



# St Peter Julian Eymard Catholic Church Mooroolbark Parish

*We are a Welcoming, Eucharistic and Spirit Filled Community*

SPJE IS A CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENT

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE WURUNDJERI PEOPLE, THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THIS LAND

## 16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

19th July 2026 Issue No: 23

### PARISH CALENDAR

#### JULY

18/19th

**16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**New Thanksgiving Envelopes  
Commence this weekend**

Sat.

Private Baptism—11:00am

**FIRST EUCHARIST WEEK. 1**

6 pm & 11 am Mass

Sun.

Baptism—9:00am

24th Fri.

Grandparents Day Mass—

St Richards Hall 9:15am

25/26th

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Catholic Missions—Propagation  
of the Faith Appeal

**FIRST EUCHARIST WEEK. 2**

6 pm & 11 am Mass

Baptism— 9:00am

29th Wed

Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting—5:00pm Church foyer

Youth Practice 6.00—8.00pm

31st Fri

#### AUGUST

1/2nd

**18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Hall Hire— 11am—5pm

**FIRST EUCHARIST WEEK. 3**

6pm & 11am

Youth Mass—11:00am

3rd Mon

SPJE Feast Day Mass 3 pm

Church

6th Thur

Baptism Preparation Meeting

7pm Church—Iris Gale

7th Fri

Feast Day Mary Mackillop Mass

9:15am

### REFLECTION

St Paul's words in our second reading this week always bring me great hope.

So often we come to prayer with big intentions, hoping to give our full attention to the Lord, only to find ourselves distracted and struggling to concentrate. Sometimes we just don't know what words to pray, especially when situations we are tangled in are truly dire. At other times we may not be able to find words when the pure joy we feel in life's super special moments absolutely overwhelms us. St Paul assures us today that whenever we turn our hearts to our God, no matter what the situation, the Holy Spirit rescues us in our weakness, picking up our messy prayers and perfecting them. He promises us that the Holy Spirit, present within our most secret depths, 'expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words'. It is so heartening, and so comforting to know that the Holy Spirit truly understands our innermost thoughts, faithfully gathering our contrition, our praise, our thanksgiving and our petitions and presenting them to our Father 'through Him, with Him and in Him'. With a simple glance towards God, our inner-most thoughts, dreams, fears and joys are faithfully carried directly to the Heart of the Holy Trinity. Stunning!

*Debbie Edwards*

**St Peter Julian Eymard Parish  
Mooroolbark Parish**

**Parish Priest  
Fr. Joseph**

**Parish Secretary  
Mrs. Adriana De Leo**

**Parish Office**  
234 Hull Road (PO Box 2) Mooroolbark 3138  
**Telephone: 9723 4275**

**Office Hours:**

**Wed to Fri - 9.30am - 3.30pm**

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/mooroolbark>

Email: [mooroolbark@cam.org.au](mailto:mooroolbark@cam.org.au)

**Parish Hall - Contact Parish Office**

**SPJE Parish School**  
Reay Road, Mooroolbark 3138  
Telephone 9725 0595

**School Principal – Mr. Greg Thomas**  
Email: [office@spjemooroolbark.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@spjemooroolbark.catholic.edu.au)  
<http://www.spjemooroolbark.catholic.edu.au>

**St. Richard's Parish School**  
672 Mt. Dandenong Rd Kilsyth, 3137  
Telephone 9728 4378  
Email: [office@srkilsyth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@srkilsyth.catholic.edu.au)  
**School Principal - Ms. Larissa Boyhan**  
<http://www.srkilsyth.catholic.edu.au>

**Normal Mass Times at SPJE**

Weekday Masses  
Tues & Wed : 9.30 am  
*Rosary after Tuesday morning Mass*  
Saturday: No morning Mass  
**Saturday: 6.00 pm (Vigil)**  
**Sunday: 9.00 am**  
**Sunday: 11.00 am**

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 5.15 pm  
by arrangement with Priest.

**Sacraments (Baptism, Weddings)**  
Ring Parish Office 9723 4275

**St Peter Julian Church  
QR CODE**

For church donations &  
Church Thanksgiving  
Payments.



**WEEKDAY MASS & ROSARY**

Tue Mass 9.30am followed by Rosary.  
Wed Morning Mass 9.30am

**This Week's Readings - 19th July**

Wis 12:13, 16-19: Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16:R.  
Rom 8:26-27: Mt 13:24-43:

**Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for parishioners and friends who are ill,  
especially

**Margaret Hicks, Peter Guinan, Andrew Badawy,  
Michelle Windsor, Carolanne (CAE) Sanders.**

**✠ Remembrance Diary ✠**

We remember those who have recently died and all  
those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

**18 to 24th July**

Ruby Fawkner, Mary Rose Barlow-Barker,  
Emmanuel Bartoli, Keith Pullin, John Kennedy,  
Dennis Stockdale, Rosa Stevens, Maureen Harris,  
Nicholas Corken, Bill Robinson, Irene Malone,  
Maryann Bruce, Mary Dykes, Alan Morton, Riza  
Aranco, Arthur Corker, Gerard Kleverkamp,  
Waldemar Zangmeister, Frances Rigby, Nancy  
Takacs, Ronald Almond, Lil Briggs, Gary Goodwin,  
Ampora Mangahas, Margaret Rigby, Thomas  
Commene, Avon Fatur, Sr Pat Murphy, Narcisa  
Montejo, Marlene Cabral.

**Parish Child Safeguarding Team**

If you have any child safety concerns please  
contact the following team members

**Albert Pangestu**  
[albert.pangestu@gmail.com](mailto:albert.pangestu@gmail.com)

Or call the Parish Office  
phone 9723 4275

**Safeguarding Policy**

All children under the age of 16 years old  
must be accompanied by an adult to the rest  
room/toilet. *Thank you*

## ROSTERS

### Counters—Month of July

George Nantes & Fr Joseph

### Flowers— 18/19th, 25/26th July

Anna Waite

### Church Cleaning—Month of July

Iris Gale & Pat Glover

*(Please collect church key from parish office  
Wed, Thur & Friday, 9.30am - 3.30pm)*

### Readers & Commentators 18/19th July

6.00pm Dympna Beard & Angela Stainwall  
9.00am Vanessa Walker & Nathaniel Mack  
11.00am Geraldine O'Hare & Elizabeth Acabado

### Readers & Commentators 25/26th July

6.00pm Bernadette Brown & Mitchell Mazarella  
9.00am Lilette de la Harpe & Karen Broughton  
11.00am Jun & Caroline Romero

### Musicians 18/19th July

6.00pm Shelly & Co  
9.00am Filipino Group  
11.00am Zomi Group

### Musicians 25/26th July

6.00pm Paul & Co  
9.00am Florencia & Co  
11.00am Shelly & Co

## NEW THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Thank you to all parishioners who continue to donate to Thanksgiving.

For those who contribute via Envelopes please collect your new set from the church foyer this weekend.

These envelopes commence on the weekend of **18/19th July 2026.**

If you have any queries please contact the parish office via email at [mooroolbark@cam.org.au](mailto:mooroolbark@cam.org.au)

*Thank you.*

## CHILDSAFETY

A REMINDER ONLINE TRAINING IS REQUIRED FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS

To access the training use this link in your browser

You will need access to your email to register.

<https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/>

## LADIES LUNCHEON

TUESDAY 4th. AUGUST

DORSET GARDENS HOTEL

we will meet at 12pm for 2.30 lunch

For enquiries please contact

Philomena Turner 0417 208 077

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Congratulations Jack Hannon who celebrated his **107th** Friday 17th July.

Amazing achievement and we wish you many more birthday's.



## PROPIGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL Next Weekend 25/26th July



Free call: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/united](http://catholicmission.org.au/united)

For Yamikani\*, getting to school means walking long distances in pain, often without enough food or strength to make the journey. For many families in vulnerable and remote areas like rural Malawi, education has become an impossible choice.

But there is hope. Led by Fr Matthew Semba, a new primary school is being built, offering children a safe place to learn, grow, and look ahead with renewed possibility.

This World Mission Month, you are invited to share in this mission, standing with families as they rebuild their lives and create a brighter future for their children.

\*Name changed for privacy



We welcome to our Parish through Baptism

**Jorja Jowitt  
Ayla & Noah Payne**

Who will receive the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament celebrated this weekend, we support & guide them throughout their life.



# GOD'S TIME IS NOT MY TIME



As a young missionary priest, I wrote a song in a small wooden room on a humid night in the Fiji Islands. I wrote it in English and Spanish. At the time, I was barely beginning to understand the world, yet I was convinced that my time in it was drawing to a close. Illness, exhaustion, and the quiet loneliness that sometimes visits missionaries had wrapped themselves around me. I felt fragile, like a candle flickering in a restless wind.

So, I wrote what I thought might be my final prayer - a song that began with the words: "If I go, let me go with a smile on my face ..."

It was not a lament. It was a surrender. A way of placing my trembling, unfinished life into the hands of the One who had sent me so far from home. I remember the moon that night - how it hung above the palms like a patient witness. I remember the faces of those I served, the laughter of children running barefoot along the coral paths, the quiet dignity of the poor who carried joy as if it were a birthright. I wanted to take all of that with me. I wanted my last breath to be gratitude.

But God, in His gentle and disarming way, had other plans.

Thirty years have passed since that night. I am in the USA now, still walking, still working, still discovering that the horizon stretches farther than I ever imagined. The song I wrote as a farewell has become something else entirely: a reminder that my sense of time is not God's. What I thought was an ending was only a pause, a moment of reshaping, a doorway into a longer journey.

Looking back, I see that the song was never about dying. It was about learning to live with open hands. It was about trusting that love, the love I received

and tried to give, would outlast my fears. It was about believing that joy is not naïve but necessary; that the poor - about whom I once asked God to let me "feel their joy" - would continue to teach me to see the world with unguarded eyes.

Time has softened me. It has also sharpened me. I no longer rush to interpret what God is doing.

I no longer assume I understand the seasons of my life. I have learned that God's timing is not a schedule but a mystery, unfolding quietly like dawn over the Pacific.

***Looking back, I see that the song was never about dying. It was about learning to live with open hands. It was about trusting that love, the love I received and tried to give, would outlast my fears. It was about believing that joy is not naïve but necessary; that the poor - about whom I once asked God to let me "feel their joy" - would continue to teach me to see the world with unguarded eyes.***

And so, I keep the song close. Not as a farewell, but as a compass. A reminder that whenever my time truly comes, whether soon or far, I want to meet it the same way I wanted to meet it then: with a smile, with peace, with gratitude for the people and places that shaped me, and with the certainty that love, if it is alive, can still make this old world better for everyone.

In the end, the song was right. But the timing was God's.

*If I go, let me go,  
with a smile on my face, with the sun, with the wind  
or the moon above.*

*If I go, I wanna go,  
with a smile on your face, with the love and the peace  
that you gave me every day, if I go.*

18 | JULY 2026

THE FAR EAST MAGAZINE



**Save for a  
Greater  
Reward**

Help fund projects across Catholic organisations, including parishes, hospital wings and classrooms, with a CDF Community Fund savings account.

With competitive interest rates,  
it's a greater reward than money alone.

Visit [www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund](http://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund)  
or call our team on 1800 134 135 for more information

