



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

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday) ~ Year A

Sunday 26 April 2026



Readings for
this week:

Acts 2:14, 36-41
1 Peter 2:20-25
John 10:1-10



Readings for
next Sunday:

Acts 6:1-7
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12



Liturgy Jottings

Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Our Lady is honoured under this title, for she is the Mother of Christ, whom Isaiah called "wonderful Counsellor" (Isaiah 9:5); she lived her whole life under the guidance of the Spirit of wisdom, she gave herself wholeheartedly to God's wise and loving plan for renewing all things in Christ God generously poured out on her the gifts of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:14), among which stands out the spirit of wisdom (Wis 7:7b). Our Lady, enlightened by the gift of counsel, is honoured as Mother and Teacher as she cries out in gratitude in the words of Wisdom: "To me belong counsel and prudence, understanding and strength are mine" gifts which Wisdom willingly shares with its children and disciples. Celebrating this feastday, we ask God for the gift of counsel, to teach us how to know his will and to guide us in all we do. Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Good Counsel is the patroness of the Diocese of Sandhurst.

Looking at the Gospel

Guided and protected by the Risen Jesus, we celebrate on the fourth Sunday of Easter — also called "Good Shepherd Sunday" — the 63rd World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Let us explore together the truly beautiful path of life along which the Shepherd guides us.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus describes himself as the "good shepherd" (Jn 10:11). This expression refers to a shepherd who is perfect, authentic and exemplary, inasmuch as he is ready to give his life for his sheep, thus revealing God's love. He is the Shepherd who draws us to himself, whose gaze reveals that life is truly beautiful when one follows him. Neither the eyes of the body nor aesthetic sensibilities alone are sufficient to recognize this beauty; rather, contemplation and interiority are required. Only the one who pauses, listens, prays and welcomes the Shepherd's gaze can say with confidence: "I trust him; life with him can truly be beautiful. I want to walk this path of beauty."

What is most extraordinary is that, in becoming his disciple, one truly becomes "beautiful"; his beauty transforms us. As the theologian Pavel Florenskij wrote, asceticism does not produce a merely "good" person, but a "beautiful" one. Indeed, more than goodness, the distinctive trait of the saint is the luminous spiritual beauty that radiates from his or her life in Christ. In this way, the Christian vocation reveals itself in all its depth as a participation in the life of Jesus, by sharing in his mission and reflecting his beauty. (Pope Leo XIV Message 25 March 2026)

Prayer for Tomorrow

Lord, you know that our thoughts on earth are full of fear and uncertainty;
through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
from whom your Son took flesh and blood,
send us the Spirit of counsel to teach us how to know your will
and to guide us in all we do. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.
(Collect, Solemnity of Our Mother of Good Counsel 27 April)

Text for the Day

You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. (Second Reading 2 Peter 2:25)

On the Lighter Side

I used to be a Shepherd, but I have no idea how many sheep I had. I kept falling asleep trying to count them.
Red sky at night shepherd's delight, Red sky in the morning shepherd's warning.
Blue sky at night, it's still shepherd's day.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick: Joanne Cox, Pat Commons, Julie Kleinert, Shane Boyd, Kady Mitchell-Treacy, Noreen Gallardo, Olive McElroy, Philip Bowman, Millie Perry, Frances Corso.

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries:

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

ROSTERS

Sunday 3 May 8.30am

Commentator – R Chapman

Lector – L Sorbello

Special Minister – N Livsey

Saturday 9 May at 6pm

Commentator – L Ratcliffe

Lector – C Anderson

Special Minister – L Cosgriff

Sunday 10 May 8.30am

Commentator – M Carver

Lector – N Watt

Special Minister – M Cocks

PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION

Last weekend Collection: \$936.95

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.

ANZAC Prayer

God of love and liberty, we bring our thanks this day for the peace and security we enjoy, which was won for us through the courage and devotion of those who gave their lives in time of war. We pray that their labour and sacrifice may not be in vain, but that their spirit may live on in us and in generations to come. That the liberty, truth and justice which they sought to preserve may be seen and known in all the nations upon earth. This we pray in the name of the one who gave his life for the sake of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



BISHOP RENÉ RAMIREZ RCJ APPOINTED NINTH BISHOP OF SANDHURST

On 11 April Pope Leo XIV appointed Bishop René Ramirez RCJ as the ninth Bishop of Sandhurst. He will be installed at Sacred Heart Cathedral on **30 July at 11am**. Save the date. All welcome. Until that time, Fr Brian Boyle will continue to serve as Diocesan Administrator.

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY APPEAL (26 APRIL)

Support the education and formation of our diocesan seminarians by donating to Corpus Christi College and Catholic Theological College Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal. Your tax-deductible donation will support the educational costs of Corpus Christi College seminarians and help build tomorrow's Church. There will be a leaving collection at both Masses this weekend.

<https://pay.divinity.edu.au/payments/donation/good-shepherd-sunday-appeal/>

MASS TIME TABLE

Weekly Masses

Sat 25th April - 5pm Mass

Sun 26th April - 8.30am Mass

Weekly Masses

Tue 28th April - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 30th April - No School Mass

Sun 3rd May - 8.30am Mass

Sun 3rd May - 11.30am Liturgy Tongala

Weekly Masses

Tue 5th May - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 7th May - 9.15am Mother's Day Breakfast F-4

Thu 7th May - 10.30am Anointing Mass

Sat 9th May - 5pm Mass

Sun 10th May - 8.30am Mass

Weekly Masses

Tue 12th May - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION NIGHT

Information night will be held on Thursday 7th May at 6pm. The program will be for grade 3 students or older who wish to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist. If a child is not baptised and wishes to receive these sacraments, or for any other information please contact Mary Zobec at parish office.

LAUDATO SI' ANIMATORS PROGRAM

The program begins on 19 April runs over two months however all webinars are recorded so it can be done in your own time. This free online program brings Laudato Si' to life. Step into a journey of ecological conversion and join a global movement committed to healing and protecting our common home. For information and registration go to www.laudatosianimators.org

SANDHURST YOUTH MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP CONSULTATION

A gathering of leaders from the Sandhurst Youth Ministry Partnership (Chancery, Catholic Education, Priests, parishes and schools) to connect, establish a common vision for mission and be co-responsible for Youth Ministry in their local context. If you are interested in accompanying young people (16 – 35 years old) on their faith journey, you are invited to participate. Contact claire.spinelli@sandhurst.catholic.org.au for more information or to express your interest in attending. **Shepparton 15 May 2026, 12:15 pm – 2:30 pm.** Mons. Peter Jeffery Centre, St Brendan's Church.

SUPPORT OUR ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE

Last year, access to low-cost nonperishable food for our pantry from Food Bank Victoria was lost due to insatiable demand. Demand from families in need within our community is also high and supporting them with pantry food made a difference. Our pantry is empty. To highlight the need and provide an opportunity for parishioners to contribute nonperishable food items for our pantry, a basket is located at the rear of the church.



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**



THANK YOU!

Caritas Australia would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the parish community of St Augustine's for your generous support of Project Compassion 2026.

Your support is helping to bring hope, uphold dignity and create lasting change to communities facing poverty and injustice around the world. Together, your community raised an incredible **\$923.40**, helping to bring clean water, education, nutritious food, healthcare and support for those living with disability - showing what's possible when we come together as a Church to live out the Gospel message of love and justice.

Thank you for uniting with us this Lent to build a more just and compassionate world.

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.

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"Actions speak louder than words; let your words teach and your actions speak."
– St. Anthony of Padua

Breaking Open the Word

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
In 10:14
Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd,
says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine
know me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL
A reading from the holy Gospel according to
John.

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come

are thieves and brigands;

but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

he will go freely in and out

and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes

only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come

so that they may have life

and have it to the full.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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THE BEAUTIFUL SHEPHERD

The Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally from John 10, about the 'Good (or, literally, 'beautiful') shepherd'. Today's selection focuses on the image of the *gate* of the sheepfold. In our culture, gates and doors are important. They provide us with security and access to what is inside—a house, a building, a room. And through entering the door or gate, we come to be with others, with whom we (usually) identify or know, perhaps family members and friends. In the Gospel, the one who enters this gate is the shepherd of the flock—an image familiar to John's Mediterranean audience and in a world where shepherds were male and female. The shepherd is a protecting and loving figure who is familiar with each sheep—calling each one by name. The shepherd leads the sheep who follow because 'they know his voice'. This image of the sheep 'knowing' the voice of the shepherd accentuates the deep and abiding intimate relationship between the sheep and shepherd.

In the final part of the Gospel, Jesus reaffirms his mission of protection and his intent to bring freedom to those who listen to his voice. Perhaps, by the time of the Gospel's writing, the community was already experiencing division, difficulty and others presuming to speak in ways that claimed authority but were in fact 'thieves and brigands'. The Gospel concludes: Jesus has come 'so that they may have life and have it to the full.' This desire for the fullness of life echoes in each of our hearts as we allow the voice of the 'Beautiful Shepherd' to guide, protect and nurture us.

Fr Michael Trainor

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14, 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22:1-6. R. v. 1

R. The Lord is my shepherd;

there is nothing I shall want. (or Alleluia!)

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

2. He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**



4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you are called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

Laudato Si'

In May 2015, Pope Francis released his encyclical letter *Laudato Si'*, to call for action to address the spiritual, social and economic crisis manifest in environmental devastation. He called us to "hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor".

"Laudato si'" are the opening words in Latin of St Francis of Assisi's Canticle of the Creatures "All praise be yours, my Lord through all that you have made".

On the 5th anniversary of his encyclical, May 2020, Pope Francis announced a plan for Catholics to make a commitment to implement *Laudato Si'*. Over the next couple of years, a framework was developed to support this plan. This framework has 7 goals or ways of measuring integral ecology.

In Australia

Taking their lead from Pope Francis, our Australian bishops issued their 2021/22 Social Justice Statement "Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor", drawing wisdom from scripture, Catholic Social Teaching, and human knowledge, so that we might be converted to new ways of living, both personally and collectively.

The Bishops' Statement, invites all parishes to commit to the Laudato Si' goals.

Our Parish

Catholic Earthcare Australia has made it easy for us to take up the Bishops' invitation with a certified journey which we, as a parish, have begun!

The process begins with a wide-ranging self-assessment, followed by action planning for the next few years. We hope you'll join us on the journey!

Catholic Earthcare Australia was established in 2002 by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and mandated, through the activities of education, research and advocacy, to give leadership in responding to the call for ecological conversion. It is now a program of Caritas Australia, responding to the interconnectedness of the 'cry of the poor' and 'cry of the earth'.

We acknowledge our First Nations people and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present. Their deep spiritual connection to Country and respect for the natural environment has ensured the preservation of our natural environment for thousands of years.



Response to
the Cry of
the Earth



Response to
the Cry of
the Poor



Ecological
Economics



Adoption of
Sustainable
Lifestyles



Ecological
Education



Ecological
Spirituality



Community
Resilience and
Empowerment

