

Year of St Francis of Assisi

Reflection and Prayer Resource

To honour the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi, Pope Leo declared a special Jubilee: "Year of St Francis" in 2026, asking all Christians to follow St Francis' example in "holiness of life and a constant witness of peace."

The Sandhurst Diocese have offered for use "St Francis of Assisi Reflection & Prayer Resource."

This resource is designed as an A5-sized booklet and is available to download at:

<https://sandhurst.catholic.org.au/item/3145-st-francis-of-assisi-jubilee-prayer-book>



Pray with Pope Leo XIV:

One Million Children Praying the Rosary

From 1st - 7th October, Aid to the Church in Need invites you to join with Pope Leo XIV and Catholics worldwide for the One Million Children Praying the Rosary prayer campaign, for peace and unity in the world. Families, parishioners, prayer groups, and schools are all encouraged to register to take part!

"When one million children pray the Rosary, the world will change." *Saint Padre Pio*



For free Rosary resources and to register, please scan the QR code or visit: www.acninternational.org/millionchildrenpraying

About Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)

Aid to the Church in Need is the only international Catholic charity dedicated to the service of suffering Christians wherever they are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need. Learn more on our website: www.aidtochurch.org

The PLT of OLHC wish to thank everyone involved in Fr Matthews welcome last Saturday night. Those who brought a 'plate', helped serve, clean, packup and stayed around to introduce themselves and say hello to Fr Matt over a hot cuppa, with a special mention to Pat King in organizing the kitchen.

St Joseph's Special Ministry roster is available via email or in the sacristy porch as a hard copy. If anyone is interested in helping with sacristain or IT duties for a few weeks in Oct/Nov please contact the Office.

Baptism

We welcome Roveena Siriwardana & Daisy Murphy into our faith community this weekend.

A Baptism Information evening is held on every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm in St Joseph's Gathering Space. Next Session 13th October.

Please call the Office 5562 2231 to register



Volunteer Recognition Afternoon Tea

This year's Volunteer Recognition Afternoon Tea will be held at the St Pius X Function Room on Sunday 25th October from 2.00pm – 4.00pm.

Afternoon tea will be served, so come along, relax and enjoy a chance to catch up with fellow volunteers and friends. If you need a lift, please contact the Office to help.

RSVP to the Parish Office 5562 2231 or sign up sheets in the churches by Monday 19th October. We look forward to seeing you there!

MONDAY

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am Adoration, Rosary Holy Hour, OLHC

7:00pm Rosary St Joseph's

TUESDAY

Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels

10:00am Mass St Joseph's

5:10pm Confession St Pius X

5:30pm Mass St Pius X

7:00pm Abide St Pius X

WEDNESDAY

St Jerome

10:00am Mass St Joseph's
10:00am St Patrick's Port Fairy
Jean Fitzgibbon RIP

11:00am Mass Mercy Place
~~3:30pm Moyneyana Aged Care~~
7:00pm Bible Study St Joseph's

Magnifica Humanitas:

A Christian pathway for technology to serve the dignity of humanity.

A presentation and group discussion of the first encyclical of Pope Leo XIV, exploring whether AI and quantum computing will serve the good of humanity—or make us servants to technology.

Presenter: Chris Schultink

A committed local Christian, husband and father of five, Chris is a practicing lawyer with a degree in theology. He has studied Pope Leo XIV's encyclical in some detail and will share his summation of the ideas and thinking presented in the encyclical.

Questions and group discussion will follow (time permitting).

This Tuesday evening

St Pius X Church Foyer

Part of the "Abide" series.

5.30pm Abide Mass,

6:00pm Exposition and Prayer

6.30pm Shared soup and bread in the foyer

7:00pm Presentation and discussion.



Our Diocesan Community – Issue 2

The second edition of ODC for 2026 are available in each of the churches. Feel free to take copies to the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals, etc.

Migrant & Refugee Sunday - 27th Sept

The focus this year is on child migrants and refugees - 'whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me'.

On Break over the School Holidays

St Pius X Prayer meeting -Tuesday 1:15pm

'Mothers who pray for their Children' - Frid 10:45am

THURSDAY

St Terese of the Child Jesus

10:00am Mass OLHC



FRIDAY

Holy Guardian Angels

10:00am Mass St Joseph's

10:30am Confession St Joseph's



SATURDAY

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am Men's Breakfast OLHC

9:40am Confession St Pius X

10:00am Mass St Pius X

Can you Assist?

A person requires a ride to and from St Joseph's 10:30am Mass on Sundays from Country Life (just past Bunnings). Please call the office on 5562 2231 if you can help.

Hakarak Ajuda?

Ita-nia ema prezisa transportaun husi Domingu to'o toltu, hodi partekat ba misa ne'ebé akontese iha St Joesphs 10:30am husi Country Life. Favor kontaktu ofisiu iha 5562 2231 se ita bele ajuda.

Upcoming Events

Admission to Candidacy for Ordination as Deacons and Priests

Diocesan Seminarians Simon Zakari and Channa Tilikarathna, will be admitted as candidates for ordination to the diaconate and later to the priesthood. Bishop Mark Freeman will celebrate Mass on this Sunday, September 27th, 2026 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 5.00pm and during this Mass, Channa and Simon will publicly express their intention to receive ordination as a deacon and priest. All welcome to attend.



Recent Deaths: Jean Fitzgibbon

Anniversaries: Robert Morey, Pte G Warburton (K.I.A) Vietnam, Gerard Conheady, Susan Turner, Des McNamara, Bert Mugavin (Purnim), Maryrose Perry(Sinn), Christopher Lenehan,

First Reading

Ezekiel 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel
The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.
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 Philippians 2:1-5

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.

Gospel Acclamation John 10:27

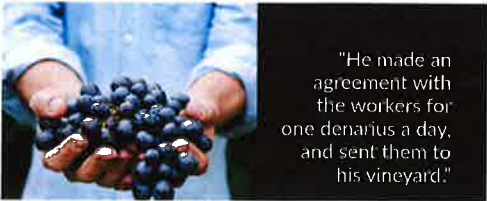
Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 21:28-32
He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.
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.'

Reflection

Today's gospel reading is particularly startling. It shows how the graciousness of God can be easily mistaken for injustice. On the one hand, it does not seem fair to pay all of the labourers the same wage regardless of the amount of time they worked. On the other hand, they all received exactly the amount for which they had contracted. Therefore, there was no injustice. In the owner's payment we find the shift in perspective that we have come to expect in Jesus' parables. He demonstrates the eschatological reversal: the last shall be first. The real paradox is seen in his generosity, which supersedes his justice. It is clear that justice and grace do not always fit well together. This parable shows that the reign of God is based on the latter, not the former. © Dianne Bergant CSA





Star of the Sea Parish South West Coast

St Patrick's Port Fairy 487 Princes Hwy	Infant Jesus Koroit 18 Queen Street	St Anne's Purnim 1707 Hopkins Hwy	St Joseph's Warrnambool 169 Kepler Street	Our Lady Help of Christians East Warrnambool 2 Selby Road	St Pius X West Warrnambool 80 Morriss Road
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26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

26th / 27th September 2026



From the Parish Priest

The Psalm is **Remember your mercies, O Lord**. We sometimes need to be reminded of the mercy God shows us in our lives and we need to share that when we make choices and engage with other people.
In the second reading St Paul reminds the people to have conviction and support of others. We can take this on and have as our daily life motto. If we mean 'Yes' say yes and follow your decision and if we say 'No' mean no and follow that decision.
As the second week of school holidays commences I hope that all the students and staff are enjoying their break before the final term begins.

God Bless
Fr Matt



Contact Information

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(03) 5562 2231
southwestcoast@ballarat.catholic.org.au
<https://catholicparish.app/southwestcoast>
facebook.com/southwestcoastparish
Office Hours
Monday - Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm
(enter off Raglan Parade)

Parish Priest

Fr Matthew Thomas

Assistant Priest

Fr Matthew Restall

Business Manager

Bruce Keeley

Maintenance

James Cronin

Office Administration

Karen Johnson
Virginia Martin
Trisha McGinness

OLHC East W'bool Saturday 6:00pm	St Pius X West W'bool Sunday 9:00am	Infant Jesus Koroit Sunday 9:00am	St Patrick's Port Fairy Sunday 10:30am	St Joseph's Warrnambool Sunday 10:30am Sunday 6:00pm	St Anne's Purnim 2nd Sunday 11:00am Lay-Led Liturgy other Sundays 11:00am
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Prayer for Migrants and Refugees

God, Almighty Father, we are your pilgrim Church journeying towards the Kingdom of heaven.
We live in our homeland, but as if we were foreigners.
Every foreign place is our home,
yet every native land is foreign to us.
Though we live on earth,
our true citizenship is in heaven.
Do not let us become possessive of the portion of the world you have given us as a temporary home.
Help us to keep walking, together
with our migrant brothers and sisters,
toward the eternal dwelling
you have prepared for us.
Open our eyes and our hearts
so that every encounter with those in need
becomes an encounter with Jesus,
your Son and our Lord. Amen.

Written by Pope Francis, Rome, Saint John Lateran, 24 May 2024,
Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Help of Christians.

Parish Vision Statement

We are a Christ-centred community who gather with open hearts to recognise Christ in one another. In the Catholic tradition, we journey together in faith, hope and service to bring life to the church and to the wider world.

We are a Child Safe Parish

Our Parish adheres to the Child Safe Standards of Victoria. Our Policies are on display in each church and on our website.
Parish Safeguarding Officers
Infant Jesus, Koroit - Leisa McCosh
St Patrick's, Port Fairy - Peter Sanderson
St Joseph's, W'bool - Jill Haberfield
St Pius X, West W'bool - Karen Johnson
OLHC, East W'bool - Dion Bartlett