



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

 (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.

14/15 February 2026

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lent: 40 Day Journey to Easter

Lent commences this Wednesday

Project Compassion envelopes and boxes can be collect this weekend. NB: One envelope for the whole of Lent.

Mass times: Ash Wednesday

Tuesday (Vigil)	6:00pm - OLHC
Wednesday	9:15am - St Pius X
"	10:00am - St Joseph's
"	6:00pm - Koroit

Stations of the Cross: 7:30pm @ St Joseph's-Fridays during Lent

Lenten Retreat Day: Sat 28 Feb: 10:00am - 4:00pm (no charge)
Location: St Joseph's Parish Hall Light Lunch provided (\$25)
This is an opportunity to contemplate various Lenten Gospels incorporating the Arts. Booking: ecomyriad@gmail.com (by 23 Feb)

RCIA: Rite of Election in Ballarat on Sat 21 Feb @ 12:30pm

The Dismissal: During RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) the preparation time for those who desire to become catholic, the **"Dismissal"** is an **invitation** to focus on Christ's presence in the Word of God. They are 'dismissed' from the community, following the homily, to reflect on the Gospel of the day with their catechists.

Notices from Fr Matt

2nd Rite of Reconciliation available for parishioners on Tuesday 3rd of March after 5:30pm Mass at St Pius. Come along for an evening of prayer & healing.

Altar Server Training has commenced at St Pius in time for Easter. Parishioners from 8 to 18 are invited to be part of this important ministry.

Holy Hour Port Fairy – after Mass Sunday 1st March, Catholics around Australia will be praying for the success of the Eucharistic Congress 2028, when Pope Leo XIV will be visiting Australia. Please come along and stay after 10:30am Mass for some time in Eucharistic Adoration to pray for this significant event.

Port Fairy Triduum Choir – Got a voice? Willing to use it to praise God this Easter in Port Fairy?

Stations of the Cross & Fish & Chips Port Fairy – 6:00pm Friday nights in March at St Patrick's Church. All welcome!

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 register with Fr Matt. If needing more details for any of the above please contact Fr Matt: matt.restall@ballarat.catholic.org.au or call the Office.

Dates to Remember

2 March (Monday) Mass of Thanksgiving re: Bishop Paul Bird's retirement at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 7:00pm

6 March (Friday) World Day of Prayer at OLHC at 2:00pm

19 March (Thursday) The Ordination & Installation of Fr Mark Freeman as the ninth Bishop of Ballarat at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 11:00am (Invitation only)

'Our Hearts on Mission' All welcome to join Lenten reflection groups at Christ Church Hammond Fellowship Center throughout Lent. Beginning this week: Mon 7:00pm and Thurs at 11:45am

St Pius X: Prayer Group -Tuesdays at 1:15pm beginning with rosary in the Chapel.
'The Chosen' Friday nights in February at 8:00pm
Cuppa after Mass today. Any volunteers warmly appreciated.

OLHC: Holy Hour: Mondays at 10:00am

St Joseph's: 'Cuppa' today after 10:30am Mass
The Ministry Roster is available in the sacristy porch.

Infant Jesus: 'Mothers who pray for their Children' Fridays at 10:45am during school terms.

Rosary: Month of February **OLHC** on Mondays at 7:00pm.
Every Wednesday at **St Patrick's Church, Port Fairy** at 11:00am

Baptisms: Verlyne Kimaiyo and Jed Dowd are welcomed into our faith community this weekend.

Portuguese Mass: Cannon Hill on Sunday 22 February at 11:00am

CRISP: Monthly meeting of the Community Refugee Integration & Settlement Program on Saturday 21 Feb at 5:00pm at OLHC Church.

Teddy Bears Picnic at St John's Primary School Dennington, on Sunday 1 March 11.30am to 2.30pm.

Parish Financial Council: Tuesday at 12 noon at St Joseph's

Census Forms: Thank you to all who have completed the Census form. If you still haven't filled yours out, could you please complete and submit by **22 February** to enable statistical reporting to be finalised. Thank you.



Keyboard Player Sing Australia - a group of social singers, practice on Tuesday afternoons at OLHC. If anyone is interested in taking up the role of keyboard player please contact the Office.

Serenata presents their third Annual Summer Gala: "Home" at 3:30pm on Sun 22nd Feb. Kings College Auditorium. A portion of proceeds will be donated to the sister school of Kings College: Ararat Christian Junior School in Uganda. (See notice boards)

Recent Deaths: Judith Kerr

Anniversaries: Sy Kan Guat, Adele Henderson, Judy O'Keefe, Agnes O'Keefe

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	2:00pm OLHC Judith Kerr RIP 5:30pm St Pius X
Wed	See Front Page for Ash Wednesday Mass times
Thur	10:00am OLHC
Fri	10:00am St Joseph's Lay-Led Assembly
Sat	10:00am St Pius X

Prayer for February

For children with incurable diseases:

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

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 10 March 2026
To book please call 5562 2231

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven
and earth;

you have revealed to little ones the
mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 5:20-22, 27-28, 33-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.

Such was said to your ancestors; but I say to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your
virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes
and Pharisees, you will never get into the
kingdom of heaven.

‘You have learnt how it was said to our
ancestors; You must not kill; and if anyone does
kill he must answer for it before the court. But
I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his
brother will answer for it before the court;

‘You have learnt how it was said: You must
not commit adultery. But I say to you: if a
man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already
committed adultery with her in his heart.

‘Again, you have learnt how it was said to our
ancestors: You must not break your oath, but
must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say
this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say
is “Yes” if you mean yes, “No” if you mean no;
anything more than this comes from the evil
one.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Longer form 5:17-37

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Breaking Upen the Word

HONOURING THE TORAH

As we continue to hear Jesus’ teaching in
Matthew’s ‘Sermon on the Mount’, we now
move into a very Jewish-oriented section.
Matthew’s audience were Jewish followers
of Jesus. They were very familiar with the
teachings of the Old Testament, from the
Torah (the ‘Law’) and the Prophets. Jesus now
reflects on these teachings stressing that he has
come, not to abolish them, but to ‘complete
them’. In other words, Matthew is not
rejecting the Jewish teaching heritage of the
audience but deepening it. This preservation
and honouring of the Torah is central in Jesus’
teaching.

In fact, the one who keeps and teaches others
the injunctions of the Torah will be regarded as
‘great’ in God’s Kingdom. Matthew moves to
explicate some of the key moral injunctions of
the Torah. Each begins with the same formula:
‘You have learnt how it was said to our
ancestors...’ Then follows Jesus’ interpretation
of the Torah for Matthew’s Jewish listeners.
It is important to note how this teaching is
presented. The usual translation has ‘...But I
say to you...’ This is not what the Greek text
has. There is no contrast, no ‘but’, between
what the ancients said and what Jesus teaches.
There is no contrast between the old (the
Torah) and the new (Jesus’ teaching), and no
rejection of Judaism or its ancient wisdom
summed up on the Torah.

Jesus deepens the meaning behind these
different aspects of Jewish law concerning
murder, adultery and oath-breaking, getting
to the heart of each. Undergirding each is
the invitation to integrity of relationships.
This, too, is the invitation to us, to live with
a wholeness of being to others, God and the
world.

Fr Michael Trainor



THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

15 FEBRUARY 2026

FIRST READING

Sir 15:15-20

A reading from the book of Sirach

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34. R. v. 1

**R. Happy are they who follow the law of
the Lord!**

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, /
who follow God’s law! / They are happy those
who do his will, / seeking him with all their
hearts. **R.**
2. You have laid down your precepts / to be
obeyed with care. / May my footsteps be firm /
to obey your statutes. **R.**
3. Bless your servant and I shall live / and
obey your word. / Open my eyes that I may
consider / the wonders of your law. **R.**
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes /
and I will keep them to the end. / Train me
to observe your law, / to keep it with my
heart. **R.**

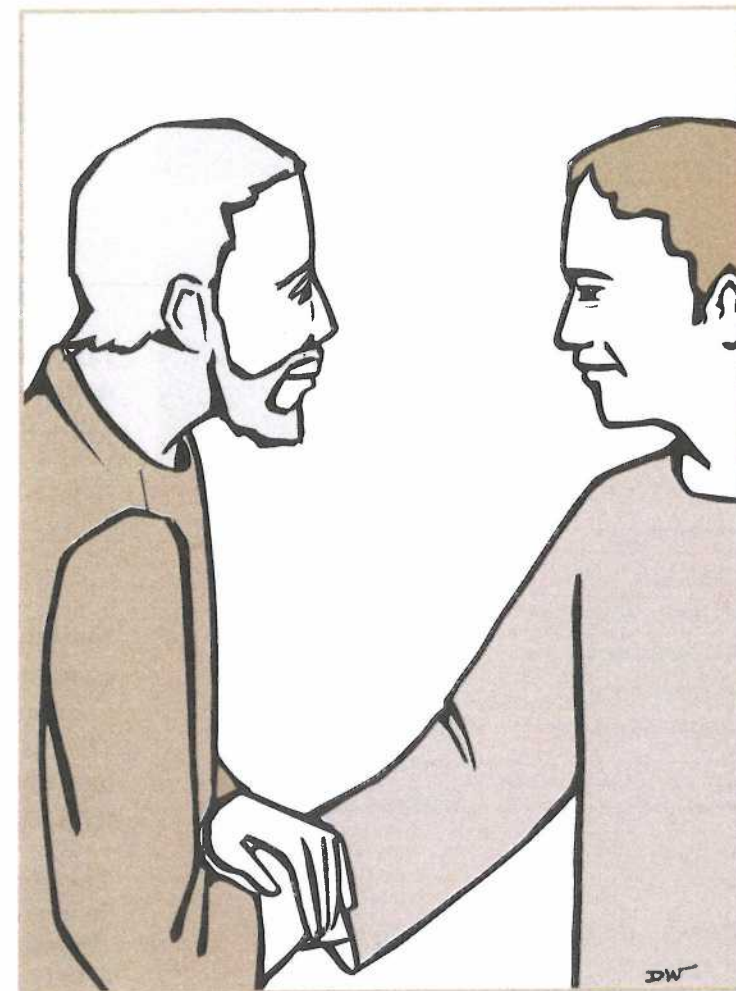
SECOND READING

1 Cor 2:6-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to
the Corinthians

*God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the
ages began.*

We have a wisdom to offer those who have
reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age,



it is true, still less of the masters of our age,
which are coming to their end. The hidden
wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries
is the wisdom that God predestined to be for
our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom
that none of the masters of this age have ever
known, or they would not have crucified the
Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls:
the things that no eye has seen and no ear has
heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that
God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has
revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit
reaches the depths of everything, even the
depths of God.

■ The word of the Lord.