



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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Website: www.catholicparish.app/kyabram

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Parish Priest – Fr Uday Marneni ALCP/OSS

Donation QR

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

15 February 2026



Readings for
this week:

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



Readings for
next Sunday:

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11



Liturgy Jottings

Season of Lent I

PASTORAL NOTES

Lent begins next Wednesday. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year (CCL 97, 1251f).

In Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised. Other celebrations' in Lent (e.g. marriage) must take account of the spirit of penance: musical instruments are only used to sustain singing, and floral decorations are very simple.

Catholics are obliged to receive holy communion at least once a year, in Australia and New Zealand between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday.

(from the Aust-NZ Ordo 2026 p 39)

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Focus on the Readings

Jesus Ben Sira, the author of the Book of Ecclesiasticus (also called the Book of Sirach) shared his wisdom and insights on the dilemma of human freedom and God's initiatives. However, the reading exposes more questions for us about freedom, our choices, God's law and the wisdom of the Lord. The poem below reflects on this apparent paradox:

Jesus crucified, Wisdom of God

The law is fulfilled in Christ,
Salvation of every believer.

Wiser than human beings is the folly of God
One sole glory: the Cross of the Lord.

Here is the new commandment:

To live in love

Jesus crucified, Wisdom of God

The readings of this Sunday affirm the gift of human free will and the conviction that God has set before us the moral choice between goodness and evil, blessing and curse, fire and water, life and death. They also challenge hearers to embrace their moral freedom by choosing a life transformed by the spiritual wisdom reflected in God's commandments and revealed ultimately in the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ. We are called to a deeper, interior righteousness, reflected not just in external action, but in the innermost depths of our hearts.

Prayer of the Week

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me.

For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name. *Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 30: 3-4*

Quotes for the Day

All the great things are simple, and can be expressed in a single word: freedom, justice, honour, duty, mercy, hope. Winston Churchill

Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought. Pope John Paul II

On the Lighter Side

Two lawyers walked into a pub, ordered two drinks, took sandwiches from their briefcases and started to eat. The barman said, "You can't eat your own sandwiches in here!" The lawyers shrugged their shoulders then swapped the sandwiches.

A man walked into a pub with his alligator and asked the barman, "Do you serve lawyers here?" "Sure do," he replied. "Good," said the man. "Give me a beer, and I'll have a lawyer for my 'gator".



PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

Recently Deceased: Marie Curtis

Anniversaries: Salvatore Barbagallo

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

ROSTERS

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

Saturday 7 March at 6pm

Commentator – J Harris

Lector – W Mulcahy

Special Minister – L Cosgriff

PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION

Last weekend Collection: \$ 784.20

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.

HARVEST MASS

WELCOME to the celebration, thanksgiving and sharing of the harvest – just as Jesus and his people celebrated, gave thanks and shared in the “Feast of Ingathering” or the “Feast of Tabernacles.” After Mass, please feel free to swap and share items of produce from the trading table. And, of course, do stay for a cuppa following Mass.

Thank you to everyone who has helped and given to make our harvest celebration enjoyable. Please note there will be photos taken, if you do not wish for your photo to be taken please let the photographer know.

God, giver of all life, blessed are you in the fruits of the earth, in the sowing of seed and the work of human hands, in the harvest of human creativity.

God of the poor and hungry, blessed are you in the striving for justice, in the fragility of peace-making, in the generosity of care for those in need.

God of the great feast and the simple meal, blessed are you in the grace of hospitality, in the breaking and sharing, blessed are you in our daily bread. Amen

LENTEN PROGRAM

Sandhurst Diocese has produced a series of reflections for Lent. You are warmly invited to attend weekly sessions on **Wednesdays at 4pm** in the **Parish Meeting Room**, commencing **25th February**.

All are welcome to join us for prayer and reflection during this Lenten season.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026

The theme for this year is “I will Give You Rest: Come.” Matt 11:28-30 is prepared by WDP Nigeria. This year the Prayer Service will be held at St Augustine's on Friday 6th March at 10am. Guest speaker Mary Connolly-Gale. All welcome and encouraged to come along and support this prayerful event.

For inquiries Mary 0427 190282.

MASS TIME TABLE

Weekly Masses

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

Weekly Masses

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

Wed 18th February – 6pm Mass Ash Wednesday

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 - 9.15am Liturgy Year 5/6 & 9

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

Weekly Masses

Tue 3rd March - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Liturgy followed by Holy Hour

Thu 5th March - 9.15am Liturgy Year 3/4 and 8/10

Sat 7th March - 6pm Mass

Sun 8th March - 8.30am Mass

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.

ANointing MASS

There will be no Anointing Mass in March.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

On Wednesday 18th February Ash Wednesday Mass will be celebrating 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.

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".

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.

MONTHLY WORKING BEE

The next working bee is Saturday 7th March at 9.30am.

Special thanks to our
Advertisers for their support



Kyvalley Farms milk advertisement featuring a family (father, mother, and child) drinking milk. The text includes "Kyvalley Farms", "Always TRUSTED", and "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: "★ Carpet Steam Cleaning", "★ Commercial & Domestic", "★ Upholstery", "★ Floor Strip and Sealing", "★ Tile and Grout", "★ Vacate Cleans". It also includes the name "John & Vicky" and the phone number "0408 553 972".



BUSH RANGER POWER EQUIPMENT advertisement featuring a large blue and black lawnmower. The text includes "BUSH RANGER", "POWER EQUIPMENT", "GFD Outdoors and Sports", and "23 McCormick Road, Kyabram (03) 5853 2205".



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



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Project Compassion Sunday 14–15 of February 2026

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

Please donate today.

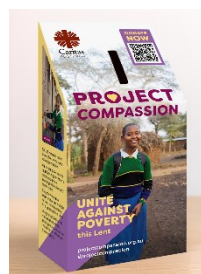
You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code

Or online at:

<https://www.projectcompassion.org.au/fundraisers/kyabramcatholicparish>

or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *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 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.

Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections, but instantly set about remedying them.

- Saint Francis de Sales

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth:

you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 5:20-22, 27-28, 33-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Such was said to your ancestors; but I say to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court;

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Longer form 5:17-37

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

HONOURING THE TORAH

As we continue to hear Jesus' teaching in Matthew's 'Sermon on the Mount', we now move into a very Jewish-oriented section. Matthew's audience were Jewish followers of Jesus. They were very familiar with the teachings of the Old Testament, from the Torah (the 'Law') and the Prophets. Jesus now reflects on these teachings stressing that he has come, not to abolish them, but to 'complete them'. In other words, Matthew is not rejecting the Jewish teaching heritage of the audience but deepening it. This preservation and honouring of the Torah is central in Jesus' teaching.

In fact, the one who keeps and teaches others the injunctions of the Torah will be regarded as 'great' in God's Kingdom. Matthew moves to explicate some of the key moral injunctions of the Torah. Each begins with the same formula: 'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors...' Then follows Jesus' interpretation of the Torah for Matthew's Jewish listeners. It is important to note how this teaching is presented. The usual translation has '...But I say to you...' This is not what the Greek text has. There is no contrast, no 'but', between what the ancients said and what Jesus teaches. There is no contrast between the old (the Torah) and the new (Jesus' teaching), and no rejection of Judaism or its ancient wisdom summed up on the Torah.

Jesus deepens the meaning behind these different aspects of Jewish law concerning murder, adultery and oath-breaking, getting to the heart of each. Undergirding each is the invitation to integrity of relationships. This, too, is the invitation to us, to live with a wholeness of being to others, God and the world.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

15 FEBRUARY 2026

FIRST READING

Sir 15:15-20

A reading from the book of Sirach

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34. R. v. 1

R. Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, / who follow God's law! / They are happy those who do his will, / seeking him with all their hearts. R.
2. You have laid down your precepts / to be obeyed with care. / May my footsteps be firm / to obey your statutes. R.
3. Bless your servant and I shall live / and obey your word. / Open my eyes that I may consider / the wonders of your law. R.
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes / and I will keep them to the end. / Train me to observe your law, / to keep it with my heart. R.

SECOND READING

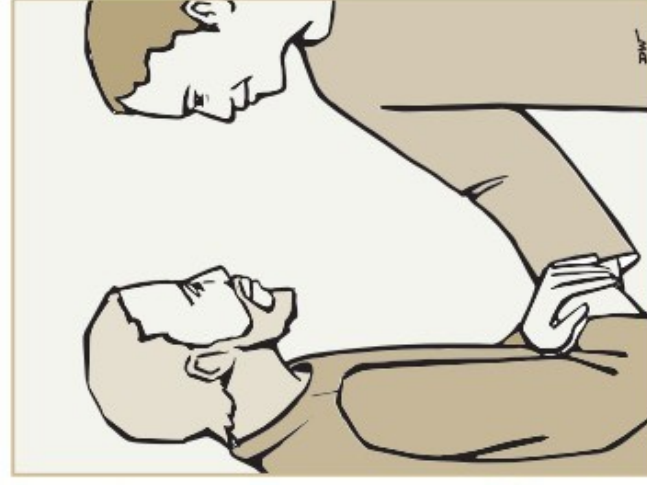
1 Cor 2:6-10

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

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age,

■ The word of the Lord.



it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY 15th February

WELCOME from Michael McGirr

Every day, I pray for the whole world. I think most of us do. We look around and see so much pain, violence, anger, bitterness and destruction. Many of our brothers and sisters are sore and hurting.

That is the daily news. But what about the Good News?

It's different, not because it denies harsh realities. Our faith creates a place for all those troubling things to grow into something more human. God is a constant source of hope and healing, offering grace to bring the human family together in love.

That is why Caritas Australia's Project Compassion calls us to Unite Against Poverty. Our vision is to help make the world whole.

Christianity is not a narrative of revenge. Lent is our journey towards Easter, the time when we celebrate the new life of the risen Lord. When Jesus rose from the dead, he never said he wanted to go back and confront Pilate. He never even mentioned the high priest or the soldiers. His message was peace and love. He healed broken relationships. He shared the promise of a new world. He asked his friends to 'go out to the four corners of the world.'

This year, through Project Compassion, Caritas Australia presents us with stories from Tanzania, Bangladesh and Fiji. There is also a special focus on our increasingly important work helping with humanitarian emergencies, such as in Gaza. All these stories feed a faith that does justice. When Mass ends with the command to 'Go', these are some of the places to which we are sent.

This Lent, we travel through some of the great stories of Scripture: the man born blind, the woman at the well and the raising of Lazarus. They are big stories of deep change in the lives of people who are stuck in their thoughts. How can we also confront indifference and make things better?

Our faith asks us to put retribution and anger in the dustbin of history. Its depths include the call to unite against poverty, so that we can be the peacemakers of whom Jesus spoke.

Thank you for sharing the journey to us.

Michael McGirr, Mission Facilitator, Caritas Australia



**UNITE  AGAINST
POVERTY**



REFLECTION for PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY



projectcompassion.org.au

Many people were astonished, to say the least, last year when one of the richest people in the world proclaimed that 'the fundamental weakness in Western civilisation is empathy.' The gentleman was clearly not familiar with the New Testament. Compassion is the calling card of Christians. We announce our presence by acts of love. That is what Jesus did and taught.

If you look at the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 29-37), we get an idea of just how empathy and compassion are signs of strength, not weakness. The story says that the Samaritan came across somebody who'd been assaulted and robbed. The stranger 'looked at him with compassion.' He doesn't just look. In the next few lines, he takes ten separate actions: he goes over, he bandages the man, he pours oil on his wounds, he lifts him onto his donkey, he takes him to an inn, he looks after him, he pays the innkeeper, he asks the innkeeper to help, he promises to return, he commits to meeting the bill. Compassion is an action not just a feeling.

This week, we begin our annual journey of Lent and with it our annual commitment to Project Compassion, organised by Caritas Australia. For generations, Project Compassion has helped us express our Lenten commitment to prayer, personal sacrifice and almsgiving. Our focus this year is a call to 'Unite Against Poverty.' It is a powerful call.

Every day, the news brings us distressing stories about how the divisions in the world bring disastrous consequences for the most vulnerable people. Our work for Project Compassion is a significant way to bring healing to God's family. This week, the readings ask us to travel to deeper places in our lives. The Gospel warns us against shallow virtue which 'goes no deeper to that of the scribes and Pharisees.' St Paul speaks about mature wisdom, a view of the world that is at odds with those who have power. 'The masters of this age' seldom understand compassion and the way in which 'the Spirit reaches the depths of everything.' Those depths will take us to the margins and stir in us a longing to Unite Against Poverty.



After receiving communion today, you are invited to take a Project Compassion Box & a set of Envelopes. This action reminds us of the challenge which is Eucharist.

As we say "AMEN" to the Body of Christ, we are also saying "AMEN" to *being* the Body of Christ.

We who eat must be the healing, loving, transforming presence of Jesus in our world today.

Weekly Envelopes are a great way of sharing our lives through Lent.

It's a good idea to keep a Box on the dinner table as a reminder, then each week transfer the contents to your envelope to bring to Mass. Bringing the envelope to Mass each week links

OUR LENT, OUR LIVES & OUR LITURGY

so let's UNITE AGAINST POVERTY - together, we *can* make a real difference and bring hope in our world.

Prayer of Intercession

For those who exercise power over the lives of others, that they will show compassion towards people who live in poverty and undertake action to alleviate their situation. We pray to 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