

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

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 31st October 2021



Readings for this Sunday

Deuteronomy 6:2-6
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 12:28-34



Readings for next week:

1 Kings 17:10-16
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44



Liturgical Jottings Ordinary Numbers

Ordinary numbers are used to tell the order in a sequence, example first, second, third, or thirty-first. Hence the numbering of Sundays in Ordinary Time. Cardinal numbers are used to count the number in a set, example one, two or ten etc. Hence we have nine Eucharistic prayers in the Roman Missal and three for Masses with Children. The sequence of days in the month to coincide with sequence of Sundays in Ordinary Time is not common. Today we have the 31st October on the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time. The last concurrence was 26th September 2021, the second last time was 15th July and 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time in 2018. This concurrence has happened 20 times since 10th August 2000 and thrice for the 1st Sunday of Advent to fall on 1st Dec in 2002, 2013, and 2019 and four times in Lent on 1st March with 1st Sunday of Lent in 2009 and 2020 and 3rd March with 3rd Sunday of Lent in 2002 and 2013.

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Focus on the Readings

The first reading from Deuteronomy (Greek meaning Second Law) is a summary of the ten commandments. Verses 6:4-9 have been regarded as a declaration of faith for the Hebrew people. Today the orthodox Jews take quite literally 6:8 “Bind these words as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead,” by attaching the text on their foreheads and forearms in small pouches called tefillin or phylacteries.

The text was also recited in their daily morning and evening prayer acknowledging their devotion to the one true God, a God of love. The “Shema” prayer has a similar status to the Christian Lord’s Prayer also prayed morning and evening acknowledging God as our loving Father.

So the text would be very familiar both to Christ and the scribe (lawyer) who asked the question in today’s Gospel passage. Christ added a new line: “and you shall love your neighbour as yourself” Mark 12:31 and also from the Torah in Leviticus 18:19,34

The scribe’s encounter with Christ was amicable and serene, Jesus response wise and deep. We are all called to that deeper relationship with God peacefully and confidently.

Prayer for the Week

I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour. My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. The Lord is worthy of all praise: when I call I am saved from my foes. *Psalms 17:2-4*

Quote of the Week

"The human person is faithful when he believes in God and his promises; God is faithful when he grants to the person what he has promised". *St Augustine in Psal. 32, II, s. 1, 9.*

On the Lighter Side

Tomorrow is All Saints Day. Despite media reports that the Church, or the Pope, has 'made' a person a Saint, the Church is quite clear that what it does is recognise a person as a Saint, not make them a Saint. This is what happens through the process of canonisation; a person is 'formally recognised' as a Saint by the Church. We might say that it is God who makes Saints, not the Church. The Church recognises the saintliness of particular people to provide inspiration and example to others. The Church tells the stories of its Saints to keep alive their inspiration. © Greg Sunter in LiturgyHelp.com



MASSES IN OUR PARISH

With Victoria having reached 80% vaccination status, there are changes with regard to Masses.

Fr John will be attending a meeting during the week which will decide how we go forward with Masses until the next milestone of 90% vaccinations is reached.

Keep your eyes on our website and Facebook page for updates during the week about the process and numbers for Mass next weekend.

A STUDENT'S PRAYER

'Loving God, be with me now, as I prepare for my exams. Thank you for the many talents and gifts you have given me and for the opportunity of education. Calm my nerves and anxiety, help me to remember all that I have studied, to express it clearly and to answer the questions the very best that I can. Holy Spirit, sit with me in my exam - and always. In Jesus' name.

Amen.'

We ask all parishioners to pray for those students currently studying for and about to commence exams.

ANOINTING MASS

The next Anointing Mass will be held on **Thursday 4th November at 10.00am** in St Augustine's Church. All welcome.

Please note that on this day, there will not be a 9.15am Mass.

RECONCILIATION

Starting next month (November), Reconciliation will be available on the second Saturday of the month at 5.30pm before the 6.00pm Mass.

MASS TIME & ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

A reminder that next weekend Mass will again be Sunday only as below:

Sunday 7th November at 8.30am:

Commentator – M Finn; Lector – N Watt;
Special Minister – P Hehir

REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES DURING NOVEMBER

For those wishing to have deceased family and friends prayed for during November, a basket will be available in front of the Font to place the names and remembrance envelopes for our deceased loved ones. November offering envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Alternatively, for those unable to attend Mass, November envelopes with names can also be dropped off into the mailbox at the presbytery front door.

NOVEMBER CEMETERY MASS

Our annual cemetery Mass to pray for our deceased members will be held on **Saturday 13th November 2021** at 9.00am at the Kyabram Cemetery. Please remember to bring a chair.

PAST STUDENTS AND FRIENDS OF ST AUGUSTINE'S MEMORIAL SERVICE

Past Students and Friends of St Augustine's Memorial Service will be held at 5.00pm in the school Memorial Garden on **Saturday 13th November**, followed by 6.00pm Mass. All welcome.

SERVICE TO REMEMBER LOVED ONES

St Augustine's Parish Bereavement Support Group together with the Kyabram District Nursing Service, invite all those in our community who are grieving to attend the –

Memorial Service

St Augustine's Church Kyabram

Thursday, 25th November 2021 at 7.00pm

NO WEEKDAY MASS

There will not be a weekday Mass on **Tuesday, 2nd November** due to the public holiday.

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 0427190282 for details on how to join in. All welcome.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Megan De Pasquale, Julie Shaw, Joan Childs

Recently Deceased: Mary Ryan

Anniversaries: -

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



DIARY DATES

| | | |
|-------|--------|---|
| Mon | 1 Nov | - |
| Tues | 2 Nov | Public Holiday – Melbourne Cup No Mass |
| Wed | 3 Nov | - |
| Thurs | 4 Nov | Anointing Mass 10.00am |
| Fri | 5 Nov | - |
| Sat | 6 Nov | No Mass |
| Sun | 7 Nov | Mass 8.30am |
| Mon | 8 Nov | - |
| Tues | 9 Nov | Mass 5.00pm (Intention – Protection of the Unborn) PPC meeting |
| Wed | 10 Nov | - |
| Thurs | 11 Nov | Mass 9.15am |
| Fri | 12 Nov | - |
| Sat | 13 Nov | Cemetery Mass 9.00am Past Students and Friends Memorial Service 5.00pm Reconciliation 5.30pm Mass 6.00pm |
| Sun | 14 Nov | Mass 8.30am Mass 11.30 Tongala |

SANDHURST YOUTH MUSIC MINISTRY WORKSHOP

Gen Bryant will be coming to Bendigo for Sandhurst Youth Ministry's first Music Ministry Workshop on **6th November 2021** (10am – 2.30pm) specifically for those aged 15-30 who would like to be more involved in, or even just learn a bit more about, Music Ministry! Places are limited.

Register early – email youth@sandhurst.catholic.org.au to save yourself a space and get more information.

MEET LUKE, HIS GOSPEL & HIS JESUS

Advent begins Year C and the Gospel of Luke, to prepare come and meet Luke, his Gospel & his Jesus.

3 Wednesday evenings – 3, 10 and 17 November (7.30 – 9.30pm) via Zoom.

Book before 1st November at
<https://www.trybooking.com/BTZES>

Overseas participant code: OVASEA.

Further information: Sandra Bishop 9434 7553.

This course is offered by the Catholic School of Evangelisation.



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 –

Tues/Wed/Fri – 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

Acting Principal – 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, Jackie Stockdale, Brendon Lane, Finola Price, Mary Zobec

Mass Times

Kyabram

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

Saturday (2nd and 4th Saturday of the month): 6.00pm

Sunday: 8.30am

Tongala

Second Sunday of month 11.30am

Merrigum

Fourth Sunday of month 11.30am

Reconciliation – Second Saturday of the month at 5.30pm (before 6pm Mass) in St Aug's Church Kyabram.

Mass of Anointing is held the first Thursday of the month at 10.00am in St Augustine's Church.

GOSPEL

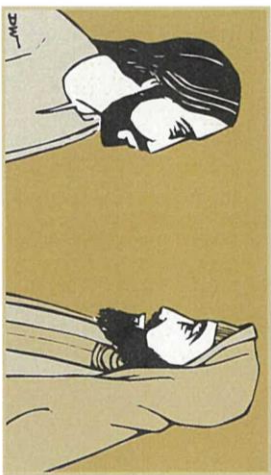
Mk 12:28-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

This is the first commandment, and the second is similar to it.

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word

GETTING TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER

All too often Christians fall into the trap of characterising the Jewish faith as being legalistic. It is a judgement that is both unfair and inaccurate. It is true that Jesus engaged in sometimes heated debates with other interpreters of the Jewish Torah (Law), and this is reflected in the gospel tradition. At the same time, the gospel tradition attests that, apart from the regulations concerning ritual purity, Jesus agreed with many of his contemporaries about the key values that lay at the heart of their religion.

Poised to enter the promised land after forty years of wandering in the desert Moses takes the opportunity to remind the people what will be required to flourish in the future. Their loyalty to God will be measured by the degree to which they write God's law in their hearts. This is the compass that will guide them in the years ahead and nurture their relationship with the living God.

The great first-century Rabbi Hillel was challenged to explain the Torah while standing on one foot. His reply was "Don't do to others what is repugnant to you. All else is commentary." Asked by a scribe to articulate his view of the greatest commandment Jesus highlights Moses' instruction to love God with all one's heart, mind, and strength adding the command to love our neighbour as ourselves. Hillel, like the ten commandments, focused on avoiding harming others. Jesus' genius can be seen in phrasing it positively in terms of love – our best compass and guide.

Christopher Monaghan CP



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

31 OCTOBER 2021

FIRST READING

Deut 6:2-6

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord with all your heart.

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.'

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51. R. v. 2

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength, / my rock, my fortress, my saviour. / My God is the rock where I take refuge; / my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. / The Lord is worthy of all praise: / when I call I am saved from my foes. **R.**

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! / Praised be the God who saves me. / he has given great victories to his king / and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**

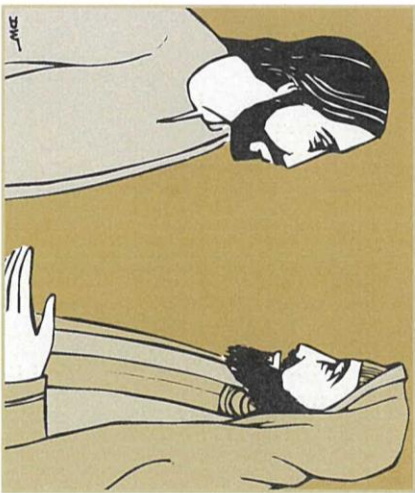
SECOND READING

7:23-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal priesthood.

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ,



because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

In 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.
Alleluia!