First Reading: Exodus 22:20-26

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.
"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.
"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51 R. v.2

(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.
1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes.**(R)**
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed. **(R)**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread– and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere.

'Cuppa' at Port Fairy next Sunday after 10:30am Mass. All welcome

We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Gospel Acclamation: John 14:23
Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'



St Joseph's Book of Remembrance

The book will be available at the front of the church throughout the month of November to record the names of deceased family members and friends you wish to remember. This is for all Star of the Sea parishioners.



Star of the Sea Parish South West Coast

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

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
24th/25th October

Message from the Parish Priest

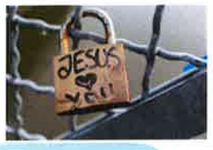
The Psalm response today is ***I Love you Lord, my strength.*** I am reminded of the love that God has shown me and how I am at times free to share this with others. Let our actions unlock Jesus love in our lives.

We have a small change happening over the next few weeks at St Joseph's the projectors on the sanctuary will be replaced with TV's. One projector is failing and the other one keeps unbalancing.

I will be away next weekend due to being in Tasmania for my brothers 50th Birthday, I thank Fr Lawrence for assisting both this weekend and next weekend.



God Bless
Fr Matthew



Mass for the Feast of All Souls

To commemorate the Feast of All Souls and remember our departed friends and loved ones, we will have Mass at:
- 6:00pm Warrnambool Cemetery Rotunda
- Monday 2nd November.

Please bring a chair.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Family Group Thanksgiving

Today (Sunday) at St Joseph's there will be a cup of tea after both Masses to celebrate the Annual Family Groups Thanksgiving Mass. All welcome. Talk to one of the 'helpers' to find out more or go to:

https://www.pfgm.org/national-newsletter-winter-2026/

Contact Information
169 Kepler Street,
PO Box 104 Warrnambool, Victoria 3280
(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 MatthewThomas
Assistant Priest
Fr Matthew Restall
Business Manager
Bruce Keeley
Maintenance
James Cronin
Office Administration
Karen Johnson
Virginia Martin
Trisha McGinness

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

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

Catholic Mission Month

In some of the most remote places in the world, accessing healthcare is a difficult and dangerous journey. From rough roads to vast distances, poor weather to safety concerns, people in remote communities face immense challenges to receiving the care they need. The remoteness also creates a challenging environment for clinics to have adequate resources and facilities.

For expectant mothers, these challenges can mean the difference between life and death.

The clinic is in need of upgrades to its facilities and medical equipment, from vehicles to aid in transport, to tools such as life-saving resuscitators and incubators to help nurture a newborn. Without a dedicated mother's shelter, pregnant women and new mothers have no choice but to share facilities with other people with critical illnesses.

Every mother deserves the reassurance of giving birth with the appropriate facilities and equipment. The dignity of a safe and comfortable birth.



To Donate to Catholic Mission go to: https://www.catholicmission.org.au › world_mission › month_donate or Ph:1800 257 296

Pope's Prayer for October

For mental health ministry. Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service of the common good and solidarity of those who have less. Lord hear us.

Recent Deaths: Peter Flynn

Anniversary: Helen Everden, Leo McNamara, Mary Kermond, Lindsay Kermond, Ellen O'Neill, Mary Watt, Joan Veronica Gleeson, Annie Coffey, Leila Morrissey, Mary Quinn, John McNamara





Our Lady Star of the Sea Children's Bulletin

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The weekly Children's Bulletin will be availale in the foyers of each Church from this weekend. It's a great way to connect the Sunday readings in an enjoyable way with your children with puzzles, questions and more. Please take one home.

This weekend Alexander Hargreaves and Fletcher Williams will be welcomed into our faith community.

A Baptism Information evening is held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at St Joseph's in the Gathering Space at 7:00pm. Please call the Office to book.
Next session 11th November



Establishment of a Diocesan Pastoral Council

Bishop Mark Freeman is pleased to announce the establishment of the Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC), an important step in our ongoing journey of renewal, discernment and shared mission.

Emerging from the insights of the Diocesan Assembly and the wider synodal journey of the Church, the Council will provide a forum for prayerful reflection, consultation and advice to assist in discerning the future direction of our local Church. Members of the diocesan community are invited to consider prayerfully whether they may be called to serve on the Council.

Further information about the role of the DPC, the nomination process and formation program is available from your parish priest and the diocesan website: https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/service-and-agencies/pastoral/diocesan-pastoral-council/ or scan or click the QR code.

Together, we seek to listen to the Holy Spirit and discern how God is calling us to respond to the opportunities and challenges of our time.

COMMENTARY by Brendan Byrne SJ

Against this Old Testament background, the teaching of Jesus in the Gospel, Matthew 22:34-40, does not seem all that novel. In Matthew's account (contrast Mark 12:28-34) the question about the chief commandment of the law comes as a further hostile attempt to put Jesus to the test. Throughout this gospel he has been at odds with the scribes and Pharisees concerning the proper interpretation of the Law (Torah) of Moses. Jesus has insisted that he is not setting aside the least commandment of the law (5:17-19). But, in contrast to the 'burden-imposing' interpretation of the scribes (see 23:4), he is authoritatively promulgating a 'burden-lifting' interpretation of the Torah by insisting that it must be interpreted according to 'what God wants' – and what God wants, as indicated in the prophet Hosea (6:6) is 'mercy, before sacrifice' (Matt 9:13; 12:7).

This is why, when faced with a question concerning which of the commandments of the law is the greatest, Jesus has no hesitation in uniting the two commandments concerning love. The second commandment is 'like' the first in the sense that it flows immediately from the nature of Israel's God, who has so identified with the cause and situation of human beings. To love God with all one's heart and soul and mind – an echo of the Shema recited by all Israelites on rising every morning (Deut 6:4-5) – is to love those whom God loves: one's fellow human beings, especially the vulnerable and the poor.

The command 'to love one's neighbour as oneself' occurs already in Lev 19:18. Down the ages there have been many interpretations as to what loving other human beings 'as oneself' might mean. In biblical terms, as the First Reading suggests, it seems to imply putting oneself – at least imaginatively – in the neighbour's shoes and asking what then would I really want, how would I like to be treated. Better still, perhaps, it means taking pains to find out from the neighbour what exactly their desire might be. This is the point, surely, of all those biblical reminders to Israel of what it was like when they were slaves in Egypt, strangers and wanderers in a foreign land. All truly effective works of charity and justice begin from a similar base, from com-passion ('experiencing with') in the deepest sense.

MONDAY 26th Oct
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am Adoration, Rosary, Holy Hour, OLHC

7:00pm Rosary St Pius X

TUESDAY 27th Oct
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am Mass St Joseph's

5:10pm Confession St Pius X

5:30pm Mass St Pius X

WEDNESDAY 28th Oct
Sts Simon & Jude

10:00am Mass St Joseph's

11:00am Mass Mercy Place

7:00pm Parish Pastoral Council meeting St Joseph's

THURSDAY 29th Oct
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am Mass OLHC

FRIDAY 30th Oct
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am Mass St Joseph's

10:30am Confession St Joseph's

SATURDAY 31st Oct
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:40am Confession St Pius X

10:00am Mass St Pius X