


WELCOME TO

# ST MARYS PARISH

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


# The Living Word

***Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A*** *18 October 2026*

## First Reading Is 45:1.4-6

*I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.*

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to
Cyrus,
whom he has taken by his right hand
to subdue nations before him
and strip the loins of kings,
to force gateways before him
that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,
of Israel my chosen one,
that I have called you by your name,
conferring a title though you do not
know me.
I am the Lord, unrivalled;
there is no other God besides me.
Though you do not know me, I arm you
that men may know from the rising to
the setting of the sun
that, apart from me, all is nothing.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7**

***(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.***

1 O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the
peoples. *(R.)*

2 The Lord is great and worthy of praise,
to be feared above all gods;
the gods of the heathens are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens.
*(R.)*

3 Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts.
*(R.)*

4 Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness.
*(R.)*

## Second Reading 1 Thes 1:1-5

*We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.*

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

## Gospel Acclamation Phil 2:15. 16

***Alleluia, alleluia!***
***Shine on the world like bright stars;***
***you are offering it the word of life.***
***Alleluia!***

## Gospel Mt 22:15-21

*Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.*

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'


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## Reflection *by Fr Michael Tate*

Jesus first cleverly throws his questioners on the defensive. *They* are the ones carrying the coinage, not him. Then he poses the crucial question, 'Whose image is it and whose inscription?' They said to him, 'Caesar's'. Then he said to them: 'Render to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's.'

The coin bore the image and inscription of Caesar. Genesis teaches us that human beings are made in the image and likeness of God. Our Lord is saying, 'Let the political and financial authorities have their coinage. It is their legal tender. But they cannot have human beings. Human beings belong to Another. They belong to God.'

We are fortunate to live in a wonderful democracy. But even a democracy can violate the dignity of a human being created in the image and likeness of God. As Pope John Paul II said: 'Authentic democracy is possible only in a state ruled by law, *and on the basis of a correct conception of the human person.'* (Italics added)

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the inscription, 'Child of God', effectively engraved on our hearts by baptism.

## St. Mary's Primary School

On **Sunday 11 October,** the school community joyfully celebrated the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation.
Congratulations to Oscar Williams, Bayden Newman, Jiro Valledor and Ava Fisher, who received both sacraments. Isabel Weis, Theo Natalizio, Angelo Natalizio, Samuel Koum and Oliver DeMaria also received the Sacrament of Confirmation.
Fr Ruel led a warm and meaningful Mass, ensuring each candidate felt welcomed and valued as they took this important step in their faith journey. We congratulate all the candidates and pray that they continue to grow in faith, guided by the love of Christ and supported by their families and our school community.



We also wish the next group of candidates,
**Daniel Sibio, James Sibio,**
**Kodinna Raymond and Boston Ferrari**,
every blessing as they prepare to receive their sacraments this ***Sunday 18 October***. We keep them in our prayers as they take this special step in their faith journey and look forward to celebrating this important occasion with them and their families.

## St Mary's Mooroopna Parish

# ALL SOULS DAY

Monday 2 November 2026
Starts at 10am
Special mass for the dead.

*Please bring envelopes with names and hand in before mass.*



## Deanery Forum Round 3—Save the date

20 October - Goulburn Valley Deanery - MOVE (Museum of Vehicle Evolution), Kialla. Register at Trybooking via the following Link or QR Code: https:// www.trybooking.com/DPJNH

# 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 19/10** | **No Mass** | |
| **Tues 20/10** | **Holy Hour** | **5pm** |
| **Tues 20/10** | **Mass** | **6pm** |
| **Wed 21/10** | **Mass** | **6pm** |
| **Thurs 22/10** | **Mass** | **6pm** |
| **Fri 23/10** | **Mass** | **10am** |

## EASY WORSHIP

**Sat 17 Oct:** Liz Donnelly
**Sun 18 Oct:** Imelda

**Sat 24 Oct:** Sarah Richards
**Sun 25 Oct:** AM Carroll





**Sunday 18 October 2026**

ONE IN CHRIST
UNITED IN
*Mission*
100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

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**Freecall: 1800 257 296**
**catholicmission.org.au/united**

For Yamikani*, getting to school means walking long distances in pain, often without enough food or strength to make the journey. For many families in vulnerable and remote areas like rural Malawi, education has become an impossible choice.

But there is hope. Led by Fr Matthew Semba, a new primary school is being built, offering children a safe place to learn, grow, and look ahead with renewed possibility.

**This World Mission Month, you are invited to share in this mission, standing with families as they rebuild their lives and create a brighter future for their children.**

**Name changed for privacy*

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Let us unite in prayer for our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, asking the Lord to grant him strength, healing, and peace.

May Our Lady, Health of the Sick, intercede for him, and may God's loving presence sustain him always.

**CATHOLIC SANDHURST**
HERE. TOGETHER. FOR CHRIST.



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## A Lifetime of Service
## A Legacy Worth Protecting
## They Dedicated Their Lives to Serve Others
## Now it is Our Turn to Support Them

Monsignor Francis Marriott dreamed of a future where every retired priest would be cared for with dignity, respect and compassion.

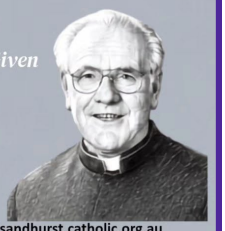
***That dream became the Priests Retirement Foundation***

Today, your generosity ensures that those who spent their lives serving the Church continue to receive the support they deserve.

***Second Collection this weekend***
***17/18 October 2026***

Scan to Donate

*Support for Those Who Have Given*
*Please donate today!*



For further information please email Fr Novelito Lim: **novelito.lim@sandhurst.catholic.org.au**

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WYD SEOUL 2027

# SANDHURST PILGRIMAGE AUGUST 2027

Bishop Rene invites potential pilgrims to apply for the Sandhurst Pilgrimage to World Youth Day Seoul 2027 from ***30 July to 11 August 2027.*** World Youth Day is an extraordinary opportunity to meet with the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, to celebrate our faith, encounter Jesus Christ, and be renewed in our call to live as missionary disciples.
Millions of young Catholics from every corner of the globe will come together under the theme: "Take courage! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)
If you have any questions, please contact Sandhurst Youth Ministry at sandhurstyouthministry@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

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## All Souls Day at Shepparton Cemetary

All Souls Day will be observed on **Monday, 2 November 2026**. A special Mass will be held at the **Shepparton Cemetery** at **6:00 PM** to commemorate and pray for all the faithful departed. Please bring your own chair.

**Location:** The Mass will be held in front of the large cross in the centre of the roundabout near ***the Vaults.*** Parking is available inside the second (smaller) entrance off Rudd Road (just past the main entrance), or on the roadside nearby. Those parking at the main entrance carpark (office area) can enjoy a short walk through the cemetery to reach the Mass location.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Readings for this week: | Isaiah 45:1,4-6 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 Matthew 22:15-21 | Readings for next week: | Exodus 22:20-26 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 Matthew 22:34-40 |


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**YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR .....**

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

**Recently Deceased:**

**Anniversaries:** Nate Sidebottom

**ALTAR HELPERS** **Sat 17 Oct:** Marg Lee & Kevin Lee **Sat 24 Oct:** not required

**BINGO** **24 October:** Maree, Amelia Valoia, Vicki Emmanuelli, Emma Difede, Maria Tripoli

| 17th & 18th October | COMMENTOR | READER | SPECIAL MINISTER | OFFERTORY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6:30 pm | Millicent Raymond | Mavis Murphy | Miriam Hogarty | TBA |
| 10.30 am | Fiona Dowling | Helen Betson | Angela Iacono | Michael & Kay Gaffy |
| **24th & 25th October** | | | | |
| 6:30 pm | Liz Donnelly | Mavis Murphy | Mary Coad | Angelina Vigliaturo |
| 10.30 am | Brenda Pye | Liam Cowan | Elaine Vertriest | Brenda & Dottie |