

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

Tel: 03 – 5852 1026 Email: Kyabram@cdos.org.au

Parish Administrator – Fr John Paul Pasala

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 2nd May 2021



Readings for this week:

Acts 9:26-31
1 John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8



Readings for next week

Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48
1 John 4:7-10 or 4:11-16
John 15:9-17 or 17:11-19



Liturgical Jottings

Month of May

In celebrating this annual cycle of Christ's mysteries, the Church honours with special love, Mary, the Mother of God, who is joined by an inseparable bond to the saving work of her Son. In her the Church holds up and admires the most excellent effect of redemption and joyfully contemplates, as in a flawless image, that which the Church itself desires and hopes wholly to be.

Sacrosanctum Concilium 103

Prayer of the Day

O God,
you graft us onto Christ,
the true vine, and, with tireless care,
you nurture our growth
in knowledge and reverence.
Tend the vineyard of your Church,
that in Christ each branch may
bring forth to the glory of your
name abundant fruits of faith and
love. Amen.

Focus on the Readings

How do we know we are on the right path to eternal life? We find that there are many paths in life and various ways to live our Christian faith. Christian writers and spiritual directors would attest that there are many paths. The readings today have an intersecting line that crosses all the paths and provide us with a verifying and connecting rule: fraternal charity.

Barnabas vouches for Paul. Barnabas described Paul's conversion and actions, but it was not just his words but also his charity and faith that convinced the disciples Acts 4:36, 11:4.

The second reading, John's first letter, emphasises that following Christ, believing in his word, obeying his commandments comes from God's love for us and our love for one another (3:23).

Finally the gospel image of the Vine stressed the need to be connected, abiding with Christ and bearing fruit. It is in bearing fruit that we are known as his disciples (15:8). Fruit is the producing, the action of our charity to one another.

Image of the Vineyard

The vineyard was one of the ancient images of the people of Israel, God's chosen people. The image has its origins in Psalm 80 where the nation of Israel is likened to a vine: 'You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.' (Ps 80:8-9). Jesus adds the Father as the vinedresser and he as the 'true vine' and the people as the branches. This reminds the people of what they are called to be and what we are called to be.

Quote of the week

So then, if you would know whether you have received the Spirit, ask your own heart: do you perhaps have the outward sign of the sacrament without the virtue of the sacrament? Ask your heart: if the love of your brothers and sisters is there, you can be at peace. There can be no love without the Holy Spirit, for Paul cries out to us: The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit he has given us (Rom 5:5). St Augustine of Hippo (354-430): Homily on 1 John

On the Lighter Side

A misquote: I am Divine you are Dibranches!

A joke among vineyard owners in a turbulent market:

How do you make a small fortune with a winery? Start with a large fortune and buy a winery.



CONGRATULATIONS FR JOHN

Our congratulations and blessings to Fr John who celebrated his Tenth Anniversary of Priestly Ordination on Wednesday (28th April). May God continue to bless Fr John in a special way for the love and concern with which he ministers to all in his care.

At our Masses this weekend we give thanks for Fr John's vocation and pray that his life is filled with God's good gifts and abundant joy.

After our Saturday evening Mass, all are invited to stay for a cuppa.



DEFIBRILLATOR AVAILABLE

St Augustine's College has installed a defibrillator for use if the need arises. It has been installed on the corner of the south western end of the Church (which can be accessed through the left side door facing the asphalt) and can be accessed in the event of an emergency when CPR is potentially required.

We thank the school for their generosity and thoughtfulness for the parish and community.

THURSDAY WEEKDAY MASSES

We once again welcome back students from St Augustine's College to our 9.15am Thursday Weekday Masses during school terms.

St Augustine's College is committed to providing opportunities for their staff, students and parents to participate in liturgical celebrations alongside members of the St Augustine's Parish Community.

ANOINTING MASS

An Anointing Mass will be held this **Thursday, 6th May** in St Augustine's church, commencing at 10.00am.

From May, an Anointing Mass will be held on the first Thursday of each month. On this day, there will not be a 9.15am Mass.

AN EVENING FOR MUSICIANS

An evening for musicians is being held at St Brendan's Church, 121 Knight Street, Shepparton on **Wednesday 5th May**, 7.30pm - 8.45pm for all musicians/singers and potential musicians/singers. For further information, please see the noticeboard at the back of the church.

Please RSVP by 1st May to St Brendan's Parish email Shepparton@cdos.org.au or phone Fr Joe Taylor on 0412 422 410.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Fr John is looking for volunteers to operate the computer for the screens at the 8.00am Mass on Sundays. Please contact the Parish Office or Fr John if you can help.

GET VACCINATED FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available.

More information has been put on our noticeboard at the back of the church or is available at:

<https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>.

SANDPIPER E-NEWS - A reminder the latest issue of Sandpiper e-News can be accessed through:

<https://mailchi.mp/5a9cac3da629/sandpiper-e-news-from-the-diocese-of-sandhurst-7505745>

ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday 8th May at 7.00pm:

Commentator – M Radanov; Lector – S Carroll;
Special Minister – A O'Meara

Sunday 9th May at 8.00am:

Commentator – M Finn; Lector – A Snell;
Special Minister – N Livsey

HENLEY FRIENDS – MORNING TEA - All are invited to Henley Friends Devonshire Tea on **Friday, 7th May 2021** at 10.00am at the Masonic Hall, Church Street, Kyabram. See the noticeboard for further details.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Jennifer Saunders, Nancy Taylor, Angela Finn, Julie Shaw, Joan Childs

Recently Deceased: Cristina Damaschino, David Perry

Anniversaries: Elizabeth Popong, Regina Santani, Joseph Mahanggun, Shirley Donohue

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



DIARY DATES

| | | |
|-----------|--------|---|
| Monday | 3 May | - |
| Tuesday | 4 May | Mass 5.00pm (Intention of Shirley Donohue) |
| Wednesday | 5 May | - |
| Thursday | 6 May | Anointing Mass 10.00am, St Aug's Church |
| Friday | 7 May | - |
| Saturday | 8 May | Mass 7.00pm |
| Sunday | 9 May | Mass 8.00am Mass 11.30am Tongala |
| Monday | 10 May | - |
| Tuesday | 11 May | Mass 5.00pm Parish Strategy Workshop |
| Wednesday | 12 May | - |
| Thursday | 13 May | Mass 9.15am Warramunda Ecumenical Prayer Service 10.30am |
| Friday | 14 May | - |
| Saturday | 15 May | Mass 7.00pm |
| Sunday | 16 May | Mass 8.00am (Baptisms during Mass) |

Parish Administrator

Fr John Paul Pasala

Kyabram Presbytery: 5852 1026

Tatura Presbytery: 5824 1049

Pastoral Associate

Alma Limbrick (available in Parish Office on Thursdays, 8.30 to 5.00pm)

Administration

Leanne, Colleen and Ruth

Parish Office hours –

Mon/Tues/Wed – 8.30am to 12 noon

Thursday – 8.30am to 5.00pm

Parish Office email address

kyabram@cdos.org.au

Parish Office website:

www.kyabramcatholicparish.org.au

Principals

St Augustine's College

Brayden Stone – Phone 5851 3000

St Patrick's Primary

Jackie Stockdale – Phone 5859 0371

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr John Paul, Alma Limbrick (Pastoral Associate), Alana Brennan (Chairperson), Maurie Finn, John Forde, Jackie Stockdale, Brendon Lane, Finola Price, Brayden Stone, Mary Zobec

Mass Times

Kyabram

Week Day Masses (Tuesday and Thursday): see Diary Dates

Saturday: 7.00pm

Sunday: 8.00am

Tongala

Second Sunday of month 11.30am

Merrigum

Fourth Sunday of month 11.00am



Palms Australia
Reach Beyond

Share your skills to help develop the capacity of overseas organisations and the abilities of their people. Low-income communities seek sustainable solutions to poverty, not through money or gifts, but by building self-reliance. All trades and professions are called to assist this mission.

[Enquire now](#) to properly prepare for a placement in 2022. **Join our online [InfoZoom](#) on 2 May, visit [palms.org.au](#), or call Palms now on 02 9560 5333.**

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

“Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” - 1 JOHN 3:18

Regarding our Catholic faith, do you “walk the talk?” Do your actions reflect what it means to be a good disciple? Are you an active participant at Sunday Mass? Are you joyful when participating in parish ministry? Do you give gratefully and generously with your financial support to your parish and other Church needs? If not, it's not too late to start!

GOSPEL

Jn 15: 1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine,

and my Father is the vine-dresser.

Every branch in me that bears no fruit

he cuts away,

and every branch that does bear fruit he

prunes

to make it bear even more.

You are pruned already,

by means of the word that I have spoken to

you.

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,

but must remain part of the vine,

neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine,

you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me, with me in him,

bears fruit in plenty;

for cut off from me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me

is like a branch that has been thrown away

— he withers;

these branches are collected and thrown on

the fire,

and they are burnt.

If you remain in me

and my words remain in you,

you may ask what you will

and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you

should bear much fruit,

and then you will be my disciples.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

02 MAY 2021

REMAINING IN JESUS' LOVE

Today's Gospel presents us with the image of the vine and the challenge to bear fruit in our Christian lives. There are some plants that are best left alone but a vine needs to be pruned, to cut away what is not essential so that it can produce a good and abundant crop. For Christians the implement of pruning is the word of Jesus which enters into our hearts and challenges us to take stock of our lives and values.

In the second reading John shares a simple and profound truth with us, that the business of bearing fruit requires more than good intentions and fine words. The new life of Easter is something we can all share in by our belief in Jesus and our love for one another. The principles are simple, and the difficulty has always been that of living our lives day by day open to the word of Jesus and the demands of love.

Six times the theme of remaining is mentioned in the gospel. It is clearly an important and difficult dimension of our bearing fruit as Christians. Remaining faithful to our promises and allowing Jesus' word to enter deeper into our hearts is a constant challenge but the readings also encourage us not to lose heart. The example of Paul in the first reading shows how the Lord can enter into the hardest heart and can turn a feared persecutor into a fearless preacher of the word. Even gnarled vines can bear abundant fruit.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Acts 9: 26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM

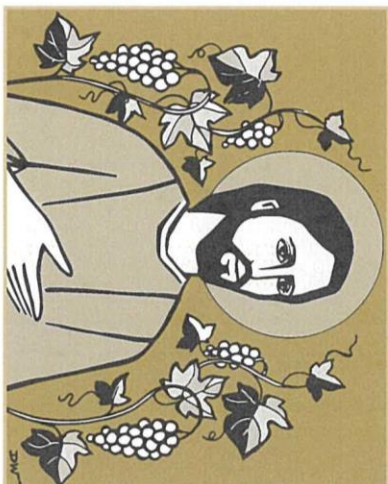
Ps 21: 26-28, 30-32. R. v. 26

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. (or Alleluia!)

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him. / The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. / They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. / May their hearts live for ever and ever! **R.**

2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, / all families of the nations worship before him. / They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; / Before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **R.**

3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. / They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, / declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: / 'These things the Lord has done.' **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Jn 3: 18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John.

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 15: 4-5

Alleluia, alleluia! / Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; / my branches bear much fruit. / Alleluia!