

# Catholic Parishes of Yarrowonga & Cobram

Incorporating Sacred Heart (Yarrowonga), St Joseph's (Cobram), Our Lady of Good Counsel (Tungamah), St Mary's (Katamatite) & St Mary's (Burramine)

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES- GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER (GIFT)



Sacred Heart, Yarrowonga  
Cnr Murphy & Witt Streets  
PO Box 36, Yarrowonga Vic 3730

Parish Priest: Fr Junjun Amaya (0459-356-917)  
Email: [junix28@gmail.com](mailto:junix28@gmail.com)  
Parish Secretary: Amy O'Kane  
Office Ph: (Ph: 03 5744 3030)  
Email: [yarrowonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:yarrowonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)  
Facebook: Catholic Parishes of Cobram-Yarrowonga

### SCHOOLS

#### Sacred Heart Primary, Yarrowonga

Principal: Jarrod Mullavey Ph: 035744 3339

#### Secondary: Sacred Heart College, Yarrowonga

Principal: Lew Nagle Ph: 03 5742 1300

#### St Joseph's Primary, Cobram

Principal: Sarah Iddles Ph: 0358721573



St Joseph's Cobram  
6-8 William Street  
PO Box 424 Cobram, Vic 3644

Yarrowonga & Cobram Catholic Parishes are Child-Safe Organizations: We are committed to National Catholic Safeguarding Standards. With the Diocese of Sandhurst, we commit to provide "a safe and supportive environment for all persons, especially children, young people and adults at risk and has a zero tolerance of abuse."



*We acknowledge and pay respect to the First Nations people, past and present, the original and ongoing owners and custodians of this land.  
We commit ourselves to actively work alongside indigenous people for reconciliation and justice.*

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Year C – 23rd February 2025

### An excerpt from Pope Francis's Homily on today's Gospel:

"Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. This is the Christian innovation. It is the Christian difference. Ask God for the strength to love. Say to Him: 'Lord, help me to love, teach me to forgive. I cannot do it alone, I need you.' We need to pray more frequently for the grace to live the essence of the Gospel, to be truly Christian.

Jesus did not point a finger at those who wrongfully condemned him and put him to a cruel death, but opened his arms to them on the cross.

And he forgave those who drove the nails into his wrists. If we want to be disciples of Christ, if we want to call ourselves Christians, this is the only way. Having been loved by God, we are called to love in return; having been forgiven, we are called to forgive; having been touched by love, we are called to love without waiting for others to love first; having been saved graciously, we are called to seek no benefit from the good we do."

### Shrove Tuesday (4 March): (Yarrowonga) Parish BBQ

We hope to be joined by the other Christian Churches in the area. As per parish practice, the Parish will provide the meat for this occasion. Parishioners bring salad and/or sweets and BYO drinks.

Weather permitting, we will have this outdoor (in between old convent and MPB). If weather is unfavorable, we gather at the Sacred Heart College Staffroom. Spread the word. All welcome.

### Ash Wednesday Mass Times (5 March)

9:30 am: Cobram (with the whole St Joseph's School)  
12:00 noon: Sacred Heart Yarrowonga (with Yrs 5's & 6's)  
6:00 pm: Sacred Heart Yarrowonga

Parishioners are welcome in any of these masses.

### Thursday, 27 February 2025 (Yarrowonga Day of Prayer)

8:00- 9:30 am: Holy Rosary (every 30 minutes)  
9:30- 10:00 am: Holy Mass  
10:00 - 4:00 pm: Continuous Rosary  
4:00 - 5:00 pm: Holy Hour and Benediction

\*Rosary leaders at certain time are welcome. Please put your name at the sign-up sheet at the foyer.

### Save the Date: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

For Yarrowonga area, this will be held at St Brigid's Mulwala 2:00 pm

For Cobram area, this will be held at St Margaret's Anglican Church, at 2:00 pm.

### 2025 Host Country, Cook Islands "I Made You Wonderful" Psalm 139:14

This an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

### Save the Date: St Joseph's School Fete: Saturday 15th March

We would appreciate any contributions of jams/preserves. Jars and sugar can be supplied. Contributions of cakes would also be welcomed; butter can be supplied. Cake plates will be in the Church from Saturday 1st March.

If you can contribute, please contact Liz Stronge 0412605436 or Carmel Natale 0400104741.

Tickets for our major raffle are on sale at Masses, commencing this weekend. \$1.00 each.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. For office inquiries outside these times, please leave message on 03 5744 3030, text 0459356917 or email: [yarrowonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:yarrowonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

**ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND 22/23 February 2025**

**YARRAWONGA**

**5:00 pm Saturday (Vigil) Mass**

**Commentator:** Brian Keenan  
**Lector/Reader:** June Dale  
**Presentation of Gifts:** Volunteers  
**Extraordinary Minister of**  
**Holy Communion:** Xavier Martin  
**Sacristan:** Eileen Thorp  
**Overhead/Music:** Noel Richmond

**9:00 am Sunday Mass**

**Commentator:** James Cummins  
**Lector/Reader:** Dale Brooks  
**Presentation of Gifts:** Angela Clarke  
**Extraordinary Ministers of**  
**Holy Communion:** Mary Mansfield, Lucy Mansfield  
**Sacristan:** Margaret Cousins  
**Overhead/Music:** Janet Brennan  
**Counting 25<sup>th</sup> Feb:** John Clarke

**COBRAM**

**6:30 pm Saturday (Vigil) Mass**

**Lector/Reader:** Stephanie Arundel  
**Extraordinary Minister of**  
**Holy Communion:** Pat Raco  
**Presentation of Gifts:** Cathy Steward  
**Music/Sacristan:** Veronica Perra/Gisella Bextream  
**Computer:** Joan Moriarty

**11:00 am Sunday Mass**

**Lector/Reader:** Liz Stronge  
**Extraordinary Minister of**  
**Holy Communion:** Lou Janssens  
**Presentation of Gifts:** Michelle Griffies  
**Music/Sacristan:** Veronica Perra  
**Computer:** Carmel Natale  
**Counting:** John & Joan Moriarty  
**Statue of Mary:** Mr & Mrs Van den Berg  
**Altar Society:** Mary Kennedy, Anne Trease & Vita Janssens  
**Ministers to the Sick:** Mary Kennedy, Fred Pinnuck, Josie Violi & Carmel Natale

**ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 1/2 March 2025**

**YARRAWONGA**

**5:00 pm Saturday (Vigil) Mass**

**Commentator:** Brian Keenan  
**Lector/Reader:** Mary Hockley  
**Presentation of Gifts:** Volunteers  
**Extraordinary Minister of**  
**Holy Communion:** Barb Osmotherly  
**Sacristan:** Christine Martin  
**Overhead/Music:** Noel Richmond

**9:00 am Sunday Mass**

**Commentator:** Jane Morriss  
**Lector/Reader:** Michael Ross  
**Presentation of Gifts:** Volunteers  
**Extraordinary Ministers of**  
**Holy Communion:** Trish Cummins, Meegan McInness  
**Sacristan:** Liz Connell  
**Overhead/Music:** Dick Morriss  
**Counting 4<sup>th</sup> March:** Janet Brennan

**COBRAM**

**6:30 pm Saturday (Vigil) Mass**

**Lector/Reader:** Josie Grasso  
**Offertory Procession:** Cath Gattuso  
**Extraordinary Minister of**  
**Holy Communion:** Pat West  
**Music/Sacristan:** Veronica Perra/Gisella Bextream  
**Computer:** Joan Moriarty

**11:00 am Sunday Mass**

**Lector/Reader:** Carole Petersen  
**Offertory Procession:** Nancy Grillo  
**Extraordinary Minister of**  
**Holy Communion:** Melina Coppola  
**Music/Sacristan:** Veronica Perra  
**Computer:** Carmel Natale  
**Counting:** John & Joan Moriarty  
**Statue of Mary:** Mrs Josie Violi

**Sacred Heart Parish, Yarrowonga Matters**

**Yarrowonga Aged Care Communion Services**

**Woodspoint: Communion Liturgy** Tuesday, 10:00 am  
**Karana: Communion Liturgy** Tuesday, 10:30 am

**PARISH MINISTRIES MEETING**

**Parish Pastoral Care Group-** 4<sup>th</sup> Tues each month 2 pm  
*February Pastoral Care Contact: Eileen Thorp 0418 172 901*

**Children's liturgy will return this Sunday- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday-** and will continue to be run every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. All children up to the age of 12 are welcome. Any adults that would like to help run the sessions please contact Natalie on 0447 443 101.

**Yarrowonga Parish Lenten Program  
Thursdays in Lent (2 options)**

**10:00 am (With Sr Helen) & 5:15 pm (with Michael Ross)**  
 Lenten Program Guide available on the first sessions.  
 For those interested, there is a sign-up sheet at the foyer.  
 The Program will be held at the Narthex.

**St Joseph's Parish, Cobram Matters**

- **SUNDAY LUNCH:**  
Sun 23rd February – The Top Pub at 12:00 noon
- **ROSARY:** Tuesday 25th February at 2:00pm in the Church. All Welcome.
- **FAITH CIRCLES:** Thursday 27th Feb at 1:30pm
- **PASTORAL CARE GROUP (February contact)-** If you have or know of anyone with a particular need, e.g visitation to the sick, death in the family, etc, please contact **Veronica** on **0456 779 730**
- **WANTED SECOND HAND SHELIVING:** We are endeavouring to store parish supplies / equipment etc. in a central area. We would appreciate any donations of any unwanted shelving / bookcases or wardrobes. If you can help, please contact Veronica.
- **ROSTERS:** Any Parishioners wanting to be included on the Offertory roster please add your names to the sheet in the foyer.
- **For those in ministries,** please collect your new roster from the foyer.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** 1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23  
**A Reading from the first book of Samuel**

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.' *The word of the Lord*  
® **Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

**Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings. ®

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion ®

The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults. ®

As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.  
As a father has compassion on his sons,  
the Lord has pity on those who fear him.®

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:45-49  
**A Reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.  
*The word of the Lord.* ® **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation** John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I give you a new commandment;  
love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

**Gospel** Luke 6:27-38

**A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'  
*The Gospel of the Lord.* ® **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C**

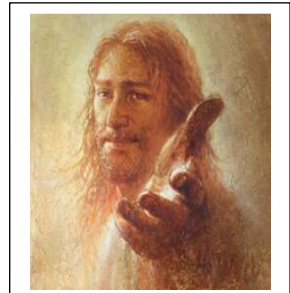
**First Reading:** Sirach 27:4-7  
**Psalm:** Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2  
**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:54-58  
**Gospel:** Luke 6:39-45

### **Curious About Catholicism? Or Thinking about Coming Back to Church?**

Whether you're seeking to learn more about the Catholic faith or considering returning to the Church, we invite you to join us at the Catholic Parish. Our welcoming programme is designed to guide you through the teachings of Jesus Christ, helping you discover or rediscover the profound sense of home and belonging that our faith offers. Led by our parishioners, this is an opportunity to ask questions, explore Catholic beliefs, and grow in your spiritual journey.

**Come and see how the Church can be a place of peace and hope for you.**

For inquiries, you may contact/refer to any of the members of the Parish RCIA team  
*Michael Ross, Barb Osmotherly, George Cousins, Libby Dowling, Christine Martin, Fr Junjun*



### **PARISH PRAYER:**

God our Father, bless our Parish of the Sacred Heart (St Joseph), so that we may love you more. Help our parents to give good example to their children, and our youth to grow in strength as good Christians. Encircle our families with your loving care. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity, and to those in sorrow, joy. May each parishioner grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another become deeper in our daily living. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**YARRAWONGA: We entrust to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, our relatives and friends who are sick:**

Peter O'Dwyer, James Heath, Noela Corby, Ken Jones, Ron Foley, Vikki Bye, Peter O'Brien, Megan Burke, Brendan O'Connor, Jen Sagaidak, Lori Perry, Jim McKenna, Christine Titheridge

**Anniversaries of death occur around this time especially:**

**22nd** Ivy May Doyle, Nicholas Cook, Basil Lyon

**23rd** Thomas Lane, Mary Rivers, Martin Tripp

**24th** James Smith

**25th** Joe O'Callaghan, Hugh F McDonald, Mary B Gorman

**26th** Matthew O'Kane, Della Clifford, Mary Jenkins

**27th** Patrick O'Dwyer, Patrick J Cummins, Ellen (Nellie) Nunn, Daphne Ferguson

**28th** Kathleen Hanrahan, John W O'Dwyer, Enrico Corlatti, Leodigaria Panogalinog, Andrew O'Dea, Arlene Torrente

**29th** Tony Farey, Terry Lyons

**COBRAM: With St Joseph, our Patron, we pray for our relatives and friends who are sick:**

Ashlin Grasso, Bill Carroll, Debbie Opray, Kerry Harrison, Laurie Vinecombe, Melinda England, Evie Emma Simmons, Adrian Bennett, Barry Bennett, Shane Carrick, Carmel Natale, Maddison Watt, Les Harris, Colleen Brooks, Carmel Clancy, Peter Petersen, Fr. Rob Niehus, Bruce Campbell, Frances Hale, Giulia Vitullo, David Cooper, Taylah Brooks, Erin Carlson-Higgins, Tyson King, Malcolm Caldwell and Narelle Brooks

**Recently deceased: Marilyn Farrar**

**Anniversaries of death occur around this time especially:**

**22nd** Kathleen Bant, Giuseppe Frigido, Antonio D'Agostino, Jeremiah Ryan

**23rd** Doris Hughes, Joan Agnes Curthoys R.S.M., Frank Hester

**24th** John Bourke, Lilian Walsh, Marie Wishart, John Desmond O'Dwyer

**25th** Cecilia Manning, Caroline 'Carrie' Dunn, Frank Latessa, Samuel Christopher

**26th** Desmond Shelley, Sr. Claudine O'Shea R.S.M.

**27th** John Brookes, Anthony Bell, Mario Fantig

**28th** Lena Bombardiere, Edna Butcher, Michael McCann, Mary McCann, Elsa Mullally

#### WEEKEND MASSES

**Yarrowonga (Sacred Heart): Sat 5:00pm & Sun 9:00am**

**Cobram (St Joseph's): Sat 6:30pm & Sun 11:00am**

**Tungamah: 7:45 am 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

**Katamatite: 7:30 am 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - 30<sup>th</sup> March**

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Tuesday** (25 Feb) 10:00 am Yarrowonga *Sacred Heart College* Opening of Year Mass

**Wednesday** (26 Feb) 9:30 am Mass- Cobram (with Yr 5's)

**Thursday** (27 Feb) 9.30 am Mass – Yarrowonga (& Day of Prayer)

**Friday** (28 Feb) 10:00 am Yarrowonga *Sacred Heary Primary* Opening of Year Mass MPB  
11.30 am Mass – Cobram

#### BAPTISMS

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday** (1:00 pm) – Sacred Heart, Yarrowonga

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** (12:15 pm)- St Joseph's, Cobram

**Baptism Preparation: 6-7 pm** (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month- Sacred Heart Church, Yarrowonga)

**Next Preparation session: Tuesday 4th March**

**Contact:** [yarrowonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:yarrowonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

#### RECONCILIATION TIMES

**Yarrowonga:** Saturday 9:00 am

**Cobram:** Friday, before 11:30 am Mass

**WEDDINGS/ANOINTING/FUNERAL:** Contact Fr Junjun- 0459 356 917 or [junix28@gmail.com](mailto:junix28@gmail.com)

**Rosemary Cullen Foundation:** The Rosemary Cullen Foundation is proud to introduce you to **Christopher Limbaga and Angelica Guevarra**. They are being funded by us in the coming 4 years of their university studies in Cebu, Philippines. Their allowance covers books, lodging, transport and small incidentals. **Christopher is the eldest of 4** and is living with his grandparents. He wishes to become a chef while studying Hospitality. *"I dream of studying and finishing my course so that I can provide a better future for my family and give back to my community. This scholarship gives me the chance to make my grandparents' sacrifices worthwhile."*

**Angelica is one of 7 children** and wishes to study to become a teacher. To help support her secondary studies she works on a farm on Saturdays and washes clothes for neighbours every Sunday. *"Your scholarship would significantly ease the financial strain on my family and empower me to achieve my academic and personal goals. I am confident that, given the chance, I will excel in my studies and use this opportunity to give back to my family and community."*

These two fine young people were chosen from a short listed 12 applicants who were interviewed by Fr Junjun during his holidays. All twelve wrote outstanding application letters. Making the decision to choose only two was not lightly done. Each letter told of family hardships while outlining their dreams for a better future. **We invite you to read the applications of the other students. Fr Junjun has their applications.** They are humbling. While we have committed to each student the approximate support of \$3000 Australian per year for the four years, it is also an opportunity for you to consider your family possibly being able to support a student. For a smaller part of their educational journey. Four years financial provision is a very large pledge. A promise of support for one or two year's expenses can help a young person start their training journey. The money is sent via Susan (Fr Junjun's sister), who distributes it to the students as they have need. Knowing every dollar raised and sent is going to the recipient, without fees or administration costs being extracted, assures us we are doing the best we can for the people in need. **The Rosemary Cullen Foundation thanks the Sacred Heart Parish Yarrowonga for their generous support over the past years which allows us to keep on giving.**

**Joke... Daniel, Jimmy and Joseph are 3 grade-school boys living near the church. One Saturday morning they went to the Church for confession. In the confessional, Daniel said, "Father, I need to go to confession. I broke a car window."**

**The priest told him, "Go to the back, pray, and drink some holy water from the font."**

**When it was Jimmy's turn to confess, he said, "Father, I have sinned, I punched my classmate at school."**

**The priest advised him, "Go to the back, pray, and drink some holy water from the font."**

**Then it was Joseph's turn. Looking very guilty and nervous, he said, "Father, I am very sorry for what I have done." "Tell me my child", the priest said. Joseph said, "I peed in the Holy Water at the back."**

**The priest said, "For your penance, you'd better get out of this sacred place quick before your friends know."**