

WELCOME TO

ST MARYS PARISH

2 TOOLAMBA ROAD (PO BOX 365) MOOROOPNA VIC 3629

PH: 5825 2034
Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor
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Email address: mooroopna@sandhurst.catholic.org.au Office Hours: Mondays and Fridays: 9.30am —3:30pm

The Living Word

Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year C

11 May 2025

First Reading Acts 13:14, 43-52

We are now turning to the gentiles.

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3

(R.) We are his people, the sheep of his flock. or

(R.) Alleluia.

- Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
 Serve the Lord with gladness.
 Come before him, singing for joy. (R.)
- Know that he, the Lord, is God. He made us, we belong to him, we are his people, the sheep of his flock. (R.)
- Indeed, how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love.
 He is faithful from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading Rv 7:9, 14-17

The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb. dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

Gospel Acclamation Jn 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 10:27-30

I give my sheep eternal life.

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;

I know them and they follow me.

I give them eternal life;

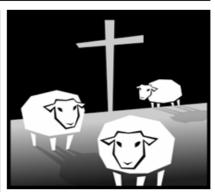
they will never be lost

and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is

greater than anyone,

and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one.'

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Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

You and I are Gentiles – part of the non-Jewish world. We are the sort of Christians we are, because of St Paul. He became the strongest advocate of the grace that the early Christian community should be inclusive of all nations and tribes and ethnic groups on the face of the earth. We have not yet realised this potential.

What riches of intellectual traditions, cultural expressions, and organisational structure are we still to receive from the Chinese, the Korean, the Indonesians, the Africans, the Indian Catholics who are part of our 'Church without Borders'?

How do we maintain unity and identity amongst such diversity? By listening for the voice of the Good Shepherd, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

But it takes a good teacher to help us to hear The Voice in the clamour of life.

Some of those teachers may be found amongst the Bishops who carry a shepherd's staff. But at least in my experience the best assistant-shepherds have been my parents, and some others. They have helped me hear The Voice assuring me that I will never perish, that I will receive eternal life.

That is a Voice worth following! We could pause for a moment to get on the same wavelength as the Good Shepherd so as to echo His Voice in our lives.

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ST MARY'S PARISH MOTTO

"Reaching out to each other - growing together in love"

St Mary's Mooroopna acknowledge the Yorta Yorta Nation and the Aboriginal people who have walked this land for thousands of years

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 6.30pm Sunday 10.00am

RECONCILIATION

10:30am to 11am Saturday

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon 12/5	No mass	
Tues 13/5	Holy Hour Exposition	5pm
Tues 13/5	Mass	6pm
Wed 14/5	Mass	6pm
Thurs 15/5	Mass	6pm
Fri 16/5	Mass	10am

St Mary's Monthly Devotions

First Friday Adoration

1st Friday of every month following the 10am Mass. Concluding with Benediction at 5:45pm.
At 11am, 1pm, 3pm and 5pm the Mysteries of the Rosary will be recited.



First Saturday Adoration

Adoration 9am to 10am Mass 10am to 10:30am followed by Reconciliation as per normal 10:30am to 11am.

EASY WORSHIP

Sat 10th May: Sarah Richards Sun 11th May: AM Carroll

Sat 17th May: Valoia Family Sun 18th May: Liz Donnelly

Save the Date

Tuesday 27th May—Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 7pm in the Church for St Mary's PS students.



Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year C

Blessing Prayer for Mother's Day

God of Love

listen to this prayer

God of Holy People,

of Sarah, Ruth and Rebekah;

God holy Elizabeth, mother of John, of Holy Mary, Mother of Jesus, bend down your ear to this request and bless mothers of our families.

Bless them with the strength of your spirit, those who have taught their children how to stand and how to walk.

Bless them with the melody of your love, those who have shared how to speak, how to sing, and how to pray to you.

Bless them with a place at your eternal dinner table.

> those who have fed and nurtured the life that has formed within them while still helpless, but embraced in love.

Bless them today, now, in this lifetime, with good things, and health.

Bless them with joy, love, laughter
And pride in their children and
Surround them with many good friends.

May they who carried life in their wombs be carried one day by your divine embrace; there for all eternity, to rejoice with family and friends.

This blessing and all graces we pray,
descend upon mothers of our families,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

St Mary's Primary School Mother's Day Mass

The Marian Centre was full on Friday 9 May for the St Mary's PS Mother's Day Mass. The Mums were treated to a delicious breakfast beforehand, and then were involved in the Mass which was lovely to see. I look forward to spending Mother's Day weekend with my husband and 3 kids in the beautiful Victorian town of Bright this year, followed by an afternoon in Dookie with my mum.

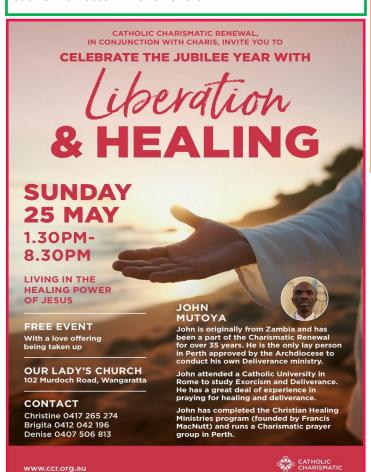
To all mothers, present or remembered, thank you for your love, strength, guidance and unwavering support.

I hope everyone has a lovely time celebrating & honouring all the mothers on Sunday.



St. Mary's Winter Meals 2025

Volunteers from St. Mary's will cook meals for homeless people and families in need, again this year. The program will operate for the winter months, beginning the first week in June and concluding at the end of August. The meals and soup will be distributed from Mooroopna Education and Activities Centre (MEAC) each week. Meals will need to be left at Unit 26 Rodney Park Village by Monday evening each week and they will be taken to MEAC on Tuesday morning. Containers will be provided. If you would like to participate in this program, please add your name and details to the list in the St Mary's Foyer. Cathie McMaster M. 0434 343 327





Leo XIV is the new Pope

"Peace be with all of you!" - the first words of Pope Leo XIV. The Conclave has elected Robert Francis Cardinal Prevost as the 267th Bishop of Rome. The new pope was announced to the waiting crowds by Cardinal Protodeacon Dominique Mamberti. The newly elected pontiff, now known as Pope Leo XIV, is the first pope from the United States, and the new leader of the world's 1.4 billion Catholics. The 69-year-old from Chicago paid tribute to the late pontiff Francis, urging them to remember the late pope's legacy of unity before outlining his own vision for the Catholic Church.

We celebrate the 62nd Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations this Sunday 11 May 2025. The late Pope Francis has encouraged us to accompany young people in their journey:

Pilgrims of Hope: the Gift of Life

Accompanying vocations

Consequently, pastoral ministers and vocation directors, especially spiritual directors, should readily accompany young people with the hope, patience and trust that reflect God's own "pedagogy." They should be capable of listening to them respectfully and sympathetically, and show themselves trustworthy, wise and helpful guides, ever attentive to discerning the signs of God's presence in their journey.

I urge that every effort be made to foster vocations in the various spheres of human life and activity, and to help individuals to be spiritually open to the Lord's voice. It is important, then, that adequate space be given to the accompaniment of vocations in educational and pastoral planning. **FRANCIS**

Rome, Policlinico A. Gemelli, 19 March 2025.

LAUDATO SI' WEEK 17th - 24th May is a global celebration where

we remember Pope Francis urging us in his encyclical

Laudato Si' to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. In Laudato Si', Pope Francis emphasizes the importance of loving God, one another, and creation. He calls for an "ecological conversion," a transformation of hearts and minds towards greater love and care for the planet. This love extends to both the natural world and our fellow human beings. Today, with the universal church, we celebrate 10 years of inspiration and action since Laudato Si' was promulgated. And as a Catholic Earthcare Parish, we celebrate our part in the journey towards the Laudato Si' Goals set before us by Pope Francis to achieve ecological conversion.



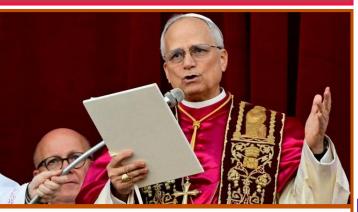
Exciting Sunset Sessions

The upcoming Sunset Sessions promise more engaging discussions and inspiring guest speakers:

23 May - You Can't Ask That: Priest Edition with Father Jackson Saunders

27 June - Father Rob Galea

Email: sheppartonym@sandhurst.catholic.org.au



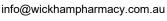
Acts 13:14,43-52 Apocalypse 7:9,14-17 John 10:27-30

Readings for next week:

Acts 14:21-27 Apocalypse 21:1-5 John 13:31-35

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Mooroopna Market

Ferrari Park Last Sunday of each Month 9am to 2pm





PH (24HRS): 03 5825 1651

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Sick List: Graeme Weir, Cherie Mammone, Jim McIntyre, Irene Murphy, Dennis Corboy, Barry Monaghan, Pat Hicks, John Raleigh, Josie Anderson, Rosemary Haig, Jill Taylor (White), Linda O'Rourke, Kellie Seymour, Robert Rocca, Rosanna Scarcella, Melissa Scali, Wendy Sinclair, Angelo Conti, Carolyn Purcell, Susie Purcell, Peter Stein, Graeme Quinlan.

Recently Deceased: Michael Bourke
Anniversaries: Sean Trevaskis

ALTAR HELPERS Sat 10th May: Cecily Dumaresq and Marie O'Meara Sat 17th May: not required

BINGO 17th May: Narissa Russell, Vicki Emanuelli, Andrew Owers, Sarah Richards, Francesca Richards

10th & 11th May	COMMENTOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY	
6:30 pm	Checca Richards	Chris Hogarty	Rob O'Meara	Checca Richards	
10.00 am	Brenda Pye	Fiona Dowling	Angela Iacono	Michael & Kaye Gaffy	
17th & 18th May					
6:30 pm	Kevin Murphy	Millicent Raymond	Miriam Hogarty	Annette Rau	
10.00 am	Liz Turk	Marie O'Meara	Inez Raleigh	TBA	