

Looking at the Readings

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles is a compact account of Philip the deacon's ministries of preaching, healing and exorcisms (see image bottom). The community expresses welcome, unity and joyful thanksgiving to him and later to Peter and John in Samaria.

The first alternative given for today's Gospel continues Christ's farewell discourse from last week, where he stresses the need to keep his commandments and his promise to send the "Advocate", the Holy Spirit. While Jesus repeats the word: "command" six times in this farewell discourse (John 14:15, 21, 23, 15:10, 12, 17) he only speaks of the command to love. Therefore, do we presume there are other commands? The Gospel is not a list of do's and don'ts but rather a revealing of God through his Son and the message of salvation.

Christ does give us a clue in his reply to Thomas's question we heard last week. Jesus said: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." Jesus, who has given his life for us so that we may have life, shows us his love and all that is needed to love ourselves and one another.



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Admin Officers: Joy Padilla/Marianne Kelly
Parish Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9am - 1pm

St Mary's Parish Centre

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PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Masses: 9th & 10th May 2026

Saturday: 6:00pm Mass Fr Des - Celebrant

Sunday : 9:30am Mass Fr Des - Celebrant

Weekday Masses: 11th May - 15th May 2026

Tuesday: 12.15pm Delany House Mass

Wednesday: 12.00pm Mass with Year 4

Reconciliation: Approach Fr Novie before Mass

Baptism: Every Second weekend of the Month

Children's Liturgy: Every G'Day Weekend

Weddings: By Appointment with the Parish Priest

Sophia Sisters: Every Monday 1:30pm (Parish Centre)

Men's Group: Every Saturday 9am (Parish Centre)

Ladies Drinks: 4th Wednesday 5:30pm (Parish Centre)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Yorta Yorta Nation. This land is sacred, this land is gift, this land is thousands of years old. We acknowledge the immense beauty of this land and the dreams of the Yorta-Yorta People. 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.

If you wish to assist in "further supporting the Parish" we offer different ways of giving... direct debit, credit card or planned giving envelopes. Please ring the office for more details.

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

St Mary's Echuca: BSB Number: 083-543

Account Number: 45-782-9206

Child Safety: 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 the parish office and look for the Child Safety Officer Mel Slattery.

PARISH CALENDAR

12th May:	12.00pm Delany House Mass Lunch in the garden *5.30pm P.P.C. Meeting
15th May:	9.00am Mary's Makers
19th May:	2.00pm Social Club Meeting 5.00pm Liturgy Meeting
23rd & 24th May:	Pentecost Sunday Please bring a plate to share
25th & 29th May:	10.00am Coat Drive & Soup Kitchen
27th May:	5.00pm Ladies Drinks



Pieces of Peace

During this past week as we have celebrated Catholic Education Week (May 4-8) we have continued to reflect on the Diocesan theme, 'Seek Peace and Pursue It'. It is a call to action; to show kindness, extend care, and bring a little peace to those around us. Pope Leo reminds each of us that we are called to walk

together, to build bridges, and to remain close to those who need compassion and care.

At St Mary's Primary School, each year level committed to bringing a little peace to those in our community by way of donation of goods, kindness or time.

Foundation: Toys, **Year 1:** Clothes, **Year 2:** Books
Year 3: Winter woollies, **Year 4:** Bring a rock to write a kindness message for others, **Year 5:** Writing letters to the residents at local Aged Care Homes, **Year 6:** Donating time (helping & seeing a need without being asked).
All donations from Foundation to Year 3 have supported St Vincent de Paul. Thank you to all our learners and families for their generous donations.

No one has ever become poor by giving. ~ Anne Frank

Pentecost Sunday

You are warmly invited to join us for our Masses on 23rd/24th May for Pentecost Weekend, followed by our G'Day Weekend cuppas.

As part of our G'Day Weekend celebrations, we also kindly invite you to bring along an Australian dish to share, so we can enjoy and celebrate the delicious flavours of Australia together in a spirit of friendship and community.



Walking with Others: CARING FOR THE SICK AND THOSE IN GRIEF

You are warmly invited to a meaningful session on caring for the sick and supporting those who are grieving or experiencing loss.

★ Purpose of the Gathering:

To help us better understand how to care for and support people who are sick, grieving, or facing loss with compassion.

Presented by:

Louise Ross

Pastoral Carer, Wharparilla Lodge

Kath Quinn

and
Experienced Pastoral Supporter

 **Date:** Thursday, 14th May 2026

 **Time:** 4:30 PM

 **Venue:** Parish Meeting Room

Who should attend?

Aged Care Home Visitors, Hospital Visitors, Parish Home Visitors and Any Interested Parishioners



HAPPY Mothers DAY

May the grace of God shower upon you abundantly this Mother's Day, filling your heart with love, joy, and blessings.

May the warm embrace of our Christian community extend a joyful welcome to

**Bodhi Gilmour &
Scarlett Mae Slattery**

as they receive the sacrament of Baptism this weekend.



ECHUCA MOAMA COMMUNITY
COAT & BLANKET DRIVE

Do you NEED a coat, blanket, doona, beanie or scarf?

Clean Winter warmth has been donated by your community so we invite you come to St Mary's Parish Hall and collect some free winter items to help you through the coming months.
Collection Days: Monday May 25, Friday May 29, June 5 & June 12 - 10am-2pm

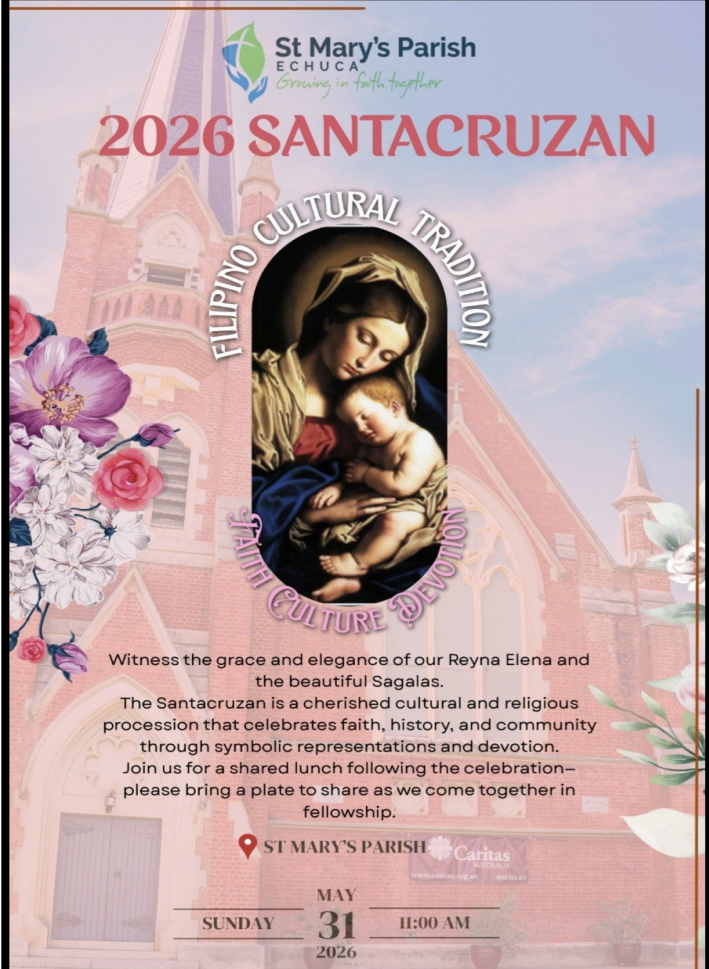
If you have clean coats, blankets, scarves or beanies to donate, please drop them off to St. Mary's Parish Hall, Riverine Herald & Echuca Neighbourhood House.

 **Echuca Moama Community Projects Team**
Proudly coordinated by the Echuca Moama Community Projects Team
All queries to Julie on 0475 707 412 or julie@emprojects.org

 **St Mary's Parish ECHUCA**
Growing in faith together

 **The Riv**
RIVERINE HERALD

Community Soup & Support Days
Friday 29th May, Friday 5th June, Friday 12th June
11.30am - 1.30pm



St Mary's Parish ECHUCA
Growing in faith together

2026 SANTACRUZAN

FILIPINO CULTURAL TRADITION
FAITH CULTURE DEVOTION

Witness the grace and elegance of our Reyna Elena and the beautiful Sagalas.

The Santacruzán is a cherished cultural and religious procession that celebrates faith, history, and community through symbolic representations and devotion.

Join us for a shared lunch following the celebration—please bring a plate to share as we come together in fellowship.

 **ST MARY'S PARISH** 

MAY 31 2026
SUNDAY 11:00 AM

ROSTERS THIS WEEK

9th & 10th May 2026

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Christine Sebire, Allan Chettiar, Rose Quinn,

9.30am: Barb Green, Rachel McAsey, Kenneth Uzoh

Ministers of the Eucharist:

6.00pm: Natasha Tauro, Chris Lee

9.30am: Bernie Oliver, Margaret Hart

Prayers of the Faithful: Rose Quinn

St Anne's Church Cleaners: 8th

Cindy & Jonas Narvasa

Setting up the Church: 9th Carol Purdon

Setting up the Church: 10th Kate Bruty

Baptism Preparation: Holly Morris

Counters: 12th Roma Bowman & Margaret Hart

Hospital Visiting: 11th Carmel Mackenzie

Gardening: Doug Black, Ray Lewis

ROSTERS NEXT WEEK

16th & 17th May 2026

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Mary Atkins, Carol Purdon, Dominic Karunanayke

9.30am: Julie Moyle, Max Marchetti, Claire Hogan

Ministers of the Eucharist:

6.00pm: Leah Williams, Tharaka de Silva

9.30am: Kate Bruty, Trish Marchetti

Prayers of the Faithful: Mary Atkins

St Anne's Church Cleaners: 15th

Lauren Gould, Prue Galea

Setting up the Church: 16th Mary Atkins

Setting up the Church: 17th Julie Moyle

Baptism Preparation: Holly Morris

Counters: 19th Pat Whyte & Adrian Costello

Hospital Visiting: 18th Barb Green

Gardening: Doug Black, Ray Lewis

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Sick: Patricia Vogeale, Bruno Barbera, Monica Beckwith, Dan Carey, Howard Clark Jnr, Pat Davey, Caroline Farley, Fred Molluso, Meredith Ryan (Maddick), Maureen McKenner, Alistair Corman, Jim Byrne, Elizabeth Kyne (Weekly), Maurice O'Connor, Antonia Molluso, David Baker, Carmel Murphy, Dominga Cabantac, John & Elaine Farley, Margaret McMahon, Veronica Brown, Margaret Summers, Geoff Brown, Margot Oliver

Anniversaries: Allan Bolton, Shirley Webb, Peter Lee, Peter Boyer, Tony Tyndall, Sr Marie Vagg, Kay Christian, Margaret Musgrove, John Drakatos and Inocencio Villaruz

Recently Deceased: Peter Errey

Special Intentions: Yvonne Costello

***If you have an addition to our overall prayer list or require someone to be removed from our sick list please email admin.*

First Reading*Acts 8:5-8, 14-17***A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20***R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **R.**

'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. **R.**

He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. **R.**

Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. **R.**

Next Week: The Ascension of the Lord, Year A**16th & 17th May 2026****1st Reading:** Acts 1:1-11**Responsorial Psalm:** 46:2-3, 6-9**2nd Reading:** Ephesians 1:17-23**Gospel:** Matthew 28:16-20**Second Reading***1 Peter 3:15-18***A reading from the first letter of St Peter**

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*John 14:23***Alleluia, alleluia!**

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!**Gospel***John 14:15-21***A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.
I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you.
I will not leave your orphans; I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live.
On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.