



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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

19 March 2023



Readings for this week:

1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41



Readings for next Sunday:

Ezekiel 37:12-14
Romans 8:8-11
John 11:1-45



Liturgical Jottings

First Readings in Lent

The first readings from the Hebrew scriptures on the Sunday of Lent this year give us the formative stories of God's people: Creation of humankind, the call of Abraham, Moses and the Israelites trials in the desert, the anointing of King David, Ezekiel's prophecy on a new spirit bestowed on the people. They relate to significant stages in the history of salvation. These readings prepare us for the great salvific event of the death and resurrection of Christ.

Quote for the Week

Lenten fasts make me feel better, stronger, and more active than ever.
St Catherine of Genoa 1447-1510

Text for the Week

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.
2nd Reading - Ephesians 5:14
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Looking at the Readings

The first reading gives one of three accounts of the election and appointment of David, son of Jesse, as King of Israel. Born in Bethlehem and renowned as a warrior, a sinner and penitent, and a mighty ruler administering wisdom, mercy and compassion that he had received from the Lord. Jesus is identified as a new David, a new but different King bringing forth the kingdom of forgiveness and peace to all creation.

The long Gospel passage today occupies an important place in John's Gospel and in our Lenten liturgy. Christ's healing of the blind man is extraordinary in every way. No-one has ever healed a person who was blind from birth. The healed man received ridicule, his parents were cross-examined, Jesus was denigrated as a sinner, and the authorities were in disarray. The disciples and the crowd had lots of questions. This passage is selected for its baptismal reference to light and conversion. We hear the affirmation from Christ: "I am the light of the world." and the healed person's profession of faith: "Lord, I believe."

Prayer for the Week

God our Creator, show forth your mighty works in the midst of your people. Enlighten your Church, that we may know your Son as the true light of the world and through our worship confess him as Christ and Lord. Amen.

Pope Francis Message for Lent 2023

I would like to propose two "paths" The first has to do with the command that God the Father addresses to the disciples on Mount Tabor as they contemplate Jesus transfigured. The voice from the cloud says: "Listen to him" (*Mt 17:5*). ... Lent is a time of grace to the extent that we listen to him as he speaks to us. He speaks to us first, in the word of God, which the Church offers us in the liturgy. May that word not fall on deaf ears. Let us study its daily biblical readings, even with the help of the internet. In addition to the Scriptures, the Lord speaks to us through our brothers and sisters, especially those in need.

On the Lighter Side

A man walks into a church, and finds the priest. He pulls out a gun and says, "Give me everything you have." The priest searches his pockets, the collection plates and sacristy. He doesn't find any money but only a bag of lollies, which he holds out and says, "I'm sorry. This is all I have!" The robber replies, "But Father, I gave up lollies for Lent!"





Fourth Sunday of Lent 18 & 19 March



Thu lost his leg after stepping on a land mine in Vietnam. With the support of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Thu can now earn extra income and care for his wife as she recovers from a stroke.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

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/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

TIMES & ROSTERS

Saturday 25th March at 6.00pm

Commentator – J Harris

Lector – L Ratcliffe

Special Minister-L Moran

Sunday 26th March at 8.30am

Commentator – T Hehir

Lector – V Fox

Special Minister – A Brunt

Sunday 2nd April at 8.30am

Commentator – N Watt

Lector – M Carver

Special Minister – M Elliott

STATIONS OF CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be prayed the two remaining weeks of Lent as follows:

Tuesday 21st and 28th of March following 5pm Mass in the church. COME and journey with Jesus and fellow parishioners.

EASTER TIMETABLE

Palm Sunday - 2 April at 8.30am Kyabram and 11.30am Tongala.

Communal Reconciliation – Thursday 30 March 6.30pm

Mass of the Oils – Tuesday 4 April 11am Bendigo

Holy Thursday – 6 April 7pm

Ecumenical Church Service at Memorial Park - 7th April 10.00am

Good Friday - 7 April 3pm

Easter Vigil - 8 April 6pm

Easter Sunday - 9 April 8.30am

Divine Mercy Sunday - 16 April 8.30am followed by Devotions

HARVEST MASS

Thank you to the co-ordinating team who organised the Harvest Mass and to the many parishioners who contributed to St Vinnies.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Thank you for your generosity and support for our Parish. May God bless you always. Last week's Collection is \$ 1076.95

Special thanks to Advertisers for their Support

BULLETIN ADVERTISING

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

3 months \$200

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12 months \$500

Thanking you for your support. If any business would be interested in advertising or would like further details, please contact the office on 5852 1026.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick: Philip Bowman, Ainsley Lane, Sam Peyton, Kady Mitchell-Treacy, Shane McDonell, Samantha Kurilic, Trevor Peters, Lesley Kennedy, Fr Steve Bowman.

Recently Deceased: Lee Chant, Mario Scapin

Anniversaries: Roco De Maio, Terrence Bowman, Luigi D'Augello, Tom Herrick

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



FORTNIGHT TIME TABLE

Tues 21st March - 4.45pm Rosary. 5.00pm Liturgy of the Word, Stations of the cross following Mass. **Liturgy Meeting 6.15pm**

Thurs 23rd March - Mass 9.15am for Year 5/6 and Year 11

Weekend Masses

Sat 25th March - 6.00pm

Sun 26th March - Mass 8:30am.

Tues 28th March -4 .45pm Rosary; 5.00pm Mass. Stations of the cross following Mass.

Thurs 30th March – Mass 9.15am Foundation and Year 12 Communal Reconciliation 6.30

Weekend Masses

Sat 1st April - No Mass

Sun 2nd April - Mass 8:30am. Tongala 11.30

Parish Priest

Fr John Paul Pasala

Kyabram Presbytery: 5852 1026

Tatura Presbytery: 5824 1049

Parish Office

Email:

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Website:

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Parish Administrator

Vicki Arnel – 0417 147 695

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 are held on the first

Thursday of the month at 10am in

St Augustine's Church.

HELPERS NEEDED FOR EASTER

We are looking for people available to assist with the hot cross buns for the Good Friday Ecumenical Service (7th April) being held in the Memorial Gardens. Helpers to meet in the Parish meeting room at 9.00am to assist with buttering and wrapping the buns. Please contact the Parish Office if you are able to help. We are also looking for people to assist with the Easter Ceremonies. Sheets are at the back of the church if you are available to assist. Please fill out and ensure that you leave phone number so we can contact you.

SANDHURST DIOCESE CHRISM MASS

The Chrism Mass for 2023 will be at the Sacred Heart Cathedral on Tuesday, 4 April, at 11am. Parish representatives will present oils to be blessed by the Bishop for the Sacraments during the coming year. All parishioners of the Diocese are warmly invited to this significant Mass for our Diocese. Light refreshments and beverages will be provided after the Mass on the Cathedral lawns. Please RSVP to your Parish Office by Thursday 30 March for catering purposes. Parking around the Cathedral will be limited so please allow time to find a suitable park in the nearby streets.

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 and build a future based on compassion, justice, faith and reconciliation.

Breaking Open the Word

man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him'. The man himself said, 'I am the man'.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see'. Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you'. The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Linger form, 9:1-41

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT / A

FIRST READING

1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22. R. v. 1

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path, / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff, / with these you give me comfort. **R.**

THE SAVING WORD

19 MARCH 2023

3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

Eph 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and night living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, and Christ will shine on you.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 8:12

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus

Christ! / I am the light of the world, says

the Lord; / whoever follows me will have

the light of life. / Glory to you, Word of

God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth.

He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind