



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@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Parish Priest – Fr John Paul Pasala

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 19 February 2023



Readings for this Sunday

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18
1 Corinthians 3:16-23
Matthew 5:38-48



Readings for next week:

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11



Liturgical Jottings

Significant Lenten Days

1. Shrove Tuesday The day before Ash Wednesday is also Pancake Tuesday or Fat Tuesday (from the French Mardi Gras). A day to empty the larder and have the last fling or party until the end of Lent, Easter.
2. Ash Wednesday marks the start of the Season of Lent a season of penance, prayer and reflection, giving to the poor and fasting.
3. First Sunday of Lent, originally the first day of Lent and now day the Catechumens progress to next step of Election before the Bishop
4. Third, Fifth & Sixth Sundays of Lent: three Scrutinies of the RCIA
5. Palm (Passion) Sunday blessing and distribution of palms and the readings of Christ's entry into Jerusalem and his Passion.
6. Holy Week includes the Chrism Mass, the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and Good Friday liturgy and Way of the Cross.
7. During the Lent we have three major feasts: St Patrick, St Joseph and Annunciation of the Lord.

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Focus on the Gospel

In recent years I had to sign several "Codes of Conduct" as part of the requirements to work/visit/volunteer in hospitals, aged care facilities, schools, kindergartens, parish ministries and church agencies and organisations, as a director of a company, a member of boards, an emergency services provider and a person with control and management. After three years, I have to start again. From altars servers to elderly all need to sign a Code of Conduct. These codes are not new. The passage in the first reading (Leviticus), is from a series of regulations in the Law called the 'Code of Legal Holiness' that God's people must obey. It calls the people to be holy as God is holy. In dealing with their brother or neighbour who wrongs them, they must not dismiss their wrong action thus cooperating in their sin, nor must they be vengeful. They must walk a fine line, which Moses instructed: *Eye for eye and tooth for tooth.* (Lev 24:17), "the Law of Talion" in order to avoid retaliation and escalation of violence.

The Gospel goes further, replacing the Code of Holiness and the Law of Talion with the call to perfection: "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect" and the law of love: "Love your God and your neighbour as you love yourself" and. "Love your enemies." This seems too much, but remember, God's love and forgiveness enables us to do so much.

Quote of the Day

Only through a creative love of enemies can we be children of the Father in heaven; love and forgiveness are of absolute necessity for spiritual maturity. Comes the hour of trial, Christ, the innocent Son of God, is hanged on a raised cross in a painful agony. Is there still any room for love and forgiveness? What is Jesus going to do? ... Father forgive them, they know not what they do." It is Jesus most beautiful hour. Martin Luther King Jr

Prayer of the Week

Heavenly Father, in Christ Jesus you challenge us to renounce violence and to forsake revenge. Teach us to recognise as your children even our enemies and persecutors and to love them without measure or discrimination. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

On the Lighter Side:

Love your enemies, for they tell you your faults.



Benjamin Franklin

The best way to destroy an enemy is to make him a friend.

Abraham Lincoln

Love your enemy, it will scare the hell out of them. Mark Twain



Project Compassion Sunday, 18 & 19 February

Please take home a Project Compassion box or a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **For All Future Generations**. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all.



Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

TIMES & ROSTERS

Sunday 26th February at 8.30am

Commentator – T Hehir

Lector – V Fox

Special Minister- M Cocks

Sunday 5th March at 8.30am

Commentator – N. Warr

Lector – M Carver

Special Minister – M. O’Shea

Sandhurst Diocese Lent leaflets 2023 The Sandhurst Diocese Lent leaflets for 2023 are available on the Sandhurst Diocese Website. These simple resources for individual or small group reflection and prayer, draw upon Scripture readings for Lent, stories and insights of Saints. To view or download these Lent leaflets online please go to the Sandhurst Diocese Website <https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/item/2394-lenten-resources-for-2023>

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION

Thank you for your generosity and support for our Parish. May God bless you always. Last week’s Collection is \$ 730.15

ON-LINE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

The Diocese has now launched their new On-Line Training for volunteers. All key volunteers are required to undertake the safeguarding training (eg Child safety and vulnerable adults). You will receive an email or call inviting you to register for the training in the coming weeks. Once registered you will have 30 days to complete the module, it takes about 30 minutes to complete. It is not timed so you can suspend the module at any time and log back in (within the 30 days) it will take you back to where you left off. Finola Price and Mary Zobec are available to guide you through the process. The Parish Office will be notified when you complete the training. For more information please call Finola Price on 5852 1310 or Mary Zobec 0427190282.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN

Would current volunteers please check if their working with children card is current and if not please renew. Can you please call into parish office on a Tuesday or Thursday with the new card. Thank You.

BULLETIN ADVERTISING

We are once again considering if any business would be interested in advertising in our Parish bulletin, website.

The costs are **Ad (5x6cm)**

3 months (12 weeks) \$16.67 per week \$200

6 months (25 weeks) \$12.00 per week \$300

12 months (50 weeks) \$10.00 per week \$500

Thanking you in advance for your support. If you would like any further details, please talk to Fr. John or any member of the Finance Committee.

Special thanks to Advertisers for their Support



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PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick: Philip Bowman, Ainsley Lane, Lee Chant, Sam Peyton, Kady Mitchell-Treacy, Shane McDonell, Samantha Kurilic

Recently Deceased: Joe Durso

Anniversaries: Emmanuela D'Augello

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



FORTNIGHT TIME TABLE

Mon 20 Feb
Tues 21 Feb - Rosary 4.45pm; Liturgy of the word 5.00pm.
Wed 22 Feb - Ash Wednesday Mass 6pm,
School Ash Wednesday Liturgy 10.00am
Thurs 23 Feb - no mass
Fri 24 Feb -

Weekend Masses

Sat 25 Feb - No Mass.
Sun 26 Feb - Mass 8:30am.

Mon 27 Feb -
Tues 28 Feb - Rosary 4:45pm; Liturgy of the word 5.00pm
Wed 1 Mar
Thurs 2 Mar - No Anointing mass
Fri 3 Mar -

Weekend Masses

Sat 4 Mar - No Mass
Sun 5 Mar - Mass 8:30am.

Parish Priest

Fr John Paul Pasala
Kyabram Presbytery: 5852 1026
Tatura Presbytery: 5824 1049

Parish Office email address:
kyabram@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Parish Office website:
www.kyabramcatholicparish.org.au

Principals

St Augustine's College

Jay Sutton – Phone 5851 3000

St Patrick's Primary

Jackie Stockdale – Phone 5859 0371

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr John Paul Pasala,,
Alana Brennan (Chairperson)
Maurie Finn, Veronica Fox, Mary D'Augello,
Carl Cabaraban. Brendon Lane, Finola Price,
Natalie Watt, Jackie Stockdale, Jay Sutton

Parish Finance Committee

Fr John Paul Pasala,
Wayne Mulcahy (Chairperson),
James Harris (Deputy Chair)
John Zobec, Naomi Hehir, 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

First Sunday of month 11.30am

Merrigum

Third Sunday of month 12.00 noon

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.

SHROVE TUESDAY 21st February St Augustine's student leaders will be serving pancakes beside the church from 8am. There will be gold coin donation for Caritas! College Choir will also be singing some numbers this day. Please come along and support our school and Caritas.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Evening Mass for Ash Wednesday will be held on Wednesday 22nd February at 6pm in St Augustine's church.

Whole College Ash Wednesday Liturgy will be held 10.00 am in Brigidine Centre. Parents and Parishioners most Welcome!



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SANDHURST DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

What a privilege it was to attend the Diocesan Assembly on Wednesday. Thank you to the 6 parishioners and 2 principals who gave up of their time to represent St Augustine's Parish. The day was filled with excitement, inspirations and challenges. We look forward to be guided by the Diocesan Pastoral Council and pray for it's success.

CHILD SAFE PARISH

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. If you are concerned for any form of abuse that is immediate you should call 000; a significant risk or harm, whether or not you have formed this belief on reasonable grounds, you should immediately raise your concerns with the Parish Child safety officer Finola Price on 03 58521310.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As we come to worship, we remember the Yorta Yorta & Bangerang People the original custodians of this land. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with deep respect. May the Elders, past and present, be blessed and honoured. May we join together and build a future based on compassion, justice, faith and reconciliation.

Breaking Open the Word

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Jn 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!
Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 5:38-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples; "You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

"You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect."

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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THE SAVING WORD

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

19 FEBRUARY 2023

FIRST READING

Lev 19:1-2, 17-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

You must love your neighbour as yourself

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: "Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy."

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13. R. v. 8

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, / all my being, bless his holy name. / My soul, give thanks to the Lord / and never forget all his blessings. R.
2. It is the Lord who forgives all your guilt, / who heals every one of your ills, / who redeems your life from the grave, / who crowns you with love and compassion. R.
3. The Lord is compassion and love, / slow to anger and rich in mercy. / He does not treat us according to our sins / nor repay us according to our faults. R.
4. As far as the east is from the west / so far does he remove our sins. / As a father has compassion on his sons, / the Lord has pity on those who fear him. R.



SECOND READING

1 Cor 3:16-23

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

All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

■ The word of the Lord.

INCLUSIVE LOVE

How should we deal with the hurts that we receive? Should we respond by retaliating? Is there any future in the way of peace and forgiveness? These questions are as pressing today as they were in the ancient world. The people of Israel based their behaviour on the nature of the living God. As God is holy, so Israel was to express its holiness by forbearance and forgiveness among its members. Members of the people of Israel were called to love one another and forego the duty of vengeance when it came to other covenant members.

Jesus took this even further and extended it beyond Israel into our relationship with all people. Now even enemies are to be treated as brothers and sisters. Jesus knew that it is by forgiving that we can share in the nature of the living God and so become complete. It is by our preparedness to forgive that we share in the even-handed perfection of God whose love is poured out for all, deserving or not.

Perhaps Paul was mindful of Jesus' words that a house divided against itself cannot stand (cf. Mark 3:25) when he reminded the Corinthians that they were the Temple of God. Since each member shared in the gift of the Spirit there was no place for division or competition. Paul, Apollos and Cephas were united in their ministry as servants of the Gospel. If they were united, why was the community divided? It was now time to turn the other cheek and live in unity and peace.

Christopher Monaghan CP