

18th & 19th July 2026

Parish Newsletter

16th 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 first reading from the book of Wisdom begins with the God of Justice and sovereignty over all. Perhaps an enduring image of God for many people is of a judge, hence the illustration given here. The reading, however modifies the image of God as a judge. Also the concept of God's strength is also modified. In a worldly sense judgment and strength means control and domination, paying out punishment and exercising power over others. Yet we are reminded that God's strength brings leniency, God's judgement is mild. The scales are tipped in our favour.

This reading complements the Gospel is a subtle way. There is a critique on the image of God. The Judaic and Christian image of God is that he is a just and merciful God. The Greek image of God prevalent in the time of the writing of the Book of Wisdom is that God is a stern judge in a world of good and evil. Jesus' parables on the mustard seed and the yeast speak of inclusivity, growth and change. The parable on the wheat and the darnel speak of the co-existence of good and evil. The mustard bush was considered a weed in the time of Christ – but it provided goodness to the birds of the air. The darnel is also a weed has no future. It cannot change; It is good for nothing. We live in a world that includes all. We can change, convert, grow and able to respond to God's call and live in harmony with all God's creation.



PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Masses: 18th & 19th July 2026

Saturday: 6:00pm Mass

Sunday: 9:30am Mass

Weekday Masses: 20th July – 24th July 2026

Wednesday: 12.00pm Mass (Memorial Mass–Peter Davey)

Reconciliation:

Baptism:

Weddings:

Sophia Sisters:

Men's Group:

Ladies Drinks:

G'Day Weekend:

Children's Liturgy:

Approach Fr Novie before Mass

Every Second weekend of the Month

By Appointment with the Parish Priest

Every Tuesday 1:30pm (Parish Centre)

Every Saturday 9am (Parish Centre)

4th Wednesday 5:30pm (Parish Centre)

Every 3rd Weekend of the Month

Every G'Day Weekend

Parish News

St Mary's Parish Echuca Mini Market *Event*

hosted by The Good Works Crew
Fundraising team

 **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



As we ended NAIDOC Week (5th - 12th July), we pray for the continued pursuit of peace, justice, and reconciliation. This year's theme is '50 Years of Deadly' marking more than five decades since the formation of an entirely Indigenous-led NAIDOC committee. The week celebrates the histories, cultures, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

At **St Mary's Primary School**, we gratefully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather, the Yorta Yorta people. We pay our deep respects to their Elders past and present and give thanks for their enduring connection to Country. May we continue to walk together with respect, listen with open hearts, honour the world's oldest living cultures, and work together to build a future of justice, reconciliation, and hope for all.



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

A big thank you to **"AnyDay Antenna's"** for the donation and installation of our security device in the Parish Office building.



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



ONE PARISH - ONE MISSION - MANY GIFTS

St Mary's ECHUCA PARISH STRATEGIC PLAN LAUNCH 2026 - 2031

Wednesday, 19th August
5:30pm - Cuppa available after
Brigidine Centre - St. Mary's Primary School

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.

Everyone in our parish community, especially our ministry leaders and volunteers, is warmly invited and encouraged to attend.

RSVP to our

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

TOGETHER IN MISSION



CFC YOUTH FOR CHRIST

FOOD, FUN & FAITH

Ready for a Saturday that actually impacts your life? Come hang out with an incredible community of young people. **No entry fee, pure good vibes, and a space to grow closer to Christ!**



FREE FOOD

Delicious lunch & snacks fully provided!



EPIC GAMES

Friendly competition & fun icebreakers.



FELLOWSHIP

Real connections with great youth.

 **WHEN**

Saturday, 8 August 2026

 **10:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

 **WHERE**

St Mary's Parish Hall, Echuca

 **224 Anstruther Street, Echuca**

 **All Youth Aged 12–21 Welcome**

ABOUT CFC-YOUTH FOR CHRIST (YFC)

CFC-Youth for Christ is the youth ministry of Couples for Christ Global Mission Foundation. It unites young people worldwide to build meaningful relationships, grow deep in spiritual faith, and share God's unconditional love across communities.

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

18th – 19th July:	G'day Weekend (Men's Ministry Sat Night, Music Ministry Sun Morning)
21st July:	1.30pm Sophia Sisters *5pm Baptism Preparation Session
22nd July:	12.00pm Memorial Mass – Peter Davey (Bring a plate) 5.30pm Ladies Drinks
27th July:	6.00pm Young Adults (see poster for details)
28th July:	1.30pm Sophia Sisters *5:15pm Finance Meeting
30th July:	11.00am Bishop Rene's Installation (Bendigo Cathedral)
31st July:	9.00am Mary's Makers
4th August:	1.30pm Sophia Sisters
6th August:	11.00am Soup Kitchen
7th August:	9.00 Mary's Makers *11.30am Adoration 12.00pm 1 st Friday Mass

Prayer Requests

For Those Who Are Unwell

Patricia Voge, 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

Shelley Grace, Frank Symons, Francey Graham-Tubb, Maureen Garden, Cynthia Smith and Doreen Fletcher.

Recent Deaths

Ian Paschetti

Roster THIS 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
Roster NEXT Week				25 th & 26 th July	
Mass	LECTORS			Eucharistic Ministers	Church Set-up
6:00pm	Tania Dixon Rose Quinn, Kristy Serpell			Prue Crowe-Galea Carol Purdon	Tania Dixon
9:30am	Noela Boyer Jenny Morris, Claire Hogan			Catherine Linder Adrian Costello	Kenn Liwanag
Prayers of the Faithful		Judi O'Farrell	Counters	Brendan Shingles & Andrew Kennedy	
St. Anne's	Barb Green, Kerry McLoughlan			Hospital Visit	Barb Green
Monthly (July)					
Gardening	Rob Morris & Bob Cooper			Baptism Prep	Mary Byrne

1st Reading**Wisdom 12:13, 16-19****A reading from the book of Wisdom**

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

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

Responsorial Psalm Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

R. Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. **R.**

All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. **R.**

But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. **R.**

2nd Reading**Romans 8:26-27****A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

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

Gospel Acclamation**Matthew 11:25****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!**Gospel****Matthew 13:24-30****A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."' "

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

Readings for Next Week

**Next Week: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, A
25th & 26th July 2026**

1st Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130
2nd Reading: Romans 8:28-30
Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52