

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A - Sunday, 13th Sept 2026

First Reading Sirach 27:30 – 28:7 A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,
and both are found with the sinner.
He who exacts vengeance will experience the
vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of
sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another,
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?
Showing no pity for a man like himself,
can he then plead for his own sins?

Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;
who will forgive him his sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating,
remember dissolution and death, and live by the
commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your
neighbour ill-will;

remember the covenant of the Most High, and
overlook the offence.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8

**(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**
3. His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. **(R.)**

Second Reading Romans 14:7-9 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on
others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we
die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the
Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to
life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and
of the living.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 18:21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times
seven.*

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I
forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven
times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but
seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a
king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants.
When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who
owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of
paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold,
together with his wife and children and all his
possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw
himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he
said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's
master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and
cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he
happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one
hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and
began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said.
His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him,
saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other
would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into
prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants
were deeply distressed when they saw what had hap-
pened, and they went to their master and reported the
whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You
wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of
yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound,
then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had
pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him
over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And
that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless
you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

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	Mass	11.00am
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Wonthaggi

Wednesday	Mass	9.30am
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Thursday	Mass—Rose Lodge	10.15am
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Friday	Mass	9.30am
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Saturday	Mass	9.30am
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Benediction

Wonthaggi: 9.00am before First Friday of Month

Inverloch: 10.30am before First Tuesday of Month—No Benediction for August

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

Recently Deceased: Esma Coram

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.

PARISH ROSTERS

WONTHAGGI: 19th Sep 20th Sep

Greeting/Reader P Studham P Kelly

Sacristan: C Napoli C Gow

Special Minister: Jo Coldebella A Kelly

INVERLOCH: Sunday 20th Sep

Reader: F Kisvarda

Special Minister: P Warby

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

St Joseph's Parish:

Presbytery (1st Collection) \$1,020.50

Planned Giving \$2,256.00

(planned giving pledge per week \$1,975.68)

Loose cash (2nd offering) \$159.40

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 ☐

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

A distinctive feature of the teachings of Jesus is his exhortation to forgive. Very explicit about this, Jesus left us his own example by forgiving his executioners while he hung dying on the cross. Until recently we thought that forgiveness begins with the offender repenting of the offence and then asking for pardon. Today many maintain that reconciliation must begin with the one offended offering forgiveness. This willingness to forgive transforms a victim into a survivor. Such magnanimity might then touch the heart of the offender, who may thus be transformed from being an offender to becoming a friend.

If God has been so generous in forgiving us, surely we should be generous in forgiving others. The process of becoming a forgiving person takes time. For some, it may take a lifetime. Only little by little are our pettiness and indignation reduced and our desire to strike back diminished. Still, as disciples, we are expected to give the forgiveness that we have been given.

Such forgiveness does not provide an easy way out for offenders, for ultimately justice will prevail. If we remain untransformed by God's forgiveness of us, we will be liable to judgment. Our unwillingness to forgive can eat away at us, and we can carry hurts from childhood far into adult years. Forgiving others, as difficult as that may be, is in the long run much easier than bearing the weight of resentment, vindictiveness and unresolved frustration. When we forgive we truly begin to be healed.

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Parish/Diocese News

Father's Day Appeal for The Priests' Welfare

Foundation of The Diocese Of Sale: Thank you to everyone who supported this Collection. An amount of \$529.50 was raised.

St. Joseph's Parish Meditation Group—the Meditation Group meets every Tuesday from 1.30pm in the Annexe at Inverloch Church followed by Gospel Reflection. All welcome.

World Youth Day 2027 will be held in Seoul, South Korea:

The Catholic Diocese of Sale and DOSCEL are jointly coordinating the Diocese of Sale pilgrimage to World Youth Day, Seoul 2027, led by Bishop Greg Bennet. The approximate date is 30 July 2027 to 8th August 2027 and the pilgrimage is open to young people aged 16-35 years. For more information please contact Fr Aneesh

Fr Aneesh will be commissioning those volunteers who attended the Liturgy of the Word workshop during the Masses on the weekend 19/20 September.

Nepal Floods: Caritas teams are on the ground assessing the scale of the disastrous Nepalese floods and how to respond. It is expected that the needs will most likely include: emergency shelter and essential items, access to clean water and sanitation, access to food and immediate and long-term recovery. If you are able to support Caritas Australia's Nepal Floods Appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/nepal.

Fr Aneesh's last Mass with our Parish will be on the weekend 3/4 Oct. A leaving collection as a token of our appreciation will be held on the weekend 26/27 Sep and a card will be at both Churches to sign. As this is cuppa weekend, please bring a plate.

Prayer Shawl Group will next meet on WEDNESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER @ 10.30 in the Inverloch Church Annex. New members are always welcome. Wool & simple patterns are available.

Save the Date : Wednesday Nov 25th for our end of year night out. Details TBC.

Enquiries: Philippa Warby 0408 331 340

Maureen Maartensz 0407 055 447

Our Lady Star of the Sea—Inverloch

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