



Our Lady of Mercy and Peace HEARTLAND PARISH of Craters, Mountains, Lakes and Plains

One Faith • One Family • One Heartland

Communities of
Lismore, Cobden, Mortlake, Camperdown, Terang, Simpson and Timboon

Contact

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Face book page: Heartland Parish

Parish priest: Fr George Kuruvila E-Mail: george.kuruvila@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Visiting priest: Fr Jim McKay E-Mail: jim.mckay@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Camperdown: 27 Walls Street, 3260 Camperdown. Child Safety Officer: Rose Henry Phone: 0407 875 886

Terang: 2 Warrnambool Street, Terang 3264.

Child Safety Officer: Mr. Matthew Uzkuraitis, Mobile 0439826623

Timboon: 31 Hamilton Street, Timboon 3268, Mobile: 0439 145 805

Parish Child Safety Officer: Ruth Hoffmann; Mobile 0429983253

Pray for the sick

Hampden: Doug Sargeant, John Bell, Oliver Thomas, Hedy Altree, Diane Bernard (Glennen), Louise Coverdale and Catherine Hayden.

Timboon: Fran Evans and Pat Thornton

Camperdown: Kristen Pickford, Brian Wain, Julie Karlsen, Basil Thornton, Marlo McCarthy, Ron Absalom, Jenny O'Keeffe and Peter (Plumber) Walsh.

Anniversaries Hampden: Dorothy O'Sullivan, Anthony Carlin, Sara Fogarty, Terry McKinnon, Bridgid McKinnon, Kevin McKinnon, Margaret Heffernan, Helen Green and James Baxter.

Anniversaries: Camperdown: Barry Perkins, Pauline Everett, Francis Russell, Raymond Brennan, Joseph Pekin, Jarrod Fryers, Catherine Mahony, Harold Lunn and Raymond Gallichan

Anniversaries Timboon: September Jeanette Gale, Leo O'Connor, Harriette Conheady, Leo Couch, Jeff Haugh, Jeffrey Arnold, Father Claridge, Father Bob Markey, Mavis Couch, Martin Barake, Denise Savage, Jan van Es, Noel Haugh, Janet Edmondson, Paul Brick, Mick Dillon, Steven Saliba, Graham Cecil, Keith Spaulding, Terrance McKinnon, Ellen Spaulding, Les Plozza and Laurence Fisher.

Retreat: Eating with Jesus

This Ignatian Retreat will invite participants to prayerfully experience selected Gospel meal stories where Jesus gathered with friends and strangers alike. Led by Spiritual Director Anna Schlooz, meals and materials are provided. BYO journal and bible. The retreat is funded by the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Foundation - no cost for participants. For more information and to register, please contact Anna E:

ecomyriad@gmail.com

- October 3 at Swan Hill, 10.00 – 5.00pm. RSVP by September 28
- October 10 at Mildura, 10.00am – 5.00pm. RSVP by October 5
- October 17 at Donald, 10.00am – 5.00pm. RSVP by October 12
- October 24 at Horsham, 10.00am – 5.00pm. RSVP by October 19
- October 31 at Portland, 10.00am – 5.00pm. RSVP by October 26
- November 28 at Colac, 10.00am – 5.00pm. RSVP by November 23

Praying with The Holy Father: The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement and each month the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. "The Pope Video" forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network www.thepopevideo.org. **Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for the Month of September:** For the care of water: Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Holy Communion to Sick, Elderly or House Bound/Nursing Homes: Any family members who are aware of relatives (or friends) in the above situations who would like to receive Holy Communion at their place of residence. Please advise details to our Parish Office number or please contact Fr George Kuruvila at any time. Ministry will be arranged.

We are a Child safe, Welcoming and environmentally friendly Parish

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 27 Sep 2026

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading Ezekiel 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. (R.)

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth.

In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)

3. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

Second Reading (Phil 2:1-11)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus: His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Gospel (Matt 21:28-32)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

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Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

'No, no, no, no ... Y-yes!'

Jesus tells a little story about two brothers. One said 'Yes', but never did anything. The other said 'No', but then had a change of heart and did what was required. Jesus loved the brother who came around. He was very hard on the one who said 'Yes' but did not 'walk the talk'. That is why he loved those tax collectors who gathered the revenue for the Roman authorities, and the prostitutes who serviced the Roman occupying army, but who switched allegiance from the Empire of Caesar to the Kingdom of God. This signalled a

profound change of heart. We may have said ‘No’ to God at various times with various intensity in our lives. But God is wonderfully patient and prepared to hear ‘No’ many times in the hope of hearing ‘Yes’. God’s patience never runs out. But our time to say ‘Yes’ does run out. We only have a relatively short life span! At the end of Mass, I will say ‘Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.’ As St Francis of Assisi put it, ‘Preach the Gospel, and occasionally use words.’ Walk the talk © *Michael Tate*

What is happening in our communities this week

Wednesday:30 September	Mass in Terang at 09.30am
Thursday: 1 October	Mass in Timboon at 11.00am
Friday: 2 October	Mass in Camperdown 09.30am
Saturday 3 October	Vigil Mass in Terang at 06.00 pm Vigil Mass in Cobden at 06.30pm
Sunday: 4 October	Mass in Mortlake at 09.00 a.m. Lay lead service in Lismore at 09.00 a.m. Mass in Simpson at 09:00am Mass in Terang at 10.30am Mass in Camperdown at 11.00 a.m. No service in Timboon.

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program: Grow in faith, knowledge and ministry.



The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) offers flexible online courses for parish staff and volunteers through the University of Dayton. With 31 subjects to choose from there is something for everyone. Registrations for Cycle 7, which begins on October 26, will open on September 9. Cost \$50USD. Scan the QR code for more information or email fran.peterkin@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7154.

A Day of Prayer, Reflection and Friendship for the Special Year of St Francis of Assisi - Landsborough

The Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga Inc are hosting a Day of Prayer and Reflection on Monday October 5, 2026 beginning at the Landsborough Hall from 10.00am - 2.30pm, including Mass and presentation by Fr James Kerr. Cost is \$12.00pp cash. For catering and dietary requirements please RSVP by September 28 to Margaret Rowe, ph. 5358 2421, Jan Crowe, ph. 0428 916 941 or anna.collins@bigpond.com

Caritas Australia: Nepal Floods Appeal



Communities in northern Nepal are facing a humanitarian crisis after devastating flash floods swept through the Rasuwa District on August 26. Over 1,000 people have lost their lives, many remain missing, and thousands of families have been affected. Homes, roads, bridges, schools and essential infrastructure have been destroyed, leaving vulnerable communities in urgent need of support. Caritas Australia is working with Caritas Nepal and local partners to provide lifesaving assistance, including emergency shelter, food, safe drinking water, healthcare and protection support for affected families. Together, we can provide urgent relief and hope to families rebuilding their lives in Nepal. To donate to the Caritas Australia Nepal Floods Appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/nepal or call 1800 024 413.

Do you have a calling for Canon Law?

The Australian Women’s Canon Law Scholarship is a collaborative initiative being developed by a group of women religious congregations & religious institutions in Australia. It responds to a shared concern about the future availability of canon lawyers who understand women religious, religious life, governance, Public Juridic Persons, stewardship, safeguarding, and the civil–canonical interface. This scholarship is intended to support the formation of a woman or women to undertake formal study in Canon Law, with the Licentiate in Canon Law qualification through Saint Paul University, Ottawa. The initiative is not simply a study scholarship. It is a formation pathway that includes academic study, mentoring, conference participation, engagement with congregations, governance exposure, regular reflection and post-study service. More information available at the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

112th World Day of Migrants and Refugees – TODAY



The theme for this year’s World Day of Migrants and Refugees is “Even Just One of These Children.” To help celebrate this special day, the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office (ACMRO), an agency of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, has developed online resources including liturgies for primary and secondary schools, homily notes,

prayers of intercession, stories, and interviews. More information is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/world-day-of-migrants-and-refugees-sunday-september-27-2026/>

Diocesan Social Justice Commission - Reflection Day on the current Social Justice Statement

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference released the second Social Justice Statement for this year ahead of Social Justice Sunday (August 30, 2026), "Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division". This statement invites us to see our current social climate as an opportunity to witness to the Gospel. The Church can and must be a sign of unity: a community where every person feels at home and all are encouraged to use their gifts to build a more just, peaceful and cohesive Australia. The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission will host an online webinar on Thursday, November 12, 2026 from 6.30pm – 8.00pm to celebrate the launch of the Statement. Registration details to be advised. Further information, the Statement, and accompanying resources are available at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/service-and-agencies/welfare/social-justice/social-justice-statement-current/>.

Save for a Greater Reward with CDF Community Fund



For 70 years, Catholic Development Fund (CDF) has been the trusted financial partner helping Catholic organisations build, serve and grow - funding schools, parishes, aged care homes and social services that strengthen our communities. When you open a CDF Community Fund account, your savings earn a competitive rate of interest while helping fund the works of these communities and our Church. It's a greater return than money alone. With a range of savings and term investment accounts available, including **5.30% p.a.* on 12-month Term Investments**, it's never been easier to save while doing good. Open an account today – it's in everyone's best interest. Visit www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund, scan the QR code, or speak to us on 1800 134 135.

Camperdown: Rosters for Weekend of 27th September 26th Sunday O.T. Year A

Cobden: 06.30pm Reader: T Bricknell P.O.F: E Darcy E/Minister: G Gleeson
Camperdown 11.00am Reader: R Henry P.O.F: P Kingston E/Minister: M Russell
Counting Team: R & A Gardner **Altar Camperdown:** M Russell/A Gardner **Church Cleaning:** N Powling
Altar Cobden: J Dwyer **Marian Statue:** M Brown

Camperdown: Rosters for Weekend of 4th October 27th Sunday O.T. Year A

Cobden: 06.30pm Reader: G Gleeson P.O.F.: G Kelson E/Minister J Dwyer
Camperdown 11.0a.m. Reader: R Henry P.O.F: A O'Flynn E/Minister: M Macaulay
Counting Team: P & L Hickey **Altar Camperdown:** L Hickey/M Larkins: **Church Cleaning:** MRC
Altar Cobden: C Malady **Marian Statue:** S Darcy

Terang Rosters for Weekend of 26th and 27th September 26th Sunday O.T. Year A

Readers: 06.00pm: Alison Lourey 10.30am: Robb Storr
Eucharistic Ministers: 06.00pm: Maureen Kenna 10.30am: Trish Storr
Laptop: 06.00pm: Evelyn O'Keeffe 10.30am: Volunteer
Linen for the month of September Bernadette McKinnon

Terang Rosters for Weekend of 3rd and 4th October 27th Sunday O.T. Year A

Readers: 06.00pm: Noel Richards 10.30am: Des McKinnon
Eucharistic Ministers: 06.00pm: Clare Banks 10.30am: Justin Staunton
Laptop: 06.00pm: Adele Richards 10.30am: Volunteer
Linen for the month of October: Clare Banks

Timboon 27th September: Lay-led Assembly 9:00 a.m. 26th Sunday O.T. Year A

Leaders: R Hoffmann, J McInerney, **Statue:** D & M Moloney, **Reader:** E O'Connor P.O.F. K Currell
E/Minister: L McInerney
Simpson: No service as parishioners will be attending Mass and later a meeting in Camperdown

Timboon 4th October: No service

Simpson: Mass at 9:00 a.m. **Reader:** Volunteer, **P.O.F.:** Volunteer

Parish Notices: All notices need to be delivered in writing emailed or phoned by noon every Thursday at the parish office: heartlandparish@ballarat.catholic.org.au / Clare Banks 0427677278/George Swierczek: 0439 145 805.

Our Parish wishes to acknowledge the Traditional custodians of the lands on which we live, work and worship Our God