

### Reflection

The Easter story is now ready to be lived afresh in the lives of each one of us. Christ is our life and now it is our task in the Easter days ahead to commit ourselves once again to be his witnesses in our world. It is good to remember that while Lent prepared us for Holy Week and the Easter celebrations, we now have the beautiful season of Easter itself to truly live out all that we have learned as we prepare for Pentecost. The Easter season is one of great joy and amazement. Let's not be afraid to live the life of a true witness. Let's not be afraid to go into the tomb, into the dark places, knowing that whatever we find, we will not stay in that darkness. We will leave the linen cloth and the cloth around his head, all those things that have tied us down, in the tomb. We have no need for such things now. It is time to live life to the full!



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**Admin Assistant: Marianne Kelly**

**Parish Office Hours**  
**Tuesday—Thursday : 9am - 1pm**  
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#### PARISH MASS TIMES

**Weekend Mass Times: 30th & 31st March 2024 (Easter Sunday)**  
Saturday: 7:30pm Easter Vigil Mass  
Sunday : 9:30am Easter Sunday Mass

**Weekday Masses: 25th —29th March**  
Wednesday: 12 Noon: Communion Service

**Weekend Mass Times: 6th & 7th April 2024**  
Saturday: 6:00pm Mass  
Sunday : 9:30am Mass  
11:30am Tongala

**Reconciliation:** Approach Fr Novie before Mass  
**Baptism:** Every Second Sunday of the Month  
**Weddings:** By Appointment with the Parish Priest  
**Sophia Sisters:** Every Tuesday 1:30pm (Parish Centre)  
**Men's Group:** Every Saturday 9am (Parish Centre)  
**Playgroup:** Every Friday 9am (Parish Centre)  
During school terms

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Yorta Yorta Nation. This land is sacred, this land is gift, this land is thousands of years old. We acknowledge the immense beauty of this land and the dreams of the Yorta-Yorta People. We pay our respects to elders past and present and acknowledge the lessons the Yorta-Yorta people teach us about care, respect and justice for mother earth. We remember their story as we journey together in a spirit of hope, justice and peace.

If you wish to assist in "further supporting the Parish" we offer different ways of giving... direct debit, credit card or planned giving envelopes. Please ring the office for more details.

**PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS are as follows:**

St Mary's Echuca: BSB Number: 083-543

Account Number: 45-782-9206

**Child Safety: Through our policies and practices, we protect the right of children to feel safe and to be safe. We promote the well-being and inclusion of all children. For more information, contact the parish office and look for the Child Safety Officer Mel Slattery.**

# PARISH NEWS

## PARISH CALENDAR (March/ April)

**30th March** - Easter Vigil Mass 7:30pm  
**31st March** - Easter Sunday Mass 9:30am  
**1st - 5th April** - Fr. Novie is away  
**10th April** - Liturgy Meeting 5.00pm  
**12th April** - Aged Care Liturgy 10.00am  
**16th April** - Finance Meeting 5.00pm  
**24th April** - Ladies Night 5.30pm

### Fashion Parade: Unveiling Hidden Wardrobe Gems

We are pleased to advise that the Fashion Event held on the 15th March raised an amount of \$6,891.42 for our Parish. A heartfelt appreciation to everyone who participated and supported the event! It wasn't solely for us parishioners but open to all. We connected with individuals beyond our parish who shared in the joy. The overwhelming response was truly remarkable. Thank you immensely! We would also like to thank the Moama Bowling Club and Century 21 for their donations of raffle prizes. Thank you also to those who ran the bar, provided the food (including students from St Joseph's), those who supplied the clothes and of course those who bravely modelled those clothes! Thank you ladies. It was a wonderfully social and fun-filled evening and we again thank all those who attended.

Fr Novie, Margaret Hart, Kym Bridges, Mel Slattery and Julie Moyle



May the warm embrace of our Christian community extend a joyful welcome to Ivy Bartle and her family as she receives the sacrament of Baptism this weekend. We also congratulate Danielle Johnstone and Wilma Vesty for joining our Christian community through RCIA.



### Fr. Novie's Easter Message

As we approach this Easter holiday, I extend warm wishes to each of you for a joyous celebration. Let us take a moment to reflect on the profound significance of this day. Easter serves as a poignant reminder of the immense sacrifice made by Jesus for our salvation. He willingly gave his life so that we may find redemption and eternal life. Let us embrace this opportunity to renew our faith and express gratitude for the blessings bestowed upon us. May this Easter bring you peace, love, and spiritual rejuvenation.



# Hangabout Playgroup

9am - 10:15am Friday mornings during the school terms.

St Mary's Parish 224 Anstruther St Echuca  
(enter via side gate).

Enjoy fun activities - craft, singing, story time, outdoor play with the kids and meet others.

Mums, Dads & Carers are all very welcome

Contact Mel Slattery 0417 822 589 if you require further details.

The playgroup will recommence on Friday  
19th April after school holidays.

Fr Novie Lim has been appointed by  
Bishop Shane to act as Administrator of  
the Cohuna, Kerang and Pyramid Hill  
parishes, while Fr. Dean will take his  
sabbatical leave in the Philippines from 1  
April to 10 August.

## ROSTERS THIS WEEK

**30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 Easter Sunday**

**Commentators/Lectors:**

**6.00pm:** All people have been contacted

**9.30am:** for these ministries.

**Ministers of the Eucharist**

**6.00pm:** All people have been contacted

**9.30am:** for these ministries.

**Prayers of the Faithful:**

**St Anne's Church Cleaners:** 30<sup>th</sup> Kay Westblade,  
Yvonne Costello, Bev Stapleton

**Setting up the Church:** 30<sup>th</sup> Mary Atkins

**Setting up the Church:** 31<sup>st</sup> Rod Chisholm

**Baptism Preparation:** Mary Byrne

**Counters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Brendan Shingles, Andrew Kennedy,  
Peter Davey

**Hospital Visiting:** 1<sup>st</sup> Noela Boyer

**Gardening:** Bernie Oliver, Tom Oliver & David Baker

**Holy Thursday**

**28th March 2024**

11:00 am - Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper

**Good Friday**

**29th March 2024**

3:00 pm - The Passion of the Lord

**Holy Saturday**

**30th March 2024**

7:30 pm - Easter Vigil

**Easter Sunday**

**31st March 2024**

9:30 am - Easter Mass



## Can and Bottle Collection Point!

Thank you to all parishioners who have donated to the can collection point beside the kiosk. We can accept – aluminium cans, plastic bottles, glass bottles, paper cartons and steel bottles/cans. We CANNOT accept wine bottles (small or large). Thank you for your continued support.

## ROSTERS NEXT WEEK

**6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Commentators/Lectors:**

**6.00pm:** Christine Sebire

Kajini Karunanayke

**9.30am:** Theresa Jacobs

Chris Armstrong, Judi O'Farrell

**Ministers of the Eucharist**

**6.00pm:** Carmel MacKenzie

**9.30am:** Mel Slattery, John Vagg

**Prayers of the Faithful:** Noela Boyer

**St Anne's Church Cleaners:** 6<sup>th</sup> Jan Tarr, Gabe Phelan

**Setting up the Church:** 6<sup>th</sup> Rose Quinn

**Setting up the Church:** 7<sup>th</sup> Noela Boyer

**Baptism Preparation:** Sarah Byrne

**Counters:** 9<sup>th</sup> Roma Bowman & Margaret Hart

**Hospital Visiting:** 8<sup>th</sup> Karla Chisholm

**Gardening:** John Zealley, Ken Hatfield, Alfred Grigg

## YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

**Sick:** Julio and Nati Acebron, David Baker, Bruno Barbera, Monica Beckwith, Dan Carey, Howard Clark Jnr, Pat Davey, John & Chloris Dignan, Anne Dodd, Caroline Farley, Bernadette McClelland, Fred Molluso, John Monigatti, Margaret Oman, Murray Perrett, Beatrice Phillips, Peter Phillips, Meredith (Maddick) Ryan, Patricia Vogeles, Jodie Walton, Jayden Williams, Judy Wallace, Colleen Bosse, Bruce Haines, Sue Dalton (Johnson)

**Anniversaries:** Roly Hall, Lance Ryan, Sheree Higgins, Tom Wilkinson, Val Campbell, Patricia Vagg, Julie Holden, Emilio Columbro, Cedric Summers, Eileen Young.

**Recently Deceased:** David Goldrick in Sydney husband of Nancy (dec)

**First Reading**

Acts 10:34, 37-43

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.' Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

**The word of the Lord.****Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

**R. This is the day the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad.**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.' **R.**

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds. **R.**

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

**Next week: 2nd Sunday of Easter****Divine Mercy Sunday****6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> April Year B****1st Reading: Acts 4:32-35****Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 17:2-4, 13-15, 22-24****2nd Reading: 1 John 5:1-6****Gospel: John 20:19-31****Second Reading**

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

**The word of the Lord.****Thanks be to God.****Gospel Acclamation****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;  
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

**Alleluia!****Gospel**

John 20:1-9

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

**The Gospel of the Lord.****Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**