

Looking at the Readings

Easter season is marked by the Acts of the Apostles as the first reading. No longer do we hear from the prophets foretelling of the coming of Christ as suffering servant, or Messiah, the Saviour but we hear of the faith and actions of the first Christians living out their conversion and Easter faith. Peter's address to Cornelius, a Roman centurion, contains the rudiments of the statements of faith we find in the Apostles' Creed.

The second reading (choice of the letter of Paul to the Colossians or Corinthians) acclaims we have gone from the old to the new. From the old self of worldly interests to the new self, with a new beginning in Christ.

"The empty tomb attesting, with the grave clothes resting" may serve as evidence of the Risen Christ. But the excitement of St Mary, the haste of St Peter, the words of St John, bring us into the mystery and joy of the Resurrection. And finally, the appearance of the risen Christ to the women and the Apostles fill the world with joy, hope, peace. We see and we believe he is truly risen.



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Parish Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9am - 1pm

St Mary's Parish Centre

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PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Masses: 3rd & 4th April 2026

Saturday: 7:30pm Mass Easter Vigil

Sunday: 9:30am Mass Easter Sunday

Weekday Masses: 6th—10th April 2026

Fr Novie away—6th—9th April

Friday: 10am Aged-Care Liturgy

Reconciliation: Approach Fr Novie before Mass

Baptism: Every Second weekend of the Month

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

2nd April:	11.00am Stations of the Cross *7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
3rd April:	Good Friday 3.00pm Passion
4th April:	7.30pm Easter Vigil Mass
5th April:	9.30am Easter Sunday Mass
6th - 9th April:	Fr Novie away
10th April:	10.00am Aged Care Liturgy
17th April:	9.00am Mary's Makers
25th - 26th April:	G'Day Weekend (Sunday - Combined Family Groups Hosting)

Good Friday Holy Land Collection – April 3, 2026

Good Friday is a unique day when we recall the love of Jesus unto death for us, when he shows us the extent to which God is in solidarity with our suffering humanity. Can we use this occasion to recall our need to be in solidarity with those suffering around us, and in a particular way, with the suffering Church of the Holy Land?

Normally, each year's Collection:

- Supports 29 parishes, 4 homes for orphans, 3 academic institutions
- Helps keep schools open for over 10,000 pre-K to Yr 12 students
- Supports 120 men preparing to be priests or brothers
- Helps rehabilitate 80+ homes for Christian families who cannot afford housing
- Provides senior care facilities in Bethlehem and Nazareth
- Creates over 1,500 jobs in the Holy Land for Christians who would otherwise be unemployed.
- Preserves 54 shrines connected with the life of Jesus and the prophets.

Thank you for supporting the Holy Land (Good Friday) Collection as encouraged by Pope Leo XIV and every Pope before him. Through this Collection, you join with Catholics around the world to stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. When you contribute, you become an instrument of peace in the land where Jesus walked.

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

Karra, Olivia & Scott
(through R.C.I.A. journey)

as they receive the sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

We also welcome
Ayden, Tyler & Hazel
as they receive the sacrament of Baptism this weekend.



Sr. Cecilia

As a parish community, we gather to farewell a significant member of our community, Sr. Cecilia, as she relocates to Melbourne.

You are warmly invited to join us for
Mass on April 19 2026 at 9:30am,
followed by a cuppa.

Please bring a plate to share as we come together in
gratitude, fellowship, and prayer for Sr. Cecilia.



Holy week AND EASTER SERVICES SCHEDULE 2026

Palm Sunday

28th March - 6pm Mass
29th March - 9:30 am Mass
29th March - 11:00 am Mass
St. Joseph's College 140th Anniversary

Holy Thursday

2nd April - 11 am Stations of the Cross
2nd April - 7 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday

3rd April - 3 pm Passion of the Lord

Easter Vigil

4th April - 7:30 pm Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday

5th April - 9:30 am Mass

Holy Week

During Holy Week, our learners thoughtfully brought to life the significant events from the final days of Jesus' life. Our Foundation and Year 1 learners lined the aisle of the Brigidine Centre to recreate Palm Sunday, joyfully waving handprint "palms" and singing "Ho! Ho! Hosanna!"

As the journey continued, each year level helped tell the story through meaningful reenactments, including the Washing of the Feet, Jesus' time in the Garden of Gethsemane, the Last Supper, and the events of Good Friday.

The story continues...

The story that reminds us of hope, love, and new life. This is the heart of this story.



Walk of Witness

On Good Friday at 11:00am, we will hold a Walk of Witness—an ecumenical Stations of the Cross—bringing together the different Christian denominations in Echuca and Moama. The walk will begin at the Uniting Church, continue to the Anglican Church, then to the Catholic Church, and return to the Uniting Church. At the conclusion of the event, we will gather for a cuppa in the Uniting Church Hall.

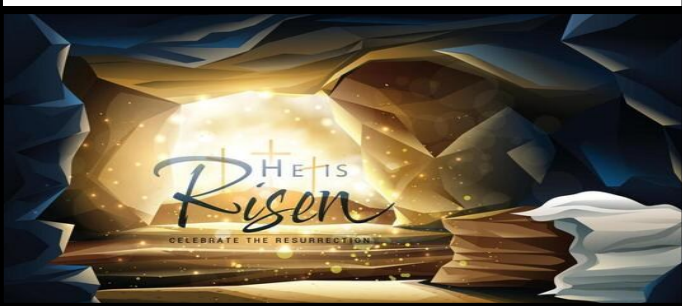
All are warmly invited to join us.

If you are planning to attend and are interested in reading, we are seeking two readers from the Catholic community. Please approach **Fr. Novie**.



Please place your Project Compassion envelopes or boxes in the collection bags during our Easter Sunday Masses.

Thank you for your generosity.



ROSTERS THIS WEEK

4th & 5th April 2026 Easter Vigil Easter Sunday

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Kristy Serpell, Barb Green, Lauren Gould

9.30am: Rob Morris, Poppy Ferguson, Michelle Shingles

Ministers of the Eucharist:

6.00pm: Julie Moyle, Tharaka de Silva

9.30am: Kay W., Bebher M., Adrian C., Bernie O.

Prayers of the Faithful: Liturgy Committee

St Anne's Church Cleaners: 3rd

Elaine Roberts, Tania Dixon, Holly Morris

Setting up the Church: 4th Rose, Kristy, Mary

Setting up the Church: 5th Bernie Oliver

Baptism Preparation: Sarah Byrne

Counters: 7th Brendan, Andrew and Peter

Hospital Visiting: 6th Carmel Mackenzie

Gardening: Ken Hatfield and Alfred Grigg

ROSTERS NEXT WEEK

11th & 12th April 2026 Divine Mercy Sunday

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Kristy Serpell, Peter Phillips, Terry McKitterick

9.30am: Julie Moyle, Barb Green, Rob Morris

Ministers of the Eucharist:

6.00pm: Christine Sebire, Tharaka de Silva

9.30am: Bebher Mitchell, Kenn Liwanag

Prayers of the Faithful: Mary Atkins

St Anne's Church Cleaners: 10th

Barb Green, Kerry McLoughlan

Setting up the Church: 11th Mary Atkins

Setting up the Church: 12th Julie Moyle

Baptism Preparation: Sarah Byrne

Counters: 14th Roma Bowman and Margaret Hart

Hospital Visiting: 13th Barb Green

Gardening: Ken Hatfield and Alfred Grigg

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Sick: Patricia Vogeale, Bruno Barbera, Monica Beckwith, Dan Carey, Howard Clark Jnr, Pat Davey, Chloris Dignan, Caroline Farley, Fred Molluso, Murray Perrett, Meredith Ryan (Maddick), Maureen McKenner, Lenny Reid, Alistair Corman, Elizabeth Kyne (Weekly), Meaghan Broom (Byrne), Maurice O'Connor, Antonia Molluso, Carmel Murphy, Dominga Cabantac, John & Elaine Farley, Margaret McMahon, Veronica Brown

Anniversaries: Anne Dodd, Val Campbell, Patricia Vagg, Julie Holden (Casey), Ben Symons, Emilio Columbro, Ced Summers, Tom and Travis Atkins.

Recently Deceased: Peter Pavone

***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 10:34, 37-43***A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.' Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23*

**R. This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' **R.**

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. **R.**

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

Second Reading*Colossians 3:1-4***A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*1 Corinthians 5:7-8*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel*Matthew 28:1-10***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

After the sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so frightened of him, that they were like dead men. But the angel spoke, and he said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples. "He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him." Now I have told you.' Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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Next Week: 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year A

11th & 12th April 2026

1st Reading: Acts 2:42-47
2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Responsorial Psalm: 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
Gospel: John 20:19-31