



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 Priest – Fr John Paul Pasala

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

Baptism of the Lord – Year C – Sunday 9th January 2022

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome and happy New Year to parishioners and visitors attending Mass this weekend.

A very special thank you and welcome to **Fr Michael Morley** who is celebrating Mass in Kyabram this weekend.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Craig Rosendale, Megan De Pasquale, Julie Shaw, Joan Childs

Recently Deceased: Norman Lawler, Fr Ted Harte, Michael Girdlestone, Marie Wearden, Michael Hogan

Anniversaries: Jeanne Vengta

(Please ring and leave a message or email the Parish Office to add names to our prayer list.)



THE REAL WORK OF CHRISTMAS

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord concludes the season of Christmas, and as we pack away our decorations, return to work and continue on in the *ordinary* time of our lives, this is when the real work of Christmas begins. May this blessing inspire us, especially during these trying times of continually coping with COVID, that we might continue to look out and help each other.

**When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the wise women and men are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost
To heal the broken
To feed the hungry
To release the prisoner
To rebuild the nations
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.**

(adapted from 'The Work of Christmas', Howard Thurman)

COVID REQUIREMENTS

A reminder that those aged over eight are required to wear masks in public indoor spaces, including in churches. Please remember to bring your mask with you to Mass, check in and use hand sanitiser on arrival.

MASS TIME & ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

Sunday 16th January at 8.30am:

Commentator – S Carroll; Lector – M DiPetta;
Special Minister – F Turner

Parish Priest

Fr John Paul Pasala

Kyabram Presbytery: 5852 1026

Tatura Presbytery: 5824 1049

Office hours – Limited during January

Office email address - kyabram@cdos.org.au

DIARY DATES

Mon	10 Jan	-
Tues	11 Jan	Mass 5.00pm (Intention – Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life)
Wed	12 Jan	-
Thurs	13 Jan	Mass 9.15am
Fri	14 Jan	-
Sat	15 Jan	No Mass
Sun	16 Jan	Mass 8.30am
Mon	17 Jan	-
Tues	18 Jan	Mass 5.00pm
Wed	19 Jan	-
Thurs	20 Jan	Mass 9.15am
Fri	21 Jan	-
Sat	22 Jan	Baptism 4.00pm Mass 6.00pm
Sun	23 Jan	Mass 8.30am Mass 11.30am Merrigum

Breaking Open the Word

THE SAVING WORD

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD / C

9 JANUARY 2022

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia! John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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BAPTISM OF THE LORD

In the midst of the terror, loss, and grief of the exile, Isaiah spoke words of hope, consolation, and healing. The inhabitants of Jerusalem wondered whether God had abandoned them. Would their suffering extend into a dark and hopeless future? When all seemed lost a word of hope was proclaimed – a word that went to the heart of Jerusalem. They could now look forward to the return of the exiles, the rebuilding of the city, and a future in which they could rest assured that God was among them.

Late in the first century, the letter to Titus reflected on the ways that God had been true to that promise of presence and gentle care through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Cleansed by baptism, and renewed by the gift of the Holy Spirit Christians were now called to respond appropriately by the manner of their own lives. God had been gracious to them and now they were called to respond by living good and religious lives as they waited for his return.

The Gospel passage today informs us that the people looked at John the Baptist with the eyes of hope, filled with longing for religious reform and liberation from the power of Rome. Isaiah proclaimed to the people of Jerusalem: 'Here is your God.' When Jesus comes for baptism this word is now radically enfolded in the person of Jesus himself. He will gather the weak and the wounded, the blind and the lame revealing God's compassionate and gracious love.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Isa 40:1-5, 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it.

'Console my people, console them' says your God.

'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert.'

Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley;

then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.'

Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30. R. v. 1

R. Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

1. Lord God, how great you are, / clothed in majesty and glory, / wrapped in light as in a robe! / You stretch out the heavens like a tent. **R.**



2. Above the rains you build your dwelling. / You make the clouds your chariot, / you walk on the wings of the wind, / you make the winds your messengers / and flashing fire your servants. **R.**
3. How many are your works, O Lord! / In wisdom you have made them all. / The earth is full of your riches. / There is the sea, vast and wide, / with its moving swarms past counting, / living things great and small. **R.**
4. All of these look to you / to give them their food in due season. / You give it, they gather it up: / you open your hand, they have their fill. **R.**
5. You take back your spirit, they die, / returning to the dust from which they came. / You send forth your spirit, they are created; / and you renew the face of the earth. **R.**

SECOND READING

Titus 2:1-14; 3:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus.

He saved us through the water of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit.

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.