



Readings
for
this week:

Isaiah 55:1-3
Romans 8:35,37-39
Matthew 14:13-21

Readings
for
next week:

1 Kings 19:9,11-13
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:22-33

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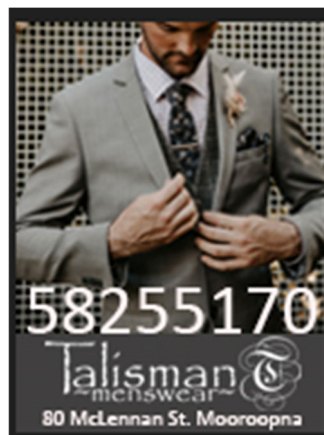
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YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

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

Recently Deceased: Brenda Scrimizzi, Wayne Hogan

Anniversaries:

ALTAR HELPERS Sat 1 Aug: TBC

Sat 8 Aug: Mavis Murphy & Liz Donnelly

BINGO 8th August: Bernadette Dow, Maree, Owen Macreadie, Carmel Fasano, Anne Maksacheff

1st & 2nd August	COMMENTOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY
6:30 pm	Checca Richards	Cathie McMaster	Sarah Richards	Angelina Vigilaturo
10.30 am	Brenda Pye	Inez Raleigh	Elaine Vertriest	Michael & Kaye Gaffy
8th & 9th August				
6:30 pm	Chris Hogarty	Kamsi Raymond	TBC	Annette Rau
10.30 am	Maree Williams	Liam Cowan	TBC	TBC

WELCOME TO

ST MARYS PARISH

2 TOOLAMBA ROAD (PO BOX 365) MOOROOPNA 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: mooroopna@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

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



The Living Word

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

2 August 2026

First Reading Is 55:1-3

Hasten and eat.

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me and you will have
good things to eat
and rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting
covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16

*(R.) The hand of the Lord feeds us:
he answers all our needs.*

1. 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.)
2. The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. (R.)
3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:35. 37-39

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.
Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!

*No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the
mouth of God.*
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 14:13-21

They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Note the disciples' reaction to the plight of the hungry crowd: 'Send the people away so that they can buy.' The disciples have gone for the fix which puts no responsibility on them. They are willing to entrust the hungry crowd to market forces. Those with money can eat: those without, can't. For the disciples, money and commerce are the answers to hunger.

Jesus rejects that solution. 'There is no need for them to go; give them something to eat yourselves.' The solution to the hunger of that crowd was to give generously what little the disciples had. What they could have kept for themselves was to become gift. Once the disciples were in Jesus' frame of mind, the hunger of the crowd was satisfied. How did this come about? The answer lay in human cooperation with the impulse of Divine generosity which knows no limits. The story simply says that Jesus blessed and broke the loaves 'and handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowd.' Jesus depended on the disciples to obey him: 'Give them something to eat yourselves'.

Jesus still looks with gut-wrenching compassion on those who are hungry in our own society and throughout the world. If we answer that market forces will suffice, Jesus will reject our answer as decisively as he rejected the answer of his earliest disciples. We have to take responsibility to share what we have, to be generous with what we have. After all, Jesus, Our Lord and Master, commands us: 'Give them something to eat yourselves'. Note how Jesus blessed those loaves and broke them before they were distributed, which reminds us of the words of Pedro Arrupe, former General of the Jesuits, 'Eucharist will never be complete so long as people still go hungry in the world.'

We could pause for a moment at Mass to ask: Who are those hungry people crowding in on us, and then pray that we may respond to them as our Lord commanded, so that the hungers of the crowd, and our hunger to really follow our Lord, will be satisfied.

mtate@bigpond.com

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You're Invited!

On Sunday,
9th August,
after 10:30 Mass,

parishioners are invited to
come over to the
Marian Centre
re the
PARISH VISITATION PROGRAM

A cuppa will be available.

? It is an opportunity to ask questions

and to give feedback.

Bereavement Team VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

St Mary's Parish Mooroopna is seeking expressions of interest from parishioners who may be interested in joining our Bereavement Team.



We are seeking empathetic and understanding people who are willing to support families during a difficult time.



It isn't time consuming and with a team approach, we can share the load.



Being part of the Bereavement Team is a rewarding and fulfilling ministry that provides comfort and care to those in our parish community when they need it most.

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.

GALATIANS 6:2



If you would like to learn more or are interested in becoming involved, please contact the Parish Office.

We would be delighted to hear from you.

Men's Group

Saturday 8 August
for breakfast at 7:30am
Pastoral Centre (behind St Brendan's Catholic Church.

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 3/8	No Mass	
Tues 4/8	Holy Hour	5pm
Tues 4/8	Mass	6pm
Wed 5/8	Mass	6pm
Thurs 6/8	Mass	6pm
Fri 7/7	Mass	10am

EASY WORSHIP

Sat 1 Aug: Liz Donnelly
Sun 2 Aug: Imelda

Sat 8 Aug: Sarah Richards
Sun 9 Aug: AM Carroll

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



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 as soon as possible on 0403 876 578.



A New Bishop for the Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst

"My story now becomes part of your story."
— Bishop René Ramirez RCJ

We warmly welcome Most Reverend René Ramirez RCJ as the Ninth Bishop of Sandhurst.

As a parish community, we give thanks for Bishop René's generous response to God's call and assure him of our prayers as he begins his ministry across the Diocese.

May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen Bishop René as he leads us with faith, hope and compassion. We look forward to sharing in this new chapter for the Diocese of Sandhurst.

Please keep Bishop René, our priests, and all the people of the Diocese in your prayers.

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you."



St Mary's Baptism Dates 2026	Formation Meetings Dates for 2026
Sunday 16 August	Tuesday 13 October from 7pm in the Church.
Sunday 20 September	
Sunday 18 October	
Sunday 15 November	

St Mary's Primary School

IMPORTANT DATES

Grade 4 - 6: Sacrament of First Eucharist and Confirmation
Sunday 16th August – Candidates presented at Sunday Mass

Sunday 11th October -
Celebration of First Eucharist and Confirmation at mass.



Prayer for the NEW BISHOP OF SANDHURST

Almighty Father, knower of all hearts, grant that our brother, René, your servant, who is chosen for the office of Bishop of Sandhurst, may be a true shepherd of the flock entrusted to his care.

Pour out now upon this chosen one that power which comes from you, the Holy Spirit, whom you gave to your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, that same Spirit which Christ bestowed on his own apostles.

May this chosen one, René, fulfil the ministry of shepherd of your people of our Diocese.

May he please you by the sincerity of his service, the purity of his heart, the humility of his interactions, the simplicity of his demeanour. May he direct by word and example the people of Sandhurst entrusted to his care.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever, Amen.

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Patroness of our Diocese, Pray for us.



Don't forget to register!




SANDHURST FORMATION INSTITUTE
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Riverlinks Eastbank, Shepparton 21 & 22 August

