



# KYABRAM CATHOLIC PARISH

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

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Parish Priest – Fr Uday Marneni ALCP/OSS

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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

25 January 2026



Readings for  
this week:

Isaiah 8:23-9:31  
1 Cor 1:10-13,17  
Matthew 4:12-23



Readings for  
next Sunday:

Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13  
1 Corinthians 1:26-31  
Matthew 5:1-12



## Liturgy Jottings

### Matthew's Gospel

During the Season of Ordinary Time cycle A Gospel of St Matthew is proclaimed on every Sunday. From this Sunday we hear of the beginning of Jesus' ministry in Galilee and on the last Sunday of the Year the end of his ministry in Jerusalem. The passages are from Chapters 4 to 24.

Earlier chapters tell of the Nativity of the Lord that are read during Advent-Christmas-Epiphany Season and the latter chapters on his death and resurrection that are read during the Passion-Easter Season.

Only five chapters are missing from this semi-continuous reading of the first Gospel. We hear these missing episodes mainly in cycle C from the Gospel according to Luke.

Matthew's Gospel is written for a Christian Jewish community with many Old Testament quotes from prophets and allusions about Adam, Abraham Moses, David and the Law. Jesus is depicted as the new Moses presenting the new Law.

## Looking at the Readings

Beginning his ministry, Jesus took over from where John the Baptist left off by preaching: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." We hear these words *repent* and *Kingdom of God* many times in Matthew's Gospel. There is a sense of urgency: *close at hand*, the four Apostles left their nets and boats and *immediately* followed him.

Also, Jesus emphasises the movement from darkness to light, evil to goodness that is part of the first reading from the Prophet Isaiah: "The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light ..." and quoted by Matthew in the gospel today.

Jesus words and actions are *generously generalised* by Matthew: it is not just a few who are healed or a few who hear the word but *all* who were sick, the crowds, *all* kinds of diseases, *all* of Galilee and finally at his Ascension: "go out to *all* the nations". What was the mission of Jesus then became the mission of the Apostles and eventually becomes the mission of the whole church. This is expressed succinctly in the following prayer.

## Prayer for the Week

God of salvation,  
the splendour of your glory  
dispels the darkness of earth,  
for in Christ we behold the nearness of your kingdom.  
Now make us quick to follow where he beckons,  
eager to embrace the tasks of the gospel.

## Quote from Pope Leo XIV

"Our world, wounded by war, violence and injustice, needs to hear the Gospel message of God's love and to experience the reconciling power of Christ's grace," CNS 22 May 2025

## Day of Prayer: Australia Day 26 January

The Prayers and Readings carry many intentions for the land, the people old and new, the nation, for peace and justice, shelter and safety and blessing. Symbols of Australia may decorate the church: native plants, local artwork and aboriginal artefacts, southern cross, native animals, national flags and music.

## On the Lighter Side

Why is dark spelt with a K and not a C?

Because you cannot see in the dark!

After God created 24 hours of alternating darkness and light, one of the angels asked him, "what are you going to do now?" God said, "I think I'm going to call it a day."



## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Sick:** Ray O'Donnell, Kady Mitchell-Treacy, Noreen Gallardo, Shane Boyd, Olive McElroy, Philip Bowman, Millie Perry, Frances Corso.

**Recently Deceased:** Des Mulcahy

**Anniversaries:**

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

## ROSTERS

**Sunday 1 February 8.30am**

Commentator – L Sorbello

Lector – M Carver

Special Minister – B Lyon

**Sunday 8 February 8.30am**

Commentator – N Watt

Lector – B Elliot

Special Minister – J Chant

**Sunday 14 February 8.30am**

Commentator – L Radcliffe

Lector – C Anderson

Special Minister – L Moran

## PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION

**Last weekend Collection: \$ 869.40**

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: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.



## A Prayer for Australia

Loving God,

We thank You for the gift of Australia,  
for its wide lands and rich seas,  
its ancient peoples and those who came after,  
and for the many cultures that now call this land home.

Bless our nation with justice and compassion.  
Guide our leaders with wisdom and integrity,  
that they may serve the common good  
and protect the dignity of every person.

We pray for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples,

the first custodians of this land.

May we walk together in truth, healing, and respect.

Grant us hearts open to reconciliation,  
generous in welcome,  
and committed to peace.

Through the intercession of **Mary, Help of Christians**,  
patroness of Australia,

and **St Mary of the Cross MacKillop**,

may we grow as one people under Your loving care.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## MASS TIME TABLE

### Weekly Masses

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> January – 6pm Mass

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> January - 8.30am Mass

### Weekly Masses

Tue 27<sup>th</sup> January - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 29<sup>th</sup> January - No Mass

Sun 1<sup>st</sup> February - 8.30am Mass

Sun 1<sup>st</sup> February - 11.30am Mass Tongala

### Weekly Masses

Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> February - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Liturgy

Wed 4<sup>th</sup> February - 11.30am St Augustine's Opening  
School Mass

Thu 5<sup>th</sup> February - No Mass

Sat 7<sup>th</sup> February - No Mass

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> February - 8.30am Mass (Fr M Grace)



## SAVE THE DATE

Harvest Mass will be held on Sunday 15 February, more details to follow.

## PROVINCIAL CHAPTER IN INDIA

Father will be away on leave from 2 February to 5 March. There will be no Saturday Masses during this time. Tuesday Masses will be a Liturgy. Fr Michael Grace will be celebrating the weekend Masses during this time.

## A LIFE WORTH TELLING

Sue Bier of Heathcote Parish has written the life story of Fr Paul Ly, parish priest for 28 years. Told largely in his own words, it traces his childhood in China, his escape during Chairman Mao's regime, and his journey to the priesthood in Rome, where he met Bishop Bernard Stewart. Written with Fr Paul's blessing before his death, this account completes his story and will be of great interest across the Sandhurst Diocese. For a pre-order form, please email: [bier3@bigpond.com](mailto:bier3@bigpond.com)

## MONTHLY WORKING BEE

The next working bee is Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 9.30am.

## CARITAS – JUSTICE MEETING

**Goulburn Valley Deanery Wednesday 4th Feb at Shepparton 5pm** in St Brendan's Meeting Room, behind church, Knight St Shepparton Cuppa at 5pm, meeting begins 5.15pm and concludes by 7pm. If you would like to be a part of our team please contact the office.

## ANOINTING MASS

There will be no Anointing Mass in February while Fr Uday is away.

## LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

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

## INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028

Australia is preparing to host the International Eucharistic Congress in 2028, a significant moment of prayer and renewal for the Church. As part of this journey, parishes across the country are invited to take part in a nationwide Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration on Sunday 1 March, following Mass. Parishioners are warmly encouraged to come and spend time with the Lord in prayer, as we begin building anticipation and spiritual momentum towards Eucharist28. More information and resources are coming soon.

## YOUTH PODCAST: CATCH THE FLAME:

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

## 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.

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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 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.

There is more value in a little study of humility and in a single act of it than in all the knowledge in the world.

- Saint Teresa of Avila



# Breaking Open the Word

**GOSPEL** Mt 4:12-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.*

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! / Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, / Galilee of the nations! / The people that lived in darkness / has seen a great light; / on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death / a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

## ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

*Shorter form: 4: 12-17*

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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## REPENT

Last Sunday's Gospel from John, though critically important for our spiritual reflection, seemed unusual in this year of Matthew. So, today, we return to Matthew. In the past two Sundays, John the Baptist has been central in the Gospel selections. Today he is no longer with us, having been arrested. Our focus is squarely now on Jesus. He moves from his hometown of Nazareth to Capernaum. Both towns are on the fringe. The first, Nazareth, is the symbolic place of exile in Matthew. When Mary, Joseph and Jesus returned from Egypt they could not go back to their hometown of Bethlehem because of the vengeful ruling presence of Herod's son Archelaus. They go to live in Galilee, to Nazareth. They, like the Israelites several centuries earlier, are in exile. It is from here that the rest of Matthew unfolds.

Jesus next moves to Capernaum located geographically close to pagan and Gentile territories. It is a fishing village and a taxation collection centre at the crossroads of two major E-W and N-S highways. It is here that Jesus proclaims the great clarion cry in the Gospel: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand' (4:17). This cry 'to repent' (Greek *metanoeite*) is an urge to have an openness of heart. It comes with a conviction that God is already present and active in the world ('the kingdom of heaven is close at hand').

Finally, after Jesus calls four fishermen to be his first disciples, our Gospel proclamation ends with a note about Jesus' teaching and healing ministry. The first-called disciples will model for Matthew's audience how to be repentant and live out the conviction of God's presence in their lives and world.

**Fr Michael Trainor**

# THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

25 JANUARY 2026

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.*

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light;  
on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater,  
you have made their joy increase;  
they rejoice in your presence  
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,  
the bar across his shoulders,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
these you break as on the day of Midian.

## ■ The word of the Lord.

### RESP PSALM

Ps 26:1, 4, 13-14. R.v.1

**R.** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my salvation; / whom shall I fear? / The Lord is the stronghold of my life; / before whom shall I shrink? **R.**

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord, / for this I long, / to live in the house of the Lord, / all the days of my life, / to savour the sweetness of the Lord, / to behold his temple. **R.**

3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness / in the land of the living. / Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. / Hope in the Lord! **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Cor 1:10-13, 17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.*

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

## ■ The word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia! / Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, / and healed all who were sick. / Alleluia!