

Star of the Sea Parish South West Coast

* Infant Jesus, Koroit * St Patrick's, Port Fairy * St Anne's, Purnim * St Joseph's, Warrnambool *
 * Our Lady Help of Christians, Warrnambool East * St Pius X, Warrnambool West *

CONTACT THE OFFICE

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 🕒 9.00am to 4.00pm, Monday to Friday
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<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.

18/19 April 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

Pope Leo XIV speaks ...

During the flight to Algeria, Pope Leo addressed the journalists - as is tradition on papal flights - answering questions about the statements US President Donald Trump made against him on the Truth Social network.

The Pope stressed that he does “not see my role as that of a politician. I am not a politician, and I do not want to enter into a debate with him.”

Moreover, he continued, “I do not think the message of the Gospel should be abused as some are doing. I continue to speak strongly against war, seeking to promote peace, dialogue, and multilateralism among states to find solutions to problems. Too many people are suffering today, too many innocent lives have been lost, and I believe someone must stand up and say there is a better way.”

ANZAC DAY

God of love and liberty,
 we bring our thanks this day
 for the peace and security we enjoy,
 which was won for us
 through the courage and devotion
 of those who gave their lives in time of war.

We pray that their labour and sacrifice may not be in vain,
but that their spirit may live on in us
and in generations to come.

That the liberty, truth and justice which they sought to preserve
may be seen and known in all the nations upon earth.

This we pray in the name of the one who gave his life
for the sake of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Recent Deaths: Brian Kelly, Kevin Mugavin, Ian Campbell (Scotland), Patrick J Dwyer, Angelica Feliciadade, Fr Anibel Docosta

Anniversaries: Thelma Lynch, Kathleen Ryan, George Coffey, Barry Ryan, Joseph Pye, Phyllis Coffey, Graeme Sewell, James Dunn, Sr Anne Arundell, Mary Barker, Tom Dwyer

RCIC – Children who wish to begin or complete their sacramental journey are invited to express interest for a short program which will run in a couple of months.
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 this Tuesday.

Please call the Parish Office or register with Fr Matt by email matt.restal@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

Baptisms: This weekend we welcome Daisy Wallace and Harper Cameron into our faith community.

OLHC: Holy Hour every Monday at 10:00am

St Pius X: Please join us for a 'cuppa' after Mass today.
Prayer Meeting every Tues: 1:15pm-3:00pm.

Infant Jesus: You're welcome to join the Koroit Parish Leadership Team (PLT) for morning tea after Mass today.

'Mothers who Pray for their Children' meet Friday at 10:45am.
Contact South West Co-ordinator Marita 0402 431 053

St Joseph's: Misson Mass tonight - stay for a chat and hospitality following Mass.

Race Mass on May 3 - please bring a 'plate' to share.

St Vincent de Paul Festival Mass

Glenelg Regional Council 2026 Festival Mass and Gathering. Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Our Lady Help of Christians Conference, Warrnambool East. All welcome and please invite family and friends to attend Mass.

When: Thursday 30 April
Time: 11:30am
Where: Our Lady Help of Christians Church

CRISP update

CRISP Meetings are on hold due to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. The CRISP team will maintain contact with the Australian agency responsible for getting Maria, Mohamad and their children to Australia and recommence meetings when appropriate.

Please keep them in your prayers and contact CRISP Coordinators if required. Katherine 0459 615 564

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
Thurs	10:00am OLHC
Fri	10:00am St Joseph's
Sat	10:00am St Pius X

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 12 May 2026
To book please call 5562 2231

Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

19 APRIL 2026

A SYDNODAL JOURNEY

Last Sunday we encountered the Risen Jesus breathing his gift of peace and Spirit on to his fearful disciples. As we continue our celebration of Easter, our attention turns to Luke's story of the Risen Jesus accompanying two frightened disciples on their journey towards a small village, Emmaus, several kilometres from Jerusalem. For Luke, Jerusalem is the centre and birthplace of discipleship. The two are walking away from Jerusalem, their conviction of Jesus' rescue of them shattered by the events that have unfolded, especially his crucifixion by the political and religious leaders. Unbeknown to them, the Risen Jesus walks with them on their journey and asks them what they are talking about. They are confused by the story being circulated about the emptiness of Jesus' tomb.

This is such a rich story and space prevents its detailed examination. What is clear is that this is the Gospel for the synodal journey of the Church: The Risen One walks with us in the midst of our confusions and struggles, wanting to listen to us, as we each tell our stories. And, just as the two struggling disciples come to recognise Jesus in the 'breaking of bread' (Luke's favourite expression for the Eucharist), we, too, come to realise the presence of the Risen Jesus in our weekly celebration of our local Eucharist.

This realisation for the two at Emmaus empowers them to return to Jerusalem, take up again the mission of discipleship, and reconnect to those assembled. What happens next provides the impetus for Luke's second volume, the Acts of the Apostles and the story of the spread of the Good News throughout the Roman Empire.



Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14, 22-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always, / for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. / So my heart was glad / and my tongue cried out with joy: / my body, too, will rest in the hope / that you will not abandon my soul to Hades / nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. / You have made known the way of life to me, / you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11. R. v. 11

R. Lord, you will show us the path of life. (or Alleluia!)

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. / I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.' / O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; / it is you yourself who are my prize. **R.**

2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, / who even at night directs my heart. / I keep the Lord ever in my sight: / since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**

3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; / even my body shall rest in safety. / For you will not leave my soul among the dead, / nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**

4. You will show me the path of life, / the fullness of joy in your presence, / at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 1:17-21

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia! / Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: / make our hearts burn with love when you speak. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 24:13-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of