



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

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Parish Priest – Fr Uday Marneni ALCP/OSS

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Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year A

Sunday 16 August 2026



Readings for
this week:

Isaiah 56:1,6-7

Romans 11:13-15,29-32

Matthew 15:21-28

Readings for
next Sunday:

Isaiah 22:19-23

Romans 11:33-36

Matthew 16:13-20



Liturgy Jottings

Liturgy and Nature II

While we express our concern for God's creation, there is real need to bring these concerns into Christian spirituality and our regular worship. New Mass texts provide prayers for creation and events that affect the earth, human activity and our wellbeing. The Roman Missal (2010) in the section for various needs and occasions include Masses such as at seedtime and after the harvest, in times of earthquakes, for rain, fine weather, an end to storms, in times of bushfires, drought, floods and cyclone. More recently added are Masses for time of pandemic (2020) and for the care of creation. (Vatican, 2025) with the Collect:

Father, who have in Christ, the firstborn of all creation, called all things into being, grant, we pray, that, docile to your Spirit's breath of life, we may lovingly care for the work of your hands. ... Amen.

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Looking at the Readings

All three readings and the responsorial psalm for this Sunday mention foreigners, converted pagans and/or peoples of all nations. The writers' intentions appear clear. The message of God, God's care and promises go out to all peoples. To the Israelites in Isaiah's day this concept was a challenge: God accepting foreigners to his Temple. St Paul understood his mission to preach Christ to the Gentiles who also enjoy the promise of God with the Paul's own people. These promises, and covenant will never be revoked. Pope Benedict XVI reminded us of the continuing old covenant when he wrote, quoting the Catholic Catechism of the Church "the Old Covenant has never been revoked" (CCC 121).

Matthew's Gospel was firstly written to his own church community consisting of converted Jewish people. Matthew broadened their understanding of Jesus mission through his dialogue with the Canaanite woman. Jesus praised her persistence and her faith. Secondly the gospel is relevant in our time when the church and Christians encounter people of other cultures, languages and races. We are able to sing the responsorial psalm with faith and hope: "Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth." (psalm 67:4)

Sunday ClipArt

The image for this week depicts the faithful people offering praise and sacrifice that are acceptable (Is 56:7) in the temple of God.

By Steve Erspamer © 1992 Archdiocese of Chicago.

Quote of the Day

Gratitude goes beyond the 'mine' and 'thine' and claims the truth that all of life is a pure gift. In the past I always thought of gratitude as a spontaneous response to the awareness of gifts received, but now I realize that gratitude can also be lived as a discipline. The discipline of gratitude is the explicit effort to acknowledge that all I am and have is given to me as a gift of love, a gift to be celebrated with joy. *Henri Nouwen*

On the Lighter Side

An entrepreneur opened a new funeral parlour in town for people of no specific faith. He called it: "Di-Agnostic Services."



How do you know that atoms are Catholic? They have mass.

Be grateful for laughter — it burns up calories without exercising.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Ignacia Baric

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

ROSTERS

Saturday 22 August at 5pm

Commentator – S Carroll

Lector – M Tesoro

Special Minister – A O'Meara

Sunday 23 August 8.30am

Commentator – P Jenner

Lector – B Elliott

Special Minister – M Elliott

Sunday 30 August 8.30am

Commentator – C Cabaraban

Lector – C Goode

Special Minister – J Stockdale

PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION

Last weekend Collection: \$ 809.00

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.

RCIA INQUIRY EVENINGS

Inquiry evenings for the RCIA program will begin on Monday 5th October at 5.30pm in the presbytery. The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is a process of Christian formation by which those who are seeking full communion with the Church. The RCIA is a process, not a program. It is a process which responds to Christ's invitation to unbaptised (catechumens), and to candidates (those who have received Baptism in other Christian denominations), to come and see how the Catholic community live, pray and worship. The process supports those seeking to deepen their personal relationship with Christ through developing familiarity with the Gospel teachings, deepening the personal experience of prayer and worship and help discern the movement of the Holy Spirit. For more information contact Annette Ryan 0408 502 858 or Mary Zobec 0427190282.

ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration is the spiritual practice of spending time in the presence of the exposed consecrated Host. Through this practice, we are invited to spend time alone with God in his real, physical form and to bring to Jesus all our cares, concerns, prayers, hopes and thoughts. Adoration will be held on the **2nd Saturday** of the month from 4-45pm. Please consider spending some quiet time in the presence of Jesus. For more information, please check in with Fr Uday or Mary Zobec.

ST AUGUSTINE'S PARISH DEBUTANTE BALL 2027

St Augustine's Parish is seeking expressions of interest from young people wishing to participate in the **2027 Debutante Ball**. If you are interested, please register with the Parish Office by **20 September 2026** on (03) 5852 1026 or email: kyabram@sandhurst.catholic.org.au to register your details. For further information, please contact Alana Brennan at brenpk1@gmail.com. Note this event is subject to sufficient numbers.

MASS TIME TABLE

Weekly Masses

Sun 16th August - 8.30am Mass

Weekly Masses

Tue 18th August - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 20th August - No Mass

Sat 22nd August - 5pm Mass

Sun 23rd August - 8.30am Mass

Weekly Masses

Tue 25th August - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 27th August - 11.30am Augustine' Feast Day
Whole School in the Brigidine Centre

Sun 30th August - 8.30am Mass St Augustine' Feast

Weekly Masses

Tue 1st September - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 3rd September - 9am School Fathers Day Liturgy

Thu 3rd September - 10am Anointing Mass

SACRAMENTALS

This Sunday 16 August, we welcome a visiting supplier who will have a selection of religious articles available for purchase. Items will include statues, holy pictures, and other devotional articles. Parishioners are warmly invited to browse the selection following 8.30am Mass.

ST AUGUSTINE FEAST DAY

St Augustine feast day will be held on Sunday 30th August at 8.30am Mass. You are warmly invited to bring a plate to share and to enjoy fellowship as we celebrate our patron saint together.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL PRAYER GROUP

Our lady of Good Counsel Prayer group next meeting will be on Wednesday 19th August at 5.30pm in the Presbytery. All welcome.

PROTECT ST KILIAN'S APPEAL

Following the recent fire at St Kilian's, Fr Junray Rayna has launched the **Protect St Kilian's Appeal** to help fund a modern fire detection and suppression system for our historic church. While insurance will assist with the repairs, the Parish must invest in improved protection measures to safeguard St Kilian's for the future. The estimated cost is **\$500,000**. All parishioners and friends of St Kilian's will be invited to support the appeal. Every contribution will help preserve this treasured place of faith, prayer and community. A Deductible Gift Receipt will be available to those who donate.

How you can help:

- Make a donation to the Protect St Kilian's Appeal. (Details shortly).
- Encourage business, family and friends who value St Kilian's to contribute.
- Keep St. Kilian's Parish and this important project in your prayers.

Together, we can ensure St Kilian's remains a place of faith, prayer and welcome for generations to come.

Fr Junray Rayna Administrator St Kilian's

SANDHURST CELEBRATION of SEASON OF CREATION

You're invited to come and celebrate our Care for Creation at Huntly Streamside Reserve (from Huntly, turn west into Leans Rd then right at Reserve sign) on **Tuesday 1st September**, beginning with **Mass at 11am** celebrated by **Bishop Rene RCJ**, followed by **Picnic Lunch**. BYO chairs, some seating available. Sausage sizzle provided or BYO lunch. BYO hot/cold drinks and water bottles. **EVERYONE** is invited to come and celebrate in this beautiful bush setting. RSVP not essential but texting numbers to 0408 579 904 would be helpful.

MONTHLY EVENTS

- 1st Tuesday - Men's Group 5pm**
- 1st Thursday - Anointing Mass 10am**
- 1st Saturday - Monthly working bee 9.30am (church cleaning)**
- 2nd Wednesday - Ladies Cuppa and Chat 2pm**
- 2nd Saturday - Adoration 4pm**
- 3rd Wednesday - Prayer Meeting 5.30pm**

Please note these dates and times are subject to change, please check bulletin for updates, times and venues.

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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"A magnificent building will never rise if we reject the insignificant bricks." – St. Faustina

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4:23

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

GOSPEL

Mt 15:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Genesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

BEYOND THE EXPECTED

In today's Gospel Jesus travels beyond his usual and familiar abode. He is in today's southern Lebanon, areas around Tyre and Sidon. This is foreign or pagan territory, unfamiliar to Jews. Here Jesus encounters a woman from the region who pleads for him to exorcise her demonically possessed daughter. Jesus' disciples want him to deal with her quickly so that they won't be bothered by her. Then comes the clear missionary statement of Jesus for Matthew's Jewish audience, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel', and, later, 'It is not fair to take children's food and throw it to house-dogs'. The focus of his ministry and healing is clearly on the Israelite people, the 'children', rather than on gentiles ('house-dogs!'). Jesus' derogatory comment to the woman is met by her witty repartee, 'Yes, sir, but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from the master's table'.

Her clever verbal joust meets his respectful acknowledgement. He affirms the woman's great faith in engaging him in a manner that respects the priority of his mission to the Jewish people (and Matthew's Gospel audience) while acknowledging that non-Jews can also be recipients of his ministry. This results in the Canaanite woman's request being granted. Her daughter is healed.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

16 AUGUST 2026

FIRST READING

Isa 56:1, 6-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8. v. 8

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us / and let your face shed its light upon us. / So will your ways be known upon earth / and all nations learn your saving help. **R.**
2. Let the nations be glad and exult / for you rule the world with justice. / With fairness you rule the peoples. / you guide the nations on earth. **R.**
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God: / let all the peoples praise you. / May God still give us his blessing / till the ends of the earth reverse him. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 11:13-15, 29-32

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

■ The word of the Lord.