



CONTACT THE OFFICE

(03) 5562 2231
 southwestcoast@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 9.00am to 4.00pm, Monday to Friday
 PO Box 104, WARRNAMBOOL VIC 3280

<https://www.catholicparish.app/southwestcoast>
www.facebook.com/southwestcoastparish

PARISH PERSONNEL

Parish Priest	Fr John Fitzgerald
Assistant Priest	Fr Matt Restall
Business Manager	Bruce Keeley
Accounts Manager	Louise Dryburgh
Maintenance	James Cronin
Admin Team	Karen Johnson Virginia Martin Trisha McGinness

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

St John's Dennington	Ben van de Camp
St Patrick's Koroit	Tegan McDonald
St Patrick's Port Fairy	Tarryn Delaney
St Joseph's W'bool	Nick Murrell
St Pius X W'bool West	Tristan Fay
OLHC W'bool East	Stephen Madden
Emmanuel College	Rachel McGennissen

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

Star of the Sea Parish adheres to the Child Safe Standards of Victoria. Our policies are on display in each Church and website.

Parish Safeguarding Officers:

Infant Jesus, Koroit	Leisa McCosh
St Patrick's, Port Fairy	Peter Sanderson
St Joseph's, W'bool	Jill Haberfield
St Pius X, W'bool West	Karen Johnson
OLHC, W'bool East	Dion Bartlett

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We recognise the traditional custodians of parish lands. We acknowledge their ancestors with respect and we are committed to working for justice and reconciliation.

11/12 April 2026
Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

Key Celebrations During Eastertide

The Easter Season, also called Eastertide, is a 50 day period in the Christian Liturgical calendar celebrating Jesus Christ's resurrection, culminating with Pentecost

- **Divine Mercy Sunday** (2nd Sunday of Easter)
- **The Ascension**
- **Pentecost** (50 Days after Easter)

The Divine Mercy Sunday origin is from a revelation to Saint Faustina (1905 -1938), a Sister of Mercy in Poland, who initiated the Divine Mercy devotion. On May 5 2000, five days after the canonization of Saint Faustina, the Vatican decreed that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

Today: St Pius X Church: 9:00am Mass
 3:00pm Solemn Exposition and Divine Mercy
 3:00 - 4:00pm Confessions
 4:00pm Blessing of Divine Mercy Image and Solemn Benediction

The Paschal Candle at St Joseph's

The cross is central to the feast of Easter, so I have placed it at the top of the candle. The profusion of colours is the celebration of our salvation. These colours are used to surround the candle and cover the empty tomb. (Artist: Mareta Butler)

Project Compassion

Thank you once again for your incredible support of Project Compassion 2026. Your compassion and generosity will make an incredible impact in the year ahead. If you have any questions, please email projectcompassion@caritas.org.au or phone (02) 7254 5120. Jillian Hogbin, Diocesan Caritas Coordinator.

Recent Deaths: Kevin Mugavin, Ian Campbell (Scotland), Brian Kelly, Bill Beattie
Anniversaries: Brian Gleeson, Jack Farley, Thelma Lynch, John Jewell, Roma Vaughan

RCIC – Children who would like to begin or complete their sacramental journey are invited to express interest for a short program which will run in a couple of months' time. Please call the Parish Office or register with Fr Matt by email matt.restal@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Faith – Family – Fellowship – Fish & Chips will take place at Koroit Church on Friday 24 April at 5:30pm. The evening begins with Mass, followed by games and social activities for families with school and pre-school aged children. No need to RSVP. Dinner is available at 6:30pm

Youth and Young Adults: The Parish is seeking expressions of interest in the **Ignite Conference 26** taking place in Sydney between 9 – 12 July 2026. If you are 18-25yrs and are interested in attending, please come along to a meeting at St Pius X Church at 6:00pm on Tuesday 21 April.

Rosary: **St Pius X** (April) on Mondays at 7:00pm.
: Port Fairy on Wednesdays at 11:00am

Morning Tea at Koroit

You're welcome to join the Koroit Parish Leadership Team (PLT) for morning tea after the 9:00am Mass on Sunday 19 April.

Meetings this Week

PLT: St Pius X & St Joseph's Wednesday at 7:00pm

Baptisms: This weekend we welcome Stevie & Banks Noonan, Hugo & Heath Hoatson and Xavier Pugh into our faith community.

OLHC: Holy Hour every Monday at 10:00am
St Pius X: Please join us for a 'cuppa' after Mass next week
St Joseph's: Our 'Cuppa' after Mass today

Family Groups

Morning tea, 'cuppa' is provided every second Sunday of the month by the Passionist Family Groups at St Joseph's. The Groups perform an important function within the Parish by;

- Enabling parishioners to get to know each other, to support each other, sharing each other's joys and sorrows, and so build a true Christian Community, as in the early Church
- Meeting in social settings with others who share a common faith
- Demonstrating by example our faith in action, particularly to our children

Family Group members bring a happy loving spirit to the parish and help promote the life of the parish community. Many members are actively involved in other aspects of parish life. If you would like to join or find out more about the Family Group, then speak to one of our members in the kitchen.

Thanks

St Vincent de Paul Society sincerely thank parishioners for their generosity in supporting the Lenten Appeal. Much needed supplies will assist many struggling individuals and families in this area.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil

6:00pm OLHC, Warrnambool East

Sunday Morning

9:00am Infant Jesus, Koroit
 9:00am St Pius X, Warrnambool West
 10:30am St Joseph's, Warrnambool
 10:30am St Patrick's, Port Fairy
 6:00pm St Joseph's Warrnambool
 *11:00am St Anne's, Purnim
 2nd Sunday of the month (Eucharist)
 *All other Sundays
 Assembly of the Word with Communion

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tues	5:10pm St Pius X
Sat	9:40am St Pius X

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues	5:30pm St Pius X World Peace Mass
Wed	10:00am St Joseph's 2:00pm St Pius X Bill Beattie RIP
Thurs	10:00am OLHC
Fri	11:00am St Joseph's Kevin Mugavin RIP

Prayer for April
For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

Baptisms

An information session takes place at 7:00pm on the second Tuesday of the month in the Gathering Space at St Joseph's.
Next session: Tues 14 April 2026
 To book please call 5562 2231

his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him;

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Email: sales@stpauls.com.au Scripture readings taken from The Jerusalem Bible, © 1966 Hodder & Stoughton Ltd. All rights reserved. Psalm text from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2026. No 2138. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

Breaking Open the Word

THE GIFT OF PEACE

Today is the extension of Easter Sunday. It is such an important and central feast in our Liturgical calendar that we celebrate it for a whole week, and Easter itself, over six weeks. Today's Gospel from John is the appearance of the Risen Jesus to his frightened disciples. They have locked themselves in a room for fear of the religious authorities, that what happened to Jesus might also happen to them. To their surprise, the Risen One stands in their midst.

Three things now take place. First, Jesus speaks. His first words are 'Peace be with you.' These words gifted to John's audience are also gifted to us: the gift of peace, of 'shalom', heals all division. Second, Jesus sends his frightened disciples, now filled with joy, John notes, on mission. Their mission is the same as that of Jesus, 'As the Father sent me, so I send you.' And third, he breathes on the disciples. Jesus' breath, the symbolic presence of God's life and Holy Spirit, empowers the disciples to accomplish their Easter mission.

The final part of the Gospel is taken up with Thomas, his incredulity at the presence of the Risen Jesus reported to him by the others. When he is finally reconnected to the community of disciples—and this is the point of the story—Thomas, too, comes to Easter faith, declaring Jesus, 'My Lord and my God'. This beautiful Gospel underscores for us the presence of the Risen One amid our fears, his empowering of us, and our need to be always connected to our discipleship communities.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY) / A

12 APRIL 2026

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (or Alleluia!)

1. Let the sons of Israel say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let the sons of Aaron say: / 'His love has no end,' / Let those who fear the Lord say: / 'His love has no end.' **R.**

2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling / but the Lord was my helper. / The Lord is my strength and my song; / he was my saviour. / There are shouts of joy and victory / in the tents of the just. **R.**

3. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the corner stone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. / This day was made by the Lord; / we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and



the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which had been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia! / You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; / happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them