



WELCOME TO ST MARYS PARISH

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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

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

16 August 2026

First Reading Is 56:1.6-7

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help.
(R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 11:13-15. 29-32

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the

mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Jesus preached the Good News
of the kingdom**

and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 15:21-28

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

A pagan woman approaches a Jewish man and she begs Jesus to heal her daughter.

Jesus gives a dismissive answer to the woman: 'It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the house dogs.' The children are obviously the Jewish people.

This remarkable pagan woman stands her ground and engages in a verbal joust with Jesus! She argues: 'Yes, Lord, but even the house dogs get the crumbs that fall from their master's table.'

Jesus recognises her faith and the daughter was healed. This story was put in the Gospels to show how Jesus extended his saving mission to non-Jews in Pagan territory.

That is Good News for billions of non-Jewish people over the course of history since then and into the future. That is why we are truly 'Catholic', which, as you know, is the Greek for 'world-wide'.

We could pause for a moment to celebrate this Canaanite woman as the first 'Catholic'!

mtate@bigpond.com

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St Mary's Primary School

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

- Sunday 16th August – Candidates presented at Sunday Mass
- 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.

In Loving Memory of Leo

Our parish community extends our heartfelt condolences to **Brenda and family** on the passing of our dear friend and parishioner, **Leo Pye**.

May he **rest in eternal peace**, and may God's comfort and love be with his family at this time.

Expressions of Interest

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

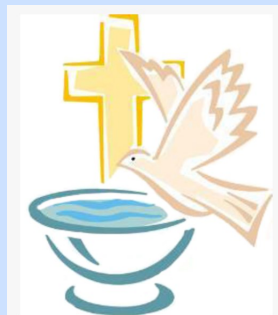
To assist with booking a coach, we are seeking expressions of interest. If you would like to travel by coach, please contact Maureen as soon as possible on 0403 876 578.



Congratulations and welcome to

Franky Junior

Andrew Junior



Who will be baptised at St Mary's Mooroopna on Sunday 16 August 2026

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 17/08	No Mass	
Tues 18/08	Holy Hour	5pm
Tues 18/08	Mass	6pm
Wed 19/08	Mass	6pm
Thurs 20/08	Mass	6pm
Fri 21/08	Mass	10am

EASY WORSHIP

Sat 15 Aug: Liz Donnelly

Sun 16 Aug: Imelda

Sat 22 Aug: Sarah Richards

Sun 23 Aug: Sarah Richards

St Mary's Baptism Dates 2026

Formation Meetings Dates for 2026

Sunday 16 August

Sunday 20 September

Sunday 18 October

Sunday 15 November

- Tuesday 13 October from 7pm in the Church.

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**



St. Mel's Parish Shepparton

invites you to

Come & Celebrate Mass in Filipino

in honour of

San Lorenzo Ruiz

First Filipino Saint & Martyr



29 August 2026

(Saturday)

@6:00PM

every 4th Saturday
of the Month
beginning August 2026



Join us for coffee, tea
and Filipino snacks after mass.

For inquiries, call or text: 0431 578 370.



SEASON OF CREATION GATHERING 2026

Listen • Reflect • Act

3-4 September 2026 (Online)

Register Today!

caritas.org.au/soc-gathering

Sunset Sessions Young Adults

Young adults aged 18-35 are invited to join us on Friday 28 August for a discussion in the Pastoral Centre (behind St Brendan's Church), followed by dinner together from 6pm to 8pm.

For more info please contact
shepparton.ym@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

SANDHURST FORMATION INSTITUTE

21&22 AUGUST
Riverlinks Eastbank, Shepparton

GROWING AS COMMUNITIES OF MISSION

2 DAYS
exploring



Keynote Speakers



Fr. Richard Rosse and Ann O'Brien

Registrations close on
Friday 14 August 2026

**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



Followed by Picnic Lunch
Sausage sizzle provided

ALL SANDHURST SCHOOLS & PARISHES are invited
and encouraged to come along and celebrate in
this beautiful bush setting.



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Men's Group

Saturday 22 August for breakfast at 7:30am
Pastoral Centre (behind St Brendan's Catholic Church)





Readings
for
this week:

Isaiah 56:1,6-7
Romans 11:13-15,29-32
Matthew 15:21-28

Readings
for
next week:

Isaiah 22:19-23
Romans 11:33-36
Matthew 16:13-20

Paul Wickham

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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

Recently Deceased: Leo Pye

Anniversaries:

ALTAR HELPERS

Sat 15 Aug: not required

Sat 22 Aug: Chris Flower & Faye Flower

BINGO 22 August: Narissa Russell, Maree, Francesca Richards, Rob, Sarah Richards, Emma

15th & 16th Aug	COMMENTOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY
6:30 pm	Mary Coad	Kevin Murphy	Sarah Richards	Checca Richards
10.30 am	Elaine Vertriest	Marie O'Meara	Mavis Murphy	TBC
22nd & 23rd August				
6:30 pm	Millicent Raymond	Mavis Murphy	Miriam Hogarty	Chris & Miriam Hogarty
10.30 am	Elaine Vertriest	Helen Betson	Angela Iacono	TBA