love.
If you keep my commandments
you will remain in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments
and remain in his love.
I have told you this
so that my own joy may be in you
and your joy be complete.
This is my commandment:
love one another,
as I loved you.
A man can have no greater love
than to lay down his life for his friends.
You are my friends,
if you do what I command you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Homily

Prayers of the Faithful

Bishop: God calls us to respond in faith to the risen Lord. Let us bring our needs and those of the world before the God of all.

Sr Elaine McTiernan: We pray for the Church and our leader Pope Francis; that the Spirit will strengthen us to continue serving in Jesus' footsteps. We pray to the Lord.

Sr Michelle Farrugia: We pray for Bishop Michael and all World and Religious leaders; may their service reflect mercy and compassion for all, especially those most vulnerable. We pray to the Lord.

Mackillop College: We pray for all who have dedicated their lives to helping others, especially the Sisters of Mercy. May God continue to give them strength to fulfill their calling. We pray to the Lord.

La Salle Academy: We pray for a growing spirit of mercy among all family members, especially children and the youth; may their lives embody and proclaim God's love through their actions. We pray to the Lord.

James Sheahan: We pray for the sick and the suffering; that they may experience the love and compassion of Christ even in the midst of their illnesses and needs. We pray to the Lord.

St Philomena's: We pray for our faithful departed; may God's mercy be upon them. We pray to the Lord.

Bishop: Lord God, you breathe your Spirit on your people and strengthen the hearts of believers. Hear our prayers, which we make in the name of Christ Jesus, who is Lord for ever.

Presentation of the Gifts:

St Mary's School - Orange
St Joseph's School - Manildra
Members of CEO

Create A New Heart (Trish Watts / Monica Brown)

Prayer over the Offerings

Sanctus – *Sung: Mass of St Francis*

The Mystery of Faith - *Sung: Mass of St Francis*

*We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.*

Great Amen – *Sung: Mass of St Francis*

Angus Dei – *Sung: Mass of St Francis*

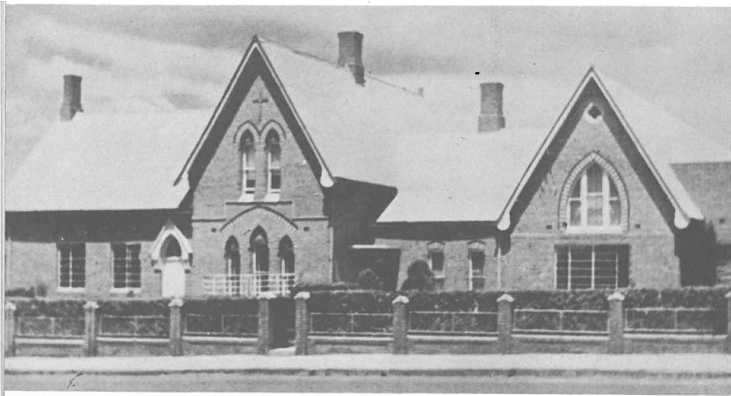
Distribution of Holy Communion

Our Supper Invitation (Kevin Bates)
Given For You (Michael Mangan)

Prayer after Communion

Final Blessing and Dismissal

Take The Word of God with You (Christopher Walker / James
Harrison)



The first Convent of Mercy, Summer Street, Orange.

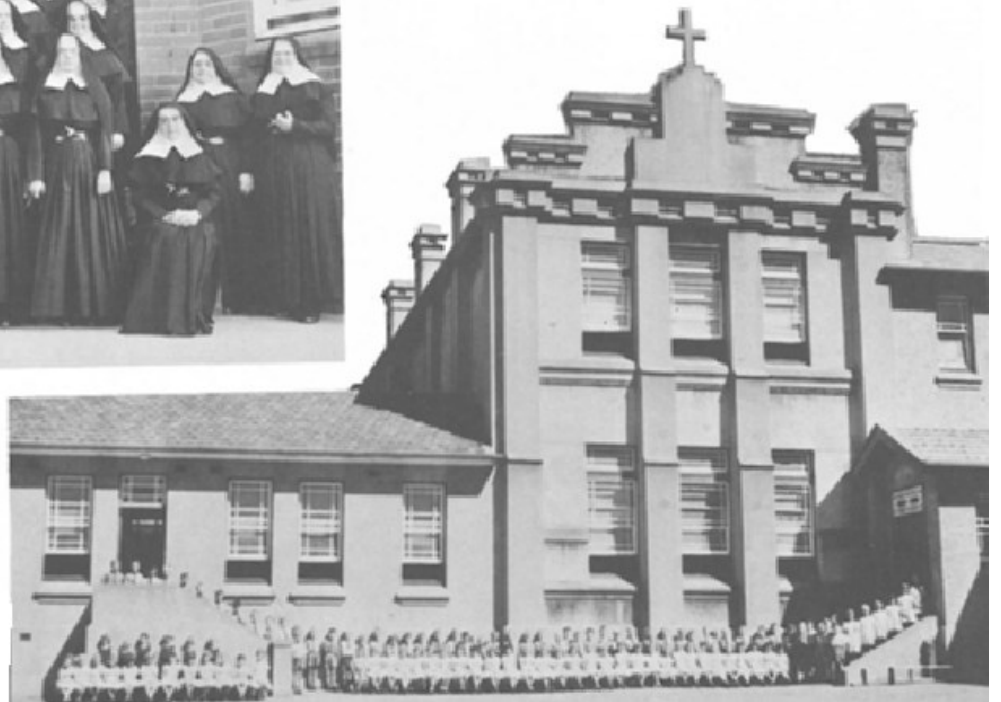


St. Joseph's Mount on the day it was blessed in 1909.



Community, 1966.

Infants' and Primary Schools, Orange.



The new "Santa Maria" High School.

The Foundations in the Bathurst Diocese

1875-1966

1875	Mount St Joseph's, Carcoar
1875	St Matthew's, Mudgee
1878	Sacred Heart Convent, Orange
1880	St Patrick's, Dubbo
1883	St Ignatius', Wellington
1949	Our Lady of the Rosary, Glen Davis
1956	St Agnes' Hostel, Bathurst
1966	St Catherine's Convent, Bathurst

Convents in the West

With the advent of all these ardent young Sisters from Ireland, the Bathurst Mother House began making foundations in other parts of the Diocese which, in those days, was a vast one.

Australian girls, too, were beginning to catch the flame of enthusiasm for God's cause from the example of the Irish girls.

The first Australian postulant, Sister M de Paul Drinan, was professed in January, 1874. Sr M Alphonsus Healey was the next Australian girl to enter. The flame has burned brightly from that day till now, and will, with God's grace, be as inextinguishable as the fire that St Patrick lit on Tara's Hill.