

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Sunday 14th February 2021



Readings for this week:
Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46
1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1
Mark 1:40-45



Readings for next Sunday:
Genesis 9:8-15
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:12-15



Liturgical Jottings

Lent

Lent begins next Wednesday. It is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. In this way the whole church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised. Other celebrations in Lent (e.g. Marriage) must take into account of the spirit of penance: musical instruments are only used to sustain singing and floral decorations are very simple.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting binding those who are between 18 and 60. The law of abstinence (from eating meat) binds those who are 14 and over (CCL 97, 1251-51).

In Lent the Alleluia is omitted at Mass and Liturgy of the Hours, even in celebrations of solemnities and feast. A homily is recommended on weekdays especially during the Seasons of Advent, Lent and Easter. (Aust & NZ Ordo 2021 p 36)

Looking at the Readings

The unfortunate leper in today's Gospel must obey the instructions given hundreds of years ago in the Book of Leviticus (the first reading today). Perhaps the worst regulation was isolation, even worse than the isolation and social distancing we have experienced over the last 12 months. Yet we are able to empathise with those afflicted by a most contagious disease.

Jesus' compassion and empathy brought healing to the leper, the healing brought abundant joy to the former leper that he could not stop expressing it to everyone. Jesus' compassion brings a corresponding passion to him to reach out to others. We see Jesus' passion in his ministry to the sick and to the sinner.

On the other hand the publicity of the miracle brought isolation to the healer. "Jesus could no longer go openly into any town but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived." (Mark 1:45). Not only did Jesus take on the "isolation" of the Leper but also he takes on the effects of sin of the Sinner.

We are invited to take up the compassion of Jesus and embrace his ministry to the poor on this Sunday "Project Compassion Sunday"

Prayer for the Day

We come before you, O God, confident in Christ's victory over sickness and death. Heal us again from sin, which divides us, and from prejudice, which isolates us. Bring us to wholeness of life through the pardon you grant your people. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. (*Alternative Opening Prayer ICEL 1995*)

The Book of Leviticus

Leviticus is the third book of the Pentateuch (first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures) but the last to be written. The author is a priest of the Old Testament and writes mainly on laws and rituals. The book appears in the Sunday Lectionary only twice, today (6th Sunday B) and on the seventh Sunday in Cycle A which includes the book's emblematic line: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God is holy."

On the Lighter Side ~ A punny bar joke

A leper, a tax collector and a thief walk into a bar. The barman says we don't serve your sort here. They reply: "But we have been invited!" That's news to me," replies the barman. "Yes!" the three exclaim: "It's very Good News."





PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed “Be More”.

As Saint Oscar Romero said, “Aspire not to have more, but to be more.”

Through your generosity and by aspiring to “Be More”, you are assisting some of the world’s most vulnerable people build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities.



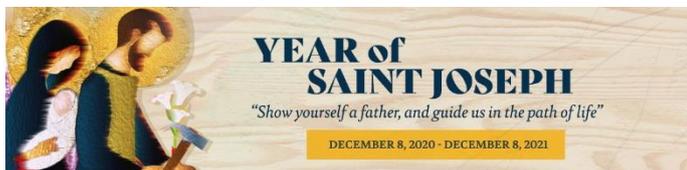
Thank you for being more!

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Evening Mass for Ash Wednesday will be held on **Wednesday, 17th February** at 5.00pm in St Augustine’s Church.



Pope Francis on December 8, 2020 published an Apostolic Letter *Patris corde (With a Father’s Heart)*, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of St Joseph”, running from 8th December 2020 to 8th December 2021.

At next weekend Masses we will celebrate the Year of St Joseph; a list of resources will be made available for private prayer or study. The February Reflection is available on the sign in tables at the church entrances.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

We are looking for someone to put out the parish bins on a Sunday. Please contact the parish office or Fr John if you could volunteer for this role. Thank you - much appreciated!

BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

This weekend we welcome **Pippa Suzanne Brennan** into our faith community during the Tongala Mass on Sunday.



Please keep Pippa and her parents, Kieran and Rhiannan, and godparents in your prayers.

KYABRAM CATHOLIC LADIES MORNING TEA

Kyabram Catholic Ladies Morning Tea will be held on **Tuesday 16th February 2021** at 11.00am at Three 620.

Please RSVP to Mary Zobec on mobile 0427 190 282.



LENTEN LEAFLETS

The Sandhurst Diocese Lent 2021 leaflets invite reflection on excerpts from Pope Francis’ ‘Let us Dream’, with suggestions for action from one of the Australian Plenary Council Thematic Discernment papers: ‘How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is humble, healing and merciful?’ The leaflets are for individuals or small groups.

These leaflets can be obtained online at www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au menu ‘News & Events’ ‘News’.

Some printed sets are also available on the sign in tables at the church entrances.

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Parish Finance Committee will be held on **Tuesday, 16th February 2021** commencing at 7.30pm in the Parish meeting room.

WEEK DAY MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

- Tuesday, 16th February: 5.00pm (Intention of Mark Anthony Closter)
- Wednesday, 17th February: 5.00pm (Ash Wednesday)
- Thursday, 18th February: 9.15am

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Recently Deceased: Con O'Rourke

Anniversaries: Bill Limbrick

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



ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

- **Saturday 20th February at 7.00pm:**
Commentator – L Ratcliffe; Lector – J Harris; Special Minister – K Guinan
- **Sunday 21st February at 8.00am:**
Commentator – N Watt; Lector – M Finn; Special Minister – M O'Shea

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.



ADVANCE NOTICE

Please note that there will be **no Saturday Vigil Mass on Saturday, 27th February 2021.** (There will also be no Mass at Tatura either.)

There will still be Mass on Sunday, 28th February at 8.00am at St Augustine's Kyabram and 11.00am at St Sebastian's Merrigum.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

"Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

- 1 Corinthians 10:31

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He's not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps us from putting other "gods" (like our pride, ego, money and possessions) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself, "Am I doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?"

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

We are a Child Safe Parish, we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and aim to provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment to all visiting children, young persons and vulnerable adults.

Mass Times

Kyabram

Week Day Masses:

- Tuesday: 5.00pm
- Thursday: 9.15am

Weekend Masses:

- Saturday: 7.00pm
- Sunday: 8.00am

GOSPEL

Mk 1: 40-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The leprosy left him and he was cured.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**



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Breaking Open the Word

COMPASSION FINDS A WAY

One of the painful learnings we have had from COVID 19 is just how difficult it is to deal with contagious diseases. In Ancient Israel they had learned that quarantining people suffering from skin diseases was necessary until they could be declared by priests ready to safely return to the community. For lepers and those who loved them, it was a brutally painful experience of fear, isolation, and rejection.

In the Gospel today a leper has heard about Jesus and in his desperation risks his life, and the health of others, by entering the city. Falling to his knees he pleads with Jesus to be healed. In his boundless compassion for the man, Jesus reaches out and touches him. In doing this Jesus takes the extraordinary step of making himself an outsider. Healed by Jesus, the man can now be declared fit to return safely to the community. His life has been returned to him and while Jesus has commanded him to be silent, he simply cannot hold it in – the good news of Jesus cannot be contained. At the end of the episode, an outsider has been brought back home and now Jesus has become an outsider himself, and that's where everyone can find him.

Not seeking our own good, but the good of others by not causing them scandal or harm was a lesson Paul was trying to teach the community of Christians in Corinth. Jesus' compassion leads him to reach out to all those in need. Paul hopes that his Christians will live their lives in the same way.

Christopher Monaghan CP



THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

14 FEBRUARY 2021

FIRST READING

Lev 13: 1-2, 44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus

As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean.

The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 31: 1-2, 5, 11. R. v. 5

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, / whose sin is remitted. / O happy the man to whom the Lord / imputes no guilt, / in whose spirit is no guile. **R.**

2. But now I have acknowledged my sins; / my guilt I did not hide. / I said: 'I will confess / my offence to the Lord.' / And you, Lord, have forgiven / the guilt of my sin. **R.**

3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, / exult, you just! / O come, ring out your joy, / all you upright of heart. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 10: 31-11: 1

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone — to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved. Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 7: 16

Alleluia, alleluia! / A great prophet has appeared among us; / God has visited his people. / Alleluia!