

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A

September 20th 2026

First Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18

(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. (R.)
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)
3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. (R.)

Second Reading

Philippians 1:20-24. 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or
by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then
death would bring me something more; but then again,
if living in this body means doing work which is having
good results – I do not know what I should choose. I
am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be
with Christ, which would be very much the better, but
for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need
for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be
unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

See Acts of the Apostles 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is
like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers
for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the
workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his
vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw
others standing idle in the market place and said to
them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a
fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and
again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the
same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and
found more men standing round, and he said to them,
"Why have you been standing here idle all day?"
"Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said
to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening,
the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the
workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last
arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were
hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and
received one denarius each. When the first came, they
expected to get more, but they too received one
denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the
landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have
done only one hour, and you have treated them the
same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work
in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My
friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on
one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to
pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right
to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because
I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first,
last.'



IONA-MARYKNOLL & KOOWEERUP

PARISHES IN PARTNERSHIP

Parish Office: Iona & Kooweerup - 0456000990

Parish Website: www.catholicparish.app/iona-maryknoll

Parish Team

Fr. Avinash George (Parish Priest)

Mob. 0451 997 904

Sharon Sparks (Parish Secretary Iona and Kooweerup)

Ph. 0456000990

ionamaryknoll@cdsale.org.au

kooweerup@cdsale.org.au

Columba Primary School 5629 5933

Andrew Greco (Principal)

St James' Primary School, 59425404

Liam Doherty (Principal)

St John the Baptist Primary School, 5997 1653

Chris Dortmans (Principal)

Baptism Co-ordinators

Iona parish—Cath 0407444303

ionamaryknoll@cdsale.org.au

KWR parish—Eileen Crowley 0409971712

ecrowley@stjohnskwr.catholic.edu.au

Safeguarding

Our Parish is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all people with special concern for children, young people and adults at risk. **Bernie Hance** (KWR) **Marlene Dalziel** (Lang Lang)

Email: kooweerup@cdsale.org.au

Sam Franzi, Liz Harrison & Ray Hearn (Iona)

Sharon Sparks (Maryknoll)

Email: ionamaryknoll@cdsale.org.au

Diocesan Pilgrimage:

Jubilee of St Francis of Assisi

Saturday October 3rd

Bishop Greg Bennet invites all parishioners across the Diocese of Sale to join in a special pilgrimage celebrating the **Franciscan Jubilee Year**.

This sacred journey is not about physical distance, but a journey of the heart. Together, we will travel to **Benambra**—nestled amidst the scenic Omeo High Plains—home to the only church in our diocese dedicated to St Francis of Assisi.

To help the host parish at Benambra, (which is a small parish with about 10 parishioners) plan the sausage sizzle, please encourage all parishioners planning to attend to register in advance via the link below:

<https://www.cdsale.org.au/year-of-saint-francis-of-assisi>

Family Prayer Afternoon

Sun 20th September 3pm-5pm

St. Joseph's, Warragul

3:00-4:00 Holy Hour and opportunity for Reconciliation

4:00-4:30 Introduction to Pope Francis's Last Encyclical, on the Sacred Heart, *Dilexit Nos*

430-5:00 Afternoon tea, social time and games

ALL WELCOME - bring your whole family or just yourself... and a plate to share, if you can



During the month of October, there will be Rosary before Masses at Kooweerup, 9.00am and Iona 10.30am

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Our parishes acknowledges the Bunurong and Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners of this land, who have walked upon and cared for it for thousands of years.

We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

PLAYGROUP/MUM'S GROUP at Iona hall 10.30am

Running fortnightly during School term.

Next date October 7th All Welcome!

For more info contact

Rhiannon 0422 779 305 or Kylie 0426 920 528

Parish office: 0456000990 **Email:** ionamaryknoll@cdsale.org.au or kooweerup@cdsale.org.au

Parish News and Events

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick: Deanne Bourke, Leanne Lannen, Todd Biffin, Jane Beasley, Frank Caffarella, Colin Goldsmith, Colleen Kerr, Catherine Archibald, Brian Rinaldi, Danial Power, Fr Peter Slater, Natalie Hearn

Anniversaries : Jacinta Van Diemen, Beverley Worcester

Recent Deaths:

"Eternal rest grant unto them , O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace."

OUR OFFERINGS LAST WEEKEND

Iona: Stewardship—\$948.60 Presbytery \$553.95

KWR: Stewardship—\$925.40 Presbytery \$370.00

*Thank you for your contributions,
they are greatly appreciated. Thank you.*

60 years celebration of the St Vincent De Paul Society in Koo Wee Rup/Iona Maryknoll Catholic parishes

Many people are unaware that the St Vincent de Paul Society has been operating in this district across the Koo Wee Rup Swamp for 60 years.

St Vinnies as it is now called, started in France, but was welcomed to Australia. It is delivered by providing material aid support to those needing "a hand up", through local "conferences" in many parishes.

The Koo Wee Rup and Iona Maryknoll Conferences amalgamated some 3 years ago and it is the Koo Wee Rup parish that is celebrating 60 years.

Most people are unaware that the majority of funding for our material aid work and community programs, comes from the well-known Op Shops throughout our communities.

Join us for morning tea at 10.30 am (following mass at 9.30 am), to celebrate our birthday on Sunday 20th September ,in the church foyer at St Johns Church Station St Koo Wee Rup.

DIOCESAN WOMEN'S EVENT

Diner and talk by Dr Kim Daniels at St Patricks Parish Hall, Pakenham October 14th 7.00pm
Cost \$30 per person.

RSVP: Bookings are essential by October 4th.

Secure your tickets online at trybooking.com/DOZKU or scan the QR code on the promotional flyers in the church foyer

Parish Reading Rosters

Sept 19th/20th	READERS	MUSIC / LEADER	SPECIAL MINISTER
NNG	Paul	Sharon	Marg
KWR	Estelle	Peter K	Donna
IONA	Mary S	Choir	Martin
MKNOLL	Sharon	Bernadette	Jo
LANG LANG	Marlene	MASS	
Sept 26th/27th	READERS	MUSIC/ LEADER	SPECIAL MINISTER
NNG	Kerry	Bernadette	Jo
KWR	Connie		Sue
IONA	Loren	Pamela	Leonie
MKNOLL	NO LITURGY		
LANG LANG	Volunteer	Mary C	

Eucharistic Ministers for the Sick

DATE	IONA-MARYKNOLL	KOOWEERUP
Sept 20th	Lucy/Frances	
Sept 27th	John	

Church cleaning/flowers

MKNOLL	IONA - cleaning - flowers	NNG—cleaning
September—Sharon	Cleaning Oct 6th —Mary P, Arlyn, Liz, Kylie and Leonie	13/9 to 26/9 Marg
October—Mary Claire	Flowers - 27/9—Liz	27/9 to 10/10—Sharon

FRIENDS OF JESUS DISCUSSION GROUP KWR

1st Thursday of the month 11.00am at St John's

Next meeting October 1st

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US, ALL WELCOME

Parish Groups/Information

PARISH OFFICES Iona-Maryknoll parish office is located behind St James Church. 60 Nar Nar Goon Rd Nar Nar Goon -
Open Tuesdays 9.00am to 2.00pm and Friday 9.00 to 1.00—Sharon (Parish Secretary) Ph. 0456000990
Email: ionamaryknoll@cdsale.org.au

Kooweerup Parish office is located at the Presbytery. 166-168 Station Street Kooweerup (facing Salmon St) Office hours
are Thursdays 10.00am to 12.00pm Email: kooweerup@cdsale.org.au Ph. 0456000990
Contact Sharon Sparks Email: kooweerup@cdsale.org.au

IONA-MARYKNOLL PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE Des Wynne (Chair), Gady Noonan (minutes) Frank Rovers, Leo
Garvey, Sharon Sparks, Ray Hearn and John Van Boxtel **Next meeting: TBD 5.00pm NNG**

KOOWEERUP FINANCE COMMITTEE: Members—John Hester, Enzo Buccheri, Harold Keily, Peter Feltham
Parish Finance committees advise the Parish Priest on financial policies and matters of the Parish.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Iona-Mknoll reps: Sam Franzi, KWR reps: Connie Bontorno, Justine Minutes secretary—
Sharon Sparks Ex officio members: Andrew Greco, Chris Dortmans, Liam Doherty
Next meeting Tuesday October 13th 5.30pm at NNG

HALL HIRE: For hire information of our Parish halls please contact - **Iona hall**— Liz Harrison. Mob. 0437759844 or Alison
0431104572 **Fr Pooley Hall Maryknoll**— Sharon Sparks. Mob. 0411500364.

ST.VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: St Vinnies Contacts Koo We Rup /Iona Maryknoll Conference

Referral for material aid support needs to go via the Cranbourne Call Centre on 5995 0211

Anyone interested in volunteering locally ring Deb Kerr President on 0408 971 063

Our meeting is on the 4th Sunday of the Month. The next meeting is **Sept 27th at KWR** after 9.30 Mass

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE: The Iona branch of the CWL meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at Iona hall
Next meeting: Wednesday September 23rd ALL WELCOME.

Parish Pastoral Plan

As a parish community, we continue to put our Parish Pastoral Plan into action. We are grateful to everyone who has embraced these new initiatives and contributed to the life of our parish. Here are some of the developments that have already been implemented:

Weekly Saturday Morning Mass, Eucharistic Adoration & Confession

A **Saturday morning Mass at 9:30 am** is now celebrated each week, followed by **Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation**.

This initiative provides parishioners with an additional opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist, spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, and receive God's mercy through Confession.

Mothers' Group—Iona hall

We have established a **Mothers' Group** for mothers with children below school age. Meeting **fortnightly**, the group offers a welcoming space for friendship, mutual support, prayer, and faith-sharing while building connections among young families in our parish. **Next date Oct 7th**

Parish Youth Group

Our new **Parish Youth Group** providing young people with opportunities to grow in faith, build friendships, participate in parish life, and deepen their relationship with Christ through prayer, formation, and community activities. Contact Donna for more info

dtvels11@gmail.com **NEXT MEETING FRIDAY 18TH SEPT**



THE 54TH INTERNATIONAL
**EUCHARISTIC
CONGRESS 2028**
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
THIS IS MY BODY GIVEN FOR YOU

International Eucharistic Congress (Eucharist28)

The International Eucharistic Congress 2028 will be held in Sydney in 2028. As a Church, we are now entering a period of preparation. It will be a moment of profound joy for the Church in Australia as we welcome pilgrims from around the world, including the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. As we prepare for this great event, all Catholics are invited to a time of personal and communal reflection and prayer deepening our understanding and appreciation of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Let us keep this journey in prayer.