



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.

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

5th & 6th September 2026

Parish Newsletter

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Looking at the Readings



Living Water

Season of Creation 2026

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER

Ezekiel 47:9, 12

Living Water – A Season of Hope and Healing

Each year, the Season of Creation invites Christians around the world to reflect on a particular theme. This year's theme, "Living Water," draws from the prophet Ezekiel's vision of water flowing from God's sanctuary, bringing life and healing: "Where the river flows everything will live... Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail... their leaves will be for healing." (Ezekiel 47:9,12) In the midst of exile and loss, Ezekiel offers a powerful message of hope and renewal. The living water transforms the land, restores biodiversity and brings healing to creation. Creation is God's sacred gift, entrusted to our care. Water sustains all life, and when our rivers, oceans and waterways are polluted or threatened, the flourishing of the whole earth is affected. Pope Francis reminds us: "Leaving an inhabitable planet to future generations is up to us." (Laudato Si', 160) The Season of Creation therefore reminds us that caring for our common home is a shared responsibility. It calls us to repentance, justice and action, working together to protect creation and ensure that future generations can flourish. Where God's living water flows, there is life, healing and hope.



PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Masses: 5th & 6th September 2026

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

Weekday Masses: 7th – 11th September 2026

Wednesday: 12:00pm Mass
Friday: 10:00am Aged-Care Liturgy

Reconciliation: Approach Fr Novie before Mass
Baptism: Every Second weekend of the Month
Weddings: By Appointment with the Parish Priest

Parish News



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

Noah

as he receives the
sacrament of Baptism this
weekend.
(Saturday)

Parish Hall Renovation Celebration

We're delighted to invite all parishioners to join us as we celebrate the completion of our Parish Hall renovations! Come along for a relaxed and informal celebration with finger food, good company and a cuppa.

☕ Tea and coffee will be provided.

🥤 BYO drinks.

Date: Wednesday, 23rd September 2026

Time: 5:30pm

Venue: St Mary's Parish Hall

Care for Creation Ministry

As we celebrate the Season of Creation, our Care for Creation Ministry is excited to announce a new garden project beside our newly renovated kiosk. The garden will provide opportunities for us to nurture creation and nurture community. It will be a place to stop and enjoy the beauty of God's creation, share a conversation over a coffee, meet with friends, or simply spend a little time surrounded by nature.

 The project will take place over the coming months, and we would love to hear from anyone who would like to be involved. The garden design and plant selection have been carefully planned specifically for the area, with an emphasis on creating a beautiful, sustainable and low-maintenance garden. The design has already benefited from input from several people involved in the project. The garden plans are currently on display at the back of the church, so please take a moment to have a look and see what we are creating together.

If you are interested in helping with the garden project, please contact Gayle & Richard Zakrzewski on 0428 826 609. We look forward to watching this special space grow – not only with plants and flowers, but also with community, friendship, connection and care for our beautiful world.

Sunday School – 20 September 2026

We are delighted to have our Kids and Youth taking part in the Sunday Mass on 20 September. Our children and young people will take an active role as Readers, Commentators and Lectors.

🎉 After Mass All children and young people are invited to join us in the Parish Meeting Room for:

🙌 Praise and Fellowship

📖 Bible-based fun activities

All children and young people are warmly welcome! Come along, bring a friend, and enjoy a morning of faith, fun and fellowship together.

Sunshine Bendigo - Community Connect

Sunshine Bendigo is a community based volunteer group that provides practical support to families experiencing challenging times by collecting, sorting and redistributing essential new and pre-loved baby goods and nursery equipment.

As a Community Connect project this September, we will be supporting this charity. Our Mary's Makers ladies have already supported Sunshine Bendigo with baby blankets, teddies, dresses and beanies.

Sunshine support children up to 6 years of age with items such as new socks and underwear, clothes (including pyjamas), new toys, new books, pencils, textas, colouring books, footballs, soccer balls and playdough.

There will be a collection basket in the church for the next 2 weeks for donations. If you would prefer, Sunshine Bendigo accept cash donations and they are a registered charity for tax purposes. Donations can either be given to the parish office or myself, or you can donate directly through their website www.sunshinebendigo.org.au

Thank you in anticipation of your support of Sunshine Bendigo. (Julie Moyle - Community Coordinator)

Parish Sacramental Information Evening



**Wednesday
9th September 2026
7:00pm at
St Mary's Church, Echuca**

If you're considering enrolling your child/ren in the 2026/7 Sacramental Program, we invite you to attend our Information Evening.

We will provide information about receiving the sacraments of Reconciliation (Nov 2026), Confirmation, and First Communion (both May 2027),
This is for parents ONLY.

Please contact the parish office at St. Mary's Parish for more information on 5482 1127 (Tuesday to Thursday from 9 am to 1 pm), or email: admin@stmarysechuca.org.au.



Planning Ahead: Funeral Wishes & Advance Care Planning

The St Mary's Bereavement Support Group invites parishioners to an informal afternoon to learn more about funeral wishes and Advance Care Planning.



Wednesday, 30 September

☕ Cuppa – 4.30pm | Presentation – 5.00pm

📍 Parish Meeting Room

Featuring Loretta Lilford and a member of the Bereavement Support Team.

Everyone is welcome—young or old!

For more information, please speak with Carmel Mackenzie or Julie Moyle.

Parish Calendar

8th September:	5.00pm P.P.C. Meeting
9th September:	5.00pm Liturgy Meeting *7.00pm Information Evening (Sacramental Program) Church
10th September:	4.00pm Good Works Crew Meeting
11th September:	1.30pm Combined Family Group Leaders Meeting
15th September:	5.00pm Baptism Preparation
16th September:	12.00pm Mass followed by soup & Sandwiches *1.15pm Social Committee Meeting
18th September:	9.00am Mary's Makers
19th & 20th Sept:	G'Day Weekend Saturday - Couples for Christ / Sunday - Social Committee *Sunday School
21st September:	6pm Young Adults

Regular Schedule

Sophia Sisters: Every Tuesday 1:30pm (Parish Centre)
Men's Ministry: 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

Prayer Requests

For Those Who Are Unwell

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

Death Anniversaries

Annie Pineo, Beatrice Phillips, Maria Tanda, Kevin Williams, Terry Nanscawen, Gerry Fitzgerald, Ruby Jasper, Graham Stephens, John Egan, Cath Mackenzie and Bill Carr.

Recent Deaths

Bernadette Fitzsimmons, Pat Reid

On Tuesday 1st September we began the Season of Creation with our Learning Leaders from Foundation to Year 2 representing St Mary's Primary School at a Diocesan Mass held at Huntly Streamside Reserve.



It was wonderful to be led in the celebration by Bishop Rene, Father Novie and many other clergy from within the Sandhurst Diocese. We were joined by other schools and parishes with over 200 people in attendance.

The learners representing our school acknowledged the importance of God's gifts of creation and our call to care for these. In Religious Education classroom lessons, these learners are identifying ways to care for creation and how we are called to be stewards of the earth today and into the future. Celebrating Mass in the open air amongst creation was a gift and highlighted much of what our Creator God has gifted us with.

ROSTER THIS WEEK 5th & 6th September

Mass	LECTORS		Eucharistic Ministers	Church Set-up
6:00pm	Rose Quinn Christine Sebire, Dominic Karunanayke		Kristy Serpell Leah Williams	Tania Dixon
9:30am	Barb Green Poppy Ferguson, Kerry McLoughlan		Margaret Hart Kate Bruty	Kenn Liwanag
Prayers of the Faithful	Mary Atkins	Counters	Pat Whyte & Adrian Costello	
St. Anne's	Elaine Roberts, Tania Dixon, Holly Morris		Hospital Visit	John & Julie Moyle

ROSTER NEXT WEEK 12th & 13th September

Mass	LECTORS		Eucharistic Ministers	Church Set-up
6:00pm	Chris Lee Nick Lee, Tania Dixon		Prue Crowe-Galea Carol Purdon	Carol Purdon
9:30am	Margaret Hart Max Marchetti, Claire Hogan		Bernie Oliver Kenn Liwanag	Julie Moyle
Prayers of the Faithful	Kath Quinn	Counters	Eileen Pineo & Lois Williams	
St. Anne's	Barb Green, Kerry McLoughlan		Hospital Visit	Noela Boyer

Monthly (September)

Gardening	Baptism Prep		
Bernie Oliver, Tom Oliver, David Baker	Sarah Byrne		

1st Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

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

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

**R. O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.**

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.**

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.**

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.**

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

Readings for Next Week

**Next Week: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, A
12th & 13th September 2026**

1st Reading: Sirach 27:30 28:7
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 102:1-4, 9-12
2nd Reading: Romans 14:7-9
Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

2nd Reading

Romans 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

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

Gospel Acclamation

2 Corinthians 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

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