

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.

2/3rd May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

This Weekend May Racing Carnival Mass

This annual Racing Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph's today at 10:30am. We warmly welcome the committee members of the Warrnambool Racing Club. The trophies for the major races will be on display. Refreshments to follow.

Irish Festival Mass

This annual Mass will be celebrated at the Infant Jesus Church, Koroit this weekend at 9:00am.

This will be followed by the 'Concert in the Church' at 11:00am. Welcome all visitors.

Sale of Canterbury Road

The former Emmanuel College property on Canterbury Road has now been sold, with settlement scheduled for 2027. There was strong interest in the site, and after a careful process, an agreement has been reached with the successful purchaser. The Parish looks forward to the opportunities this outcome will support into the future and thanks the community for its ongoing interest and support.

National Count of Attendance at Mass

The 2026 Annual National Count Mass Count will take place over the first four weekends of May beginning 2-3 May 2026. This collected data will then be entered into the portal to the ACBC National Centre for Pastoral Research by the Pastoral Ministry Office.

Recent Deaths:

Chris Kol, Br Peter Richardson, Monica Lyons, Geraldine Smith, Bill Smith, Joan Hill-Peters

Anniversaries:

Margaret Gleeson, John Ryan, Frank Healey, Marie Holdsworth, Margaret Primmer, Jack Ryan, Francesco Mammone, Antonina Mammone, Stan Griffin, Keith Warburton, Ian McKenzie, Ella Warburton, Gerry Ryan

Annual Vacation and Retreat

Fr Matt will be away from 4th - 30th May. Enjoy your break Fr Matt.

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.restall@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Rosary: **OLHC** (May) on Mondays at 7:00pm.
 : **Port Fairy** on Wednesdays at 11:00am

Baptisms: This weekend we welcome Nellie Watts, Emily & Ned White, and Nirvana and Nova Watts into our faith community.

OLHC: Holy Hour every Monday at 10:00am
Men's Breakfast 6th May

St Joseph's: Cuppa after Mass today

Warrnambool Symphony Orchestra Concert
Sunday May 10th at 2pm (Mothers Day)

The Australian Brandenburg Orchestra
Thursday May 14th

Simple and beautiful music for the liturgy and parish celebrations of Mass presented by Br Michael Herry, FMS. Tuesday June 2nd 7:30pm

Bible study resumes this Tuesday at 7:00pm in St Joseph's Meeting room. All welcome.

St Pius X: Some car keys have been lost in St Pius X Presbytery Car park. If found, please hand them into the Parish Office

Lost and Found

Numerous items of "found" property are awaiting collection in the Parish Office. Parishioners are welcome to call in and claim any lost property that has been handed in.

Parish Deep Clean – May Schedule

During May, a deep clean will be carried out across all churches in the Parish. This is part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining welcoming, safe and well-presented worship space for all.

The schedule is as follows:

- **6–7 May:** St Pius X
- **11–12 May:** St Patricks, Port Fairy
- **13–14 May:** Infant Jesus, Koroit
- **18–19 May:** St Joseph's
- **21–22 May:** Our Lady Help of Christians

We appreciate your support and understanding during these times.

If you notice anything in particular that may require attention, please let the Office know.

Thank you to everyone involved in helping care for our facilities.

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

Mon	1:00pm St Joseph's Chris Kol RIP
Wed	10:00am St Joseph's Lay-Led Liturgy
Fri	1:00pm OLHC Monica Lyons RIP

Prayer for May

That everyone might have food

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

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

you may be too.
You know the way to the place where I am going.’
Thomas said, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?’
Jesus said:

‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.
No one can come to the Father except through me.
If you know me, you know my Father too.
From this moment you know him and have seen him.’

Philip said, ‘Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.’ ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip,’ said Jesus to him ‘and you still do not know me?’

‘To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, “Let us see the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

‘I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

3 MAY 2026

TRUST IN GOD

We all worry from time to time. Worry is one of the great social concerns that surround us. We worry about so much: our families and loved ones, our health, what is going on in the world, finances...and the list is endless. It is into this situation that Jesus speaks to us today. ‘Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God and trust in me.’ These words get to the heart of our lives. Jesus invites us to trust in him and his God, despite all that surrounds us. While such an invitation flies in the face of much that distracts us, the Gospel invites us into a space, ‘a place’, where we can rest with God. Jesus assures John’s audience, and us, that he has already prepared this place. It awaits us—and we don’t have to wait until death to enjoy it—we can allow ourselves to draw close to Jesus and be with him now.

This is the sense behind Jesus’ reassurance to Thomas who questions Jesus about where he is going and how to be where he is. The response is clear: ‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.’ These words are clearly important for us to enjoy and relish as our celebration of Easter continues. Jesus offers us companionship (‘the Way’), leads us into ultimate communion with God (‘the Truth’) and brings us into a sense of complete wholeness (‘the Life’).

The final part of today’s Gospel reaffirms Jesus’ communion with his Father and that our communion and trust in Jesus leads us into ultimate communion with God. Everything in this Gospel invites us to trust Jesus’ words and let go, perhaps just a little, of our worries.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, ‘It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.’ The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19. R. v. 22

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (*or* Alleluia!)

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; / for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. / Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, / with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R.**

2. For the word of the Lord is faithful / and all his works to be trusted. / The Lord loves justice and right / and fills the earth with his love. **R.**

3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, / on those who hope in his love, / to rescue their souls from death, / to keep them alive in famine. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; / no one comes to the Father, except through me. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 14:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

I am the way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am