

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

Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday 28th February 2021



Readings for this week:

Genesis 22:1-2,9-18
Romans 8:31-34
Mark 9:2-10



Readings for next week:

Exodus 20:1-17
1 Corinthians 1:22-25
John 2:13-35



Liturgical Jottings

Lent III

Last Year Lent was interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. After the Third Sunday of Lent, all churches were closed to the general public. This year we hope to participate in all the Lenten activities: Masses, Lenten prayer/reflection groups, sacramental celebration of Reconciliation and RCIA, Palm Sunday, Chrism Mass, Holy week ceremonies and the full Easter celebrations.

This year, however, we do have some pleasant interruptions to the Lenten discipline: Laetare Sunday (14 March) and the great feasts of St Patrick (17 March), St Joseph (19 March) and Annunciation of the Lord (25 March). The restrictions on flowers, music and fasting are relaxed so that we may celebrate these days fittingly.

Looking at the Readings

Life has its ups and downs. This was true, literally and figuratively for Peter, James and John in the gospel to today. They climbed a high mountain and while on the mountaintop had the experience of their lives. They saw Christ in his glory accompanied with two great figures from the past and most influential in their faith tradition: Moses and Elijah. Peter, James and John wanted to stay there. They are the same three that accompanied Christ into the Garden Gethsemane. They witnessed his glory and his agony. They had to continue the journey with Christ by going down to the valley and the plain and going back to the lows of ordinary life, work, criticism and hardship.

We need highs and lows. We cannot always be high, just as we cannot always be low. In our Christian faith we have feasts and fasts, dry times and rich times in prayer, great community gatherings and quiet and sometimes lonely periods. The challenge is to find and listen to God in all these times and situations, especially the grey and ordinary times. There are times of testing as with Abraham in the first reading and times of delight with Christ by our side and who rescues us.

Quote of the Week

The great reason for the transfiguration was to remove the scandal of the cross from the hearts of his disciples and to prevent the humiliation of his voluntary suffering from disturbing the faith of those who had witnessed the surpassing glory that lay concealed. ... The whole body of Christ was to understand the kind of transformation that it would receive as his gift. The members of that body were to look forward to a share in that glory which first blazed out in Christ their head. *Homily of St Leo the Great*

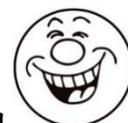
Autumn Ember Day Prayer Friday 5 March

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. *2 Corinthians 9:10-11*

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the fruits that earth has given to benefit the human family and, we pray that, as the working of your supreme providence has produced them, so you may cause the seed of justice and the fruits of charity to spring up in our hearts.

On the Lighter Side

Advent, Christmastide, Lent and Eastertide walk into a pub and order an eggnog, a shiraz, a glass of water and a sparkling pinot, respectively. The Barman says: "That's very Seasonal; nothing Ordinary about you lot!"



PPC UPDATE (February 2021)

- The Kyabram Catholic Parish Strategic Plan that was put on hold due to COVID is back on the agenda. This document/plan is intended to be a working document that can be updated periodically and will remain fluid as parish needs and wishes change. All parishioners will be invited to join in the planning and development phase of the strategic plan.
- PPC are looking at developing new guidelines for our Parish Council to replace the outdated constitution & these guidelines will be shared with Parish once drafted.

PARISH STRATEGIC PLAN

The Parish Strategic Plan will offer vision and guidance for where we want to go, and a plan for accomplishing that vision.

All parishioners are invited to join in the planning and development phases of the strategic plan.

The first workshop will be held in the College Staff Room beside the Presbytery on **Tuesday, 9th March** at 7.00pm.

WEEK DAY MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

- Tuesday, 2nd March: No Mass
- Thursday, 4th March: 9.15am

PRAY FOR VANUATU

World Day of Prayer Service 2021 will be held on **Friday, 5th March 2021 at 10.00am** in the Anglican Church Hall.

Please contact Mary Bowman for more information or if you can help on the day.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Director, Mission and Pastoral Life, Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst, Bendigo

An exciting opportunity exists to become part of the senior leadership of the Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst. This is a full-time role reporting to the Bishop.

Application closing date: 12th March, 2021.

See church noticeboard for more details.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION 2021

St Augustine's Parish is excited to announce the commencement of the Sacramental Program for 2021. This year the Sacraments will be offered on the following dates:

- Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Thursday 3rd June 2021 at 7.30 pm
- The Sacrament of Confirmation & First Holy Communion will be celebrated on the weekend of 14th & 15th August.

An Information Evening will be held on Thursday 18th March in St Augustine's Church Kyabram commencing at 7.00pm. This meeting is for Parents only.

NB - Children need to be aged 7 and above or Grade 3 & 4 to commence the Sacramental Program. Children must be baptised to participate in the program. If your child requires baptism please contact our Pastoral Associate Alma Limbrick below.

Any further questions relating to this year's Sacramental Program can be directed to Alma Limbrick at the Parish Office on 5852 1026 (Thursdays) or mobile 0417 184 527 or Kylie Morrissey at the College on 5851 3000.

MEMORIAL MASS

A memorial Mass for the repose of the soul of **Denis Wood** will be offered at St Augustine's Church Kyabram on **Saturday 13th March** at 10.00am. All welcome.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 28th February 2021

Margret is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands that suffered long-term water shortages and damage from Tropical Cyclone Harold. With Caritas Australia's support, Margret's school installed water tanks, repaired cyclone damage and implemented COVID-19 prevention measures, and is now planning to boost food security.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help people living with disabilities in the Solomon Islands gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to protect our common home.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Nancy Taylor, Angela Finn, Tom Herrick, Julie Shaw, Michael Hogan, Joan Childs

Recently Deceased: -

Anniversaries: Rocco DeMaio, Matthew Flanagan, Barry Taylor, Denise McCormack

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

SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB

Spirituality in the Pub at the Terminus Hotel, Shepparton on **Monday, 1st March 2021** from 7.30 – 9pm (meals from 6pm optional). Come and join the conversation about WHY GO BACK TO MASS? Speakers are Cathy Jenkins, Assistant to the Director: Leadership with Catholic Education and one of Sandhurst Diocese' Delegates to the Plenary Council; and Alma Limbrick, Pastoral Associate in Kyabram Parish.

See the noticeboard at the back of the church for more. Enquiries: Kerry 0408 579904, Frank 5821 4362, or Fran 5829 0301.

ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

- **Saturday 6th March at 7.00pm:**
Commentator – L Sorbello; Lector – M Radanov; Special Minister – C Stewart
- **Sunday 7th March at 8.00am:**
Commentator – T Hehir; Lector – V Fox; Special Minister – A Brunt

HARVEST MASS - Saturday 20th March 2021

In Jesus' day, the Jewish people celebrated the 'Feast of Ingathering' or 'the 'Feast of Tabernacles.' Everyone shared from their harvest, and goods were collected for the poor.



St Augustine's Parish will again celebrate the harvest with the same sense of joy and sharing on Saturday, 20th March.

We invite all farmers, crops growers, orchardists, winegrowers, gardeners and cooks, to bring from their produce on that day – vegetables, fruit, grain, dairy products, meat, preserves, herbs, hay, wool and even plants and flowers – for the produce swapping table.

Let us also share abundance with those in need; we encourage people to bring a non-perishable item in a can, jar or packet, of something produced in our area (example brands: SPC-Ardmona, Unilever, Tatura Milk industries, Campbells, Casalare Pastas, Fonterra, Nestle, Heinz, etc.). On the day, donors can bring these items to the altar in the entry procession for the St. Vincent DePaul Society baskets.

*God, giver of all life,
blessed are you in the fruits of the earth.*

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

The Parish Office email address is:

kyabram@cdos.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), Joe Chant, Maurie Finn, John Forde, Jackie Stockdale, Brendon Lane, Finola Price, Brayden Stone, Mary Zobec

Mass Times

Kyabram

Week Day Masses this week:

- Tuesday: No Mass
- Thursday: 9.15am

Weekend Masses:

- Saturday: 7.00pm
- Sunday: 8.00am

Tongala

Second Sunday of month 11.30am

Merrigum

Fourth Sunday of month 11.00am

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ / From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: / this is my beloved Son, hear him. / Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Mk 9: 2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi', he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah'. He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud. 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him'. Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT / B

28 FEBRUARY 2021

LIVING IN FAITHFULNESS AND HOPE

There are few moments in the scriptures as dramatic as when Abraham has steered himself to seize the knife that will take the life of his son Isaac. In that moment on the mount Abraham revealed once again his true quality and the depth of his trust in the word of God. Years later, on a mountain God will reveal the glory and grandeur of the greatest gift of all, the presence of Jesus among us, the living word. As Abraham listened to the voice of the Lord God, so too the disciples of all ages are called to listen to the words of Jesus, the beloved Son. His words promise us a life that awaits us beyond death, and his presence will enable the disciples to move on with him to the cross. On a mountain a son's life was saved. Centuries later on a rocky outcrop, scorned and ridiculed, God will give what he did not take from Abraham so that all of us might be saved.

In many ways Paul reflects on what has been gained for us all by that sacrifice on Calvary. Like Abraham, God does not withhold even what is most precious. The glory and promise of the Transfiguration have their fulfilment in Jesus' victory over death, a victory which now enables us to live our lives in faithfulness and hope. Paul is concerned to share the certainty of his belief that, with Jesus pleading our cause, there is no need for fear.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Gen 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son', God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood. Then he stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

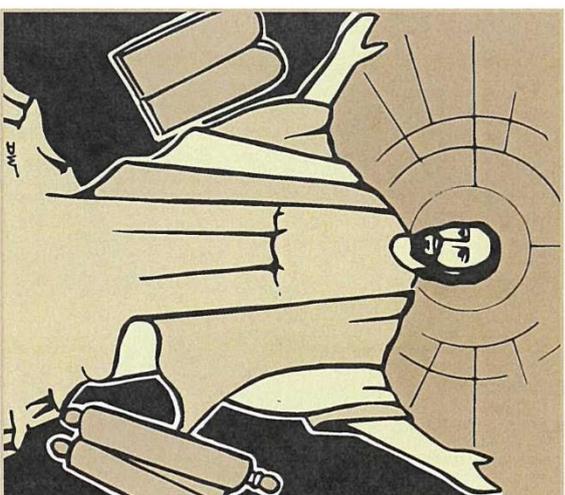
The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self - it is the Lord who speaks - because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PS Ps 115: 10, 15-19. R. 114: 9

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord / in the land of the living.

I. I trusted, even when I said: / 'I am sorely afflicted.' / O precious in the eyes of the Lord / is the death of his faithful. **R.**



2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; / you have loosened my bonds. / A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: / I will call on the Lord's name. **R.**
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil / before all his people, / in the courts of the house of the Lord, / in your midst, O Jerusalem. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8: 31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

God did not spare his own Son.

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

■ **The word of the Lord.**