

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A - Sunday, 26th July 2026

First Reading 1 Kings 3:5.7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. *(R.)*
2. Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. *(R.)*
3. That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. *(R.)*
4. Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. *(R.)*

Second Reading Romans 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation See Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 13:44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord

St. Joseph's Wonthaggi & Our Lady Star of the Sea, Inverloch

St Joseph's, Wonthaggi

27-29 Dowling Street
WONTHAGGI VIC 3995

St Joseph's School Principal:

Joanne Coldebella

56 721 052

Administrator: Fr Aneesh George IVDei

56 722 923

Parish Secretary: Ann Hemming

Parish Safeguard Officer: Kaye Carew

PO Box 70 Wonthaggi 3995

Telephone: 03 56 721 111

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<https://www.catholicparish.app/wonthaggi>

Hours: Wednesday & Friday 8.30am –4.30pm

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Inverloch

Scarborough Street

INVERLOCH VIC 3996

Mary MacKillop College Principal:

John Freeman

56 624 255

WEEKEND MASSES

Wonthaggi

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 10.30am

Inverloch

Sunday 9.00am

Weekday Mass or Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion Times

Inverloch

Tuesday

No Service

Wonthaggi

Wednesday

Mass

9.30am

Thursday

Mass at Rose Lodge

10.15am

Friday

Confirmation Mass

6.30pm

Saturday

Mass

9.30am

Benediction

Wonthaggi: 9.00am before First Friday of Month

Inverloch: 10.30am before First Tuesday of Month

RECONCILIATION TIMES

Wonthaggi: Before 5.30pm Mass on Saturday
and upon request

Inverloch: Sun before 9.00am mass

We are a child safe parish. Any children, young persons and adults at risk have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with the Parish Child Safety Officer. The officer can be contacted through the Parish Office. 03 56 721 111

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Anniversaries:

For the deceased clergy of the Diocese of Sale.

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

We pray for the sick, lonely and those suffering from illness and pain. May God's merciful love shine on them.

We pray for the Children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday 31st July 2026

PARISH ROSTERS

WONTHAGGI:

1st Aug

2nd Aug

Greeting/Reader

A Tschiderer

A Kelly

Sacristan:

C Napoli

C Gow

Special Minister:

L Akers

M O'Callaghan

INVERLOCH:

Sunday 2nd Aug

Reader:

F Kisvarda

Special Minister:

N Van Grunsven

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

St Joseph's Parish:

Presbytery (1st Collection)

\$1,120.20

Planned Giving

\$2,164.00

(planned giving pledge per week \$2,005.21)

Loose cash (2nd offering)

\$242.35

Newcomers or Update Details

Welcome and thanks for worshipping with us at St Joseph's Wonthaggi and Our Lady Star of the Sea Inverloch.

If you are new to the Parish or have changed your details or need Thanksgiving Envelopes, please complete your details and drop the form on a Collection plate or drop off to the Parish Office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

New Parishioner ☐ Change of Address or Phone # ☐

Thanksgiving: Envelopes ☐ or Electronically ☐

Towards our Parish Pastoral Plan

A Parish Pastoral Plan is both a strategic and spiritual roadmap that guides the people of the Parish of Wonthaggi/Inverloch in living out their mission with clarity, unity, and purpose. Rooted in the Gospel, the plan is Christ-centred and mission-driven, shaped by a synodal and collaborative spirit. It fosters evangelisation and lifelong discipleship, inspiring renewal, and transformation within communities as they live and share the Good News. By blending practical planning with theological vision, the plan supports Catholic parish communities in responding to their unique contexts with intention, clarity, and purpose. More than just a document, the Pastoral Plan is a living spiritual dialogue—a tool for conversation between faith, people, and purpose.

Our Diocese has set six goals for us to work towards over the next five years. For each of those goals, you are invited to make suggestions as to what our parish might KEEP doing, START doing or STOP doing in order to work towards those goals.

But don't let yourself be confused by the six goals. Any and all feedback is appreciated. If you have ideas and you can't work out which box to write them in, don't worry. Just write them anywhere on the sheet and leave it to the team to sort out.

How? Fill out the form now and leave it with us now, take a form home, discuss it with others and return it via the collection plate, use the link below, or scan the QR code and give us the feedback directly.

<https://forms.office.com/r/Psbn8VDDXc>



THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT
of your peace.

WHERE THERE IS HATRED,
let me sow love;

WHERE THERE IS INJURY,
pardon;

WHERE THERE IS DOUBT,
faith;

WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR,
hope;

WHERE THERE IS DARKNESS,
light;

WHERE THERE IS SADNESS,
joy.

O DIVINE MASTER,
grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are
born to Eternal Life.



Parish/Diocese News

Rite Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA): A RCIA course will be starting in the Parish next month. Anyone who is interested in becoming a Catholic, or finding out more about the Catholic Faith is most welcome to participate. If you know of anyone who might be interested please encourage them to contact the Parish Office. First part of the RCIA will commence on Friday 7th August at 7pm at the church.

Liturgy Workshop for leaders of Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion in the absence of a Priest led by Br Tony Clark. Saturday 22nd of August 10.00 am to 3.00 pm at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Inverloch. Please bring a shared lunch. Tea and Coffee will be provided. Contact Fr Aneesh or Parish office for more information.

Confirmation Mass celebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet will be held on Friday 31st July at 6.30pm. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend. Please come along to support and pray for our Confirmation candidates and their families as they receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Peter's Pence collection will be held this weekend 25/26 July. This collection supports the charitable works of Pope Leo XIV and assists those most in need around the world. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Prayer Group will meet Monday's at 1.15pm at Wonthaggi Church each week. New members welcome.

Josephite Companions Group will meet for the Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross, Virgin Mass on Saturday 8th August 9.30am

Altar Serving training held after 10.30am Mass on Sunday 26th July in Wonthaggi.

Our Lady Star of the Sea—Inverloch

Keep the date free - Ladies retreat in Inverloch with Fr Martin Dixon on Monday September 7th 2026

Cuppa after Mass will be held on the first Sunday of the month

St Joseph's Wonthaggi

Cuppa after Mass will be held on the First weekend of the month

BAPTISM

We welcome Charlie Erikson, Harry Shannon and Leo Damon into our parish family through the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

May God bless him and guide him always and may the family be supported by our prayers and love.