

Kyabram Catholic Parish

St Augustine's-Kyabram ~ St Patrick's-Tongala ~ St Sebastian's-Merrigum

St Augustine's – Kyabram, 69 Church Street, PO Box 341, Kyabram Vic, 3620

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Parish Administrator – Fr John Paul Pasala

We come to worship we remember the Yorta Yorta & Bangerang People the original custodians of this land

Twenty-second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 29th August 2021



Readings for
this Sunday

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



Readings for
next week:

Isaiah 35:4-7
James 2:1-5
Mark 7:31-37



Liturgical Jottings

Letter of St James

From this Sunday (22nd) to the 26th Sunday in ordinary time the second reading is from the Letter of St James. Most likely the author is James, relative of Jesus, not any of the Apostles of the same name. He writes in elegant Greek, with a rich vocabulary and allusions to Hebrew scriptures and culture and the life of Christ. The letter is addressed to Christians and described as: "A sort of examination of conscience due to its concrete character of the situation and actions that are subject of the author's reflection and often sharp criticisms." The letter gives an outline of Christian morality in the light of the Sermon of the Mount in Matthew's gospel. *Days of the Lord, vol5 p200*

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Focus on the Readings

The first five books of the Bible called the Pentateuch or Torah (the Law) are most holy in the Hebrew tradition. Unlike other Near East cultures and religions that had their laws and traditions, the Law of God was to be taken to heart, not mere external observances but both internal and intentional. More importantly the Law established a unique relationship between the Lawgiver and the people. It establishes their identity and purpose. Our first reading from Deuteronomy emphasises the place of the Law in peoples' lives.

Scribes, Pharisees and elders of the community took on the responsibility to ensure the Laws are upheld. When they heard Jesus and his followers did not observe some of the laws, minor as they were, they came to question them. It was Jesus opportunity to take them back to the origins, purpose and intent of the Law. He addresses a perennial problem: over years and centuries, laws get distorted and sense of observance goes beyond the Lawgiver's purpose. We have many civil and ecclesiastical laws that get warped in time. Authorities are faced with updating them or they or the laws become irrelevant. We have in our lifetime experienced many changes in the laws: fasting, Holy Day observances, church and marriages practices. Pope Francis has ordered a new code of canon law to address issues of the day.

We are called back into right relationship with the Law, the Lawgiver and one another. The Psalmist calls the person to act justly and speak truly and walk humbly with our God.

Prayer for the Week

Father of light, giver of every good and perfect gift, bring to fruition the word of truth sown in our hearts by your Son, that we may rightly understand your commandments, live your law of love, and so offer you worship that is pure and undefiled. Amen.

Words of Pope Francis

History is what was, not what we want it to have been, and when we try to throw an ideological blanket over it, we make it so much harder to see what in our present needs to change in order to move to a better future. *Let us Dream 2020*

On the Lighter Side

A man in an interrogation room says, "I'm not saying a word without my lawyer present." "But you are the lawyer." said the policeman. "Exactly," replied the lawyer, "So where's my present?"



COVID LOCKDOWN

Well, here we are back in lockdown again – but perhaps in the Goulburn Valley area, we are feeling more vulnerable than we have ever been since the Covid-19 pandemic began.

In line with previous lockdowns and Government restrictions, there will not be any Masses in our Parish for the duration of the lockdown, however our weekly Parish bulletin is available on our website. If you would like the bulletin emailed direct to you, please send us an email (kyabram@cdos.org.au) requesting to receive the bulletin along with your email details, and we will add you to our email distribution list.

As part of the restrictions, the Parish office will be closed, however the parish can be contacted by email, or Fr John Paul Pasala can be contacted on 5824 1049.

Wishing you peace, good health and safety during these very difficult Covid times.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

This weekend, we celebrate Social Justice Sunday and the release of the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement, Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, which invites us to join in responding to Pope Francis' invitation to take a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals.

The Statement provides theological foundations to ground and inspire our efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded.

You can download the Statement & associated resources at www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au.

*A prayer **Cry Of The Earth, Cry Of The Poor** is on the following page.*

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL PRAYER GROUP

Our Lady of Good Counsel Prayer Group continues to meet via zoom fortnightly on Monday nights at 7.30pm.

Please call Mary on 0427 190 282 for details on how to join in. All welcome.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Julie Shaw, Joan Childs

Recently Deceased:

Peter Walsh, Denise Woodman,
John Wearden, Ann Crossley (Fitzsimmons)

(Please email the Parish Office to add names to our prayer list.)



MEETING IN THE SPIRIT

The next meeting of coming together to reflect and share our experiences on the Word of God will be on **Tuesday 31st August at 7.00pm via Zoom** with the link below.

Theme for this month is Mary, Our Mother.
Gospel reflection- Luke 1:26-56

Led by Fr John. Please bring your bibles. All welcome.

Zoom link is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7652761030?pwd=aUErRURsQVJ4OFBrUDZPUmhUVnZMUT09>

or

Meeting ID: 765 276 1030

Passcode: 4YRfmr

If you need help logging in, please call Mary on 0427 190 282. Zoom will be opened from 6.45pm.

ONLINE SUNDAY MASS

A reminder that Sunday Mass at St Kilian's is live-streamed at 10.00am. See the Diocesan website at www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au.

SANDPIPER E-NEWS

The latest issue of Sandpiper e-News is now available online. Issue 26 can be accessed through the following link: [Sandpiper e-News 26: 18 August 2021 \(mailchi.mp\)](https://mailchi.mp/26-18-August-2021) – although please be aware that some events referred to may have since been cancelled or postponed due to Covid.

We encourage parishioners to subscribe to the Sandpiper e-News (which can be done at the bottom of the link page).

FRIENDS OF ST AUGUSTINE

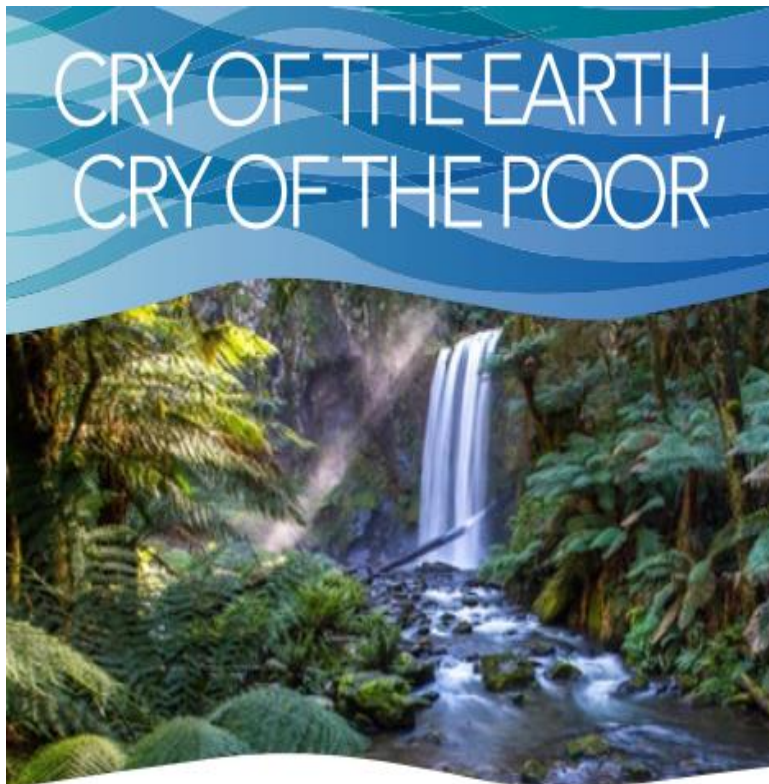
This organisation was established in the Parish in 1999 and its purpose is to foster and support spiritual development. Ruth McGowan is the leader in our parish. Mary McCormick, a former parishioner, has written a history of this group: "Friends of St Augustine – An Appreciation".

This history book of 136 pages, landscape formatted, in colour, with wire binding seeks to chronicle and offer appreciation for the years since 1999 to 2021 when the Augustinian lay movement Friends of St Augustine (formerly known as Augustinian Friends) has been of benefit and in existence.

The book seeks to appreciate and honour all that Augustinian Friends, and in more recent times, Friends of St Augustine, has meant for lay people within the Augustinian family as they have sought to develop their faith and their role within church. From within its pages comes both challenge and invitation.

All proceeds from the sale of this book will go to the Augustinian Vietnam Mission Fund.

A copy of the book may be purchased from Mary McCormick. The cost is \$30.00 plus \$11.00 for postage. Mary can be contacted via email at: mary_mccormick@bigpond.com.



*By listening with an open heart
to those who are most affected,
we can begin, with the help of the Holy Spirit,
to discern the signs of the times.*

**Social Justice Statement 2021-22:
Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor**



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Unsplash/Steve Bittinger

Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear:

the bush grown more silent,
the birdsong less vibrant,
the stream's sluggish ripple.
Have mercy and open our ears.

Lord, when we look with your eyes we see:

the soil depleted,
the sky smudged,
the oceans rubbished and the great
currents slowed.
Have mercy and help us to see.

Lord, when we look with your eyes we see:

the workers who struggle to get by,
the women subjected to violence,
the people who are excluded.
Have mercy and help us to see.

Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear:

the sound of hungry children,
the distress of the mentally ill,
the silent pain of homeless women and
men.

Have mercy and open our ears.

Send your Spirit upon us Lord to renew
our sight,
to restore our hearing,
and to reclaim your reign of justice for all
people
and peace for creation.
Amen