



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

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Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8 February 2026



Readings for
this week:

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



Readings for
next Sunday:

Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20
1 Corinthians 2:6-10
Matthew 5:17-37



Liturgy Jottings

Incipits

Most scripture texts proclaimed in our Liturgy of the Word begin with additional words not part of the selected text in order to give direction and context to the passage. The first reading today from the book of Isaiah starts with verse 7, the Lectionary editors have added "Thus says the Lord" which come from Is 56:1 the beginning of a long discourse. Similarly with the Gospel read today, the editors have added "Jesus said to his disciples" which come from Matt 5:1-2. The Canadian Lectionary adds several more words: "Jesus went up the mountain and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to teach them." Without the additional words (the incipits) we may wonder what is going on when we hear: "He said to them" Who is he? Who are they? And where are they at the time? It is a trap for young players who select a reading straight out of the bible to include in a liturgy.

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Focus on the Readings

The first reading from the book of Isaiah comes from a much longer discourse in which the Lord is addressing several issues to the "nations" as they come out of exile, resettling in their homeland and rebuilding the Holy City, Jerusalem. This excerpt addresses the re-establishment of prayer and fasting as a noble religious practice. But through the Prophet, the Lord reminds them that fasting has both spiritual and social dimensions. There must be a "desire" for the external ritual of fasting and a "desire" for compassion for the poor.

The Lord's demand for integrity and charity may seem overwhelming for the just person. This passage has only half the *incipit* (see the column to the left). To whom is the Lord speaking? Who is "you"? It is the people, the whole nation not just individuals. The whole nation is exhorted to true fasting and compassion to the poor. Thus, it is very reminiscent of the Gospel of last week, the Beatitudes.

The conclusion of the first reading also resounds with the conclusion to the Beatitudes "Rejoice and be glad for your reward will be great in heaven" Matt 5:12a, and to the sentiment expressed in the Gospel today: "You are the light of the world" Matt 5:14 and in the first reading: "Your light will rise in the darkness." (Is 58:10)

Quotes of the Day

Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle. *St Francis of Assisi*

Prayer for the Week

Blessed are those who see in each one Your light:

In their houses, they are sources of light.

Blessed are those who are forgiven:

In their turn, they radiate peace.

Blessed are those who open their hands and give:

The joy of God shines upon them.

Commission Francophone Cistercienne

On the Lighter Side

The Light of the World (US, 2025) is an animated movie that follows Jesus' life from ministry beginnings through crucifixion, resurrection, as seen through the eyes of the Apostle John who sometimes is humorous, sometimes rowdy, and sometimes not very practical. See review in:

www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/light-of-the-world



PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

Recently Deceased: Eileen Kelly

Anniversaries: Fred Slaughter, Merv Ryan, John Moran

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

ROSTERS

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

Sunday 1 March 8.30am

Commentator – R Chapman

Lector – L Sorbello

Special Minister – M O'Shea

PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION

Last weekend Collection: \$ 1164.10

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.

LENT 2026 REFLECTION BOOKLET

To help us prepare for Easter during Lent, the Diocese has again prepared its Lenten resources for prayer and reflection, offered in a single booklet covering both Lent and Easter, replacing the weekly leaflets. The booklet can be [downloaded](#) from our website or the diocesan website. There are printed copies available in the gathering space.

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.

LADIES CUPPA AND CHAT

Ladies are invited to Cuppa and Chat at Fauna Park Café on Wednesday 11th February at 2pm. If you need a ride, please contact Mary Elliott on 0427 822754.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL PRAYER MEETING

Our next prayer group meeting will be on Wednesday 11th February at 5.30pm in the presbytery. All Welcome.

MASS TIME TABLE

Weekly Masses

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

Thu 19th February - No Mass

Sat 21st February - No Mass

Sun 22nd February - 8.30am Mass (Fr M Grace)

Weekly Masses

Tue 24th February - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Liturgy

Thu 26th February - No Mass

Sun 1st March - 8.30am Mass (Fr M Grace)

INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The Feast of St Bakhita, this Sunday 8th Feb, is day for prayer, reflection & action on the issue of human slavery in its many forms. Canonised in 2000, St Bakhita, captured in Sudan, aged 7, was bought and sold many times before being released in Italy and becoming a Canossian Sister. Take action against modern slavery by purchasing Slavery Free Chocolate this Easter www.chocolatescorecard.com More information at Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking Humans website <https://acrath.org.au/>

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 March.

SANDPIPER E-NEWS

Catch up on news and events across the Diocese with the next edition out this Friday. You can find it on our website 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.

Special thanks to our
Advertisers for their support



Kyvalley Farms milk advertisement featuring a family drinking milk and two large milk jugs. The text reads: "Kyvalley Farms", "EST. 1857", "Always TRUSTED", "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 featuring a list of services and a person cleaning. The text reads: "KY CLEANING SERVICE", "★ Carpet Steam Cleaning", "★ Commercial & Domestic", "★ Upholstery", "★ Floor Strip and Sealing", "★ Tile and Grout", "★ Vacate Cleans", "John & Vicky", "0408 553 972"



BUSH RANGER POWER EQUIPMENT advertisement featuring a lawnmower and other equipment. The text reads: "BUSH RANGER", "POWER EQUIPMENT", "GFD Outdoors and Sports", "23 McCormick Road, Kyabram (03) 5853 2205"



Betta ELECTRICAL advertisement featuring the company logo and contact information. The text reads: "Betta ELECTRICAL", "HOME LIVING", "Ciavarellas Betta", "242 Allan Street Kyabram", "03 5852 2640", "ciavarellas@my.betta.com.au"



Project Compassion Donation Envelopes:

How do I use them?

This Lent, like we did in 2025, there is a single Project Compassion donation envelope – rather than the six weekly envelopes used in previous years. This change was made to reduce waste and support our shared commitment to caring for our common home.

You can still give weekly by taking several envelopes at once or simply make your offering when you're ready. Thank you for *Uniting Against Poverty* with us this Lent.

UNITE 
AGAINST
POVERTY

this Lent



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.

What prayer could be more true before God the Father than that which the Son, who is Truth, uttered with His own lips? -Saint John Chrysostom

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 8:12

Allcluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord:
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.
Allcluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.'

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word

SALT AND LIGHT

Today's Gospel continues with Matthew's teaching in the 'Sermon on the Mount'. After identifying the disciples' blessedness in all kinds of situations with which the Gospel audience would be familiar, Matthew now highlights two images with which they can identify: salt and light. 'You are the salt of the earth' (5:13) and 'You are the light of the world' (5:14).

In Matthew's world salt was an important commodity and valuable trading product. It was used in cooking and for preserving foods (meat and fish) before refrigeration. Salt was shipped across the Mediterranean Sea and then carted into all of Rome's provinces along specially built salt roads. Salt's need was universal and, in times of scarcity, so precious that it became a means of bartering and currency substitute, hence the modern term 'salary'. But there is one quality of salt scarcely known. In a world of outdoor ovens with little or no wood to fire them, salt was mixed with dung to produce the chemical reaction that created the necessary heat required for baking bread.

In Jesus' reminder to the disciples that they are the 'salt of the earth', he is speaking more than about them being agents of preservation. Their presence in the Greco-Roman world meant at times that they will find themselves in disagreeable situations. These times requires fidelity or 'saltiness'. Their capacity to engage their world will also make them the 'light of the world'. The richness of these two metaphors, salt and light, finds their realisation with us, Jesus' contemporary disciples.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

8 FEBRUARY 2026

FIRST READING

Isa 58:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Your light will shine like the dawn.

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor;
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then your light will shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'

If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 111:4-9, R. v. 4

R. A light rises in the darkness for the upright. (or Alleluia!)

1. He is light in the darkness for the upright: / he is generous, merciful and just. / The good man takes pity and lends, / he conducts his affairs with honour. **R.**
2. The just man will never waver: / he will be remembered for ever. / He has no fear of evil news; / with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. **R.**
3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear; / open-handed, he gives to the poor; / his justice stands firm for ever. / His head will be raised in glory. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 2:1-5

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

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

■ The word of the Lord.



LENT 2026

BOOKLET AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM OUR WEBSITE

You are invited into the Gospel stories of Lent (Year A) and the words of fellow travellers to reflect on Jesus and those who encountered Him during desert experiences in their lives.



sandhurst.catholic.org.au



Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst