

Newsletter

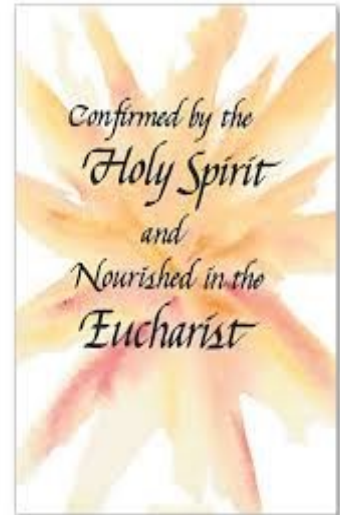
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
26th & 27th August 2023



Reflection

The key to this Sunday's Scripture is found in Paul's rhetorical question in the second reading: 'Who could ever know the mind of the Lord?' Isaiah could have posed this question to Shebna and his replacement Eliakim as one was supplanted by the other. In the Gospel, when Peter declares "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God" we know that Peter has only an inkling of what his declaration actually means. He has responded correctly without fully comprehending what he is saying. Yet his words are sufficient to be given an extensive affirmation of authority by Jesus: the keys of the kingdom and power to bind and loose. When, much later, Peter came to exercise this authority, perhaps Isaiah's oracle to Shebna and Eliakim would remind him of its provisional nature.

In our exercise of authority, large or small, may we remain conscious that it ultimately comes from God and is to be directed towards his kingdom.



Parish Priest: Fr. Novelito Lim
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Parish Secretary: Colette Porter
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Parish Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday : 9am - 1pm
St Mary's Parish Centre
224-230 Anstruther Street, Echuca
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Email: admin@stmarysechuca.org.au

Website: www.stmarysechuca.org.au

Facebook: St Mary's Parish Echuca

Community Coordinator: Julie Moyle

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PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday: 6:00pm Church Confirmation
Sunday : 9:30am Church Confirmation
11.30am Church Confirmation

Weekday Masses: 28th—1st September

Wednesday: 12.00pm Mass (Church)
Thursday: Fr Steve Bohan Funeral Yarrawonga 11.00
Friday: 9.00am Mass (Church)

Reconciliation: Approach Fr. Novie Before Mass
Baptism: Every Second Sunday of the Month
By Appointment with the Parish Priest
Weddings: Every Tuesday 2pm (Parish Centre)
Ladies' Group: Every Saturday 9am (Parish Centre)
Men's Group: Every Friday 9am (Parish Centre)
Playgroup: 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



Confirmation and First Eucharist

You are cordially invited to be part of a momentous occasion with **Bishop Shane Mackinlay** to preside over this spiritually enriching event.

6 pm Saturday
26th August 2023

9:30 am and 11:30 am Sunday
27th August 2023



May the warm embrace of our Christian community extend to the Armfield, Arnel, Chatterton, Dennis Ekeanyanwu, Gillie, Jenkins, McCallum, Bannan, Bray, Datiles, Denton, Mateo, Scholtens, Adriaans, Arthur, Bourke, Campbell, Cavallaro, Dicketts, Harding, Karunanayake, Lloyd, Mahoney, Serpell, Silva, Tamburini, Tonkin and Walsh Family's as we joyfully welcome Finn, Jackson, Tommy, Jada, Frankie, Nkiru, Evie, Ryder, Elke, Luca, Ava, Angus, Francheska, Bradley, Andrea, Billie, Lily, Lincoln, Sophia, Aisha, Macy, Elsie, Grace, Tahnee, Vidhumi, Pippa, Clement, Georgianne, Shewan, Liliana, Max and Samara into our midst, showering them with love and spiritual growth as they receives the sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist this weekend.

Repair Café

Do you need a small repair? St Mary's Parish Care for Creation group is working with the Uniting Church to offer an alternative to sending items to landfill. **Venue: The Uniting Church Hall, Cnr Pakenham and Hare Sts. Date: Sept 9th. Hours open: 10am - 12 Noon.** For more information, or to offer to volunteer, contact: Cecilia Merrigan 0400 863 190

Sri Lankan Mass



"Embrace the vibrant spirit of our Sri Lankan community! Join us for a special Mass led by our Sri Lankan members, followed by a delightful Sri Lankan feast. A cultural experience not to be missed! #SriLankanCommunity #MassAndFeast"

2nd September 2023
Saturday
6:00 pm Mass

Father's Day Treat

"Join us post-Mass for a tasty treat! Our Filipino friends are hosting a special quick bite and sharing their delicious 'Pancit' noodles. Let's celebrate and honour the fathers in our community together. See you there! #CommunityTreat #FilipinoFlavors #HonoringFathers"

3rd September 2023
Sunday
9:30 am Mass

Father's Day Weekend

Community Connect



An invitation to all ladies of St. Mary's Parish and beyond to join in a



\$10
Tickets

Ladies Breakfast

On the 2nd of September 2023, Saturday starting at 9:30 am at the Parish Centre.

Tickets are \$10 each and will be available after weekend Masses until the 26th/27th of August or at the parish office (03 5482 1127) during office hours from Tuesday to Friday, 9 am to 1 pm.

CCR Sandhurst:

You are invited to "Living in the Holy Spirit", guest presenter is author Adrian Commadeur. Saturday 2nd September 2023 start 9am to 4pm, at the Monsignor Peter Jeffrey Centre, St Brendan's, Knight Street Shepparton Shared lunch, tea and coffee provided.

For more information contact Brigita Hore 0412 042 196 or Denise Ilott 0407506813.

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



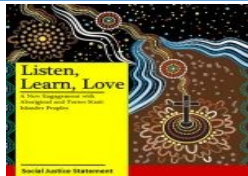
Contact Mel Slattery 0417 822 589 if you require further details.

The Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Sunday Statement will be celebrated at St Mary's 2nd and 3rd September.

The statement is available on line now for those who are interested.

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2023/08/22/social-justice-statement-2023-24/>

Following the launch of the Statement in our parish we will have opportunities to explore the statement in parish groups and teams. Watch this space...



PARISH CALENDAR (August— September)

26th August—Confirmation Mass 6.00pm

27th August—Confirmation Mass 9:30am and 11:30am

29th August—Women's Prayer Day 2.00pm

30th August—Soup and Sandwiches

1st September—Teams

2nd/3rd September—Social Justice Sunday

2nd September—Ladies Breakfast 9.30am

2nd September—Mass led by the Sri Lankan members

Followed by a Sri Lankan feast. 6.00pm

3rd September—Fathers Day—Mass followed by a “Tasty Treat” hosted by our Filipino friends. 9.30am

4th -7th September—Priests In-Service Moama

6th September—PPC Meeting

7th September— St. Joseph's Spirituality Day

8th September—Aged- Care Liturgy

10th Sept—after Mass Voice Referendum Kitchen Table Conversation

11th Sept— Care for Creation Team meeting 7.30pm

13th September—Council of Priests Shepparton
- Liturgy Team Meeting 5.00pm

14th September—Sacramental Kids Movie Night

16th & 17th—G'Day weekend Family Groups and Teams

17th September—Priests' Retirement Fund Weekend

Recruitment Open Day—Bupa Aged Care Echuca.

Wednesday 30th August 10.00am onwards.

We are hosting a morning tea as part of our Recruitment Open Day. Support will be available to submit your application and progress to interview on the day. Permanent full time, part time, and casual opportunities: Registered Nurse, Carers, Kitchen Assistants and Cooks, Cleaners/Housekeepers.

ROSTERS: This Week - 26th & 27th August

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Sacramental Program Families

9.30am: Sacramental Program Families

11.30am: Sacramental Program Families

Ministers of the Eucharist

6.00pm: Ruth Phillips

9.30am: Margaret Walter

11.30am: Rob Morris

St Anne's: 26th: Mel Slattery, Prasanga Fonsenka

Setting up the Church: 26th: Kate Bruty

Baptism Preparation: Sarah Byrne

Counters: 29th: Brendan Shingles, Peter Davey,
Andrew Kennedy

Gardening: Michael Delahunty, Damien Byrne, Fr Des

ROSTERS: Next Week - 2nd & 3rd September

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Doug Black

Dominic & Lasanta Karunanayke

9.30am: Cecilia Merrigan

Julie Moyle, Judi O'Farrell

Ministers of the Eucharist

6.00pm: Kristy Serpell

9.30am: Kay Westblade, Eric Melad

St Anne's: 2nd: Kay Westblade, Anne Bennett,
Eileen Pineo

Setting up the Church: 2nd: Rose Quinn

Baptism Preparation: Mary Byrne

Counters: 5th Pat Whyte & Adrian Costello

Gardening: Bernie Oliver, Tom Oliver, David Baker

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Sick: Bruno Barbera, Pat Davey, Dan Carey, Howard Clark Jnr, Jayden Williams, Cameron Purdon, Jodie Walton, Murry Perrett, John & Chloris Dignan, Beatrice Phillips, Anne Dodd, Patricia Voegel, Fred Molluso, Meredith (Maddick) Ryan, Peter Phillips, David Baker, Monica Beckwith, Julio and Nati Acebron

Anniversaries: Maria Berzuela, Lawne Pitts, Des Crowe, Mary Mullane, Joan Doyle, Molly Shannan, Ken Umbers, Jim Lawford, Tom Turner, Bill Slattery, Jack Oman, Jack Thomas, Pat Mueller, Maria Tanda, Mary Victor, Bryan and Kenneth Warde, Alberta Villaruz.

Deaths: Fr Steve Bohan, John Bennett.

First Reading 22:19-23

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.

I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Responsorial Psalm Ps 137:1-3, 6, 8

**R. Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.**

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you,
I will adore before your holy temple. **R.**

I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. **R.**

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. **R.**

Next week: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

2nd & 3rd September Year A

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

Responsorial Psalm: 62:2-6, 8-9

2nd Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

Second Reading

Romans 11:33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

How rich are the depths of God - how deep his wisdom and knowledge - and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

