



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

Feast of the Holy Family ~ Year A

Sunday 28 December 2025



Readings for
this week:

Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6,12-14

Colossians 3:12-21

Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

Readings for
next Sunday:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6

Matthew 2:1-12



Liturgy Jottings

The Collect Prayer given below, an alternative in the ICEL Missal of 1997, reflects on the trials and pains of the Holy Family as they must escape from Herold. It unites their trials and pains with all families that also suffer anxieties and threats.

Loving God,
guardian of our homes,
when you entrusted your Son
to the care of Mary and Joseph,
you did not spare them the pains
that touch the life of every family.
Teach us to rely on your word,
that in our trials as in our joys
we may be clothed in gentleness
and patience and united in love.
Make us ever-thankful
for the blessings you give us
through Jesus Christ,
your Word made flesh,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
in the splendour of eternal light,
God for ever and ever. Amen.

Looking at the Readings

The book of Ecclesiasticus (better entitled Sirach in the new Lectionary) is a collection of wise sayings inspired by the Law of God. The Law originally was given as a gift and observed to set people free from slavery and establish a new relationship with God. The first reading from this book concerns the right relationships between parents and children. The family values expressed are very human and very divine: honour, respect, obedience, kindness and forgiveness.

Matthew writes his gospel for a Christian community with very Judaic roots: Christ is seen as the new Moses. Jesus' life is threatened by King Herod and Moses' life was threatened by Pharaoh. Moses led his people out of Egypt, Matthew quotes the Prophet Hosea "I called my son out of Egypt." (11:1). There are many other parallels, but this passage is chosen for the Feast of the Holy Family to show that Joseph's dreams, responses, insights, decisions and protection he provides to and for Mary and Jesus are the dreams, responses, insights, decisions and protection we ought to develop in our families today.

The new Lectionary only gives the shorter form of the second reading from Saint Paul's letter to the Colossians. He expounds family values of compassion, generosity, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, love, peace and giving thanks to God. Peace in our hearts is re-emphasised in the Gospel Acclamation.

Prayer for the Week

May the peace of Christ reign in our hearts, and the fullness of Christ's message live within us. *Cf Gospel Acclamation Col 3:15a,16a*

Pope Leo XIV on The Family

I encourage you [parents] to be examples of integrity to your children, acting as you want them to act, educating them in freedom through obedience, always seeing the good in them and finding ways to nurture it. And you, dear children, show gratitude to your parents. To say, 'thank you' each day for the gift of life and for all that comes with it is the first way to honour your father and your mother. 1 June 2025 Jubilee of Families, Children, Grandparents and the Elderly

On the Lighter Side of Families

"Having one child makes you a parent. Having two kids makes you a referee." —David Frost

Marriages are made in heaven. But so again, are thunder and lightning. —Clint Eastwood.



PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

Recently Deceased: Patricia Meloury

Anniversaries: Marie Wearden

(Please email or contact the Parish Office to add names to our prayer list)

ROSTERS

Sunday 4 January 8.30am

Commentator – J Chant

Lector – N Watt

Special Minister – A Brunt

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 DiPetta

PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION

Last weekend Collection: \$

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.

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.

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.

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.

MASS TIME TABLE

Weekly Masses

Sat 27th December - 6pm Mass

Sun 28th December - 8.30am Mass

Weekly Masses

Tue 30th December - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Liturgy

Thu 1st January - No Mass

Sun 4th January - 8.30am Mass

Sun 4th January - 11.30am Mass Tongala

Weekly Masses

Tue 6th January - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 8th January - No Mass

Sat 10th January – 6pm Mass

Sun 11th January - 8.30am Mass

Weekly Masses

Tue 13th January - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Liturgy

Thu 15th January - No Mass

Sun 18th January - 8.30am Mass

MONTHLY WORKING BEE

The next working bee will be Saturday 3rd January at 9.30am.

YOUTH PODCAST: CATCH THE FLAME:

Sandhurst Youth Ministry has launched a podcast for young people to explore faith, share real stories, and journey together in discovering what it means to follow Jesus today. Now streaming on Spotify and Apple Podcast: Catch the Flame: A Sandhurst Catholic Youth Podcast. Like and Follow on Facebook and Instagram: Sandhurst Youth Ministry.

SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS

'Suggestions and Ideas' forms and envelopes (and a box to submit them in) are available at the back of the church for any ideas or suggestions you may have about the Parish. We welcome any suggestions and ideas that will continue to strengthen our Parish.

CATHOLICCARE VICTORIA

Your Diocesan social service agency, CatholicCare Victoria (CCV) is the Catholic Church's mission in action. CCV delivers programs and services to support families, children, young people and individuals to help everyone reach their full potential and overcome life's challenges. CCV is committed to building thriving communities, where everyone belongs. CCV focuses on real life issues and offers practical support for all members of the community. The services include counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, pastoral care, support for separating families, social housing and homelessness support, financial and material aid and a variety of courses to strengthen relationships and wellbeing. Our office locations are in Bendigo, Shepparton and Wangaratta. Some of our services are provided remotely while other services are location specific. If CCV cannot provide the support service, a referral can be made. For information or support, please call 1800 123 228 or visit: www.catholiccarevic.org.au

INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK

Are you a friend of Kyabram Catholic Parish? The Parish has an Instagram account along with the Facebook page. This is used to share current information and share events etc around the diocese.

MASS OFFERINGS

The concept of a Mass offering goes back to the early Church; it is a gift given to a priest as a sign of gratitude for him including a particular intention during a Mass. The intention might be for a sick friend, the repose of the soul of a loved one, or indeed, any need. In the early Church a 'Mass offering' was not money, but an offering of farm produce as a sign of thanks and a way of uniting the fruits of one's labour to the Mass.

An offering is giving a part of ourselves. Of course, we unite our hearts to the offering of every Mass. The notion of the Mass offering to support the priest to live is integral. Traditionally the Mass offering was an amount which would allow the priest to live for that day. Now most clergy receive a stipend from the parish or diocese. Where the church is poor, priests rely on this support to enable their ministry of the Word of God and the sacraments.

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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 Annete 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.

"I pray that each of you, and your families, may experience a blessed Advent in preparation for the coming of the

Breaking Open the Word

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

The virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God-is-with-us.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 1:18-24

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew:

Jesus was born of Mary; the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son

and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'.

When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

21 DECEMBER 2025

FIRST READING

Isa 7:10-14

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:

are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men

without trying the patience of God, too?

The Lord himself, therefore,

will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child

and will soon give birth to a son

whom she will call Emmanuel,

a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 23:1-6, R. cf. vv. 7, 10

R. Let the Lord enter: he is king of glory.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas;

on the waters he made it firm. **R.**

2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?

The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **R.**

3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.

Such are the men who seek him,

seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 1:1-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the

Romans

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

■ The word of the Lord.

Fr Michael Trainor