



KYABRAM CATHOLIC PARISH

St Augustine's - Kyabram ~ St Patrick's - Tongala

St Augustine's - Kyabram, 69 Church Street, PO Box 341, Kyabram Vic, 3620

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Parish Priest – Fr Uday Marneni ALCP/OSS

Donation QR

Third Sunday of Advent ~ Year A

Sunday 14 December 2025



Readings for
this week:

Isaiah 35:1-6,10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11



Readings for
next Sunday:

Isaiah 7:10-14
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-24



Liturgy Jottings The Ordo IV

Pastoral notes for Christmas 2

The Solemn Blessing for the Nativity of the Lord may be used during the Christmas Season (Roman Missal page 710).

The Nativity of the Lord has its own Octave. This includes feasts that were celebrated in the most ancient liturgical calendars and which have been associated with Christmas through tradition. These feasts include the Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph (the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, or 30 December on years where there is no Sunday in the Octave), St Stephen (26 December), St John (27 December), Holy Innocents (28 December). The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (1 January).

During the Octave of Christmas, Memorials are celebrated only as optional Memorials. *Ordo 2026 p21*

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Looking at the Readings

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.” Phil 4:4 from the Entrance Antiphon expresses the nature of this Sunday, Gaudete Sunday and with the Scripture readings give a softness to the Season of Advent and causes for joy and giving praise to God. The Prophet Isaiah foretells of deserts and wastelands blooming and all creation being renewed and peoples healed, freed and rejoicing. St James encourages patience and right relationships with one another. Jesus gives great witness and praise to John the Baptist and assures the people that his message fulfils the former prophecies.

There is a sense of urgency expressed in the Response to the Psalm: “Lord, come and save us.” And his coming is imminent as expressed in the second half of the entrance antiphon: “Indeed, the Lord is near!” Phil 4:5. The Collect for the morning Mass on 24 December is most emphatic: “Come quickly, we pray, Lord Jesus, and do not delay, that those who trust in your compassion may find solace and relief in your coming.”

Prayer for the Day

Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
Rejoicing in faith and hope
your Church hastens on its pilgrim way
to greet the advent of Christ the Lord;
until, in the fullness of your kingdom,
we may enter with him into the eternal wedding feast.
Through Christ the whole creation gives you glory. Amen

Quote for the Week

Advent is patience: it's how God has made us a people of promise, in a world of impatience. *Stanley Hauerwas*

Message from Pope Leo XIV

Jesus' words, in a prophetic way, attest to the fact that the disasters and sorrows of history will come to an end. At the same time, the joy of those who recognise him as Saviour, is destined to last forever. “By your endurance you will gain your souls” (Lk 21:19): this promise of the Lord gives us the strength to resist the threatening events of history and every offence. We do not remain powerless in the face of suffering, because he himself gives us “words and a wisdom” always to do the good with a fervent heart.

ANGELUS, St Peter's Square, 16 November 2025

On the Lighter Side

After reading the account of John the Baptist at the meal table, the dad asked his son: “What did John eat? His son replied: “Golden syrup and crickets! Very Australian!”



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick: Noreen Gallardo, Shane Boyd, Millie Perry, Matt Carver, Olive McElroy, Frances Corso, Philip Bowman, Kady Mitchell-Treacy.

Recently Deceased: Doreen Wood, Nancy Taylor, Barbara Mitchell, Pat Godfrey

Anniversaries: Giuseppe Zobec, Antonia Barca
(Please email or contact the Parish Office to add names to our prayer list)

ROSTERS

Sunday 21 December 8.30am

Commentator – C Cabaraban

Lector – A Shaw

Special Minister – A Ryan

Saturday 27 December at 6pm

Commentator – M Tesoro

Lector – C Anderson

Special Minister – A O'Meara

Sunday 28 December 8.30am

Commentator – R Chapman

Lector – L Sorbello

Special Minister – M DiPetra

PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION

Last weekend Collection: \$ 752.20

Thank you for your generosity and support for our Parish. May God bless you, always.

PARISH DETAILS

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Uday Kumar Marneni ALCP/OSS

PARISH SECRETARY

Vicki Arnel – 0417 147 695

PARISH PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Mary Zobec – 0427 190 282

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 8.30am-4pm

PRINCIPALS

St Augustine's College - Tim Campbell – Phone 5851 3000

St Patrick's Primary - Jackie Stockdale – Phone 5859 0371

MASS TIMES

KYABRAM

Week Day: Tuesday Rosary 4pm, Mass 4.15pm & Thursday 9.15am

Saturday: 2nd and 4th weekend of month: 6pm EDT (5pm EST)

Sunday: 8.30am

TONGALA: First Sunday of month 11.30am

RECONCILIATION: Second Saturday (Weekend) of month 30 mins before Mass in St Augustine's Church.

ANointing MASS: First Thursday of the month at 10am in St Augustine's Church.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR DIARY

DECEMBER

- * Children's Mass & Christmas party 13th December 6pm
- * Misa De Gallo Mass Tue 16th December - 6.30pm
- * Misa De Gallo Mass Thu 18th December - 6.30pm
- * Misa De Gallo Mass at St Brendan's Shepparton 6am Monday 22nd December
- * Misa De Gallo Mass Tue 23rd December - 6.30pm
- * Mass Wed 24th December 8pm Carols – 7.30pm
- * Christmas Mass Thu 25th December – 8.30am

ST VINNIES CHRISTMAS HAMPER FOODS

This year St Vincent de Paul conference would be so grateful to receive any non-perishable Christmas foods (shortbread, puddings, cakes, lollies etc) to help us provide special Christmas treats to our local families in need. Our last day for collection pickup is the 13/14 December. Christmas is a season of kindness, and these hampers are a way to let families know they are valued and supported. Donation envelopes will be available.

ADVENT

Advent is a special time of preparation as we await the coming of Jesus at Christmas. To help us reflect and prepare, Advent reflection and discussion sessions will be held on **Mondays - 15th, and 22nd December at 4pm in the church.** All are warmly invited to come along and share in this time of prayer and reflection.

MISA DE GALLO-SIMBANG GABI

Simbang Gabi, the beloved Filipino nine-day novena leading to Christmas is a time of preparation of our hearts for the coming of Christ. Rooted in a rich tradition of faith and celebration these Masses help us enter more deeply into the spirit of Advent. Fr Uday will celebrate these masses on Tuesday 16th, Thursday 18th and Tuesday 23rd December at 6.30pm. Please join for supper and fellowship following each Mass and bring a plate to share. Please note that there will be **no** 4.15pm mass on the Tuesdays.

MASS TIME TABLE

Weekly Masses

Sat 13th December - 6pm Childrens Christmas Mass
Sun 14th December - 8.30am Mass

Weekly Masses

Tue 16th December - 6.30pm Misa De Gallo Mass
Thu 18th December - 6.30pm Misa De Gallo Mass
Sun 21st December - 8.30am Mass

Weekly Masses

Tue 23rd December - 6.30pm Misa De Gallo Mass
Wed 24th December – 8pm Mass after 7.30pm Carols
Thu 25th December – 8.30am Christmas Mass
Sat 27th December - 6pm Mass
Sun 28th December - 8.30am Mass

CHILDREN'S MASS AND CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join us for a joyful celebration Mass on Saturday 13th December at 6pm followed by dinner and fun activities for children. Families are warmly invited to come along. RSVP to the Office 5852 1026 or Mary 0427 190 282. Come and share in the Spirit of Christmas with our parish community.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GLOBAL GIFTS ARE CHRISTMAS CARDS WITH PURPOSE!

Every card you buy helps build brighter futures for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty. By putting your compassion into action and shopping for the Global Gifts you will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and communities, while giving your loved ones a meaningful Christmas card. View the range of Global Gifts: www.globalgifts.org.au

GLUTEN FREE

Please note that gluten free hosts are available to parishioners who are gluten intolerant. Please see the sacristans Annette or Marg or Fr before Mass. For further queries contact Mary at the parish office 5852 1026.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

We wish all the teachers, staff, students and families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and enjoyable break over the school holidays. Office hours will be limited over the school and public holidays so please contact the office with any bulletin notices or anniversary names well in advance.

SUPPORT OUR ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE

Earlier this year, access to low-cost nonperishable food for our pantry from Food Bank Victoria was lost due to insatiable demand. Demand from families in need within our community is also high and supporting them with pantry food made a difference. Our pantry is empty. To highlight the need and provide an opportunity for parishioners to contribute nonperishable food items for our pantry, a basket is located at the rear of the church.

CHILDRENS DRAWING ACTIVITIES

We have available some clipboards with pictures and pencils for colouring in for the younger members of the church. These are located in the gathering space in the church. Please offer to our younger parishioners.

VISIT OUR PIETY STORE!

Have you visited our Parish Piety Store recently? We offer a lovely range of religious items including rosaries, medals, prayer cards, candles, and gifts for all occasions. Every purchase helps support our parish and faith community. We're always looking to add new items—if there's something you'd like to see in the Piety Store, please let us know! Your suggestions are most welcome. Thank you for your continued support.

ANointing MASS

No Anointing Mass in January.

ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

Part of our website, allows payments and donations to be made online via the website or by scanning the QR code. Donations can be made anonymously, but please remember if the payment is for a sacramental or piety store, please leave your name so we can match the payment.

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Ciavarellas Betta
242 Allan Street Kyabram
03 5852 2640
ciavarellas@my.betta.com.au

CHILD SAFE PARISH

We are a Child Safe Parish, we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and aim to provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment to all visiting children, young persons and vulnerable adults. If you are concerned for any form of abuse that is immediate you should call 000; a significant risk or harm, whether or not you have formed this belief on reasonable grounds, you should immediately raise your concerns with one of our Parish Child safety officers Mary Zobec 0427 190 282 or Annette Ryan 0408 502 858.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As we come to worship, we remember the Yorta Yorta & Bangerang People the original custodians of this land. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with deep respect. May the Elders, past and present, be blessed and honored. May we join and build a future based on compassion, justice, faith and reconciliation.

"God's will be done" – St. Mary MacKillop

GOSPEL

MT 11:2-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see: the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

THE ONE WHO IS TO COME

Today's Gospel focus continues with John the Baptist, introduced to us last Sunday. From prison he sends his followers to Jesus to find out if he is the 'one who is to come or have we to wait for someone else?' This question picks up an early memory that some thought John might have been the Messiah. Jesus explicates his Messianic credentials to John's enquirers: the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear and the dead raised to life. In other words, Jesus affirms that he is the one who brings restoration, community and healing. Jesus' self-identification further affirms the blessedness of those who remain faithful to him.

In the biblical world, 'faith' was another way of affirming fidelity and commitment to another. This leads Jesus to attest, in this spirit of fidelity and commitment, John's prophetic mission of desert asceticism and preparation for the coming of the Messiah. As we come into these final days before Christmas, our role becomes like John: we align ourselves in fidelity and faith to the one who is to be born, who will bring healing and hope to our world that struggles to know this.

But we also hear Jesus' affirming words – the final sentence in today's Gospel passage addressed to us. Despite John's greatness as the one who prepares for the coming of Jesus, 'yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he'. The Gospel's audience, including us, are affirmed. We have unique status in the eyes of God. This divine promise accompanies us in the days ahead.

Fr Michael Trainor

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Isa 35:1-6, 10

God himself will come and save us.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look your God is coming, vengeance is coming,

the retribution of God;

he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed,

then the lame shall leap like a deer

and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,

for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy,

everlasting joy in their faces;

joy and gladness will go with them

and sorrow and lament be ended.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 145:6-10. R. cf. Isa 35:4

R. Lord, come and save us. (or Alleluia!)

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, / who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, / who raises up those who are bowed down, / the Lord, who protects the stranger / and upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**



3. It is the Lord who loves the just / but thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of St James

You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Isa 61:1; Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!



Kyabram Community Carols

KYABRAM MEMORIAL GARDENS

THURSDAY - 18TH DECEMBER, 2025

PRE-CAROLS ACTIVITIES FROM 5PM
CAROLS FROM 7:30PM

Christmas Carols
Kid's Activities
Food Trucks
Fireworks

Run by the Kyabram
Minister's Fellowship



Campaspe
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Bendigo Bank

Greenham

Community Sponsors



Clive Coventry Funerals



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