

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
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

Our 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

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

We are a Christ-centred community who gather with open hearts to recognise Christ in one another. In the Catholic tradition, we journey together in faith, hope and service to bring life to the church and to the wider world.

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.

3/4 July 2026

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time



New Parish Priest for Star of the Sea Parish

Last weekend Bishop Mark Freeman announced that **Fr Matthew Thomas** will be our next Parish Priest of The Star of the Sea Parish - South West Coast.

Commencement Date: Saturday 1 August.

Fr Matthew is known to a number of parishioners as he served as a Deacon at St Joseph's in 2005.

In recent years he has been Parish Priest of Mildura, Red Cliffs and Merbein. More recently he has overseen the establishment of the new Sunraysia Parish, which incorporates Ouyen and Robinvale.

I'm sure you will welcome Fr Matthew to his new parish. (Fr John)

New Parishes

On 1 July Bishop Mark decreed two new parish entities.

- Our Lady of Mercy and Peace, Heartland Parrish of Craters, Mountains, Lakes and Plains: (formerly Hampen, Timboon and Camperdown Parishes)
- Emmaus Catholic Parish: Colac, Lakes to Coast (formerly Colac, Cororooke and Apollo Bay Parishes)

Fr George Kuruvila has been appointed Parish Priest of Our Lady of Mercy and Peace; and **Fr Andrew Hayes** the Parish Priest of the Emmaus Catholic Parish

Fr John's Farewell Itinerary

- ◆ Sunday (today): Infant Jesus, Koroit 9:00am
- ◆ Sunday 12 July: St Pius X 9:00am
- ◆ Saturday 18 July: Our Lady Help of Christians 6:00pm
- ◆ Sunday 19 July: St Joseph's 6:00pm
- ◆ Sunday 26 July: St Joseph's 10:30am

Father John takes the opportunity to express his gratitude to the parishioners of the Star of the Sea Parish over a cuppa at the above venues & times after Mass.

Recent Deaths: Olive Francis, Lorenzo da Costa, Alice Murphy, Christopher Francis

Anniversaries: Maria Van Bergen, Fr Patrick Bowen, Maureen Bushell, Shirley Primmer, Veronica Keegan



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday

On the first Sunday of July each year, the Catholic Church in Australia celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday.

On this day, we gather as one to honour and celebrate the rich cultural heritage and spirituality of our First Nations peoples, and the contributions they make in the life of the Church.

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

RCIA: This week Chloe Moodie and Brad Emmerson have been welcomed into the Catechumenate, i.e. they have commenced their journey in being initiated into the Catholic Church.

Baptisms: This weekend Frankie White, Harrison Wallace, Jessie Perera, Louis and Charlotte Goodall will be welcomed into our faith community.

St Joseph's: No Bible Study in July

OLHC: Holy Hour, rosary and adoration Mondays at 10:00am

Infant Jesus: 'Mothers who Pray for their Children' meet Friday at 10:45am - except over school holidays.

This Week

Seaside Community Kitchen: 6 July - take away meals only at St Joseph's 5:30pm to 6:30pm. (Due to work in the Hall)

PLT: St Joseph's 5:00pm Wednesday

PLT: St Patrick's Port Fairy 7:00pm Wednesday



Fr Matt's Pilgrimage to Sydney

Fr Matt will travel to Sydney next week, with a group of young parishioners, to attend The Ignite Conference 2026. The mission is to sharpen believers intellectually and spiritually, equipping them with sound doctrine, prophetic clarity and leadership insight.

Annual Collection for the Pope

The Annual Collection for the Holy Father is taken up throughout the world on a weekend near the Feast of Ss Peter & Paul. Donations to the Appeal support Pope Leo's mission - from the proclamation of the Gospel to the promotion of integral human development. It is a tangible sign of communion with him, as Peter's Successor, and also of attention to the needs of the most disadvantaged, for whom the Pope always cares.

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

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues	11:00am OLHC Olive Francis RIP 5:30pm St Pius X
Wed	10:00am St Joseph's
Thurs	10:00am OLHC
Fri	10:00am St Joseph's Lay-Led Assembly 1:30pm Infant Jesus Koroit Alice Murphy RIP

Prayer for July

For respect for human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

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 July 2026

To book please call 5562 2231

GOSPEL

Mt 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

I am gentle and humble of heart.

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

5 JULY 2026

COMFORT AND REST

At times life seems burdensome and overwhelming. Depending on where we live in the world or what's been happening to us, this burden can be almost impossible to carry. Today's Gospel offers us—and for those countless numbers in other parts of our world who are faced with suffering, starvation, even death—a consoling and necessary word. We are privileged listeners to Jesus' prayer to the Father. It is, characteristically, in the style of a Jewish blessing prayer, given Matthew's Jewish audience.

The prayer praises God for disrupting social favouritism in favour of children. These are the 'little ones' from last week's Gospel. For Matthew, the socially unaccepted and rejected ones are those whom God blesses with wisdom and insight. This is divine revelation that comes from Jesus through his communion with God.

The final part of today's Gospel is worthy of lingering contemplation. Jesus invites all who listen to the Gospel—and that includes us—to allow him to shoulder our burdens and concerns. He models for us how to be. He is 'gentle and humble of heart'. The evangelist draws Jesus' self-description from the wisdom writings of the First (Old) Testament. It is this wisdom in which souls find comfort and rest. It is a 'yoke' that is easy to bear. Into this welcoming and restful presence, we are invited in our Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Zech 9:9-10

A reading from the prophet Zechariah

See how humbly your king comes to you!

The Lord says this:

'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
See now, your king comes to you;
he is victorious, he is triumphant,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will banish chariots from Ephraim
and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished.
He will proclaim peace for the nations.
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,
from the River to the ends of the earth.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14. R. v. 1

R. I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God. (or Alleluia!)

1. I will give you glory, O God my King, /
I will bless your name for ever. / I will bless
you day after day / and praise your name for
ever. **R.**

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, /
slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good
is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his
creatures. **R.**

3. All your creatures shall thank you,
O Lord, / and your friends shall repeat their
blessing. / They shall speak of the glory
of your reign / and declare your might,
O God. **R.**

4. The Lord is faithful in all his words / and
loving in all his deeds. / The Lord supports
all who fall / and raises all who are bowed
down. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 8:9, 11-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Mt 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!