



KYABRAM CATHOLIC PARISH

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

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

Tel: (03) 5852 1026 Email: kyabram@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Website: www.catholicparish.app/kyabram

Scan to donate on Mobile



Parish Priest – Fr Uday Marneni ALCP/OSS

Donation QR

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 February 2026



Readings for
this week:

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



Readings for
next Sunday:

Isaiah 58:7-10
1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Matthew 5:13-16



Liturgy Jottings

Gospel Sequence

The Gospels from the fourth Sunday to the ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time form a sequence, or rather a great sequence. It contains the first and largest discourse of Jesus over three chapters. Also known as the Sermon on the Mount, it starts with the "Beatitudes", which is today's gospel. This passage serves as an introduction and a reference point to the rest of Christ's instruction to the disciples.

This great sequence starts with the words: "Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. ... This is what he taught them" (Matt 5:1-2) and concludes with "When Jesus finished these words, the crowds were astonished." (Matt 7:28-29).

He taught them with mercy and compassion, firmness and authority and about faith and living the faith daily. Unfortunately, we will not hear the last three instalments of the 7th -9th Sundays due to Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Feast of the Trinity interrupting this sequence. But we can find them in our Sunday Missals and the Bible.

Focus on the Gospel

There was a humorous play on the Beatitudes: The disciples asked: "Did they have to remember them?" and "Is it going to be on the exam paper?" The short answer is that we do not have to remember them. But we have lived them! By living them, the Beatitudes become a way of life for us, they are part of our being and essential to our right relationships with God and one another.

The Book of the Prophet Zephaniah is only read twice on Sundays over the three year cycle. It contains three chapters, mainly on the denunciation of the sins of society and the consequences of their wrongdoing. But the sternness and severity is tempered in the last chapter, our reading today. It is instructive and uplifting. Zephaniah gives a spiritual connotation to poverty by aligning it with humility and integrity. No longer are riches seen as a blessing and poverty as a curse.

Certainly, Jesus turned such a concept upside-down by beginning the Sermon on the Mount with: "Blessed are the poor ...!" Imagine the shock of the crowds when they first heard this.

Zephaniah's Song of Joy.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence; driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear.

... The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love;

he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

Zeph 3:14-17. Third Sunday of Advent Year C

Pope Leo XIV on the Beatitudes

The Beatitudes bring with them a new interpretation of reality. They are both the path and the message of Jesus the Teacher. At first glance, it seems impossible to declare as blessed those who are poor, or those who hunger and thirst for justice, the persecuted or the peacemakers. Yet, that which seems inconceivable in the world's thinking is filled with meaning and light when brought into contact with the Kingdom of God.

Homily on All Saints Day, 1 Nov 2025.

On the Lighter Side:

In jest we hear of the eleventh commandment or the wise women from the East visiting Bethlehem. Now comes the ninth Beatitude: "Blessed are we who can laugh at ourselves; we shall never cease to be amused."



PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

Recently Deceased: Ray O'Donnell

Anniversaries: Eddie Shortis, Patricia Hehir, Antonio DePasquale, Annunziata Longo

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

ROSTERS

Sunday 8 February 8.30am

Commentator – N Watt

Lector – B Elliot

Special Minister – J Chant

Sunday 15 February 8.30am

Commentator – P Jenner

Lector – J Chant

Special Minister – N Livsey

Sunday 22 February 8.30am

Commentator – C Cabaraban

Lector – C Goode

Special Minister – M Cocks

PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION

Last weekend Collection: \$ 1079.20

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.

BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND

This weekend we welcome Noah Grima into our faith community. Noah will be baptised in St Augustine's church. Please keep Steven and Caitlyn his parents and his godparents in your prayers, as they continue on their faith journey.

GATHERING TO CELEBRATE AND GIVE THANKS FOR THE HARVEST

A parish gathering to celebrate and give thanks for the harvest will be held on Sunday 15th February. In Jesus' day, the Jewish people celebrated the "Feast of Ingathering" or the "Feast of Tabernacles". Everyone shared from their harvest, and goods were collected for the poor. St Augustine's Parish will again celebrate the harvest with the same sense of joy and sharing. We invite all farmers, crops growers, orchardists, winegrowers, home gardeners and cooks, to bring from their produce on that day – for the produce swapping table. Let us also share abundance with those in need; we encourage people to bring a non-perishable item in a can, jar or packet, of something produced in our area. On the day, donors can bring these items to the altar in the entry procession for the St Vincent DePaul Society baskets. We also ask people to bring a plate to share following Mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

On Wednesday 18th February Fr Des will be celebrating Ash Wednesday Mass at 6pm.

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. Safe travels Father Uday.

ANointing MASS

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

MASS TIME TABLE

Weekly Masses

Sun 1st February - 8.30am Mass

Sun 1st February - 11.30am Mass Tongala

Weekly Masses

Tue 3rd February - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Liturgy

Wed 4th February - 11.30am St Augustine's Opening School Mass

Thu 5th February - No Mass

Sat 7th February - No Mass

Sun 8th February - 8.30am Mass (Fr M Grace)

Weekly Masses

Tue 10th February - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Liturgy

Thu 12th February - Beginning Year Mass St Patricks Tongala Fr Michael Morley at 10am

Sun 15th February - 8.30am Mass (Fr M Grace)

Weekly Masses

Tue 17th February - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Liturgy

MONTHLY WORKING BEE

The next working bee is Saturday 7th 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.

SANDPIPER E-NEWS

Catch up on news and events across the Diocese with the next edition out this Friday. You can find it on their <https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/news-a-events3/sandpiper-e-news>, under "News".

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

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 **Tuesday 3rd March, following Liturgy**. 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.

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.

Special thanks to our
Advertisers for their support



Kyvalley Farms milk advertisement featuring a family (father, mother, and child) drinking milk. Two large milk jugs are in the foreground. The text 'Kyvalley Farms' is at the top right, with 'EST. 1857' in a small circle. Below the image, the text 'Always TRUSTED' is written in a stylized font. At the bottom, it says: 'Our Kyvalley Farms milk is 100% Australian Family Owned and Produced. For a full list of our stockists, please visit: www.kyvalleyfarmsmilk.com



KY CLEANING SERVICE advertisement. The logo 'KY CLEANING SERVICE' is at the top. Below it is a list of services: ★ Carpet Steam Cleaning, ★ Commercial & Domestic, ★ Upholstery, ★ Floor Strip and Sealing, ★ Tile and Grout, ★ Vacate Cleans. To the right is an illustration of a person cleaning. At the bottom, it says 'John & Vicky' and '0408 553 972'.



BUSHRANGER POWER EQUIPMENT advertisement. The logo 'BUSHRANGER' is at the top in large, bold letters, with 'POWER EQUIPMENT' below it. Below the logo is a photograph of various outdoor power equipment, including a lawnmower, a chainsaw, and a blower. At the bottom, it says 'GFD Outdoors and Sports' and '23 McCormick Road, Kyabram (03) 5853 2205'.



Betta ELECTRICAL HOME LIVING advertisement. The logo 'Betta ELECTRICAL' is at the top, with 'HOME LIVING' below it. Below the logo is a photograph of a person working on a wall. At the bottom, it says 'Ciavarellas Betta', '242 Allan Street Kyabram', '03 5852 2640', and 'ciavarellas@mv.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.

Actions speak louder than words; let your words teach and your actions speak.
-Saint Anthony of Padua

Breaking Open the Word

GOSPEL
Mt 5:1-12
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Happy are the poor in spirit.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL
Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin prohibited.
Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135.
Tel 02 9394 3400 Email: sales@stpauls.com.au Scripture readings taken from The Jerusalem Bible, © 1966 Hodder & Stoughton Ltd. All rights reserved. Psalm text from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass: from the Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rjl. Layout, commentaries and illustrations: © St Pauls Publications, 2026. No 2128. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

TRUE BLESSEDNESS

What is discipleship about? This becomes the focus of Matthew's Gospel over the next few Sundays as we turn to Jesus' first major moment of teaching, what we know as the 'Sermon on the Mount'. Jesus, like Moses in the Old Testament, gathers with his disciples on a mountain. They surround him and listen to his teaching. He teaches them about blessedness in eight 'Beatitudes'. Each Beatitude begins with 'Blessed are those...' and then names those who are blessed by God.

Some translations unhelpfully have 'Happy are those...' There is a theological distinction between being 'blessed' and 'happy'. Being happy relies on one's self-referential internal disposition. The focus of 'blessedness' is different. It is God. The Greek (*makarios*) is about God's action to those who are without status ('poor in spirit'), know their own humble status ('gentle'), seek comfort amidst life's sadness ('mourn'), are passionate for justice ('hunger and thirst for what is right'), show compassion to others ('merciful'), are thoughtfully genuine and authentic ('pure of heart'), seek to bring about peace where there is division ('peacemakers') and who suffer for their conviction to act justly with integrity ('persecuted in the cause of right').

Those named as blessed have an ultimate openness to God in all life's experiences. God will respond to them, will bless them and will allow the Kingdom (rather 'Kingdom') to be revealed in them. The Beatitudes are framed with the promise, 'the kingdom of God is theirs'. A final Beatitude is tacked on to the original eight. It acknowledges the suffering and persecution now experienced by Matthew's community. A lingering contemplation of any of these Beatitudes can remind us how much we are blessed by God now.

Fr Michael Trainor

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

FIRST READING

Zeph 2: 3; 3: 12-13

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.

Seek the Lord
all you, the humble of the earth,
who obey his commands.
Seek integrity, seek humility:
you may perhaps find shelter
on the day of the anger of the Lord.
In your midst I will leave
a humble and lowly people,
and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge
in the name of the Lord.

They will do no wrong,
will tell no lies;
and the perjured tongue will no longer
be found in their mouths.

But they will be able to graze and rest
with no one to disturb them.

■ The word of the Lord.

They will do no wrong,
will tell no lies;
and the perjured tongue will no longer
be found in their mouths.

But they will be able to graze and rest
with no one to disturb them.

■ The word of the Lord.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145: 7-10

R. Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom
of heaven is theirs! (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.

1 FEBRUARY 2026

THE SAVING WORD



SECOND READING

1 Cor 1: 26-31

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

God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 5: 12

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad:

your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!