



WELCOME TO ST MARYS PARISH

2 TOOLAMBA ROAD (PO BOX 365) MOOROPNA VIC 3629

PH: 5825 2034

Parish Priest: Fr Ronald Masilang RCJ

Assistant Priest: Fr Addin Doe RCJ, Fr Ruel Desamparado RCJ, Fr John Paul Pasala

Parish Secretary: Laura Lawn

Email address: mooropna@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Office Hours: Mondays and Fridays: 9.30am —3:30pm

The Living Word

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

30 August 2026

First Reading Jer 20:7-9

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.
I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.
I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.
Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.
The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

(R.) *My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.*

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)
3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 12:1-2

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled

by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

*enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great
is the hope*

to which we are called.

Alleluia!

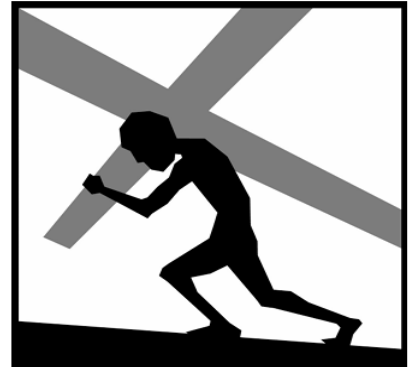
Gospel Mt 16:21-27

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

We have to get one terrible thought out of our heads, i.e. that the Heavenly Father of Jesus *wanted* him to suffer a tortured, agonising death. Yet we do say: 'It was necessary that Jesus suffer and die.' What can this mean? I believe this refers to the necessity of divine mission and the necessity of divine love.

First, it was the Father's will that Jesus remain true to the mission to preach and embody the gospel of mercy and forgiveness. It was inevitable that powerful elites would find this intolerable and have Jesus eliminated. Secondly, God so loved the world where death ravages human beings, that God determined to absorb the suffering and pangs of death.

The temptation to avoid that dreadful necessity lead Jesus to rebuke Peter: 'Get *behind* me, Satan', a terrible variation of the initial call: 'Come, *follow* me.'

We could pause for a moment to very consciously make the sign of the Cross, the consequence of Jesus' mission and love for us.

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Farewell Fr Ronald

This Monday we say farewell to our wonderful Parish Priest, Fr Ronald, as he returns home to the Philippines.

Thank you for your kindness, faith, friendship and all the wonderful memories you've given our parish community. You will certainly be missed.



And because we all know what an amazing cook you are, we couldn't let you leave without an Australian apron. We hope you wear it proudly and think of us whenever you're in the kitchen!

Safe travels, Fr Ronald. God bless you, and thank you for everything!



Letter from the Bishop

26 August 2026

As you may be aware, Fr Addin Doe RCJ has commenced his Annual Leave. During this time the point of reference for the parishes of the Shepparton cluster will temporarily be Fr. Ruel Desamparado RCJ.

I would also like to present Fr. Wilford Urmaza RCJ from St. Anthony's Parish in Melton South. Fr. Wilford has been working as assistant priest in the same parish for the last five years. He will temporarily assist Fr. Ruel, Fr. Addin and Fr John Paul Pasala in ministering to the Greater Shepparton Parish Cluster, while a more permanent solution is arranged.

I know that you will welcome Fr Wilford to the cluster, and I appreciate the collegiality you have shown me in working towards the longer-term stewardship of the parishes.

With every blessing in Christ,

Most Rev René Ramirez, RCJ

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 10.30am

RECONCILIATION

10:30am to 11:15am Saturday

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon 31/08	No Mass	
Tues 1/09	Holy Hour	5pm
Tues 1/09	Mass	6pm
Wed 2/09	Mass	6pm
Thurs 3/09	Mass	6pm
Fri 4/09	Mass	10am

EASY WORSHIP

Sat 29 Aug: Imelda
Sun 30 Aug: AM Carroll

Sat 5th Sept: Filipino Choir
Sun 6th Sept: Imelda

St Mary's Baptism Dates 2026	Formation Meetings Dates for 2026
Sunday 20 September	Tuesday 13 October from 7pm in the Church.
Sunday 18 October	
Sunday 15 November	

SAVE THE DATE

10th Anniversary of the
Annual Public Rosary

Saturday 10 October 2026 at 10:30am

St Brendan's Parish Gardens
More details to come
Maureen: 0403 876 578

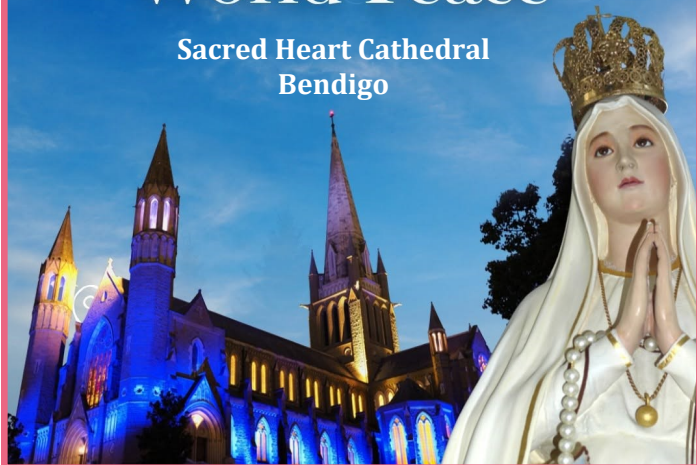


52nd Marian Festival

Sunday 11 October 2025

Pray the Rosary for World Peace

Sacred Heart Cathedral
Bendigo



Expressions of Interest

Save the Date: Marian Festival at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo on Sunday 11 October 2026. More details to come.

To assist with booking a coach, we are seeking expressions of interest. If you would like to travel by coach, please contact Maureen by **Tues 1 Sept** on 0403 876 578.



SEASON OF CREATION GATHERING 2026

Listen • Reflect • Act

3-4 September 2026 (Online)

Register Today!

caritas.org.au/soc-gathering

St Mary's Primary School

Grade 4 - 6: Sacrament of First Eucharist
and Confirmation:

- Thursday 3rd September – Sacramental Lessons - Confirmation
- Thursday 17th September – Sacramental Lessons - Eucharist
- Friday 9th October - Sacramental Reflection Day for all Grade 4-6 students
- Sunday 11th October - Celebration of First Eucharist and Confirmation at Parish mass.



Mooroopna Uniting Church

Invite you to a fashion parade

Date: Friday 11 September 2026

Time: 1pm

Location: Mooroopna Uniting Church

Cost: \$10 per head (includes afternoon tea & lucky door prize)

Large range available to buy on the day. Come & enjoy a great afternoon.

Contact: Joy 58251840



**YOU'RE INVITED to
Sandhurst Celebration
to launch the
Season Of Creation**

Tuesday 1 September



Immersion in Living Water
EZEKIEL 47:9, 12



**Mass celebrated by
Bishop Rene Ramirez RCJ**



Venue:
Huntly Streamside Reserve
Time: **11am**



Followed by Picnic Lunch
Sausage sizzle provided

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

On this **SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY**, Australia's Bishops call us to respond to growing social division with a "culture of encounter", warning that hatred, racism and hostile public debate are threatening the bonds holding communities together. The Bishops' recently released Social Justice Statement, [*Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division*](#) describes the growing normalisation of "abusive behaviour, incendiary language and violence". They suggest the current climate presents us with an opportunity for public witness. The statement explores recent developments in Australia including the Bondi Beach attack as well as the alarming rise in Islamophobia and other forms of racism. It also lists a range of actions to build social cohesion, which it argues can only come through practising a "culture of encounter".

Download the Statement by scanning this QR code





Readings
for
this week:

Jeremiah 20:7-9
Romans 12:1-2
Matthew 16:21-27

Readings
for
next week:

Ezekiel 33:7-9
Roman 13:8-10
Matthew 18:15-20

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YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Sick List: Graeme Weir, Dennis Corboy, Pat Hicks, John Raleigh, Josie Anderson, Rosemary Haig, Logan Clarke-Lines, Margaret Campbell, Nathan Campbell

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Rose & Tony Lopes, Nancy Varapodio.

ALTAR HELPERS Sat 29 Aug: not required

Sat 5 Sept: not required

BINGO 5th September: Maree Williams, Debbie Dunkley, Rob, Kathryn Davkovski, Jade Vigliaturo

29th & 30th Aug	COMMENTOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY
6:30 pm	Checca Richards	Cathie McMaster	Inez Raleigh	TBA
10.30 am	Elaine Vertriest	Sheila Griffin	Marg Lee	TBA
5th & 6th Sept				
6:30 pm	Kamsi Raymond	Chris Hogarty	Mavis Murphy	Raymond Family
10.30 am	Brenda Pye	Inez Raleigh	Maree Williams	Michael & Kaye Gaffy