

11th & 12th July 2026

Parish Newsletter

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



Contact us:

Parish Priest: Fr. Novelito Lim

Email: nlim@stmarysechuca.org.au
Mobile: 0450 185 021

Admin Officers:

Joy Padilla and Marianne Kelly

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday:
9am – 1pm

St Mary's Parish Centre
224-230 Anstruther Street, Echuca
Ph: (03) 5482 1127

Email: admin@stmarysechuca.org.au
Website: www.stmarysechuca.org.au
Facebook: St Mary's Parish Echuca

Community Coordinators:

Julie Moyle

E: moylej@bigpond.com
M: 0409 826 336

Cindy Narvasa

E: pcc@stmarysechuca.org.au
M: 0467 900 382

Visitation Ministry Coordinator:

Kath Quinn

M: 0439 101 282
E: kathquinn55@hotmail.com

Church Opening Hours:

Monday: Closed
Tuesday – Sunday:
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (Standard Time)
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (Daylight Saving Time)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Yorta Yorta Nation. We pay our respects to elders past and present and acknowledge the lessons the Yorta-Yorta people teach us about care, respect and justice for mother earth.

Looking at the Readings

The teaching of Jesus is grounded firmly in the world that he and his listeners live. His parables are based on farming, fishing, the marketplace and family. He told stories about vineyards, wheat fields, the sea and human realities. Matthew Chapter 13 has seven parables. A parable can be a short metaphor (hidden treasure, a pearl a dragnet) or an extended story with a moral lesson. Rarely does he explain them or elaborate on the different scenarios that we have about the Sower and Seed today. The longer form of today's Gospel (Matt 13:10-23) exposes the parable as an allegory – every part has a symbolic meaning; every scenario has a different application for the listener. The parable challenges us to see into our lives the way we receive God's word: not at all, initial enthusiasm but lose interest, distracted by the things around us or with understanding and right action. This parable is a meditation on God's words and works, on our freedom and the choices we make, on our world of trails, tribulations and successes. It is a parable we can read and reread, study and pray.



Bishop René Ramirez RCJ will be installed as the 9th Bishop of the Diocese of Sandhurst on Thursday, 30 July 2026, at 11.00am at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo.



PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Masses: 11th & 12th July 2026

Saturday: 6:00pm Mass
Sunday: 9:30am Mass

Weekday Masses: 13th July – 17th July 2026

Wednesday: 12.00pm Mass Soup & Sanga's

Reconciliation: Approach Fr Novie before Mass
Baptism: Every Second weekend of the Month
Weddings: By Appointment with the Parish Priest
Sophia Sisters: Every Tuesday 1:30pm (Parish Centre)
Men's Group: Every Saturday 9am (Parish Centre)
Ladies Drinks: 4th Wednesday 5:30pm (Parish Centre)
G'Day Weekend: Every 3rd Weekend of the Month
Children's Liturgy: Every G'Day Weekend

Parish News

St Mary's Parish Echuca
Coming in Faith Together

St. Mary's Parish Young Adults

INVITE YOU TO THE
 FAITH. HOPE. LOVE. PURPOSE.

INSPIRATIONAL MOVIE NIGHT

Be encouraged. Be uplifted. Be inspired.

MONDAY 27TH JULY

6PM

167 HENDERSON ROAD TONGALA VICTORIA

Let your light shine.
 MATTHEW 5:16

GOOD MOVIE. GREAT COMPANY. GREATER PURPOSE.

I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS ME.
 PHILIPPIANS 4:13

FAITH CHANGES EVERYTHING

St Mary's Parish Echuca Mini Market Event

hosted by The Good Works Crew Fundraising team

Join us

for a great fun, laughter and music and a family friendly community event.

All money raised will go towards new disability toilet at St Mary's.

THERE WILL BE

- Bake Sale
- Book Sale
- Plant Stall
- Relish & Preserves
- Sausage sizzle
- Morning tea plates with bottomless tea & coffee
- Mary's Makers
- Children's Corner

SUNDAY 16 AUGUST AFTER 9:30AM MASS

AT ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH GROUNDS

FUNDRAISING EVENT

All enquiries kindly contact:
 Jenny Morris 0418625731
 Julie Moyle 0409826336

May the warm embrace of our Christian community extend a joyful welcome to Gry Panfilo Paradero & Lenny Campbell as they receive the sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

BAPTISM

PARISH STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2031 Launch

Wednesday, 19 August

5:30 PM Start and Cuppa after

St. Mary's Primary School – Brigidine Centre

Together in mission

RSVP to our Community Coordinator, Julie, on 0409 826 336 or by email at moylej@bigpond.com

WHAT TO EXPECT?

- DISCOVER**
the vision and key priorities of the Parish Strategic Plan.
- ASK**
questions and gain clarity about our shared mission.
- REFLECT**
on how each ministry can contribute to parish growth and renewal.
- IDENTIFY**
practical ministry priorities and actions for the next five years.

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

The St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal supports local families and individuals facing financial hardship, homelessness, and domestic violence. Members of the local conference will speak at Masses on 11-12 July and will be available after Mass to receive donations. Every contribution, no matter the size, will help support those in need in the Echuca community. You can also donate using the QR code, with all funds going directly to the Echuca and surrounding area. For more information, contact Winnie Lavery on 0407 886 378. Thank you for your generosity.

Put the camera of your phone over the code and it will take you to the donation page.

ECHUCA CONFERENCE

QR Code

If you know someone in our parish who is interested in becoming Catholic or would like to learn more about the Catholic faith, please invite them to join our RCIA program.

For an initial chat, they can contact:
 Fr. Novie Lim – 0450 185 021 | nlim@stmarysechuca.org.au
 RCIA Coordinator Lauren Gould – 0484 751 057 | laurengould79@gmail.com



Safeguarding

Through our policies and practices, we protect the right of children to feel safe and to be safe. We promote the well-being and inclusion of all children.

For more information, contact our Safeguarding Officer:
Mel Slattery
M: 0417 822 589
E: melslattery.home@gmail.com

Parish Calendar

14th July:	1.30pm Sophia Sisters
15th July:	Soup and Sandwiches after Mass
17th July:	9.00am Mary's Makers
18th - 19th July:	G'day Weekend (Men's Ministry Sat Night, Music Ministry Sun Morning)
22nd July:	5.30pm Ladies Drinks
27th July:	6.00pm Young Adults (see poster for details)
28th July:	5:15pm Finance Meeting
30th July:	11.00am Bishop Rene's Installation (Bendigo Cathedral)
31st July:	9.00am Mary's Makers

Prayer Requests

For Those Who Are Unwell

Patricia Vogeles, Bruno Barbera, Dan Carey,
Howard Clark Jnr, Pat Davey, Caroline Farley,
Fred Molluso, Meredith Ryan (Maddick), Jim Byrne,
Antonia Molluso, David Baker, Carmel Murphy,
Dominga Cabantac, John & Elaine Farley, Barb Smith,
Margaret McMahon, Geoff Brown, Paul Wallace,
Elizabeth Kyne (Weekly), Margaret Hoelter

Death Anniversaries

Merv Tavener, John Orso, Chloris Kyle, Tom Roberts,
Mary Taylor, Richard Robb and James Doyle

Recent Deaths

Roster THIS Week				11 th & 12 th July	
Mass	LECTORS			Eucharistic Ministers	Church Set-up
6:00pm	Rose Quinn Peter Phillips, Dominic Karunanayke			Christine Sebire Tharaka De Silva	Rose Quinn
9:30am	Barb Green Abilain Liwanag, Michelle Shingles			Matt Butler Kay Westblade	Bernie Oliver
Prayers of the Faithful		Rose Quinn	Counters	Pat Whyte, Adrian Costello	
St. Anne's	Lauren Gould, Prue Crowe-Galea			Hospital Visit	Karla Chisholm
Roster NEXT Week				18 th & 19 th July	
Mass	LECTORS			Eucharistic Ministers	Church Set-up
6:00pm	Christine Sebire Chris Lee, Tania Dixon			Kim Wallace Sarah Byrne	Christine Sebire
9:30am	Julie Moyle Rachel McAsey, Barb Green			Divanne Balos Trish Marchetti	Kate Bruty
Prayers of the Faithful		Noela Boyer	Counters	Eileen Pineo & Lois Williams	
St. Anne's	Elaine Roberts, Tania Dixon, Holly Morris			Hospital Visit	Carmel Mackenzie
Monthly (July)					
Gardening	Rob Morris & Bob Cooper			Baptism Prep	Mary Byrne

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

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

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 64:10-14*

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain. **R.**

And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth. **R.**

You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **R.**

The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat,
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **R.**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundred-fold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

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

Readings for Next Week

**Next Week: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, A
18th & 19th July 2026**

1st Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16
2nd Reading: Romans 8:26-27
Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43