



Kerang, Cohuna and Pyramid Hill CATHOLIC PARISHES

Vision-Mission: A welcoming faith-filled Community, guided by the Holy Spirit Strengthened through the celebration of the Holy Mass, developing our strong and caring foundation.

As you take your next step, remember our past and present ancestors.

Fr Arun Korlakanti SHS.

Parish Administrator

0407 393 875

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St Patrick's Kerang
90 Nolan St., Kerang

St Mary's Cohuna
King George St., Cohuna

St Patrick's Pyramid Hill
5 Victoria St., Pyramid Hill

St Joseph's Serpentine
19 Chapel St., Serpentine

Parish Office

92 Nolan Street, Kerang, VIC 3579

Office Hours

Tuesday 9:00am to 5:00pm

Ph: (03) 5452 1041

Parish Email:

stpatker@bigpond.com or
kerang@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
stmaryscohuna@bigpond.com

Parish Website:

<https://www.catholicparish.app/kerang>

Parish Secretaries

Kerang: Marianne Kelly
Gerardine Prendergast
Cohuna: Kylie Doyle
Pyramid Hill: Rachel Cain

Parish Council Chairperson:

Kerang: Kyra Laughlin
Cohuna: Peter Doyle
Pyramid Hill: Carmen Cauchi

Kerang Finance Chairperson:

Combined Parish Pastoral Associate:
Gerardine Prendergast

3rd Sunday in Lent, Year A

7th & 8th March 2026

Looking at the Readings

For Jesus the forty days in the wilderness was a testing time for him, confronting the devil and temptations (First Sunday Gospel, Matt 4:1-11). For the Israelites, the forty years in the desert was a testing time for them as they confronted a pursuing army, hunger, pestilence (snakes and scorpions), the attacking Amalekites and now thirst. Moses interceded for them to God, God delivered. For the Israelites their relationship with God deepened. God made a covenant with them with the gift of the Ten Commandments, beginning with the words: "I am the Lord your God" (Exodus 20:1) and a vow that he would bring them into the promised land.

Today we come in touch with the God of Salvation and the Life of Christ. We, too, have the time of testing, time to deepen our faith through this Lenten season. We, too, experience the God who saves and the promises of Christ Jesus as expressed by St Paul in the second reading: "Since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory." (Romans 5:1-2,5-8)

Jesus meets the woman at the well in the passage from the Gospel according to John. Why did Jesus stay there when the disciples went into the town? Why was the woman at the well at midday, not early in the morning with the other women? How awkwardly did the conversation commence! Yet it became a great opportunity and a moment of conversion and faith. The woman came a missionary to the townsfolk, and they believed her and remarked: "we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world." (John 4:52)



We have a "Children's Corner" set up at the back of the Church. There are colouring pages and crayons/pencils that can be used at the little table or taken back to where their parents are seated.



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

We are a child safe parish. Any children, young persons and vulnerable adults have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with our Parish Child Safety Officers (03) 5452 1041.

The Parish Calendar & News

March

Friday 6th:	11.00 Anointing Mass in Kerang *World Day of Prayer 10.00am Cohuna *5.30pm Kerang
Saturday 7th:	6.30pm Mass in Pyramid Hill Please bring a plate to share
Sunday 8th:	9.00am Mass in Kerang *10.30am Mass in Cohuna
Wednesday 11th:	6.00pm Mass in Pyramid Hill
Thursday 12th:	9.00am Mass in Cohuna
Friday 13th:	9.30am Mass in Kerang *5.30pm Stations of the Cross in Kerang
Saturday 14th:	6.30pm Mass in Pyramid Hill
Sunday 15th:	8.30am Mass in Cohuna *10.30am Mass in Kerang
Saturday 21st:	9.30am "The Harvest of the Spirit of God" Shepparton *6.30pm Mass in Pyramid Hill
Sunday 22nd:	8.30am Mass in Cohuna *10.30am Mass in Kerang
Wednesday 25th:	10.00am Goal Formalisation Work Shop in Kerang Combined parishes *6.00pm Mass in Pyramid Hill
Thursday 26th:	9.00am No Mass in Cohuna
Friday 27th:	9.15am Mass in Kerang *5.30pm Stations of the Cross in Kerang
Saturday 28th:	Palm Sunday 6.30pm Mass in Pyramid Hill
Sunday 29th:	Palm Sunday 8.30am Mass in Cohuna *10.30am Mass in Kerang

Pope Leo's Intentions for March.

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Words from Pope Leo XIV

At the well of Sychar, Jesus overcomes the barriers of culture, gender and religion. He invites the Samaritan woman to a new understanding of worship, which is not limited to a particular place – "neither on the mountain nor in Jerusalem" – but is realised *in Spirit and truth*. This moment captures the very core of interreligious dialogue itself: the discovery of God's presence beyond all boundaries and the invitation to seek him together with reverence and humility. *General Audience, 29 Oct 2025*



Congratulations to the Division 2 winners, Carmen, Jan, Kate and Joe (absent) on Saturday.

Lenten Prefaces

Each Sunday in Year A the Gospels and the Prefaces (prayer before the Holy, Holy, Holy Lord) are linked, especially on the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays in Lent. Today the Gospel tells on the encounter of Jesus with the Samaritan by Jacob's Well. Jesus gently initiates a long discussion, the woman raises historical, cultural and theological issues. The homilist may touch on some of these.

The Preface, however, focuses on faith of the Samaritan; Jesus begins with thirst for water and moves to thirst for faith. Water is a gift of God's creation; faith is also a gift from God. She thirsts for water but soon thirsts for faith. The Preface proclaims that Jesus had already created the gift of faith within her and then kindled in her the fire of divine love. It is a Baptism journey for her and many RCIA participants as well as an Easter journey for Christians who accompany them during Lent.

Prayer for the Week

God of life, throughout history we hear stories of your wonders.

Help us to reach out our hands for the water that gives life instead of looking for satisfaction in the things of this world that will not quench our thirst. Amen.

On the Lighter Side

In January in 44°C heat, funeral staff were handing out bottles of cold water to mourners at the cemetery. But to the priest they offered a bucket of sand. A real desert experience!

Rosters and Events			
6.30pm PYRAMID HILL This Week 7 th March 2026 3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A		6.30pm PYRAMID HILL Next Week 14 th March 2026 4th Sunday of Lent, Year A	
Commentator/POF:	Colleen Hampson	Commentator/POF:	MaryAnne Domingo
Reader:	Vincent Bartels	Reader:	Anne Grogan
Gifts:	Mateo Family	Gifts:	Magno Family
Eucharistic Minister:	Marianne Kelly	Eucharistic Minister:	Carmen Cauchi
10.30am COHUNA This Week 8 th March 2026 3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A		8.30am COHUNA Next Week 15 th March 2026 4th Sunday of Lent, Year A	
Commentator/POF:	Helen Keely	Commentator/POF:	Brian Di Silva
Reader:	Shaanie Webb	Reader:	Betty McLoughlan
Gifts:	Irene Trezise	Gifts:	Garry Farrant
Eucharistic Minister:	Peter Doyle	Eucharistic Minister:	Bernadette Carter
Altar Clean Up:	Donna Egan	Altar Clean Up:	Mary Wight
9.00am KERANG This Week 8 th March 2026 3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A		10.30am KERANG Next Week 15 th March 2026 4th Sunday of Lent, Year A	
Welcomers:	E Bortolotto & F Roney	Welcomers:	J Roberts & J Tuohey
Commentator/POF:	A Ginnivan	Commentator/POF:	R Kelly
Reader:	M Dagge	Reader:	P Hirst
Gifts:	D & T Greenwood	Gifts:	T & G Kennedy
Eucharistic Minister:	D Greenwood & E Bortolotto	Eucharistic Minister:	J Ginnivan & W Hall
Sick & Housebound:	M Messer & M Lewis (NH)	Sick & Housebound:	L Bland & K Laughlin (NH)
Power Point:	R Kelly	Power Point:	M Lewis
Musicians:	Alicia, Hank, Tony, Maureen	Musicians:	Mike, Hank, Tony, Ladies Group
Setting up the Altar:	Anne	Setting up the Altar:	Liz
Mowers: March:	D Greenwood	Mowers: March:	D Greenwood
Counters: March:	E Phillips & M Messer	Counters: March:	E Phillips & M Messer
With St Patrick, St Mary & St Joseph, let us be a spiritual support to each other in prayer for the: Sick: Kerang Lui Basile, Faye B., Hank Cohuna Clare & Magie, Danny Hanlon, Bryan Gibbs, Laurie & Pat Roberts Pyramid Hill Margaret, Phil S., Terry W., P. Preston and all our elderly and residents of our Nursing Homes, Retirement Villages and those in Hospital. Recently Deceased: Death Anniversaries: Kerang: Maria Basile, Vera Kerin, Tom Peck, Frank Conlan, Doreen Lonergan, . Pyramid Hill: Elizabeth Ervin, Joe Bartollo, Barry Hitchcock, Doreen McDonald, Winnie Stewart. Cohuna:			
Weekend Masses for the 14th & 15th March 2026 Saturday 14th March: 6.30pm Mass in Pyramid Hill Sunday 15th March: 8.30am Mass in Cohuna 10.30am Mass in Kerang			

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Please approach Fr Arun before or after Mass.

PARISH SCHOOLS	
St Joseph's Primary, Kerang Principal: Mr Justin Colville Ph: (03) 5452 1426 admin@sjkerang.catholic.edu.au	St. Mary's Primary, Cohuna Principal: Mrs Lauren Gould Ph: (03) 5456 2062 principal@smcohuna.catholic.edu.au

First Reading

Exodus 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9.

**(R.) If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R.)**

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **(R.)**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **(R.)**

Next week: 4th Sunday of Lent Year A

14th & 15th March, 2026

1st Reading:	1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13
Responsorial Psalm:	22
2nd Reading:	Ephesians 5:8-14
Gospel:	John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 4:42. 15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

John 4:5-15. 19-26. 39-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Please see your Missal for the full reading, it is too long for this space.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

