



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

Third Sunday of Lent

12 March 2023



Readings for this week:

Exodus 17:3-7
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
John 4:5-42



Readings for next Sunday:

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



Liturgical Jottings

Two Lenten Aspects

Ash Wednesday liturgy recalls the penitential aspects of Lent. The third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent in cycle A recall the baptismal aspects of Lent. The structure, texts and rites of the RCIA during Lent profoundly emphasise the baptismal journey for both those preparing for Baptism at Easter and the entire congregation. The two characters are present in the prayer of Ash Wednesday: "as they follow the Lenten observances, they may be worthy to come with minds made pure to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of your Son."

Quote from St Patrick

I offer God the humble service of my spirit by preaching the Good News of his Son to the pagans, and so make them acceptable as an offering, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

*The Confession of St Patrick,
Feast day Friday 17 March*

© Diocese of Sandhurst 2023

Looking at the Readings

Natural or human thirst appears in both the first reading and the Gospel. The Exodus people had run out of food and water in the desert of Zin. Moses asked God's help and followed his instruction and struck the rock once (Exod 17:6) or twice (Numbers 20:11) and water gushed out. St Paul retold this miraculous event to the Corinthians with a spiritual layer: the Israelites were spiritually thirsty, quenched by a spiritual drink from a spiritual rock and that rock was Christ (1Cor 10:4).

The Samaritan woman went to the well for water and met Christ who asked her for a drink of water. The dialogue between the two revealed that Christ was thirsty for her conversion and she became thirsty for the Word of God and eternal life. The symbolism of water carries layers of meaning for people in arid lands, travelers, workers and people with various ailments. The "Living Water" that Jesus speaks about is also a very important symbol in our spiritual life: it is a messianic gift; it is used in baptisms and blessings. Living water evokes God's Wisdom and Word. It carries the richness of new life in Baptism and Easter. May we take time to meditate on this Gospel, hear Jesus' invitation to be enlivened by the living water springing up in us.

Prayer for the Week

O God, living and true, look upon your people, whose dry and stony hearts are parched with thirst. Unseal the living water of your Spirit; let it become within us an ever-flowing spring, leaping up to eternal life. Thus may we worship you in spirit and in truth through Christ, our deliverance and our hope. Amen.

Pope Francis Message for Lent 2023

For it is in togetherness that we follow Jesus. Together too, as a pilgrim Church in time, we experience the liturgical year and Lent within it, walking alongside those whom the Lord has placed among us as fellow travellers. Like the ascent of Jesus and the disciples to Mount Tabor [for the transfiguration], we can say that our Lenten journey is "synodal", since we make it together along the same path, as disciples of the one Master.

On the Lighter Side

By striking the rock not once but twice Moses could see but not enter the Promised Land. I often warn people to press the "on button" once on the microphone, the light switch, the toaster - but no they press it twice, thus cancelling the effect. They look befuddled when I say no Promised Land for you!



Zimbabwe is experiencing an intense drought, exacerbated by climate change. With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops and started poultry farming to support her family during the current food crisis.



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

Sunday 19th March at 8.30am

Commentator – M Carver

Lector – N Watt

Special Minister – M. Di Petta

Sunday 25th March at 8.30am

Commentator – J Harris

Lector – L Ratcliffe

Special Minister-L Moran

STATIONS OF CROSS

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

Tuesday 14th, 21st, 28th of March following 5pm Mass in the church. COME and journey with Jesus and fellow parishioners.

Lenten Season Program:

THE LITURGY & PRAYER MINISTRY will hold a reflection time during the Lenten season. All parishioners are invited to come, pray & reflect together to prepare for Easter. We will use the program prepared by the diocese of Sandhurst drawing upon scripture readings of lent, stories and insights of saints. **When:** Mondays of Lent

Where: in church. **Time:** 7pm

WELCOME to our new Office Administrator Vicki Arnel. Please feel free to introduce yourself and make Vicki feel at home. Hope Vicki enjoys her time at St. Augustine's.

Parish Partnership Luncheon

St Augustine's School invites parishioners to a Parish Partnership Luncheon on 16th March in the OLOP Gardens 1pm.. Please RSVP to Parish Office on 58521026 or via email: kyabram@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Thank you for your generosity and support for our Parish. May God bless you always. Last week's Collection is \$701.35

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



Specialists in refrigeration or cooling.

DAIRY REFRIGERATION
CHILLERS AND GLYCOL SYSTEMS
HEAT RECOVERY
AIR CONDITIONERS
COOLROOMS
T 5852 1212

www.kyabramrefrigeration.com.au

Curves

KYABRAM

141 ALLAN ST PH: 58 523380 www.curves.com.au/kyabram

LIVE
STRONGER
TOGETHER



GFD Outdoors and Sports
23 McCormick Road, Kyabram (03) 5853 2205

PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

Recently Deceased: John Georgiou, Lee Chant

Anniversaries: Tony Guinan

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



FORTNIGHT TIME TABLE

Mon 13th March
Tues 14th March - 4.45pm Rosary; 5.00pm Mass. Stations of the cross following Mass.

Wed 15th March
Thurs 16th March - Mass 9.15am Year 1/2 and year 8
Parish Partnership Luncheon 12.55-1.45

Fri 17th March

Weekend Masses

Sat 18th March - No Mass
Sun 19th March - Mass 8:30am. Merrigum 12 noon

Mon 20th March
Tues 21st March - 4.45pm Rosary. 5.00pm Mass, Stations of the cross following Mass.

Wed 22nd March
Thurs 23rd March - Mass 9.15am for Year 5/6 and Year 11
Fri 24th March

Weekend Masses

Sat 25th March - 6.00pm
Sun 26th March - 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 Administrator

Vicki Arnel

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.

HARVEST MASS (Saturday 11th March)

WELCOME to the celebration, thanksgiving and sharing of the harvest – just as Jesus and his people celebrated, gave thanks and shared in the “Feast of Ingathering” or the “Feast of Tabernacles.” People may like to join Saturday evening’s entry procession and lay their items of non-perishables like a can, jar, or packet, at the altar for the St. Vincent DePaul Society to distribute. After Saturday Mass, please feel free to swap and share items of produce from the trading table. And, of course, do stay for our supper following Mass. Thank you to everyone who has helped and given to make our harvest celebration enjoyable.



God, giver of all life, blessed are you in the fruits of the earth, in the sowing of seed and the work of human hands, in the harvest of human creativity.

God of the poor and hungry, blessed are you in the striving for justice, in the fragility of peace-making, in the generosity of care for those in need.

*God of the great feast and the simple meal,
blessed are you in the grace of hospitality, in the breaking and sharing,
blessed are you in our daily bread. Amen*

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

will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.

'Sir' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know: for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already –

when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done,' so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Longer form: 4:5-42

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL
Reproduction of this bulletin in any form prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Fax 02 9394 3444. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible published and © 1966, by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc. are used by permission of the publishers. Psalm text from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963, The Groll (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal Corporation. © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rslj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2023. No 1974. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT / A

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Exodus

Give us water to drink.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stoneme me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people: take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**
2. Come in: let us bow and bend low, / let us kneel before the God who made us / for he is our God and we / the people who belong to his pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice! / 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on that day at Massah in the desert / when your fathers put me to the test: / when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have

12 MARCH 2023

THE SAVING WORD

entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! / Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; / give me living water, that I may never thirst again. / Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give

